

Trinity Valley Tribune

Gilman ~ St. John's ~ Spring Lake

www.trinityvalleylutheranparish.com

OCTOBER 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

Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9am—noon

Office Staff: Linda Price, Ann Beyer

Pastor Amelia Houdek: cell phone 612-850-3904 email:pastoramelia@gmail.com

Confirmation News!!

OCTOBER 3RD: Year 3 (9th grade) confirmation mini retreat at St. John's starting @ 12:30.

OCTOBER 13TH: Hayride at Jeremy Johnson's 6-7p.m.

OCTOBER 27TH: No confirmation—9th grade rehearsal 6-7:30p.m.

OCTOBER 31ST: Confirmation Sunday with reception following the worship service.

Sunday School News!!

Gilman and St. John's will present Study Bibles to the third-grade students during the worship service on October 24th.

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

SPRING LAKE FALL FESTIVAL



Sunday, October 17, 2021

11:00 a.m.

Entertainment:

Rich Schroeder Music

*Singer, Song Writer, Guitar Player~Entertainer from
Menomonie*

Dinner to Follow

Everyone Welcome!

Free will offering.

**St. John's will be having
A Fall cleanup day on
October 9th**

WELCA NEWS

GILMAN:

Meeting & Bible Study: Thursday October 14th @ 1pm at church;
Bible Study led by Pastor Amelia.

Hostess: Diane Hurtgen

SPRING LAKE:

Meeting & Bible Study: Monday, October 18th @ 2pm at
Welcome Home. Bible Study led by Pastor Amelia.

Hostess: Donna Blegen

ST. JOHN'S:

Tuesday morning women's Bible Study every Tuesday
Morning @ 10:00 in the fellowship hall;

Bible Study led by Pastor Amelia.

St. John's quilting workday is held every Thursday morning from
9:00 until 11:00 coffee is @ 10:00

All are welcome to come and participate.

WELCA meeting: October 21st in the fellowship hall @ 2:00

Hostess: Nina Larson

GRACE PLACE

Spring Lake congregation supplied the supper to Grace Place
homeless shelter for September. Cindy Jensen, Kathy Nyeggen,
Shelli Wood and Sally Pierce prepared four casseroles. The
Gilman Volunteers for **October 8th** are Marlene Aamodt, Lois
Verges, April Miller and Melissa Hague.

Watch the bulletin board for 2022 sign up.

We thank all those who continue to provide casseroles.

Luther Point Bible Camp Appeal Letter

The Director of Luther Point, Sam Campeau, reached out to
churches this month regarding the repair and replacement needs at
the camp, and looking for financial assistance to offset the costs of
some of the larger items: lawn mower replacement (\$9500); 30
year old truck replacement (used one \$6500); well replacement
(\$2500); sewage/septic repair (\$1000); workcart repair (\$1000). If
you are able to help in any way, please send your gifts/donations to
Luther Point Bible Camp, 11525 Luther Point Rd, Grantsburg, WI
54840. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Events coming up at Luther Point: Wellness Retreat on October 8-
9, Beer and Hymn/Camp Songs at Brickfield Brewing on October
24th, and 2nd Annual Campfire Christmas on December 4th. All are
welcome!!!

Looking for individual to fill positions:

TVL Parish Treasurer – Job may include paying bills, payroll,
monthly financial reporting, bookkeeping. 1-2 hours per week.
Knowledge of best accounting practices and accounting software
required.

St. John's Bookkeeper – Job may include paying bills, payroll,
reconciling bank accounts and auto payments, monthly financial
reporting, bookkeeping. 2-3 hours per week. Knowledge of best
accounting practices and accounting software required.

If interested, or know of someone qualified, please contact the
church office @ 715-778-5935 or Parish Council President @ 715-
495-3155.

Parish Budget Percentage Concern

At the September 14th Joint Council Meeting, the question was raised regarding the determination of budget percentages. Specifically, why is St. John's paying 50%, and Gilman 30% when Gilman's attendance is greater than St. John's? Wasn't the percentage supposed to be based on average attendance?

The Shared Ministry Agreement states "*Expenses will be divided proportionately among the congregations based on the percentage agreed to for the first two years (50% St. John's; 30% Gilman; 20% Spring Lake), and then percentage based on average attendance over three prior years.*" And the Shared Ministry Plan says "*Split of Parish expenses (for the first 1-2 years, then re-evaluate) 1. St. John's – 50% 2. Gilman – 30% 3. Spring Lake – 20%.* Both documents were sent to each member of the congregation prior to the vote to become one parish.

So, the percentages being paid currently are in accordance with the agreement that was made upon our vote to join as one parish. We will also follow the guidelines to adjust those percentages based on attendance by next year, also according to the plan, and maybe would have been able to begin that process now if we weren't contending with a pandemic. Obviously COVID has interrupted a great many areas in our lives, and church attendance was just one of them. Together with the pandemic, the first year as a newly formed 3-point parish has revealed areas where we can grow and learn, and it has emphasized the need for open and honest communication.

The Parish Council welcomes questions and concerns. Please know that you are welcome to attend the parish council meetings, as well as those of the joint/individual councils. You may also communicate with any one of the Parish Council members whose names are listed below.

While we celebrate individual differences and opinions, and realize not everyone will agree on things, it is our intent to try to live fully according to our 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, lift our communities through Word and Sacrament, and bring Christ to our neighbors.*

Respectfully, Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish Council:

Karen Gunderson, Jeremy Johnson, Shelli Wood, Bill Emerson, Phil Verges, Dale Place, Melanie Wentlandt, Dawn Schmitt, Ray Dohm

Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish Joint Council Meeting Minutes 9.14.21

The TVLP Joint Councils met on Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. John's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. Members present: Duey Davis, Kim Davis, Trudy Rew, Shelli Wood, Ray Dohm, Dale Place, Mary Hecker, Pastor Amelia Houdek, Karen Gunderson, Nancy Cleveland, Earl Gunderson, Phil Verges, Diane Hurtgen, Linda Anderson, Jeremy Johnson, April Miller, Shawn Miller, Lisa Nelson, Leanna Larson, Barb Esanbock, Mel Wentlandt, Stacy Burr.

Meeting was called to order by Parish Council President, Karen Gunderson. Opening Comments/Prayer led by Pastor Amelia. MM by Nancy Cleveland and seconded by Duey Davis to approve the August minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Pastor's report: She suggests that we pay particular attention to the section of her report entitled *Things I'm Wondering About* as that highlights areas of opportunity or concern that affect the parish, congregations, and people in our churches and communities. In this month's report she wonders how the pastor's gifts mesh with where we go as a parish; effective communication; communicating wins/celebrations; how to create space to offer faith formation opportunities to reach different demographics (other than Bible Study); how to pastor in a time of cultural shift; how to recapture the momentum we had when we first became a parish/before COVID?

Stewardship was discussed. Need the stewardship committees or volunteers from each church to work together to plan a joint stewardship program for the first 3 Sundays in November (last Sunday of November is the first week in Advent). This group will need to be formed within the next couple of weeks so that we are able to coordinate with Pastor Amelia well in advance of November.

The Parish Budget for 2021 will increase approximately \$4,000 to reflect the addition of possible supplementary staff. The addition of staff to support a single pastor of 3 congregations was discussed prior to the formation of the parish, so this is not an unexpected expense. The individual churches are encouraged to begin work on their own budgets now, and the Parish Council will meet in October to finalize the 2021 Parish budget.

Discussion was held concerning the percentage each church contributes towards the parish budget. Karen explained that the Synod encourages multi-point parishes to use their worship attendance over the course of 3 years to ascertain average attendance at each church to determine what percentages are used, rather than to use membership, which may or may not be accurate. The current percentages are St. John's 50%, Gilman 30%, and Spring Lake 20% which is essentially half of what each congregation had been paying prior to the formation of the new parish. (St. John's on their own paid 100%, Gilman and Spring Lake had been split at 60/40.) The understanding was that these percentages would be under frequent review and adjusted according to attendance as needed. Because of the pandemic and the disruption to in-person worship, attendance has not yet stabilized. An article addressing this concern will be composed and distributed. Karen encouraged everyone to feel free to bring concerns to members of individual and parish councils so that no one church or person feels taken advantage of or misunderstood.

The Joint Council and Parish Council Retreat was held on August 18th. The review and discussion of the article used during the retreat will be tabled until the October meeting. Pastor encouraged members to read the article prior to that meeting so that they would be prepared for discussion.

Pastor Amelia presented a gift to Karen Gunderson on behalf of the Joint Councils and Parish Council for her hard work throughout the formation of Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish. Though Karen's term on the councils won't expire until early in 2022, Pastor wanted her to be able to enjoy a gift of Wisconsin Badgers apparel to wear to the games this fall. Thank you, Karen, for all you have done and continue to do for our Parish.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned to individual council meetings.

Respectfully submitted by Shelli Wood, Parish Council Secretary

CHURCH ROTATION SCHEDULE 2021

OCTOBER-DECEMBER

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru 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>Acolyte</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
10-3	Brad & Wendy Anderson	Phil Verges	Addison Neidermyer	VB 1
10-10	Confirmation Students			VB 2
10-17	Nate & Becky Leland	John Lenarz	Chase Rud	VB 3
10-24	Dale & Kay Strom	Dawn Schmitt	Charlee Sorenson	VB 4
10-31	Jack & Brenda Walkky	Delmer Blegen	Jaci Mader	Confirmation

SPRING LAKE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Readers</u>
10-3	Duey & Kim Davis	Duey Davis
10-10	Dale & Kay Place	Dale Place
10-17	Fall Festival	
10-24	Randy & Kathy Nyeggen	Randy Nyeggen
10-31	Sally Swenson	Donna Lien

ST. JOHN'S

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Readers</u>
10-3	Shelby Crow	Pat Sandness
10-10	Confirmation Students	
10-17	Tanberg/Larson Family	Jon Tanberg
10-24	Richard & Lynda Johnson	Joan Wikre
10-31	Moore Family	Rob Moore


JOIN OUR WORSHIP!

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

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.

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.

October 2021

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WORSHIP ROTATION SWITCHES THIS MONTH							
8:30-Gilman 9:45-St. John's 11:00-Spring Lake	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			6-7: Confirmation at SJ	6-7: Confirmation	9-11: SJ Quilters	4pm-Supper delivered to Grace Place Shelter	Fall Clean up at SJ
8:30-Gilman 9:45-St. John's 11:00-Spring Lake	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			8am-Crew leaves for WestCap from SJ 10am-Bible Study at SJ	6-7: Hayride at the Johnson's	1pm-Gilman Welca at Church 9-11: SJ Quilters		
8:30-Gilman 9:45-St. John's 11:00-Spring Lake *Fall Festival	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		2pm-SL Welca at Welcome Home	10am-Bible Study at SJ	6-7: Confirmation <i>Nov. newsletter info due</i>	9-11: SJ Quilters 2pm-SJ Welca at church		
8:30-Gilman 9:45-St. John's 11:00-Spring Lake <i>3rd Grade Bibles</i>	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			10am-Bible Study at SJ	No Confirmation 6-7:30-9th Grade Rehearsal	9-11: SJ Quilters		
Confirmation	31						
8:30-Gilman 9:45-St. John's 11:00-Spring Lake							