

Trinity Valley Tribune

Gilman ~ St. John's ~ Spring Lake

WWW.TVLPSV.COM

October 2022

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

St. John's Lutheran Church

S520 Church Ave.
PO Box 336

Spring Lake Lutheran Church

N7724 County Rd B
PO Box 386

Spring Valley, WI 54767

715-778-4334 or 715-778-5935

Office hours : Mon.-Thurs.: 9am-noon

Friday—closed

Office Staff: Ann Beyer and Brit Hanson

Pastor Amelia Houdek: cell phone 612-850-3904 email: pastor@tvlpv.com

office@tvlpv.com

***Please join us at
Spring Lake Lutheran
Church for our***

Annual Fall Festival

***Sunday, October 23,
2022 at 9:00 a.m.***

Featuring music by

Rich Schroeder

Brunch will be served

**** Free will offering***

CONFIRMATION INFO

*Let the fun of faith
formation begin!*

10-5: Confirmation 6-7:30pm

10-12: Confirmation 6-7:30pm

10-19: Confirmation 6-7:30pm

10-26: **Third year students
only 6-7:30pm**



**Confirmation Sunday
October 30th.**

St. John's Service 9:00

Gilman Service 10:30

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS!!!!

Sunday School is off to a great start and you can still enroll if you haven't yet!!!!

We are enjoying spending time with all of the children.

Important Dates: Oct. 9th-3rd graders receive bibles-St. John's 9:00

Oct. 23rd & 30th: No Sunday School

Nov. 6th practice for Christmas program starts

Contact: Janna Neidermyer 651-331-1258 or jannaneidermyer@gmail.com

PASTOR AMELIA'S MESSAGE

Email address: pastor@tvlpv.com

Cell phone: 612-850-3904

Grace and Peace to You!

God is at work in this present moment. Right here. Right now. In us, our church, our community, and our world. As we look around though, often it seems as if this is not true. During rapid change, polarization in our society, pandemic, war, and natural disaster we easily we turn inward and embrace feelings of abandonment, anger, fear, sadness, and grief. We are grieving so many things at one time and we are not even aware of it. We only know that we long for things to be the way they were and we long for things to be better than they are.

This creates a deep disconnect and discontent for us as God's people. Why? Focusing on the past and worrying about the future leaves no room to live in the present. The present is where God is for us. This is where we find peace. This is where we are given courageous faith. This is where we are strengthened and comforted. Beloved friends, Jesus meets us where we are: right here, right now. It's not that God is not with us. Rather, it is that we are not mindful and attentive to God's presence.

Amy Oden writes in here book *Right Here, Right Now: The Practice of Christian Mindfulness* that "in his ministry of teaching and healing, Jesus embodies the claim that God is at work in this present moment... Jesus meets people where they are in their present illness or condition." This is God's way.

I believe we need to learn Christian mindfulness, especially now. We need to do this as individuals but also as Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish, as God's people. We need to undeniably see, feel, and know that God is with us right here, right now. We must be available in this present moment being attentive to God's presence. We cannot long for what was and we cannot worry of what is to come.

You may be wondering what "Christian mindfulness" is. Christian mindfulness is *paying prayerful attention in the present moment to God's abundant life*. Again, Amy Oden reminds us "that Jesus teaches a gospel of mindfulness that has eyes to see and ears to hear the kingdom of God is at hand...as Christians our biblical faith shapes our understanding and practice of mindfulness."

Being attentive, God's presence of abundant life is more than a one liner prayer on the run. Being attentive, Christian mindfulness, involves our entire selves: our breath, our bodies, our thoughts, our hearts. In being attentive we are still and we listen more than we speak to discover what God might be up to. God is at work in this present moment. Right here. Right now.

Let us pay prayerful attention to God's abundant life.

Pastor Amelia

Restored

FINDING REDEMPTION IN OUR MESS



Join Us for a 6 Week Sermon Series titled "Restored" starting Wednesday Oct. 5!

At 7:00pm on Wednesdays gather for an express worship service. Our music will be contemporary! Our prayers will be lifted to God. Our hearts will be restored as we hear God's word that is meant to restore you and your life by uncovering the hidden image of God within us.

35 minutes a week can change your life. 35 minutes a week can change the world.

Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish- Gilman, St. John's, Spring Lake

www.tvlpsv.com

Cell: 612-850-3904

Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish Council Meeting Agenda 8.28.22
St. John's Fellowship Hall/6:00 P.M.

Members present: Shelli Wood, Ray Dohm, Trudy Rew, Dave Runge, Jeremey Johnson, Bill Emerson, Melanie Wentlandt, Phil Verges, Phil Hennemann and Ann Beyer.

Meeting Called to Order by Shelli Wood at 6:02.

Opening Prayer said by Shelli Wood.

Secretary's Report was reviewed, motion made by Bill Emerson to accept secretary's report, Phil Verges seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Bill Emerson made a motion to approve the treasurer report, seconded by Ray Dohm, motion carried.

Action Items

Percentage adjustments per Parish Agreement: Per our Parish agreement and upon evaluation of attendance the council recommended to divide the percentages to St. Johns - 40% \$5,000 monthly, Gilman - 35% \$4,375 monthly, Spring Lake 25% \$3,125 monthly. We will revisit these percentages in three months. Motion to change these percentages was made by Phil Hennemann, seconded by Ray Dohm, motion carried. Motion was made by Phil Hennemann, to pay the parish from all churches for the month of September at adjusted half payment and pay the new percentages to the listed amounts for October, November, and December, along with this we will revisit this in December 2022 and follow Parish guidelines to review these percentages annually thereafter seconded by Ray Dohm, motion carried.

Schedule meetings/listening sessions: Possibility of Pastor Erin Nelson coming from the Synod on Sept 20th to discuss topics of discussion. Presentation of these choice with be given at the following services, Sept 18th Spring Lake Sept 25th Gilman Oct 9th St. Johns

Information to be included in letter to members: These ideas were outlined in the newsletter regarding more changes coming in the future. This letter will include the following options: Invite more churches into our parish, reduce pastoral role to a part time employee versus full time, consolidate the parish as a single congregation, or as a worst last case option closure. Presentation of these choices with be given at the following services, Sept 18th at Spring Lake, *Sept 25th at Gilman, Oct 9th at St. Johns with listening sessions after these presentations. Individual congregations will have meetings to discuss these options at meetings throughout the coming months with a tentative vote on these choices at the next annual meeting. Shelli will design the presentation with assistance from parish council members.

On the Horizon

Parish and Individual Church Budgets: We need to start looking at the 2022 annual reports.

Annual Reports: Discuss possible dates for congregational annual meetings and pulling reports together prior to January 5, 2023. Tentative annual meeting dates will be Jan 15 SL, 22Gil, 29St J.

Schedule Next Parish Council Meeting: will discuss a date following the listening sessions.

Schedule Budget Meeting: to be determined

Motion made by to adjourn the meeting, seconded by , motion carried. Closed with The Lord's Prayer at 7:38pm
Respectfully Submitted by Melanie Wentlandt.

*Note: Change was made to presentation dates after the minutes were complete; change Gilman's presentation date from September 25th to October 2nd and St. John's to follow on October 9th.



FOOD PANTRY HOURS

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

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

WELCA NEWS

GILMAN:

Meeting & Bible Study:
Thursday October 13th
1:00

SPRING LAKE:

Meeting & Bible Study:
Monday, October 17th
2:00 p.m. @ Welcome Home

GRACE PLACE

Spring Lake Congregation supplied the supper to Grace Place homeless shelter for the month of September on the 9th. Trudy Rew, Sally Pierce and Kim Davis prepared the meals.

The Gilman Congregation will be supplying the supper to Grace Place October 14th. The volunteers for October are: Marlene Aamodt, Connie Anderson, Karen Jorgenson and Melissa Hague.

THANK YOU!

The congregation of Spring Lake gratefully acknowledges memorials given for Jo Baier from her family and friends, as well as a bequest from the estate of Herman Lundgren. We are honored by your thoughtfulness and generosity.

A SCHEDULE FOR PRESENTATIONS AND LISTENING SESSIONS is included elsewhere in this newsletter. Please plan to attend one or more of these sessions to ask questions and voice your concerns regarding the financial situation facing our congregations and parish, and how that impacts us going forward. These are informative meetings only and are meant to help all of us discern what steps should be taken next. All members received a letter earlier in September with more details. If you cannot attend any of the sessions, you are encouraged to speak with a member of the Parish Council.

Contemporary Worship Express!!

Starts

Date: October 5th

Where: St. John's

When: 7:00–7:35

ATTENTION WORSHIP ASSISTANTS!!!!

Have you been a greeter, usher, reader, or acolyte? Do you help with communion? If so, you are appreciated!!! We are updating the lists we use to schedule worship helpers and reviewing the way those people are notified. So, if you are one of those people who help with our worship services, be on the lookout for a postcard, an email or text, or a phone call to ask you to help at your church. Those assignments will be published a little way in advance, so if you can't be at church on the day you are assigned to help, you can trade with someone else, or let the church office know so they can assign someone else. Thank you so much for helping to make our services run more smoothly. If you haven't been notified but would like to serve your church during worship, or if you can volunteer in another way, please call the church office and we'll add your name to the list!

NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE

ALL WORSHIP SERVICES WILL BE
AT 9:00 AM
(EXCEPT FOR CONFIRMATION SUNDAY)

SEPTEMBER

9-4 GILMAN
9-11 ST. JOHN'S
9-18 SPRING LAKE
9-25 GILMAN

OCTOBER

10-2 GILMAN
10-9 ST. JOHN'S
10-16 SPRING LAKE
10-23 SPRING LAKE **Fall Festival**
10-30 ST. JOHN'S 9:00/GILMAN 10:30
(CONFIRMATION SUNDAY)

NOVEMBER

11-6 GILMAN
11-13 ST. JOHN'S
11-20 SPRING LAKE
11-27 SPRING LAKE

DECEMBER

12-4 GILMAN
12-11 ST. JOHN'S
12-18 SPRING LAKE
12-24 St. John's **4:00**
12-24 Spring Lake **6:00**
12-25 GILMAN (CHRISTMAS DAY)

AUGUST FINANCIALS & ATTENDANCE

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
GILMAN:	\$6472.44	\$5367.85	61 (4 SUNDAYS)
ST. JOHN'S:	\$7391.94	\$8917.47	119 (4 SUNDAYS)
SPRING LAKE:	\$3797.00	\$2922.24	84 (4SUNDAYS)

Presentations, Listening Sessions, Individual Church Meetings

- Sept. 18 Following 9 a.m. worship *at Spring Lake* **Presentation** to **ALL Parish Members w/discussion**
- Sept. 26* Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. *at Spring Lake* **Listening Session** for **Members of Spring Lake**
- Sept. 28 Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m. *at St. John's* **Listening Session** (held in the Sanctuary during confirmation) for **ALL Parish Members**
- Oct. 2 Following 9 a.m. worship *at Gilman* **Presentation** to **ALL Parish Members w/discussion**
- Oct. 9 Following 9 a.m. worship *at St. John's* **Presentation** to **ALL Parish Members w/discussion**
- Oct. 10* Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. *at Gilman* **Listening Session** for **Members of Gilman**
- Oct. 18* Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. *at St. John's* **Listening Session** for **Members of St. John's**
- Oct. 20 Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. *at Spring Lake* **Listening Session** for **ALL Parish Members**
- Oct. 24 Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. *at Gilman* **Listening Session** for **ALL Parish Members**
- Oct. 27 Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. *at St. John's* **Listening Session** for **ALL Parish Members**
- Nov. 3 Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. *at Gilman* **Listening Session** for **ALL Parish Members**
- Nov. 7 Monday evening 6:30 p.m. *at Spring Lake* **Listening Session** for **ALL Parish Members**

*** Individual Church meetings**