

Notice: The Minutes printed below are for communication purposes only.
St. John Council members have not approved these minutes.

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Member Congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Matthew D. Lorfeld, Pastor
8020 South Park Road
Wisconsin Rapids, WI. 54494
715-423-7788

Annual Congregation Voter's Meeting **Sunday, January 21, 2024**

Call to Order by Craig V. Timm, Chairman at 10:55 a.m. with 33 members present.

Opening Prayer led by Pastor Matthew Lorfeld.

Welcome extended to all by Craig Timm.

Additional Reports to the 2023 Annual Report—Funeral Committees were corrected and new lists are available. 📧

Pastor's Report: Pastor Lorfeld reviewed, highlighted and expanded items that are published in the 2023 Annual Report. Pastor noted that The **Board of Evangelism and Outreach** should list Judy Monje as a member. Pastor also noted that some **Funeral and Baptismal Records** are not complete. The office is working on updating the records. **St. John Lutheran Church Membership Annual Update** (forms are available in the Narthex and the Church Office) will be used to update St. John families information : (Full Name, Spouse's name, Address , Home and Cell telephone numbers, Anniversary dates, Dependents living in your home to include names and birth dates.)

Pastor stated that **service attendance** numbers have increased and the addition of the Wednesday Evening Services.

Pastor would also like to see the **Choir reinstated**.

Lutheran Service Book (19 years old) to be available to every household. Hymnal cost to be announced.

The Pipe Organ is showing its age, has been tuned and then re-tuned with-in a very short time. "Dusting" of the pipes would cost approximately \$20,000.00 with no guarantee it would solved the problems, "Leathers" repaired would cost several thousand dollars, relays and electronics wear out too. Repair could be approximately \$150,000.00. Replacement of the Pipe Organ with a used Musical Instrument would be \$100,000.00. Replacing the Pipe Organ would be approximately One Million dollars.

An Electronic Organ very similar to the Pipe Organ could be under a \$100,000.00—a huge range of prices.

Implementing a **Strategic Plan** is to be begin with "Prayer".

The **Mission Statement** is to be revised.

2024 Budget as approved by The Church Council was presented. It was noted the 2024 Budget is a “negative” Budget of \$25,000.00. The Budget is a “Working Document” and is revised as needs arise. Motion made by Lawrence Shepard, Seconded by Doug Ross to accept the 2024 Budget. Discussion. It was noted that monies are at times borrowed from other church funds. Call for vote. Motion carried. A Thank You extended to Jerry Schimke, Treasurer for compiling the Financial information for the Budget.

Greeting Card Mailings: Information regarding members when they are sick, hospitalized, homebound, or in need of a word of encouragement should be given to the Church Office (715-423-7788), as well as to Elaine Polansky (715-325-3312), so appropriate greeting cards may be sent. Elaine is the “Sunshine Lady” for Lutheran Women in Mission.

Upcoming Events: **Ash Wednesday** Service will be February 14th, at 6:00 p.m.
Lenten Services, Holy Week, and Easter Services times will be announced by the Elders.
Spaghetti Supper—Sunday, February 4th. Serving 4 to 6 p.m.

Adjournment: Motion by Jerry Strack, seconded by Jeff Zimmerman to adjourn at 11:32 a.m.
Motion carried.

Closing Prayer: All in attendance shared in the Lord’s Prayer.

Benediction given by Pastor Lorfeld

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Shepard

Congregational Secretary