ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 3597 WEST MAIN STREET PO BOX 5716 Belleville PA 17004

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



St. John's Lutheran Church, Belleville, Pennsylvania

# JULY/AUGUST 2021



This summer take time to "thank God" for the little things in life...and enjoy the journey!

# **Our Mission Statement**

We, the members of St. John's congregation, promise to share the good news of Jesus Christ and to love one another through worship and service in our homes, church, community and the world.

> St. John's Lutheran Church 3597 West Main Street P.O. Box 5716 Belleville, PA 17004

9:30am Worship 10:45am Sunday School September through May

Church Office ~ 935-2032 St. John's Christian Day Care and Preschool ~ 935-2959 E-mail us at <u>secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org</u> Website ~ <u>stjohnsbelleville.org</u>



## **MESSAGE from the PASTOR:**

The last two months have provided exiting opportunities to participate in the workings of the broader Church with a big 'C' and to confirm Lutheran identity and actions within that church. First, the Council has dedicated its last two meetings before summer break to reviewing and revising our Constitution to include revisions to the 'Model Constitution of the ELCA' and revisions our church in particular is proposing with regards to quorum, number on council and process. Ed Bilich who spearheaded and organized this process for us announced in a recent email: *At the St. John's council meeting on Thursday, June 17, we completed our review and revision of the St. John's Constitution. Still to be done is the review and revision of our bylaws.* The constitution is basically a description of what we do, and believe and how we operate as a Lutheran Church. It begins with a preamble of faith and commitment to: "the call of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel" and a solemn pledge to: "be governed by its provisions in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit." It is organized so it can be referred to easily when there are specific questions. Yet many admitted they had never read through the whole document. Going through it with a fine toothed comb helped everyone to understand more clearly how we operate as the body of Christ and refresh how we live out our baptismal claim as a community seeking to bring about God's kingdom on earth.

Youth and children are the seeds of this promise and it is a delight to see aspects of Christian outreach described in our constitution lived out in the Day Care. All Day Care classrooms received a copy of *Kindness in the Neighborhood,* illustrated by Sarah Smith of our congregation family. With Covid abating there may be opportunities to read to the children again, and that book might be a good one.

The second recent connection with the larger Church came with the Synod Assembly by zoom on June 19. The theme of this year's assembly was "Liberated to Love," based on Galatians 5: 13-14.

13 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. 14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." 15 If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

Sharon Dancy and Anne Harshbarger, were our congregational representatives. That Saturday morning, I hauled in a wide monitor to my office for us to watch the proceedings together and Sharon brought her own computer for voting. Annie, after getting set up at home, came over to St. Johns, shared the links and pass-codes, and we were ready to roll. The Vevox voting app was simple to use and tallied votes instantly speed-ing up the process so much that we were done with what is usually 2 days of meetings in just over four hours. They will probably use something like this again when holding in person or hybrid synod assemblies in the future.

The first trial vote, voting for your favorite sport, would establish that everyone knew how to use the voting app and that we had a quorum. We didn't! They were about 3 short and thankfully those 3 were not us! The Bishop was not able to proceed with the meeting. So we watched some of the scheduled videos from Seafarers International and other inspiring mission organizations until everyone was on board and voting. When we were two or three over the quorum we could finally proceed with the agenda.

Once we got rolling, Sharon noted she was surprised how much voting there was to do and emphasized how important it is for the synod to hear voices and have representation from all congregations. We voted for representatives to various committees, for changes to the Synod constitution and for proposals to consider how we might better live Christ's call to love our neighbor in our present world.

Continued on next page

One of the goals of the synod council in the last year was youth involvement and Annie speaks right to it. We prayerfully look forward to her being called to be a representative to church wide assembly in the coming rounds. Her family and church family can be proud to have her enthusiasm, skills and voice active in the broader workings of the Lutheran church.

> With God's bountiful blessing, and Christ's joy, Pastor Ela

# SYNOD ASSEMBLY JUNE 19 2021

Three representatives from St. John's attended Synod Assembly by zoom Saturday June 19: Anne Harshbarger as one of the Young Adult representatives attended from home; Sharon Dancy and Pastor Ela participated from the Pastor's office. Each attendee got a 'Synod in a box' kit with snacks, gifts and informational materials. Check out the bulletin board for items posted there.



# Anne Harshbarger:

I was very happy to finally be a part of synod assembly as a representative, and this year's theme "Liberated to Love" was inspiring as we heard from impactful guest speakers and voted on steps to take as a synod to continue to learn and grow as a church. My summers working at camp have really allowed me to learn more about Lutheran theology and what it means to be a part of the larger church. This experience at synod has helped affirm what we stand for as Lutherans, being a welcoming and inclusive church that focuses on sharing God's love and grace with all people. Also through my time working at camp I have had the privilege to know many of our synod leaders and to see some of our campers now become leaders as they were voted to attend the churchwide assembly, was very inspiring. We are all a crucial part of the church now, no matter how young or old we are.

# **Camp Mt. Luther News**

Ann was also the videographer for a video of the installation of the Camp Mount Luther 2021 Summer Ministry Team of which she is a member in a new role connecting campers, camp and families at home. We are asked to continue to keep the staff and campers of **Camp Mount Luther** in your prayers as the first campers in 96 weeks were welcomed to camp this June. The theme this year is "From Generation to Generation." This is a great theme for Grandparents Day at camp. Consider bringing your family or sending neighbor kids to camp.

# A question and challenge from the Assistant to the Bishop, Craig Miller

How will your congregation see your neighbors differently after the pandemic has ended? Has your congregation been called by God to reach out with the love of Jesus in a new way? Let us remind each other that God who brought new life out of crucifixion. has promised us also to live with Christ Jesus. Let us look for that new life in our congregations and finding it, let us imagine how we can share it with those around us who hunger for the good news of grace.

# **Opening and closing excerpts from the Bishops report for 2021 Synod Assembly.**

Greetings in the name of the Triune God, Let me begin this year's report with where I left off on my report from last year: "*My hope and prayer are that we don't turn to run back to what was, but that we forge ahead into the unknown, embrace new ways of being church, discover what is possible, and trust that God is leading the way.*"

We are finally seeing light at the end of this pandemic tunnel, but not without continued concern and care for one another and those most vulnerable. After 15 months, we are forging ahead, taking along with us new tools and understanding for being church in and beyond our immediate communities. We have faced challenges together that we never dreamed of facing. We have learned from one another and relied on one another. We have grieved with and prayed for one another. And through everything, we kept on being church together, God's church! My thanks to all of you for your dedication and faithfulness to the Gospel as the body of Christ.

Joys and challenges, adapting and adjusting, it's been more than a full year. But the future will hold the same – joys, challenges, adapting and adjusting. God is leading us into something new, as God has always been and always will be leading the church into something new. What that will look like, I do not know. But if it is anything like what I have already been seeing from our congregations and leaders over this past year – then I am hopeful. My question to us all is this: are we courageous enough to step into the unknown? This may mean adapting in more ways, cooperating more with each other, letting go of what holds us back, and not being afraid of change. It will mean listening to God's voice, discerning God's vision, and trusting God to lead us into something new.

As our assembly theme lifts up that we are "Liberated to Love," let us all live into this freedom and love that God has provided and boldly step into a new way of being church together for the sake of the Gospel and for the love of the world.

Shalom, Bishop Barb Collins

# A DAY in the LIFE of a MISSIONARY:

The Global Mission Team of the Upper Susquehanna Synod is inviting you to join us for an hour on Saturday, July 17 as we speak with ELCA missionary, Rev. Linda Johnson Seyenkulo. If you have always wanted to learn what our missionaries do in Liberia, here is your chance to "travel" with her and see what day to day life is like.

Rev. Linda is a busy pastor, teacher, wife and mother. Being married to the Bishop of the Lutheran Church of Liberia, she is also the "Mother" of the church which offers more opportunities and responsibilities to share the Gospel.

We will hear the challenges they have faced in the global pandemic and how they adjusted to offering ministry in the wake of COVID 19. Rev. Linda was unable to come to the U.S. last year, but is now visiting family in the U.S.. The ELCA has asked that the missionaries not travel within the U.S.. Therefore, she is unable to come to our synod or supporting congregations. But that won't stop us from gathering via Zoom to hear what is going on with her and her work in Liberia!

This is a wonderful opportunity to hear and see a small bit of missionary life without leaving the comfort of your home. Please join us at 10AM, Saturday, July 17. Follow this link: Ann Zimmerman is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Missionary Life Rev. Linda Johnson Seyenkulo Time: Jul 17, 2021 10:00 AM Eastern Time Join Zoom Meeting <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85483550726?pwd=MzBFd2Z5elNvTDYzWkZCU3FtR05mUT09</u> Meeting ID: 854 8355 0726 Passcode: 050737

Feel free to email <u>annzimmerman@hotmail.com</u> to receive a direct link to the meeting by Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>.

# St. John's Lutheran Church

Pastor – Reverend Ela J. Robertson Phone 740-338-7123 Organist – Susie Yoo Sextons – Calvin and Kelly Byler Church Secretary – Kelly Byler Office Phone 935-2032 Email us at <u>secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org</u>

# St. John's Christian Daycare and Preschool Lisa Lingle, Director Phone 717-935-2959

# St. John's Financial Report

Checking account balance 6/28/2021 \$ 22,366.45

June 1 through 28, 2021

Income \$ 87,145.18 Expense \$ 79,547.07 Net Income \$ 7,598.11

# GODS411

# When you pray God listens.

When you listen God speaks.

When you believe God works.

# St. John's Congregational Council

Ed Bilich ~ Treasurer Joy Byler ~ Secretary Denise Chester ~ Vice President Deb French Carol Fultz ~ President Susan Lynch Jami Zook

# Term Expires end of 2021 end of 2022 end of 2021 end of 2022 end of 2022 end of 2023 end of 2021 end of 2023 end of 2021

# **Daycare Financial Report**

Checking account balance 6/28/2021 \$ 47,840.18

June 1 through 28, 2021

Income \$ 162,598.06 Expense \$ 149,868.16 Net Income \$ 12,729.90

Council met on Thursday, June 17 and are not planning to meet in July and August. Their next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, September 9 at 6:30pm.

If you have concerns, please contact any member. Those persons currently serving are listed above.

Pastor Ela will be enjoying some vacation time the last two weeks of July. On Sunday, July 25 a representative from the Gideon's, Carl Shreck is scheduled to be our guest speaker. Pastor Rosalie Smith will be preaching and leading the worship service on August 1st.



# Pastor's Office Hours - St. John's

Pastor's hours flex to facilitate the needs of the two churches, to address pastoral needs and to participate in church, ecumenical and denominational meetings and trainings. That given the pastor will plan to be in the office:

10 - 12:30 Monday and Wednesday at St. Johns,

10 - 12:30 Tues and Thursday at West Kish.

Variations that are known in advance are usually announced in the bulletin and/or posted on the Pastor's office door.

The pastor is often in the office many more hours than this so feel free to call to make an appointment by calling the church or the pastor's cell.

Rev. Robertson may be contacted at:

717 935-2032 St. John's Lutheran Church

717 935-2337 West Kish Pres; Joy relays messages to Pastor.

740 338-7123 Cell phone, text/voice mail. Please be patient with our intermittent Big Valley reception!

# **Daycare News**

The Daycare annual yard sale has been rescheduled for **Tuesday**, **July 27 and Wednesday**, **July 28**. <u>We need more donations</u>, and will gladly take anything you have in clean, usable condition, including furniture. Please feel free to place your items on/in front of the stage or outside the Fellowship Hall doors.



We are "full-swing" into summer here at the daycare! Fridays are water days for all of the classrooms and are a big hit. Even the babies get in on the fun!

The heat of summer is here, and I just want to thank everyone again for the provision of the air conditioners for our classrooms. There is a tremendous morale difference among the staff, and a behavior difference among the children, now that their classrooms are comfortable. Especially during these summers when masks have been required! Despite the lifting of various Covid restrictions in our community, our regulatory agency is still requiring the masks, social distancing, and other challenging procedures for the foreseeable future. So, if you are one of the wonderful people who come down to our rooms to assist with facilities needs, please don't be offended if we still ask you to wear a mask. We are required to make you do so!

We do have a few spaces in our younger classrooms at the moment, but they are due more to the small gaps before already-enrolled children are able to 'graduate' up to the next classroom rather than lack of enrollment. I receive enrollment inquiries on a regular basis, so there are currently no worries about keeping our enrollment at capacity. And, of course, we are waiting on a bunch of babies to be born! They have all paid to reserve their spots and we are just waiting on the Lord to bring them into this world over the next few months!

The family that has assisted with our spaghetti dinner fundraiser in these past years has "graduated" out of our center. We are currently investigating new fundraising opportunities to potentially replace the spaghetti dinner should this family no longer wish to assist with it now that their children are all in school.

We are currently in need of a degreed preschool teacher, part-time and/or full-time child care associates, and substitute teachers. This is proving to be a tremendous challenge due to Covid, our more remote location, regulatory requirements, and our financial restrictions. We would greatly appreciate all of the prayer support that you can provide in this matter, suggestions as to where we can advertise these vacancies (beyond local churches, local public bulletin boards, and the CareerLink website,) and your efforts to spread the word to friends and family!

Thank you, as always, for your support of this ministry, Lisa Lingle At the June meeting, council agreed to continue with the parking lot service and keep the safety measures for communion in place through the summer.

# If you signed up to help as a Greeter or Altar Care, please take note of the following $\sim$

# **Parking Lot Service**

Greeter(s) are asked to wheel the sign located in the coatroom area on the side walk, so it can be seen from the road. A smaller sign and offering box are located in the blue room, set them both outside the back door. There is a "mailbox" attached to the basement step railing, please place two of the large print bulletins in it. The box and signs will need to be brought in again following the service.

If help is needed, please ask one of the council members attending worship that morning.

# Communion

Instructions have been placed on the counter in the choir room for communion preparation. On communion Sundays, several of the wafer/juice cups will need to be placed in the communion box found in the blue room, and placed outside the back door beside the offering box. Please be sure to bring it in again following the service.

Thank you for your willingness to serve as we continue to relax restrictions and look forward to once again getting back to our pre-Covid worship. Thank you to those persons who have signed-up to help with Sunday morning duties. Looking ahead to August volunteers are still needed to  $\sim$ 

# Greet ~ August 22 Lay Read ~ August 8 and 22 Bulletin/CD Delivery and Flower Delivery

If you can help in any way, please <u>sign-up in the</u> <u>narthex</u> or contact the church office.

A sign-up for September duties will be placed in the narthex in mid-July. Please consider helping!!!

St. John's has Meals on Wheels September 14, 16, 21 and 23. There will be sign-ups placed in the narthex for desserts in mid-August.

For anyone doing up homemade applesauce, we would appreciate a few quart to include with one of the meals. It is so much better than canned! Please contact the church office or Sue Lynch if you are able to provide any. Thank you!!

St. John's Knotters are looking forward to once again being able to come together and fellowship, as they pick-up where they left off last November, due to Covid. They plan to meet at 9:30am Thursday, September 2 in the blue room.

We pray God's blessing on this mission, and the hands who of those who perform this labor of love.

Summer is Liberia Tuition Sponsorship time. Joe is currently waiting on the student profiles, and is hoping to have them available in the next few weeks.

As a sponsor, 100% of your tuition payment for a student, whether you are a one-time or long-time sponsor, goes directly to the school to pay for his or her tuition fees.

Tuition is paid once yearly, and the cost varies based on grade level and school:

- $\diamond$  Elementary: ~\$65 (per year)
- $\diamond$  Middle School: ~\$85 (per year)
- $\diamond$  High School: ~\$120 (per year)
- ♦ Tuition is capped at \$150 Max (per year)

Please prayerfully consider either renewing or becoming a new sponsor in the program. **YOU** can make a difference in the life of a child.

ALL checks should be made payable to ~ God's Precious Children AND MUST be given to Joe or mailed to the address listed on the profile.



# **Rachel Kurtz Coming to Beaver Lutheran**



Rachel Kurtz, singer-songwriter-speaker-storyteller, will be appearing at Beaver Lutheran Church on Wednesday, July 7, at 7 p.m. Kurtz has been touring and singing for almost 20 years. She speaks frankly about love, God, parenting, heartbreak and her infectious laugh is peppered throughout her concerts. Her songs are rife with emotion and can make you get up and dance. Whether she is singing in a bar or church, her voice can cut through the noise and gives the listener a place to rest.

She has sung at the last six ELCA National Youth Gatherings and her song "Make a Difference" is sung nationwide on any given Sunday. Come on out to hear her sing, you will be surprised and delighted. Beaver Lutheran Church is located on Route 522 between Beavertown and Beaver Springs. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the youth of BLC who will be attending next year's Youth Gathering in Minneapolis.



CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH 100 Calvary Lane Lewistown Tickets availabe in August

# SAVE THE DATE!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 5:45 CATERED MEAL 6:45 SESSION BEGINS

As an author, blogger, and full-time speaker Tammy Whitehurst encourages audiences to live life kicked up a notch. She has been described as a hoot with a capital H! Tammy has written articles for Lifeway, Woman's World, Mature Living, Christianity Today and many other publications. She is the author of three devotionals and features a daily devotion Monday through Friday.

### LET'S GET TOGETHER AND CELEBRATE LAUGHTER, EXPERIENCE JOY, AND HEAR ABOUT THE LOVE OF JESUS.

# JULY SERVICE SCHEDULE

# <u>July 4</u>

**Elevator:** Randy Harshbarger **Greeters:** John and Brenda Boring **Lay Reader:** Jami Zook **Money Counters:** John and Denise Chester **Sound System:** Ed Bilich

# <u>July 11</u>

**Elevator:** Joe Kanagy **Greeters:** Mike and Michele Harshbarger **Lay Reader:** Ed Bilich **Money Counters:** Sue Lynch and Carol Fultz **Sound System:** Joe Kanagy

### <u>July 18</u> Flevator:

**Elevator:** Randy Harshbarger **Greeter:** Carolyn Conner **Lay Reader:** Jim Buchanan **Money Counters:** Jay and Joy Byler **Sound System:** Jay Byler

July 25 Elevator: Joe Kanagy Greeters: Mike Boring and Jami Zook Lay Reader: Mike Boring Money Counters: Sharon Dancy and Joe Kanagy Sound System: Jay Byler

<u>Altar Care</u> ~ Sandra Metz

Altar Flower Delivery ~ Carolyn Conner and Jane Fultz

Bulletin Delivery ~ Randy Harshbarger

# Please remember:

If you are unable to be present on your scheduled day, <u>it is your responsibility,</u> to find a replacement.

# AUGUST SERVICE SCHEDULE

<u>August 1</u> Elevator: Randy Harshbarger Greeters: John and Brenda Boring Lay Reader: Deb French Money Counters: John and Denise Chester Sound System: Ed Bilich

<u>August 8</u> Elevator: Joe Kanagy Greeter: Susan Keller Lay Reader: VOLUNTEER NEEDED Money Counters: Sue Lynch and Carol Fultz Sound System: Joe Kanagy

August 15 Elevator: Randy Harshbarger Greeter: Carolyn Conner Lay Reader: Jim Buchanan Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler Sound System: Jay Byler

August 22 Elevator: Joe Kanagy Greeters: VOLUNTEER NEEDED Lay Reader: VOLUNTEER NEEDED Money Counters: Sharon Dancy and Joe Kanagy Sound System: Jay Byler

<u>August 29</u> Elevator: Randy Harshbarger Greeters: Mike Boring and Jami Zook Lay Reader: Jami Zook Money Counters: Mike Boring and Jami Zook Sound System: Ed Bilich

<u>Altar Care</u> ~ Joy Byler

# <u>Altar Flower Delivery</u> ~ VOLUNTEER NEEDED

## **Bulletin Delivery** ~ VOLUNTEER NEEDED

# St. John's Lutheran Church JULY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
9:30am Worship				1	2	3			
4 Holy Communion	5 Church and DC Closed	6	7	8 No Council Meeting until September	9	10			
11	12	13	14	15	worshi	17 summer p wherever ou are!			
18 Holy Communion	19 6:30pm Property Committee Meeting	20	21	22	23	24			
	Pastor Ela on vacation thru August 1								
25 Speaker from the Gideon's	26	27 Noon—7pm Daycare Yard Sale	28 8am-Noon Daycare Yard Sale	29	30	31			

# St. John's Lutheran Church August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
1 Holy Communion Rosalie Smith preaching	2	3	4	5		7		
8	9	10	11	12 No Council Meeting until September	13	14		
15 Holy Communion	16 6:30pm Property Committee Meeting	17	18	19	worship	21 summer o wherever u are!		
22	23	24	25	26 G DAYS	27 OF SUM	28		
29	30	31						

# <u>St. John's Lutheran Church</u> Minutes of the May 10, 2021 meeting

# **Mission Statement**

We, the members of the St. John's congregation, promise to share the good news of Jesus Christ and love one another through worship and service in our homes, church, community and the world.

# **Vision Statement**

To be welcoming people who encourage God's love in our community through our prayers, devotion, benevolence, and deeds.

The monthly meeting of St. John's Lutheran Church council was held on May 10, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the blue room.

**Present:** President Carol Fultz, Ed Bilich, Joy Byler, Denise Chester, Deb French, Sue Lynch, Jami Zook, Pastor Ela.

The meeting was called to order by Carol Fultz.

**Devotions:** Ed Bilich led devotions.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the April 8, 2021 meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes of the April 2021 minutes was made by Ed Bilich and seconded by Sue Lynch. Motion carried.

**Financial Reports:** The financial reports for the month of April were presented. A motion to accept the St. John's financial report was made by Sue Lynch and seconded by Jami Zook. Motion carried. St. John's Christian Day care financial reports were presented. A motion to accept the St. John's Christian Day Care financial report was made by Deb French and seconded by Sue Lynch. Motion carried.

# **Pastor's Report:**

Worship

- The Easter season focused on living Resurrection Joy what it is, what it isn't.
- ♦ Summer focus is on discipleship elements of liturgy.

Worship Outreach

- ♦ Communion outreach to shut-ins;
- oneeding copyright of published special music so we can post videos with Lisa Griffith singing;
- Bill Cullingford focusing on "sermon only" videos.

Mission

- Day Care Pastor Ela wrote a letter to be given/sent to day care parents
- ♦ global mission
- discussion on the Discretionary fund and we may need to change the name on the checks, as they do not match what the bank has in their system.

Pastoral care

- Senior homes opening now to pastor visits with appointments
- Pastor Ela has visited the 200 and 500 wings of Valley View. She has upcoming appointments at Elmcroft with Vivian Plank and Betty Harmon and Valley View Terrace
- Home communion is best if extended with a member of the congregation

♦ there are many more options made possible as a result of COVID.

# Council

♦ Reviewing the Constitution

# Meetings

- ◊ ELCA, Synod, Conference, Presbytery meetings continue by zoom.
- There is an ELCA grant opportunity which Pastor Ela wants to apply for. A motion to approve applying for the grant was made by Jami Zook and seconded by Joy Byler. Motion carried.

# **Committee Reports:**

Cemetery – Denise - None Long Range – Joy - None Property – Deb - None Music & Worship – Jami – Hymns have been selected Social Ministry – Sue – None Safety – Carol -Day Care – Carol – Were shut down for a few days due to COVID Finance – Ed – None Staff Support – Carol & Sue – Met with Pastor Ela on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Susie had to have a new contract due to a couple items that needed attention.

# **Old Business:**

Church duties are needed for June for altar care, flower deliver and possibly greeters. It will be included in the newsletter.

# New Business:

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Carolyn Conner wants to have a parade on Memorial Day, she if she has permission to form the car parade at the church on Memorial Day around 9 a.m. Ed Bilich made motion and Jami Zook seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Michelle Harshbarger would like to offer her nephew the opportunity to attend Camp Mount Luther. The cost would be \$340. She was wondering if we could possibly support him with his tuition. Deb French made a motion and Sue Lynch seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pastor Ela asked if we wanted to consider offering to send a few daycare school-age children to Camp Mount Luther if they show interest. Denise Chester felt we had the funding and it was a great opportunity. Jami made a motion and Deb seconded the motion to offer it to the school aged children at St. John's Christian Daycare.

**Constitution:** The council members each received three copies of the constitution that Ed Bilich prepared.

Copy 1 – A model constitution of the ELCA

Copy 2 – St. John's draft constitution after edits shown in copy #3

Copy 3 – St. John's current constitution marked up with additions and deletions to bring it in line with the ELCA model constitution.

Ed split the council members up into three groups. We read through copy #3 constitution word for word to assure the changes were made correctly and got through Chapter 9. At our June meeting we will finish the remaining chapters. All went well and we commend Ed for all the work he put in to this!

The next council meeting will need to be held on June 10, 2021. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. and all council members are encouraged to be there to finish going over the constitution.

With there being no further business, we closed the meeting with a song that Ed Bilich played for us

Respectfully submitted, Joy Byler, Secretary