
The Messenger

ST. JOHN - ZION LUTHERAN CHURCHES

From The Pastor's Desk:

Seeds of Joy

Friends,

May Christ, who lives and brings the gift of light and love fill you with grace and peace to as we journey into the beauty of May. This season is one that is bursting with new life, fresh color, and reminders through the created of God's ongoing work of renewal all around us and within us.

This season of spring has a way of telling the story of God's love in such beautiful ways. Buds open where there was once barrenness. Birds chirping and singing in way that just brings us life. The earth itself seems to breathe again. In these everyday moments we are reminded that resurrection is not only something we celebrate on

Easter morning it is something we are invited to live into each and every day.

As a community rooted in the resurrection and love of Christ, this promise of new life is one that goes with us into our daily lives. God is always bringing new life out of what seems tired, broken, or uncertain. We trust that God meets us not in perfection, but in grace again and again, renewing us, through community, and through love in action.

May is also a time when many of us feel the urge to get outside, to plant, to clean, to start fresh. What might it look like to tend to our faith and relationships during this season of new and growth as well? Perhaps it's making

space for prayer in the morning light, reconnecting with worship, or reaching out to someone you haven't seen in a while.

In this spring season, I am reminded of and thankful for each of you and for the ways you reflect Christ's love in this community. You are part of God's story of right here, right now.

May the God who makes all things new fill you with hope, plant seeds of joy in your heart, and bring forth abundant life in the days ahead.

In Christ,
Vicar Jay Kiel

ST. JOHN COUNCIL MEETING - APRIL 13, 2026

St. John's council began its meeting at 6:30 pm with President Dana Cook calling the meeting to order. Other council members present were, Jeanne Trachsler, Kathy Hintz, Jill Stone-Brisky, Gail Meyer, Sally Ladsten, Vicar Jay Kiel and David Rischmueller.

Vicar Jay opened with a message from "In the Present" Psalm 16:1-4

Secretary Report: Kathy Hintz made a motion to approve, Jill Stone-Brisky seconded.

Treasurers Report was read and discussed. A motion was made by David Rischmueller to place the treasurer report on audit.

Pastor Report: Vicar Jay discussed Vacation Bible School June 14, 15, 16th. Sunday School last day is May 17th.

Last Noisy Offering is May 5th. The Sunday School will have the coins taken to the bank and deposited into their account.

There is a baptism coming up. Confirmation Sunday is May 17th with four being confirmed.

Old Business: Discussed the meeting with the congregation that the roof bid was accepted. At that meeting, Dale Yanke made a motion to accept the White Mound Construction bid was seconded by Mark Ladsten. The contract has been signed, certificate of liability has been

provided and will move forward with the 6" gutters and downspouts.

Discussed the ramp and its condition. Lawn mowing bid stays with our current company with a 10% increase.

New Business: Crud run first Sunday in May. Kathy Hintz again will take the lead on this. We appreciate all that she does! Discussed Ice Cream Social possibility. Clean up moved to April 25th knowing the weather situation throughout the week.

Messenger deadline – April 21, 2026

Usher for April Jeanne Trachsler

Next council meeting is Monday, May 11th at 6:30 pm.

David Rischmueller made a motion to adjourn, Sally Ladsten seconded.

Closed with Prayer

In Peace,



Jeanne Trachsler,
Secretary

ST. JOHN SPECIAL MEETING - APRIL 12, 2026

Vice President David Rischmueller called the special congregation meeting to order. Vicar Jay did a brief prayer. This meeting is regarding replace three roofs. Garage, Parsonage and Church.

A motion was made by Tim Evert to adjourn, seconded by Linda Boettcher.



Sally Ladsten read the proposals that were provided by President Dana Cook who could not be present.

Closed with prayer.

Jeanne Trachsler,
Secretary

Once read, questions were encouraged with them all being answered.

A motion was made by Dale Yanke to accept the White Mound Construction bid. Seconded by Mark Ladsten.

ST JOHN WELCA

St. John WELCA met April 1 for Bible Study led by Vicar Jay.

Graduation, Mother's Day and Fathers Day cards are available in the overflow room.

Bible Study and General Meeting will be May 6 at 1:00 pm. All Women of the church



are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Bible Study - General Meeting
May 6 - 1:00 pm

Greeters: Allan & Linda
Yanke

Wash Communionware:
Brandu Zick & Amy Yanke

Ruth Evert,
Secretary

St. John Lutheran - Leland

YARD SALE

Proceeds will go to St. John's "Neighbor in Need Fund"

When?

In conjunction with the Sauk-Prairie City Wide Garage Sales.

May 14 - 15 - 16, 2026

Thursday, May 14, 8:30-3:00

Friday, May 15, 8:30-3:00

Saturday, May 16, 8:30-10:00

Where?

302 Jackson Street, Sauk City

Holiday Decor Kitchen Items
Gardening & Yard Decor (planters, watering can...)
Knick Knacks & Collectibles Household Decor
Framed Art/Pictures Small-Medium (stools, accent chairs, tables)
Children's Books Cook Books Costume Jewelry
Old Canning Jars with lids (Old Tins) Old Calendars
Barn Treasures (galvanized pails, wash tubs...)
Tidbits: Spools of Thread, Old Clothespins, Buttons...

Vacation Bible School is coming soon!

Mark your calendars for VBS, we will have three fun days, Sunday-Tuesday, June 14-16.

We will kick off right after service on the 14th at 11:00am.

Monday and Tuesday we will meet at 5:30-7:30pm.

ZION COUNCIL MEETING - APRIL 12, 2026

Present: Todd, Dan, Larry, Phyllis, Sue, and Megan

President Todd Thieding called the meeting to order on Sunday, April 12.

The secretary's report was read. Larry made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Megan seconded it.

The treasurer's report was handed out and looked over. The report was placed on file for audit.

Old Business:

Richard and Sandi Knuth came to the meeting to update the council on plans for the 170th anniversary of Zion. August 16 will be the anniversary celebration at Zion.

June 6 there will be a brat stand in Reedsburg to raise money for the anniversary celebration. If anyone would like to help, you can contact Richard.

Larry made a motion to allow Richard and Sandi Knuth to open a checking account for the anniversary. Dan made a second. Any money leftover in the account after the anniversary will be deposited into the church account.

Richard has arranged for music for the anniversary.

New Business:

The CD/Investment is due. The council discussed splitting the CD—some of the money will be put back in a CD, a second part will be

put into a money market account, and the remaining money will be put in the checking account. Dan made a motion to allow Phyllis to do this. Todd made a second.

There is a lot of water entering the septic tank. It was just pumped, but continues to fill. Todd has been in contact with Kent and Scott Westphal.

During the recent storms, a lot of branches and limbs fell. Clean up was discussed and the question was pondered as to whether others would help or if we should hire Bill Schwartz. Dan made a motion to hire Bill to do the clean up. Larry seconded it.

Phyllis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Megan made a second.



Sue Strutz,
Secretary

Mark your calendars!

St. John

Last Noisy Offering is May 5th.

Last day of Sunday School is May 7th.

Confirmation Sunday is May 17th with four being confirmed.

Communion Class, Sunday, May 24th following worship service.

Zion

Brat Stand June 6 in Reedsburg to raise money for the anniversary celebration.

The St. John Scholarship

is available to all graduating seniors! The Scholarship is available outside the sanctuary doors. Applications are due June 1st. For more information or questions, contact Vicar Jay.

Messenger Deadline

The Third Thursday . . . The June issue deadline is Thursday, May 21. Contact the Messenger by e-mail at sjznewsletter@gmail.com or send by mail to 249 Holly Court, Prairie du Sac, WI 53578. Thank you.

May Birthdays

- 1 Charlie Oxberger
- 2 Amy Yanke
- 3 Dennis Yanke
- 7 Lisa Evert
- 8 Helen Jaedike
- 12 Dale Jaedike
- 14 Richard Knuth
Logan Wipperfurth
- 15 Rebekah Kaukl
Daniel Thieding
- 16 Kim Adler
- 17 Ron Jaedike
Michael Kozlowski
- 22 Tim Boettcher
- 24 Kelly Yanke
- 25 Dave Lohr
- 26 Dale Yanke
Sydney Evert
- 28 Roberta Becker
- 31 Victoria Yanke
Dean Niemann

St. John~Zion Lutheran Churches

E7519 County Highway C

North Freedom, WI 53951



Mark Your Calendars

Calendar

Important Dates for May

May 3, 2026

Crud Run

May 10, 2026

Zion Council Meeting

May 11, 2026

St. John Council Meeting, 6:30 pm

May 21, 2026

Deadline for June issue
of the Messenger

St. John Yard Sale

Sauk City May 14-15-16

Hours and Details on Page 4