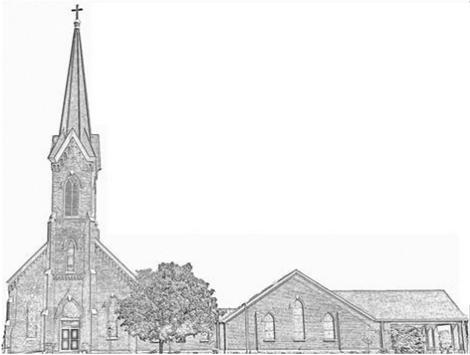


*St. John (Bingen)
Lutheran Church*

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NEWSLETTER



February 2019

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ✠ BINGEN

NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXII - Number 1

February 2019

Dear friends in Christ,

On Sunday, February 24, we will observe the feast day of St. Matthias, Apostle. For a refresher on why we remember the saints on certain days, please see *Lutheran Service Book*, page xii. "St. Matthias is one of the lesser-known apostles. According to Early Church Fathers, Matthias was one of the seventy-two sent out by Jesus in Luke 10:1-20. After the ascension, Matthias was chosen by lot to fill the vacancy in the Twelve resulting from the death of Judas Iscariot (Acts 1:16-25). Early Church tradition places Matthias in a number of locations. Some historians suggest that he went to Ethiopia; others place him in Armenia, the first nation to adopt Christianity as a national religion. Martyred for his faith, Matthias may well have met his death at Colchis in Asia Minor, around AD 50. The Church of St. Matthias at Trier, Germany, claims the honor of being the final burial site for Matthias, the only one of the Twelve to be buried in Europe north of the Alps." (*Treasury of Daily Prayer*, 1236).

The Gospel Reading for St. Matthias Day is Matthew 11:25-30:

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

"Come to me," Jesus says, "all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." With these words, our Lord identifies that which wears and ways us down as well as that which promises peace and eternal rest and refreshment. Jesus preaches these words to those who are burdened by worry over where their beloved community, or congregation, or country is headed. He preaches to those who are tired from trying and weary from work. He preaches to those who are burdened to the point of burn-out. And not just burn-out from worldly work and temporal concerns. Those who labor and are heavy laden are those who labor under the demands of God's holy law and heavy laden with the weight and awareness of just how short we fall. It's the result of God's Law grinding us down to nothing by constantly accusing us, making us despair of our own righteousness that we might finally say with Paul, "Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?" (Romans 7:24)

And if the Lord had left us only with the Law – the Law without the Gospel, commandments without forgiveness – we would all be left under the unrelenting labor and wretched weariness of works and our failure to do them, burdened to the point of burn out. That's Paul's point in Romans 7. Left only with the Law, as we are outside of Christ Jesus and his sacrifice for sinners, we can only conclude: "Nevermind all this religion. I'll just live my life as I please, and hope for the best in the end. Try not to hurt anyone, mind my own business, be nice to animals, recycle and give to charities. Beyond that, forget it. I'm tired of dos I can't do and don'ts I can't stop." That's where the Law would leave us, and that's why that attitude is so prevalent today.

So what do we do when the things we do are the very things we hate, and the things we want to do we don't? What do we do when we find, as the apostle Paul did, that whenever we want to do good, evil lies close at hand? What do we do when the world, our sinful life, and the Law of God burns us out? Come to Jesus. "Come to me," Jesus says to all who labor and are heavy laden, "and I will give you rest." Jesus invites us to come to Him, which is precisely why He came to us, born of the Virgin under the Law that ways us down, laying down his life under the labor of love that is His cross. That's why He comes to us still through the Word and the Sacraments - because He invites us to come to Him with our burdens, our burn-outs, all the heavy lifting we try to do. He wants to give us rest.

It's so basic, so simple. Come to Jesus; trust Jesus; let Jesus bear your burden for you. And yet we refuse to believe it, refuse to trust it, and so we burden ourselves needlessly. Though Christ bore our sins on the cross; we try to bear them and make up for them ourselves. Though Christ bore the burden of our shame and our guilt in His death; we try to hold on to these things. So many people burn out on Christianity because they forget, ignore, or deny that it's all about Jesus, and Jesus for you in His plain word of Gospel, that Jesus is the Savior of sinners. Not good, commandment-keeping, pious saints but actual flesh and blood sinners. Time and time again you can hear it, whenever you meet someone and they discover that you go to church, the first thing they want to talk about are the rules. They don't go to church because there are "too many rules" to follow and they can't follow them. "They probably wouldn't let me in" they joke, "And if I did get in, lightning would strike." There is a huge number of people out there who hear the word "repent" and they think it means "straighten out your life." Get your act together. Clean up your own mess. No wonder Jesus prayed to His Father and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children." Little children trust the words you say to them and understand the simple truths the wise reject. That's why, as I've said before, the real miracle of Baptism is not that children should have saving faith like an adult, but that we adults who think we're so smart and strong, who labor so much under the demands of the law, that we adults should have the simple, saving trust of a child.

"Come to me, and I will give you rest," Jesus promises - the One who knows the Father and received all authority in heaven and on earth from the Father and who died and rose from the dead for you. His Word is sure. "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." How can Jesus say this? He whose yoke is the cross? He whose burden is you and me and all of our sin? How can He call that easy and light? Because, for you, it is. It's easy because it's finished in Jesus' death and resurrection. It's light because He bears your burdens and carries your cross for you. The yoke Jesus gives us to bear is His own cross, and so the cross we carry is one that has already been accomplished. Jesus carries the load; you get to walk through this world with Him like a little kid holding the hand of and even being carried by his big brother. Or, as Luther described it, we wear the yoke and pull the cart of the cross like a flea on the nose of a mule, the flea pulling and striving with all his might while the mule does the work that matters.

So come to Jesus. He is gentle and lowly in heart. He isn't the overbearing deity demanding sacrifices. He's the Savior, the Shepherd, the Redeemer. His interest is not in what you can do for Him; His interest is in you. He wants you. He wants you to come to Him with your burdens and your burn-outs, with your cares and your sorrows, with your brokenness, your shame, your doubting, your sins. Jesus wants it all. Everything that you carry around every day. He wants it under the yoke of His cross where your burdens are borne by Him. Come to Jesus. Come to Jesus in His Word, where He reveals to you the way of salvation that you might hear it anew each day like a child hears their favorite bedtime story for the thousandth time. Come to Jesus in Baptism, where He makes us as little children who trust simply and solely in our heavenly Father, where He keeps us safe in His cross and resurrection, the burden of salvation borne by Him. Yes, come to Jesus in His Supper, where He renews and refreshes us in a most unique way, giving us living bread, His body, and the wine of gladness, His blood - things so ordinary to the eye and so difficult for the mind to grasp. It is inconceivable how a bit of bread and a sip of wine on a Sunday morning can mean anything for the burdens of the week, yet Jesus says "Come to me." He knows what's good for our souls. And coming to Him in His house with the faith of a little child we find the kind of refreshment that can't be found anywhere else in this world.

The apostle Paul, looking at his life of tension between the old and the new, between his renewed mind and his Adamic flesh, simply says at the end of it all, "Wretched man that I am!" And if that's all we have, we are destined for burnout. The good news is that we have been delivered from this body of death by the body of Jesus given into death for us, the life of our Savior burnt out by the fire of God's righteous wrath, that we might have rest for our souls. "Come to me," Jesus says, even as *He comes to you* through word, water, wafer, and wine. "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

In Christ,
Pastor

+ Christian Stewardship +

The season of Epiphany focuses on how God was made manifest in the flesh of Jesus. The church spends time hearing of the miracles, the signs and wonders, of Jesus in the world. This makes plain to all that Jesus is who He says He is – the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the only-begotten Son of the Father, in the flesh. For “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14). It is revealed for all the world to see that Jesus is God in the flesh. It is made manifest by His words and His work, by what He said and by what He did. And these belong together, for “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” Jesus is the Word and will of God in the flesh. He is the walking, talking, enactment of God’s Word.

It is no different for us. We are called not just to believe in God in our hearts, but also to trust in God by what we say and what we do. As James wrote: “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves” (James 1:22), and again, “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? ... So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ... Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ... For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead” (James 2:14, 17–18, 26).

Our faith is lived out in works for our neighbor. Our trust in the Word and will of God is lived out not in word only, but also in deed and in truth. In other words, the Epiphany of the Lord creates in us an epiphany of our faith in our works of obedience to God who commanded them. By this, our faith is made manifest to the world. Luther wrote the following of faith:

- “Faith is a divine work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God (John 1). It kills the old Adam and makes altogether different people, in heart and spirit and mind and powers, and it brings with it the Holy Spirit.”
- “Oh, it is a living, busy, active, mighty thing, this faith. And so it is impossible for it not to do good works incessantly. It does not ask whether there are good works to do, but before the question rises, it has already done them, and is always at the doing of them.”
- “He who does not these works is a faithless man. He gropes and looks about after faith and good works and knows neither what faith is nor what good works are, though he talks and talks, with many words about faith and good works.”
- “Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it a thousand times. This confidence in God’s grace and knowledge of it makes men glad and bold and happy in dealing with God and all His creatures.”
- “And this is the work of the Holy Spirit in faith. Hence a man is ready and glad, without compulsion, to do good to everyone, to serve everyone, to suffer everything, in love and praise to God, who has shown him this grace.”
- “And thus it is impossible to separate works from faith, quite as impossible as to separate burning and shining from fire. Beware, therefore, of your own false notions and of the idle talkers, who would be wise enough to make decisions about faith and good works, and yet are the greatest fools.” (*Preface to the Book of Romans*)

So, then, let our faith be active by God’s power in the Word through the Holy Spirit. And let then our faith be made manifest to the world by what this faith does: serving our neighbor — in church, in the family, and society — with the works of faith in time, talents, and treasures.

A.D. 2020 – 175th Anniversary of St. John, Bingen

+ *One LORD, One Faith, One Future* +

In thanksgiving for 175 years of God's grace at Bingen, we have designated a 175th Anniversary Mission Offering with the goal of raising \$175,000 by December 26, 2020 to support the church's mission and mercy work in Tanzania, Africa and for international students studying at Concordia Theological Seminary. Members and friends of St. John, both past and present, are invited to show forth their thankfulness to the Lord by supporting this special mission project from now through 2020. Further information and forms for "purchasing" a "brick" for the church model are available in the entry of the church.

The 175th Committee has set up an historic display in the Parish Hall. The two cases of historic items are updated monthly, with one case filled with new items and the second case containing the items from the previous month. If you have any historic, Bingen-related items of interest (such as pictures, documents, or artifacts) that you would like to loan for the display, please contact committee chairman Lynn Selking or archivist Linda Abdon. All items are kept in a locked display case and returned when the display is changed. Please be sure to give Lynn or Linda your contact information along with a description of the item you are loaning, so we may be sure to return it to you.

Historic notes from congregational minutes:

June 5, 1880	Resolved to build on a confirmation room.
September 19, 1880	William Droege was given the contract to build the confirmation room on the site of the old church, behind our present church.
December 3, 1888	Church Records: "The organ pumper was paid \$10.00 per year."



Ladies Aid - Gatherings are every Wednesday from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

We are looking for you to join us in hand-stitching beautiful quilts. You do not need to know how to do the hand-stitching; as our well-experienced ladies are willing to instruct you how. We start at 9 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. You may spend the whole day or just a few hours as your schedule allows. We break for lunch (bring a sack lunch for yourself) and join us for some laughs and wonderful conversations.

Cancer Pads

Next sewing date: **TUESDAY**, February 19th from 8 – 11 a.m. Join us if you can! The stitching is very easy to do. Bring your needle, white thread and thimble and you will be helping people who greatly appreciate it. Sheet donations are always welcome. They can be dropped off in the Parish Hall - Guild Storage Room.

Ladies Guild - All ladies of our congregation are welcome to join us the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Date: February 19, 2019

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Parish Hall

Roll Call: Favorite Candy

Program: Bring Valentine Lunch Box (to be auctioned)

Serving: Planning 2019 Committee – Glenna Rhymer, Fay Koenemann

The Ladies Guild is open to all women of the congregation. The meetings are only once a month, with devotions and getting to know our sisters-in-Christ. This organization serves the congregation by helping the Pastor, Church Council, taking care of the kitchen (so there are supplies for everyone, including the coffee on Sunday mornings), visiting the shut-ins, providing funeral meals, helping at Lutheran Life Villages, supplying quilts to World Relief organizations, and many other projects. We serve in the community at Hoagland Days with the hot dog and root beer float booth. If any interest, come to a meeting and see what it is all about. This month's meeting is auctioning 'Valentine Lunch Boxes'; so, bring a decorative box with some good fixin's and see what creativity will bring. Oh, by-the-way! Don't forget your cash or checkbook to purchase one of these Valentine boxes. There are no dues, fees or contracts for The Ladies Guild. ☺

LWML

The LWML Mite box will be available after church services on the 4th Sunday of each month. Through your giving sixteen ministries will be blessed through the LWML Indiana District Mission Grants.

Feel free to pick up the Lutheran Woman's QUARTERLY.

Continue to trim your cancelled stamps leaving ¼ inch margin and place in collection box on shelf across from the Family Resource Center and Nursery. Proceeds go to missions.

LWML CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2019

March 23, 2019 Prayer Service – Zion Lutheran Church - Decatur
In-Gathering for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

March 29-30, 2019 INDIANA DISTRICT LWML RETREAT - CRG Event Center, Plainfield, Indiana
"Sisters in Christ – Chosen to Care" Colossians 3:12 Retreat Speaker: Katie Schuermann

April 7, 2019 LLL/LWML Spring Rally – Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church – Soest

June 20 – 23, 2019 38th Biennial National LWML Convention, Mobile, Alabama

September 8, 2019 LWML SRD Workshop – New Hope Lutheran Church – Ossian

October 13, 2019 LLL/LWML Fall Rally – Peace Lutheran Church – Berne

Flower Chart

The new 2019 flower chart has been posted in the hallway leading to the Parish Hall. If you have a special occasion you would like to honor with a thank offering of flowers in the sanctuary, indicate it when signing up. Our flower coordinator is Evelyn Aumann (724-4431).

Bingen's Social Events



Card Games: February 14, 2019

Every 2nd Thursday of the month @ 1:30 p.m. we meet in the Parish Hall for cards, snacks and fellowship. All are welcome to join us!

Seventh Annual Chili and Soup Cook-Off and Euchre Tournament

We invite you and your family and friends to compete in the Bingen Chili and Soup Cook-off and Euchre Tournament at the Union Township Hall (4655 E 800 N, Decatur, IN) on Saturday, February 9th. Bring your chili (or soup) or just bring your appetite and expert soup-tasting skills. We challenge you to be creative or cook up one of one of your families' favorite tried and true recipes. If you are interested in entering the contest, be there by 5 p.m. with your soup and any fixings to complement your dish, otherwise join us at 5:30 p.m. to be a taster and judge. Fun new prizes are at stake. Bring your own beverage, and the social committee will provide relishes, corn bread, sandwiches, dessert, and table ware. We will also have a Euchre Tournament for those interested in playing this local favorite.

Next Social Committee Meeting – February 21st, 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

51st Annual Decatur Lutheran Bible Institute-

When: February 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

Where: Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School

Time: 7:00-9:15 p.m.

Cost: \$10 per adult for all 4 sessions. FREE for all students!

Choose one of the following courses:

- The Preexistence of the Son: The Rest of the Story of Jesus
Dr. Charles Gieschen - CTSFW
- Praying the Psalms
Dr. John Pless - CTSFW
- Leading as the People of God: How and Why
Rev. Matthew Wietfeldt - CTSFW
- The Open Way: Accessing Heaven and Earth
Rev. Andrew Yeager – St. Paul Lutheran Church, Preble

See Bingen's LBI Representatives (Kevin and Pam Selking) for a colored brochure containing the description of classes.

An Invitation: (You can find this posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.)

To the Members of St. John Lutheran Church: *Pastor and Mrs. Thomas Olson request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Katherine Lynn to Erik David Saunders; Friday, the Fifteenth of February Two Thousand Nineteen, One O'Clock, Trinity Lutheran Church, Casper, Wyoming. Please RSVP online by January 25th; Additional information found at our wedding website: withjoy.com/k-and-e*

Lost and Found – A few items have been found: a ring, a charm, an earring stud, and a stylus pen (for an electronic device?). These are all in the church office to claim. There are also unclaimed dishes in the back hall.

2019 Membership Directory:

We appreciate the assistance in keeping our directory current. The following members have unknown addresses and phone numbers on record. If you know any of the following, please send the information to the church office. Thank-you!

churchoffice@stjohnbingen.com or 639-6178

ALBERSMEYER, Haley
ANDERSON, Bill
ANDERSON, Dustin
AUGUSTYNIAK, Corey (BEBOUT Jailen)
BERGMAN, Douglas
CURTIS, Patrick and Ethan
CURTIS, Philip
CUSTER, Melissa (HIRSCHY, Amanda)
DRESSLER, Ryan
EMBLER, David
FUELLING, Paul, Diana, Rachel, P.Colton, and Cody
FOUT, Julie
FREEMAN, Sadie
FUHRMANN, Timothy
GEBHART, Camielle, Ariana (HARMEYER, Daryn; VOTAW, Tegan)
GILREATH, Derek, Sophia, Theodore
GRILLOT, Kelsey, Theodore
HARRIS, Tony, Kelly, Alexander
HECKMAN, Andrew
HICKS, Mitchell
HOFFMAN, Rhonda
HOLLEY, Margaret
HORMANN, Daniel
KOHNE, Meghan
KRAUSS, Patricia
LEHRMAN, Ryan
LONG, Cindy, Krystal
MELCHER, David
MOORE, Cassandra
MURDOCK, Joann
OETTING, Douglas
OETTING, Jennifer
REBBER, Timothy (Jr.)
REESE, Jennifer, Jon
RICE, Heather
ROGERS, Jerod, Aimee, Alexander, Amaya, Nolan, Ellyanna; BAKLE, Lukas; ANDERSON, Braden
SAUER, Jason, Megan, Quinton, Kinley
SAUER, Kylie
SCHIEFERSTEIN, Dawn, Shelby, Madison, Anthony, Natasha
SCHULTZ, Barry
SHEPHERD, Catherine
SHEPHERD, Jacqueline
SOUDER, Christopher
TEDESCHI, Katelyn, Elley, Hannah
WHITACRE, Clayton
ZELT, Amanda

Career Opportunities with Cross Connections

Cross Connections is seeking licensed mental health professionals to meet the growing demand for services in our community. All qualified candidates should submit a resume with three professional references, along with a recommendation from their pastor, to garryoungmans@crossconnectionsccounseling.com

Cross Connections is also seeking a full-time Development Director to assume the leadership and strategic direction of the fundraising needs at the ministry. All qualified candidates should submit a resume with three professional references, along with a recommendation from their pastor, to mattkonow@crossconnectionsccounseling.com



Looking Ahead to the Month of March

Wyneken's 50th Anniversary Gala and Silent Auction –

Saturday, March 2nd, 6 p.m. at The Orchard Ridge Country Club.

Tickets \$60 per person. For Tickets and Information: Please contact May Holt (760-696-0095)

For Donations: Please contact Kari Butcher (260-223-2277 or krose272@gmail.com) or
Erin Hull (260-580-2709 or erinhull@outlook.com)

Lenten Meals:

Any organization that would like to serve a Lenten meal please contact Danelle Westrick at 260-615-1019 or email nellie_mc@yahoo.com. The first three Wednesdays have been spoken for. ☺

March 6th, Ash Wednesday -**Youth**, March 13th - **Social Committee**, March 20th - **175th Anniversary Committee**, March 27th, April 3rd and April 10th. Thank-You!

LLL Breakfast:

Lutheran Hour Prayer Breakfast

When: Saturday, March 16, 2019

Time: Registration 8:00 AM. Breakfast served at 8:30 AM

Where: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2131 Getz Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Cost: \$7.00 per person: \$14.00 per family

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony Cook, Vice-President, Global Ministries, Lutheran Hour Ministries

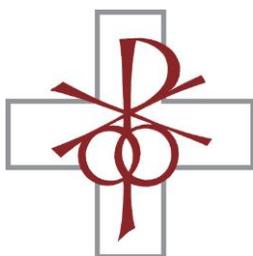
February Baptismal Birthdays

Haley Albersmeyer
Jaci Allmandinger
Cynthia Bennett
Sarah Berning
Marlis Bradtmueller
Ileen Bultemeier
Drew Christman
Barbara Comer
Melissa Custer
Marlene Duffey
Claire Emenhiser
Kurt Frecker
Bessie Fuhrmann
Don Gallmeyer
Glenna Groce
Nancy Hartman
Daniel Hobrock
Nathan Hoffman

Marilyn Kiess
Ella Kintz
Marceil Kleine
Bryce Kukelhan
Kyle Kukelhan
Krystal Long
Canaan Loshe
David Mahlan
Jonas Massey
Bradley Melcher
Christine Melcher
Marilyn Melcher
Dawn Norton
Bryan Oetting
Carly Oetting
Ronald Oetting
Heather Rice
MaKenna Saalfrank

Dan (Fred) Sauer
Kinley Sauer
Garrett Scherer
Darin Scheumann
Rachel Scheumann
Arabella Schwartz
Gregory Selking
Joyce Smock
Julie Snyder
Easton Teixeira
Emersyn Teixeira
Jay Witte
Payton Yoquelet
Tyson Yoquelet

February Wedding Anniversaries



2/7 Roger & Carolyn Grotrian
2/7 Christopher & Katelyn Tedeschi
2/14 Lee & Bridget Bradtmueller
2/14 William & Janet Yunk
2/20 Don & Danelle Westrick
2/23 Ryan & Sarah Ennis
2/25 Stanley & Sally Fuhrmann
2/26 Troy & Kristin Christman

We celebrate with those who have their Baptismal Birthday or Wedding Anniversary this month. If we have left you out, please know it was not intentional, but that our membership records do not reflect your special dates. We invite you to forward your dates to us so that we may recognize you and yours in the future. As the office continually reviews our membership household information, we will make requests of this type of info so that we don't leave you out in the coming year. Please feel free to e-mail churchoffice@stjohnbingen.com or contact the church office (639-6178) with your dates. Thank You!

Minutes of St. John Lutheran Church + Bingen Voters Assembly Meeting

Budget and Election Meeting

Date and Time: December 4, 2018 8:00 p.m.

Called to Order by: Chairman Randy Lepper

Devotions: Pastor Peter Brock opened with the Early Evening Prayer from page 297 in the LSB. Hymn 332, "Savior of the Nations, Come" was sung. The reading was from 1st Corinthians, Chapter 12 followed by prayer.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brock presented an abbreviated membership report with changes since our last meeting (attached). There was one baptism – Henry Michael Scheumann on November 18, 2018. Two members were transferred to their eternal glory – Lori Sauer on November 17, 2018 and Alvera Knipstein on November 20, 2018. As of December 4, 2018 there were 892 souls and 693 communicants. Church Council Installation will be at the January 6, 2018 10:30 a.m. Divine Service. This will include all newly elected officers and all officers serving on Church Council in 2019.

Recording Secretary's Report:

The October 30, 2018 minutes were approved as presented.

New Business:

Elder Kevin Selking presented the following slate of "Nominated Officers for 2019" as recommended by the Nominating Committee (ballot attached). Kevin thanked the members who served this past year in the various church offices, members who served on the nominating committee and also the members who allowed their name to be placed on the ballot.

The ballot is as follows:

President	Randal Lepper	
Vice-President	Don Gresley	
Elder	Roger Hormann	James Hall
Recording Secretary	Jeff Kiess	
Financial Secretary	Delin Kleine	
Chairman of Deacons	Royce Bradbury	Dean Hoffman
Deacons	Don Dressler	Chris Hoffman
	Mark Laurent	Steve McBride
Chairman of Trustees	Kurt Frecker	Andrew Scheumann
Trustees	Justin Baumgartner	Keith Bultemeier
	Nathan Hoffman	Grant Kukelhan
	Brett Oetting	Brian Strahm
Board of Evangelism	Stephen Amstein	Todd McBride
Board of Parish Education	Troy Palacios	Mark Scheumann
Wyneken School Board	James Hull	Aaron Scheumann
Board of Stewardship	Kevin Brown	Jeff Schroeder
Board of Planning	Larry Conrad	Tim Grover

There were no additional nominations from the floor.

M/S/C That nominations be closed

The ballot voting proceeded.

The 2019 Budget was then presented (budget and supporting documentation is attached) in power point format. Jay discussed the “2019 Budget Summary” and “Summary of Income Sources”

Item #1 “Bringing Christ to the world” was presented by Delin Kleine.

M/S/C To accept Item #1 as presented

Item #2 “Preaching the Gospel in our midst” was presented by Jay Witte.

There was a question regarding the base compensation of Pastor Maronde [line 2(c, w/detail)]. Jay will review this number and correct or verify it.

M/S/C To accept Item #2 as corrected by the end of today (12/4/2018)

Item #3 “Beautifying Our Worship” was presented by Jay Witte.

M/S/C To accept Item #3 as presented

Item #4 “Bringing up our children as fruitful branches of the Living Vine” was presented by Jay Witte.

M/S/C To accept Item #4 as presented

Item #5 “Efficient Administration of Our King’s Business” was presented by Jay Witte.

M/S/C To accept Item #5 as presented

Item #6 “Care of the Sanctuary” was presented by Jay Witte.

M/S/C To accept Item #6 as presented

Item #7 “Protecting our Investments” was presented by Jay Witte

M/S/C To accept Item #7 as presented

Item #8 “Other” was presented by Jay Witte

M/S/C To accept Item #8 as presented

The 2019 total budget for operations is \$676,414.00 which is an increase of 5.6% over 2018.

Randy Lepper presented the election results as follows:

President	Randy Lepper	
Vice-President	Don Gresley	
Elder	Roger Hormann	
Recording Secretary	Jeff Kiess	
Financial Secretary	Delin Kleine	
Chairman of Deacons	Dean Hoffman	
Deacons	Chris Hoffman	Mark Laurent
Chairman of Trustees	Andrew Scheumann	
Trustees	Nathan Hoffman	Grant Kukelhan
Board of Evangelism	Todd McBride	
Board of Parish Education	Mark Scheumann	
Wyneken School Board	Aaron Scheumann	
Board of Stewardship	Jeff Schroeder	
Board of Planning	Tim Grover	

M/S/C To make the elections unanimous

Randy Lepper announced that the annual 175th anniversary committee trivia night is planned for April 12, 2018.

The following resolutions were presented by Jay Witte.

M/S/C To use 40% of the base salary as housing allowance for both the Pastor and the Associate Pastor. Furthermore, BE IT RESOLVED that St. John Lutheran Church Bingen, as a standing resolution to remain in force and effect until such time as amended or revoked, hereby authorized and establishes a housing allowance for the Pastor and Youth & Family Life Coordinator, or designee living in the parsonage I or parsonage II home and at any time serving it in an amount each year equal to 40% of that person’s annual base compensation.

M/S/C To pay mileage for both the Pastor and Youth & Family Life Coordinator at the 2019 IRS rate. Furthermore, BE IT RESOLVED that the salary paid to the Pastor and the Associate Pastor does not include an auto allowance and all auto expenses are reimbursed at the recommended 2019 IRS mileage rate of \$0.55 per mile, or as adjusted/amended by the IRS throughout the year. It is further understood that a person other than the employee will examine the mileage logs and that they adequately comply with IRS accounting records and that the records will be kept for at least four years by the employing body.

Delin Kleine presented the 2019 special collection dates as follows:

Concordia Theological Seminary	January 6, 2019
Decatur Area Lutherans for Life	January 20, 2019 (door collections only)
Family Assistance Fund	Wednesday evening Lenten services
Mission Festival I – Westfield House	May 19, 2019
Mission Festival II – Worship Anew	September 8, 2019
Lutheran World Relief	November 28, 2019
Family Assistance Fund	Wednesday evening Advent services
Family Assistance Fund	December 24, 2019 11:00 p.m. Candle Light and December 25, 2019 Christmas Day Services

Delin Kleine then presented the following dates for the 2019 calendar:

Voters	Council	Wyneken Association
January 28, 2019	January 14, 2019	May (TBD)
April 29, 2019	February 11, 2019	August (TBD)
July 8, 2019	March 11, 2019	
October 28, 2019	April 8, 2019	
December 2, 2019	June 17, 2019	
	August 12, 2019	
	September 9, 2019	
	October 14, 2019	
	November 11, 2019	
	December 16, 2019	

M/S/C To accept the special collection and Voter's meeting dates for the 2019 calendar

Randy Lepper mentioned that a pet policy should be ready for review at the January 28, 2019 Voter's meeting.

Jay Witte presented his review of the 2019 Budget summary. The hand-out at Church was correct and the power point was incorrect.

Delin Kleine stated that 2019 contribution labels will be available soon. The member numbers and label colors will change for 2019.

M/S/C To adjourn 9:30 p.m.

Pastor Brock closed with the Lord's Prayer in unison and the Benediction.

Members Present: 55
Others Present: 0

Respectfully Submitted
Jeffery L. Kiess



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February 2019

February 3, 2019 – Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm **71:1-12**; Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13; Gospel: Luke 4:31-44

“Christ Is the Real Thing!” - Sermon Text: Luke 4:32 - Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

The words and actions of Jesus Christ communicated astonishing authority to people accustomed to timid and contrived religious teaching. Can He do the same to us in 2019? Listen to His words. Consider His actions. Christ Is the Real Thing!

February 10, 2019 – Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm 138; Old Testament: Isaiah 6:1-8; Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

“A Great Fishing Story” - Sermon Text: Luke 5:1-11 - Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

Jesus is the best fishing partner. He knows where the fish are! The Gospel of Luke relates a great fishing story, which, however, is about so much more than just catching fish.

February 17, 2019 – Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm 1:1-6; Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

“Blessed Are You” - Sermon Text: Luke 6:17-26 - Rev. Thomas Eggold

The Beatitudes are *not* a moral roadmap designed to lead us to heaven. They do *not* constitute a list of demands promising blessings in return. No, the Beatitudes *bring* blessings because they come to us as requirements of righteousness already met in Jesus. He is the one who has fulfilled every demand of the Law. He is the one who has taken away our sin and come to give us the Kingdom.

February 24, 2019 – Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm 103:1-13; Old Testament: Genesis 43:3-5; Gospel: Luke 6:27-31

“Love, Bless, Pray” - Sermon Text: Luke 6:27-31 - Rev. Paul Shoemaker

Jesus tells us to love your enemies, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. All of that happened to Jesus who continues to love, bless and pray for us so we may spend our eternity with Him.

Worship Anew can be viewed every SUNDAY:

7:00 a.m. EPTA-TV 21.2 [NBC]

8:00 a.m. MyTV 21.3

11:30 a.m. WINM-TV 12/38 [TCT]

4:00 p.m. & Monday 10:00 a.m. Comcast 55 & Frontier 25 [PEG]

“Worship Anew” can also be found on the following website - click "Online Worship": www.worshipanew.org