

Trinity Valley Tribune

Gilman ~ St. John's ~ Spring Lake

www.trinityvalleylutheranparish.com

AUGUST 2021

Mission Statement

By the power of the Holy Spirit, Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish is united to increase the vitality of our individual congregations by joining our talents and resources. Together we can better serve one another, share God's goodness, Sacrament, and bring Christ to our neighbors.

Church Locations

Gilman Lutheran Church

N8107 330th St.

PO Box 386

gilslake@svtel.net

St. John's Lutheran Church

S520 Church Ave.

PO Box 336

svstjelca@svtel.net

Spring Lake Lutheran Church

N7724 County Rd B

PO Box 386

gilslake@svtel.net

Spring Valley, WI 54767

715-778-4334 or 715-778-5935

Summer office hours: Tuesday-Thursday (June 1st thru August 15th) 9am—noon

Office Staff: Linda Price, Ann Beyer

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES IN SEPTEMBER

- ◆ **GILMAN:** Gilman Sunday School will begin with fun filled activities on **September 26th!**
- ◆ If you would like to help with Sunday School or enroll a new student please contact the church office or April Miller. Watch for more information in the September newsletter.
- ◆ **ST. JOHN'S:** Sunday School will begin **September 19th.** Sunday School will be during worship time. We are hoping to regularly rotate our teachers so that they are not missing more time in worship than necessary. If you can help us out please contact Rob Moore at 515-451-7603 or rob6483@gmail.com.
- ◆ Registration forms are available in the church office.
- ◆ **SPRING LAKE:** Sunday School begins **September 12th.**

JOIN OUR WORSHIP!

July thru September Gilman will be at 11:00, St. John's at 8:30 and Spring Lake at 9:45.

Weekly online worship services can be accessed at Pastor Amelia's Facebook page or St. John's, Gilman or Spring Lake Facebook page. You can also find it on [Youtube.com@TVLPGilmanStJohnsSpringLake](https://www.youtube.com/@TVLPGilmanStJohnsSpringLake).

Sunday Worship broadcast is on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. and Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. on Baldwin Lightstream cable on channel 16.

PASTOR AMELIA'S MESSAGE

Email address: pastoramelia@gmail.com

Cell phone: 612-850-3904

Prioritizing is one of the most effective life skills. Setting priorities helps us to say, "No", and setting priorities help us to say "Yes.". When we have not set priorities as individuals, families, and community, we can be certain that we will end up overextended, anxious, and possibly burned out. In addition, we may find ourselves spending most of our energy on things that are not life-giving whilst we ignore that which we know are worthy of our time and attention. Many times, I'll hear someone say after worship, "Wow! I am so glad I came. I feel uplifted and encouraged." It seems like a rediscovery of what actually is life giving. My heart sings when this happens.

With summer coming to a close and Fall right around the corner, now is the time to set priorities. So, let me ask you a question: where does **church community, faith formation** (for you and/or your family), and **Sunday worship** rank on your priority list? This is not a judgment question. This is an *honest* question. I ask because with the pandemic somewhat managed, school back in session, sports and activities gearing up we have a *really great opportunity to reset our priorities* so that our lives are in line with what we say we value. This is what living faithfully following Christ looks like. Are you ready to reengage at church? I hope so!

May I lovingly invite you to come back to church! It's time to reconnect with the body of Christ. It's time to hear the Good News. It's time to serve on the many teams that are necessary to make our faith life rich and transformative. Here are some things to consider to get you started:

- Sign your children up for Sunday School and attend regularly
- Register your older children for confirmation
- Agree to usher, read, or serve communion on Sundays
- Join a Bible Study
- Be a prayer partner
- Be a Sunday School teacher or Confirmation Guide
- Volunteer for the visitation ministry (coming soon!)
- Read your newsletters so you know what's happening at Church
- Call me for a Coke or a cup of coffee to just chat!

You get the idea. The church is open. We are continuing in mission and ministry. We would love for you to participate in our community life together.

Please check out the "Notices" part of this newsletter. There are important dates to get on the calendar.

See you soon!

With joy~

Pastor Amelia

Notices

FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Spring Valley:
2nd & 4th Wed.
10-11:30am & 4:30-6pm



Elmwood:
1st Tues. 3-6pm
3rd Tues. 9-11am
4th Sat. 9-11am

SUMMER PARISH WORSHIP TOGETHER

Join us for our final "Parish Worship Together" at Handy Andy Park on Highway 29 in Spring Valley at 9:30am on Sunday, August 29th

Bring a chair. If inclement weather, worship service will be held at St. John's church.

IMPORTANT DATES!!!

Aug 15: Welcome new members (St. John's/Gilman)



Sept 8: 9th grade/yr 3—confirmation orientation 6:15-7:15
Sept 12: Blessing of the backpacks
Sept 15: Year 1 & 2 confirmation orientation
Sept 17: Blood drive 9-3pm St. John's Fellowship Hall
Sept 22: Confirmation begins (tentatively 6-7pm)
Sept 26-28: Pastor @ NWSWI Fall Ministry Retreat



Oct 3: 9th grade/Year 3 Confirmands' Faith Statement Retreat (time and location tbd)
Oct 10: 3rd grade Bible instruction
Oct 24: 3rd grade Bible Presentation
Oct 31: Reformation/Conformation Sunday

BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACK DRIVE!

Any items off the school supply list can be dropped off at St. John's or the Spring Valley Drug Store starting Aug 3rd - Aug 30th. Any questions please contact Mel Wentlandt 715-495-3807.

BLOOD DRIVE

Red Cross Blood Drive will be held September 17th from 9-3pm at the St. John's Fellowship Hall. We are looking for volunteers to check people in and help with snacks. Please contact Mel Wentlandt at 715-495-3807.

POOL PARTY

Parish pool party on August 25th from 6:00-9:15. Everyone welcome! We will be meeting at Mel Wentlandt's home for pizza and kickball with other field activities then ending the night at 8:15 in the pool for a cool off.
Please RSVP to Lindsey @ lindsayalindner@gmail.com or 651-263-2823

WELCA NEWS

GILMAN:

Meeting & Bible Study: Thursday August 12th @ 1pm at church; Bible Study led by Pastor Amelia.

Hostess: Dianne Madson

Annual Fundraiser

Letters were sent out late July asking for your support for the annual Welca fundraiser. Please support the works of our Gilman Welca ladies by sending your donations to Lois Verges, treasurer.

SPRING LAKE:

Meeting & Bible Study: Monday, August 16th @ 2pm at Welcome Home; Bible Study led by Pastor Amelia.

The Pie and Ice Cream Social is back! Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 19th

ST. JOHN'S:

Tuesday morning women's Bible Study August 17th

@ 10:00 in the fellowship hall; Bible Study led by

Pastor Amelia

GRACE PLACE

Gilman congregation supplied the supper to Grace Place homeless shelter for June. Cathy Hopwood, Sue Horstman, Brends Johnson and Diane Hurtgen prepared four casseroles. The Spring Lake volunteers for July were Trudy Rew, Donna Stringer, Missy VandeVrede and Kim Woodford. The Gilman volunteers for **August 13th** Connie Anderson, April Miller, Char Wentlandt and Diane Hurtgen. We thank all those who have volunteered to provide a casserole throughout the year.

CHURCH ROTATION SCHEDULE 2021

FEBRUARY-MARCH

GILMAN	8:30
ST. JOHN'S	9:45
SPRING LAKE	11:00

APRIL-JUNE

GILMAN	9:45
ST. JOHN'S	11:00
SPRING LAKE	8:30

JULY-SEPTEMBER

GILMAN	11:00
ST. JOHN'S	8:30
SPRING LAKE	9:45

OCTOBER-DECEMBER

GILMAN	8:30
ST. JOHN'S	9:45
SPRING LAKE	11:00

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

June 1st thru August 15th

Monday: Closed

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9am – noon

Friday: Closed

715-778-4334 or 715-778-5935

WORSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

GILMAN

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
8/1	Josh & Becca Kiefer	Larry Sorenson	Kalena Beyer
8/8	Steve McDonough	Dave Adams	Chase Rud
8/15	Todd & Trisha Traynor	Trisha Traynor	Taylor Traynor
8/22	Ron Thompson	Darryl Klawitter	Collin Hague
8/29	Outdoor Worship		

Deacon: Dawn Schmitt

Altar Care: Connie Anderson & April Miller

SPRING LAKE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Readers</u>
8/1	Jim & Zona Hague	Mary Hecker
8/8	Dan & Nancy Christianson	Nancy Christianson
8/15	Ray Dohm & Tom Yonke	Shelli Wood
8/22	Don & Cindy Jensen	Donna Lien
8/29	Don & Donna Blegen	Trudy Rew (Outdoor Worship)

Deacon: Trudy Rew

Altar Care: Kay Place & Kim Davis

ST. JOHN'S

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Communion Assistants</u>
8/1	Marsha Brunkhorst Kathy Miller	Marsha Brunkhorst	Brian & Pat Sandness
8/8	Earl & Karen Gunderson	Earl Gunderson	Karen Gunderson
8/15	Richard & Lynda Johnson	Pat Sandness	Brian & Pat Sandness
8/22	Jeanne Niccum Mary Hampton	Jeanne Niccum	Jeanne Niccum Mary Hampton
8/29	Outdoor Worship		

Altar Care:

Parish Council Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2021

The Parish council met at the St. John's Church fellowship hall. Members present: Pastor Amelia Houdek, Bill Emerson, Karen Gunderson, Shelli Wood, Melanie Wentlandt, Jeremy Johnson, Dale Place, Ray Dohm. Absent: Phil Verges, Dawn Schmidt

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Karen Gunderson. Opening prayer led by Pastor Amelia.

A new laptop is needed for pastoral use. Pastor Amelia is interested in one that would have enough memory and would support the applications needed to access programs used, as well as to communicate efficiently with the members. She has been looking at one for approximately \$1,000. There is currently \$1,400 budgeted toward computer needs. The council approved this purchase, and Pastor Amelia will order the laptop. She is also in need of a new chair & possibly a desk for her office, and the council recommended that it be paid for from the office supplies fund in the budget.

Discussion was held regarding hiring a youth director to help Pastor. This person would NOT teach confirmation. This was anticipated prior to the formation of the 3-point parish. At this time, the director would work approximately 5 -10 hours per week at \$20 per hour. Pastor will contact some of her fellow pastors to see if they might know of youth directors who are looking for part-time work in this field. The Youth Activity Team will be meeting on the 26th of July and this will be discussed at that time, as well.

Live streaming of church services has been tabled at this time. Neither Gilman nor Spring Lake currently have wi-fi, and there would need to be people willing to commit to providing this service every Sunday. For now, the recorded services will continue as they have been.

At this time, Karen Gunderson has taken on many of the duties of Parish Treasurer. Her term as President concludes early in 2022, and we will need to find a Parish Treasurer. This would be a paid, part-time position.

Regarding the parish budget, we are currently \$19,000 below budget but will need to see what adjustments might need to be made for next year. It is anticipated that office hours for administrative staff will increase again in the fall. The amount budgeted for supply pastors, as well as other expenses, will need to be reviewed. Ultimately, the budget percentage amounts paid in towards parish expenses will be determined by attendance at the individual churches. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, attendance numbers have not been "regular" so for this next year's budget, the 50/30/20 percentages will still be in use. The Parish Council will meet again in October to approve a 2022 Parish Budget.

Currently, St. John's uses a computer program called "Church Trac" which is a data base that contains names, addresses, birthdates, offerings given, time & talents, etc. It costs \$30 per month for 500 names. Pastor can use this to easily access information and to communicate electronically with various groups or committees within the church. Gilman and Spring Lake membership lists are maintained via either Access or Xcel, but to have all 3 churches under one application would be more efficient. Lisa Nelson from St. John's has been working with Church Trac to see if Gilman and Spring Lake could be included in the 500 names or if a new account would have to be created. Karen will update the Parish Council when more information is available.

The second Parish outdoor worship service will be held on July 25th at Handy Andy Park in SV at 9:30 a.m. Gilman oversees the sound system, ushers, reader. There will NOT be communion.

The next Joint Council meeting will be held on August 10th at 6:30 at St. John's fellowship hall.
Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Shelli Wood, Parish Council secretary

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30- St. John's 9:45- Spring Lake 11:00- Gilman	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 8:30- St. John's 9:45- Spring Lake 11:00- Gilman	9 8am-Crew leaves for WestCap from SJ 6:30-Joint Council Meeting at SJ	10	11	12 1pm-Gilman Welca at church	13 4pm-Supper deliv- ered to Grace Place Shelter	14
15 <i>Welcome New Members: Gilman-SJ</i> 8:30- St. John's 9:45- Spring Lake 11:00- Gilman	16 2pm-SL Welca at Welcome Home	17 10am-Women's Bible Study at SJ	18 6pm-All Council Meeting at SJ	19	20	21
22 8:30- St. John's 9:45- Spring Lake 11:00- Gilman	23 <i>Newsletter info due for Sept.</i>	24	25 6-9:15pm: Youth Pool party	26	27	28
29 9:30am-Worship at Handy Andy Park	30	31				