



# St. John – St. James Ev. Lutheran

Darin Aden, Pastor  
Church: (920) 754-4568

Rick Zimmerman, Principal  
School: (920) 754-4432

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod 219 Manitowoc Street Reedsville, Wisconsin 54230

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August 10, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Paul began his letter to the Romans under inspiration, saying: *“<sup>11</sup> I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— <sup>12</sup> that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith. <sup>13</sup> I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.”* Many of us know that longing and how the longing can be with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ grows, when we are prevented from gathering together. Such longing is healthy for congregations and most definitely part of God’s plan for encouraging each other in our faith and lives.

God wants the leaders of congregations and the members of congregations to mutually encourage each other so that they might be made strong in their faith. God teaches us that truth in Romans and in many other places throughout the Bible—God intended to place us among other Christians so that we could teach, rebuke, correct, and encourage each other as needed in our individual walks of faith. I’ve been feeling that need more than usual to be with you and be able to mutually encourage each other during these unusual times as I know most of you are too. We should continue to pray for that opportunity, but there is more that we could do.

We have updated the SJSJ membership Directory—it was overdue. Periodically we update and publish the Directory to share information that is constantly changing and to assist the encouragement and support of each other within God’s family of believers here at SJSJ. That has never been more needed than in these circumstances that have forced us to be apart more than usual. We will be emailing the Directory to those on our email list and making hard copies for others to pick up from the office or church. I am asking all of you to take a look at the directory. Please pray for your fellow members. Also consider reaching out to those you have not seen in a while. We all realize that a quick note, phone call, or contact could be a great blessing to many of us who have been feeling isolated and disconnected. While some of us wait to gather in person, let us use the many other means the Lord has granted to mutually encourage each other that we might be strengthened.

## COVID UPDATES:

Gov. Evers Mandate: The State of Wisconsin now requires masks to be worn in all indoor public places—including churches. Excluding those who are exempt, we are asking worshipers to wear masks at all three of our services.\*

More Outdoor Service Options: We had a wonderful turnout for our outdoor service on August 2. 130 people were able to join us! Outdoor gatherings pose less concern, thus masks are not required. We are currently planning another outdoor service on August 16 at 9:00am. Bring a lawn chair. If weather does not permit, we will need to worship inside with mask. Feel free to share your thoughts about more outdoor services. We are monitoring the evaluation/challenge to the new mask mandate. If the mandate stands, we’ll continue to develop plans for more outdoor gatherings.\*

\*(If the Wisconsin mandate would be overturned, we will return to the previous worship requirements:

Thursday, 6:30pm—“blended”; Sunday, 8am—“special care”; Sunday, 10:15am—“no mask.”)



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Positive Test for SJSJ Member: In our small community, “news” travels quickly. I’m writing to confirm that a couple from SJSJ did test positive for COVID19. Their symptoms were relatively mild and they are now fine. They have NOT been in worship with us since before quarantine, so there has been no threat to our worshippers. Two other members were in contact with them. When they consulted their doctor, there was no concern and they were not tested. They quarantined themselves and were not in worship with us during those two weeks after contact. This situation does not meet our protocol to inform you of concern, but I am letting you know these details to hopefully put you at ease. We have not been exposed to any “threat” other than the exposure that we all encounter in public each day.

Worship Attendance: We’ve been back to in person worship for about two months. We are on average about 100 worshippers less each weekend than before quarantine (currently we worship a little under 150 worshippers with three services). We are not able to “track” online worshippers. We’d like to get a better picture of who is worshipping with us each week. If you are using the link from Facebook to access our worship service, we are asking you to “like” the link post or contact us in the church office. So also those directly accessing our online worship services on YouTube, we’re asking you to let us know that you are worshipping online. Our Elders take seriously our responsibility to encourage all of our members to remain connected to the means of grace. It is ONLY the means of grace (Word and Sacrament) that grows our faith. Your help to let us know that you are worshipping with us (or others) enables us to focus our time and energy on those who cannot be connected or need more encouragement in their walk of faith in this challenging time.

Quarantine Offerings: Undoubtedly, less of our members in worship each week has posed a challenge in our offerings. Nonetheless the support of our General Fund has been good. We have been able to meet our operating budget so far in 2020. Thank you so much to all of you who have been able to support the Lord’s work during this strange time! The Building Fund has consistently been below what is needed. Careful planning and safeguards have allowed us to make all of our mortgage payments. I pray that you will be able to remember the General Fund *and also* be able to consider helping with the Building Fund. I’m asking you to continue to pray for and support all of our financial needs as you can.

We will continue to offer opportunities to participate in worship from home. We will also continue offering Communion at the services for the second and last Sunday of the month. Feel free to contact the office to arrange private communion at church or for a visitor to bring Lord’s Supper to you at your home. You all remain in my thoughts and prayers!

Blessings,

*Pastor Darin Aden*

Pastor Darin D. Aden



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**USHER SCHEDULE** – August interim usher schedule is out. Schedules were mailed out on Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. If you need a hardcopy there are some available on the table in the West Church Office. When we return to 2 services a week, we will make out a schedule to cover the rest of the year.

**FISCAL YEAR REPORTS DUE**—July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020 reports need to be given to Cindy as soon as possible because they need to be put into report format and then emailed to our members for them to view before the Annual meeting.

**SYMPATHIES**—Our most sincere sympathies to the family of Robert Charles Buchner, son of Dr. Alfred and Sharon Buchner and brother of Jill (Scott) Keil. Robert passed away on June 30, 2020. May God hold you in his loving arms!

**ECONOFOODS GROCERY RECEIPTS** - EconoFoods is changing their "Computers for Kids" program. The new program will now run year-round! For every \$100,000 in receipts that SJSJ collects, we will earn \$1,000 for our school! Keep saving those receipts!

**BEST CHOICE SAVE-A-LABEL PROGRAM** - EconoFoods' private label brand has changed to Best Choice. Please save the UPC barcode from any Best Choice product you purchase, turn them in at church or school and SJSJ will receive \$30 for every 1000 barcodes redeemed. Please help support our school!

**MEMORIAL FLOWERS**—Clarence (Happy) & Anita Healfrisch entered eternal life on 7-15-1980 and 6-5-2008 respectively. At this time each year the family attends church together in loving memory of their parents, grandparents and great grandparents. The flowers displayed July 9 & 12 on the altar were from the Haelfrisch family in memory of their parents Clarence & Anita Haelfrisch. Thank you so much for brightening our altar!

**SYMPATHIES**—God took Mary L. Popp, Sister of Mel(Judy) Mangin to her eternal home on Saturday, July 11, 2020 at her residence. Our loving sympathies to the Mangin family!

**OFFICE CHANGE**—Due to the COVID-19 new guidelines, it was necessary to have more distance between Amanda and Cindy in the new office. Cindy will now be in the East Church office (Judy's old office). If you have any church business or bulletin announcements that you would like in the bulletin you can either call (920-754-4568) or email (cbubolz@stjohnstjames.com). Thank you so much for your understanding!

**COMMUNION** - In August our Lord's Supper will be offered on these dates: August 6 & 9 and August 27 & 30. To limit contact we will be changing how it is delivered using a continuous flow. We will not be offering Common Cup but instead we will be offering Individual Cup for communion at this time. Ushers will release one family at a time and we ask that everyone maintain a safe distance from others when partaking of the sacrament. The elements will be placed in a way that everyone can help themselves and it will flow in the direction of your seating. Ushers will assist in directing you until we all get use to the new process.

**THANK YOU**—The Buchner family wishes to thank everyone for all the kind words and all the thoughtful condolences given to them and for the memorial of their son and brother, Robert Buchner. Please hold the Buchner family close to your hearts and lift them up in prayer during their time of grief. Thank you to everyone who gave \$405.00 towards the Building fund in Robert's memory.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**—Happy Birthday to Luellis Meyer who turned 95 on Thursday, July 23! Luellis gave a gift of money to our new sound system in honor of being 95 years young. Thank you Luellis, many blessings to you!

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY** - We will be emailing you a copy of our St. John - St. James Ev. Lutheran Church Membership Directory in the days to come if we have your email on file. If you do not have email and would like a copy of the Membership Directory we can provide you with one by calling the church office at 920-754-4568, the school office at 920-754-4432 or you can also call Dan Duchow at 920-754-4751 and we can either mail you a copy via US Mail or hand deliver it to you as requested. If you would like to have the copy emailed to you and we do not have your email on file please be sure to call the above phone numbers and we can get a copy emailed to you.

# An Evening of Worship

## MESSENGERS CONCERT

**Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2020**

**6:30 pm**

**St. John St. James Parking Lot**

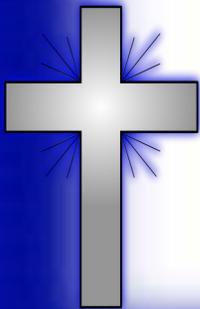
**219 Manitowoc St. Reedsville**



**\*\*Please bring a lawn chair. In the case of rain, will be held indoors.\*\***

Come and join us for another

# OUTDOOR SUNDAY WORSHIP



**Sunday, August 16 at 9:00am**

**In the West-Side Parking Lot**

**Bring your own lawn chair**

**Everyone is welcome**



## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE



### OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE—JULY 2 & 5

Church Attendance: Thur. 6:30 pm—37, Sun. 8am—28 & 10:15am—68, Total: 133 ■ Regular Offerings—General: \$ 8,513.00\*, Synod: \$ 380.00\*, MLHS: \$ 333.00\*, Total: \$ 9,226.00\* ■ Special Offerings—Building Fund: \$ 985.00 (needed each week \$2,312.) ■ Debt Retirement—\$ 0 ■ \* Electronic Giving is also in the totals.



### OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE—JULY 9 & 12

Church Attendance: Thur. 6:30 pm—42, Sun. 8am—34 & 10:15am—95, Total: 171 ■ Regular Offerings—General Fund: \$ 5,789.00 , Synod: \$ 151.00 , MLHS: \$ 153.00 , Total: \$ 6,093.00 ■ Special Offerings—Building Fund: \$1,445.00 (needed each week \$2,312.) ■ Debt Retirement—\$ 0

### OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE—JULY 16 & 19



Church Attendance: Thur. 6:30 pm—39, Sun. 8am—32 & 10:15am—75, Total: 146 ■ Regular Offerings—General: \$ 11,050.00\*, Synod: \$ 821.50\*, MLHS: \$ 740.50\*, Total: \$ 12,612.00\* ■ Special Offerings—Building Fund: \$ 1,854.00 (needed each week \$2,312.) ■ Debt Retirement—\$ 300.00 ■ MLC Scholarship—\$ 200.00

\* Electronic Giving is included in the totals.



July 16, 2020

St John-St James Lutheran Church  
219 Manitowoc St  
Reedsville, WI 54230

Dear Members of St John-St James,

Greetings from Martin Luther College! We'd like to thank you for your total gift of \$4,000.00 to the Martin Luther College Congregational Partner Grant Program. We have applied these monies to the 2020-2021 academic year accounts of the students you listed on your application and have matched your gift (up to \$1,000 per student).

What a gift you've given your students! You've eased their financial burden. You've reduced their anxiety. You've allowed them to dedicate fewer hours to employment and more hours to their studies.

But perhaps the biggest gift you've given them does not come with dollar signs. You're giving them the gift of your encouragement. You're telling them that what they're choosing to do with their lives is important to you, that you're excited to see them serving in the public ministry, and that you are praying for them even now.



On behalf of the students and the college, we thank you.

Walking and working together with you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Bauer".

Mr Mark Bauer  
Director of Financial Aid  
(507) 354-8221 ext 221  
bauermd@mlc-wels.edu

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Otterstatter".

Rev Michael Otterstatter  
VP for Mission Advancement

P.S. Please continue to encourage more young people to consider pursuing the public ministry at Martin Luther College. One kind word, one tap on the shoulder—it could mean all the difference!



219 Manitowoc St., Reedsville, WI 54230

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# COVID-19 NEWSLETTER—AUGUST 10, 2020

**St. John—St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**

Darin Aden, Pastor

Church Office: 920-754-4568

daden@stjohnstjames.com

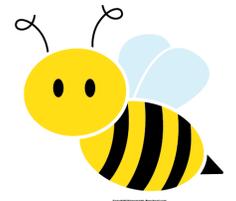
Rick Zimmerman, Principal

School Office—920-754-4432

rzimmerman@stjohnstjames.com

## Summer Office and Church Service Information:

Monday	8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Wednesday	8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Thursday	8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am to 12:00 pm



Thursday Worship Service—6:30 pm  
Sunday Worship Services—8:00 & 10:15 am

