**Pastor’s Message:**
Dear Partners in the gospel:

We're always hungry for good news! With so much bad news in the world, good news is what we crave. The resurrection of Christ brings the biggest bombshell of **good news** to the world! God is alive! God is with us! God has the last word-not death, not sin, not sorrow. The good news of that first Easter changed lives and changed history! Let's not underestimate the power and the 'pull' that good news still offers!

Then, we have great news to share regarding our Building Loan! It is **paid off!** Alleluia! When we built the new worship space, entryway, and lower level in 2003, we raised about $450,000 and we borrowed about $1.1 million. (That was a big leap back then!) Thanks to all your small, medium, large, regular, and special gifts, that debt is gone! There will still be maintenance, upkeep, and repairs needed-so thanks for continuing to give. But with that debt retired, that opens up some more options for ministry! Thank you! And thanks be to God! (We're planning a Mortgage Burning later this year when we celebrate St. John's 160th anniversary!)

And we have caring news from our partners at **Ulong'a Parish in Tanzania**. This medium-size church, in a village on the slopes of Mt. Meru, have been our friends and partners for 15 years. They pray for us, we pray for them. We share some of our Lenten offerings so they can do the good work they do in their community. Here's part of the email we received from dear old Dr. Nanyaro there:

*Greetings from Ulong’a Lutheran Parish in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. We thank God for granting us opportunity to continue serving Him.*

*We presume that you have noted a period of silence concerning our communication which has been caused by a number of events including diseases, change of Parish leadership and other factors affecting lifestyle of the partnership members.*

*At present we have been blessed to have Pastor Emmanuel Isangya in charge of Ulong’a Lutheran Parish. He is a very good spiritual leader, and we hope through his good leadership the Parish will move forward in accomplishing its strategic plans.*

*Like other countries last year, we went through hard times and great fear caused by Covid 19. In our Meru Community we lost a good number of relatives and friends. However, we thank God for the availability of vaccines, and now this infection seems to be under control in our country. But we are not yet free in our social-economic life because of War between Russia and Ukraine which has disturbed the world economy. As you know in such a situation the developing world is always the greater sufferer. Again, this year we anticipate acute shortage of food supply nearly in the whole country caused by long period of drought.*

*Please Pastor Mittermaier, let us continue with bilateral prayers and believe that God our Heavenly Father will change the situation and let his people live a happy life.*

Having partners around the world, to share our faith, our hopes, our concerns, our love for Christ with-continues to be **good news!** And it is our privilege, duty, and delight to share it!

-Pastor Paul

**May 2022 Newsletter**

Our focus as a congregation this past year has been
*We Are Church Together*. I give thanks for the ways we are
able to Welcome, Worship, and Witness together. The Spirit can
do much more with us *together* than alone!

In 2019, we're adding this theme: *We Are A Church of Stewards!*And together, we'll explore and grow in what it means to be
managers of all of God's gifts! We're just finishing the Christmas
season and have celebrated the gift of a Savior once again. We
can begin the New Year taking inventory of our blessings and
gifts and seeking guidance on how best to use them all!

When you think about it, we have a lot to take care of that belongs
to God! So how will we care for one another? And our gifts of
faith? And the partnerships and mission entrusted to us? And
even the good earth by which God gives and sustains life? Those
are some of the challenges we'll take up-with the Spirit's

**March 2022 - Year to Date
+YTD General Fund**
 Receipts:$ 45,575

Thank you for your regular offerings and to those who have signed up for electronic giving.

 Expenses: $ 50,061

**+YTD Building Fund**: **+YTD Missionary** Sponsorship:
 Receipts:$ 28,260 Expenses: $ 38,940 $ 2,358 Goal for 2022: $6,000  Additional LoanPayoff $10,000 **+YTD ELCA Benevolence:** **Building Loan Balance**:

 $ 3,690 Goal for 2022: $15,000 As of April 15 - $ 0

**We Are** **A Learning Church**!Sunday School continues in person in May with some members of the congregation teaching class! If you would like to help out or team teach talk to Staci Bohling. stacibohling@gmail.comConfirmation Day is May 22Meghan Dechant, Jacob Williams, and Dawson Young are affirming their faith. On Wednesday May 18th at 7:00 we ask you to come and engage them in conversation about their faith and their role in the life and mission of the church!

**St. John’s Veteran’s Group**
Our next St. John's Vet's Group Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 10th at 9:00am at St. John’s Church. We encourage both St. John's members and non-members to attend our meetings. This is a great way to get together and share experiences with other Veterans'.



 **Youth Plant Certificates** Our youth group will be selling plant certificates to Groth’s Country Gardens for a spring fundraiser. Certificates are $10 and will be sold after services.

 Start thinking warm planting weather!

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**Spring Fire Drill**

Our Security Team has been working on ways to be prepared and to keep
everyone safe. One way of being prepared is a fire drill. On May 15 we will
run a scheduled fire drill after both services. Directions will be given on that day.
Thank you!

 **Ruth Circle – Personal Care Kits**

During the Lenten season the Ruth Circle collected items for health kits and we were able to put together 43 kits. Thank you to everyone who donated soap, toothbrushes, nail clippers, combs or towels. We will continue to collect these items and hopefully will be able to make more kits soon!

**Getting to Know You!**Each month we’ll feature a St. John’s member so
we can get to know each other better.
Getting to Know You: Greg and Linda Grosser

Southwest, Eastern Seaboard, Midcoast, or
anywhere in between, Greg and Linda Grosser are at
home wherever they roam – which is a near-constant
state given their love for the outdoors. Wisconsin
natives, they lived in Payson, Arizona, for 11 years
before returning in 2018 because Linda just couldn’t be
that far from the grandkids, ages 8-21, any longer. Two of their three children and four of their six grandchildren live in Wisconsin, with the others residing in Maine.

Greg was born and raised in Cedarburg; Linda was born and raised in West Allis, and moved to Ozaukee County in the ’70s. Greg is retired from a 30-year career teaching 7th grade ecology, life, and environmental sciences. At the insistence of Linda’s son, she attended a parent-teacher conference when Greg was his teacher. The serendipitous encounter led to Greg and Linda’s wedding, of which they’ll be celebrating 35 years this coming July.

During Linda’s career, she managed 6 million square feet across the country for United HealthCare as its director of facilities management and construction before retiring in 2007 from Forrer Business Interiors as the VP of operations. Linda is a faithful gardener, loves to scrapbook and make cards, and sings. She’s a new member of St. John’s choir but has sung in church choirs for over 40 years.

As a couple, Greg and Linda enjoy taking their travel trailer to places where they can fish, hunt, hike, and do anything that generally keeps them out among God’s creation.

“Fun” Facts

* A passion for hunting led Greg to teach hunter safety to more than 1,500 kids at school and through the Grafton PD.
* In addition to hunting, Greg’s archery and fishing skills have kept their freezer full over the years. Aiding in that effort, rumor has it that Linda out-fishes Greg!
* Linda’s corporate career has given her two unique opportunities: one, to design and build their custom home in Arizona; and the other, to be the construction manager for their new church facility in Payson, Arizona.

**Family Promise “Fresh Start” Program**

Thank you to everyone who donated hotel toiletry items for the Family Promise families. We ask that with summer travel coming up, you continue to save & donate the hotel toiletries. We’re going to start dividing the items between Family Promise and Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge.

**All People’s Visit**

We're gathering a group to go to All Peoples' Church/Milwaukee on Sunday the 15th, for 10:45 worship, and for some work projects from 12:30-3. Teens, parents, everyone is welcome! Let's grow this partnership and our faith at the same time! Email kassidybohling@[gmail.com](http://gmail.com/), for more info. Kassidy and Michael Novotny, our Youth Ministry Interns are helping us get involved! Thanks!

**Called to Serve**

May 2 Dan Bartelt

May 3 Steve Hanke

 Lexi Dyson

May 4 Val Heidtke

 Darleen Wanta

May 6 Lee Anne Runnells

May 7 Ann Glorioso

 Sharon Ziemer

 Steve Korneli

 Christy Abt

 Delilah Hauser

May 9 Romelle Worth

 Darrel Counard

 Laura Scheunemann

 Kassi Wolf

 Veda Inchaurregui

 Aiden Owens

May 10 Doug Sharpley

 Ava Moeller

May 11 Melissa Staller

May 12 Alex Parchim

 Will Strnad

May 13 John Dyson

 Allegra Groth

May 15 Ellen DeVoe

 Laura Bartelt

 Abigail Dalton

 Kassidy Bohling

May 16 Eduardo Inchaurregui

 Charlie Parchim

 Sarah Corlett

May 17 Michelle Schneider

 Noah Abt

May 18 Jenny Brandt

 Rich Uhlig

May 19 Ken Parchim

 Sue Kerr

 Grady Lauterbach

May 20 Linda Susnik

May 21 Pam Stahl

 Josh Kasubaski

May 22 Eric Olafsson

May 23 Scott Adams

 Lee Goodman

 Jake Brennan

May 25 Cheryl Toll

April Birthdays!

 May Birthdays

**Readers**

**(8:00 Service) (9:45 Service)**

5/1 George Liberatore 5/1 Reuben Heidtke
5/8 Kim Guslick 5/8 Jackie Gauger
5/15 Laura Bartelt 5/15 Susan Heidtke
5/22 Amy Reid 5/22 Brennan Family

5/29 Joel Heidtke 5/29 Meghan Dechant

**Ushers**

**(8:00 Service) (9:45 Service)**

5/1 George Liberatore 5/1 Keith Heidtke

5/8 Jim Kurtz 5/8 Dave Williams

5/15 Skip Bartelt 5/15 George Liberatore

5/22 Mary Bukovic 5/22 Brennan Family

5/29 Joel Wolf 5/29 Duane Plath



May Anniversaries!
May 6 Roger & Kathy Hansen, 50 years

May 7 Ed & Donna Dahly, 15 years

May 8 Gerald & Darleen Wanta, 23 years

May 14 Dennis & Cindi Hankes, 45 years

May 19 Matt & Eden Luedtke, 10 years

May 20 Kevin & Melanie Gierach, 16 years Jesse & Dawn Seltrecht, 22 years

May 21 Randy & Susan Hollister, 28 years

May 24 Bob & Kelly Luce, 36 years

May 25 Johnathan & Danielle Friess, 9 years

May 27 Gordon & Karen Kraemer, 55 years

May 28 Tim & Kendall Pfeifer, 3 years

May 29 Sean & Lisa Brennan, 23 years

May 31 David & Jessica Frank, 19 years



**May Birthdays (cont’d)**May 26 Greg Grosser

May 27 Heidi Hellesen

 Jessica Eisenhauer

May 28 Ray Fischer

 Sean Brennan

May 30 Marshall Singer

May 31 Greg Canard

 Scott Trick

If we missed your special day please let us know.

**St. John’s Lutheran Church
2881 Division Rd.
Jackson, WI 53037**

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At St. John’s we’re privileged and challenged to *Welcome, Worship, and Witness*in Christ’s name. Thank you for being part of this faith community and
for the serving you do to the glory of God!

**Visit us at** [**www.stjohnsjackson.net**](http://www.stjohnsjackson.net)

 **Like us on Facebook** [**www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson**](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson) **Pastor Paul Mittermaier – pastorcarguy@gmail.com**

**Office hours: M-F 9:00am-1:00pm 262-677-3176
officestjohnsjackson@gmail.com**

 **Worship Services: Saturday 5:00 pm & Sunday 8 & 9:45 am**

 **with Holy Communion. Facebook Live at 9:45 am on Sunday**

