



Vol. 68-3

THRU THE WINDOWS

St. John's Lutheran Church
Bennington, Nebraska

March 2008



Palm Sunday, March 16

8:30am Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
11:00am Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday, March 20

10:00am Worship with Holy Communion
7:00pm Worship with Holy Communion

Good Friday, March 21

7:00pm Service of Tenebrae

Easter Sunday, March 23

6:30am Sunrise Service with Holy Communion
8:30am Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion
11:00am Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion

7:30am-10:00am Hot Breakfast

ACOLYTES

Mar 2

8:30am Zac Melvin

Mar 5

7:30pm Alexis Farris, Michaela Di Mauro

Mar 9

8:30/11am TBD

Mar 12

7:30pm Kelsey Carl, Michaela DiMauro

Counters

Jim Peterson, Jenny Hansen, Mark Backhuus

Lectors/Cantors

Mar 2

8:30am Wade Junker, Lector

Mar 9

8:30am Wade Junker, Lector Angie Sukraw, Cantor

Mar 16-Palm Sunday

8:30am Heather Goertz, Lector

Mar 20-Maundy Thursday

10:00am Julie Dunn 7:00pm Mark Sukraw

Mar 21-Good Friday

7:00pm Fred Barnhard

Mar 23-Easter

8:30am Mark Sukraw, Lector/Cantor

Mar 30

8:30am Julie Dunn, Lector

GREETERS

Mar 2

8:30am Dick & Leanna Flynn
11:00am Doris Ostronic

Mar 5

7:30pm Wendy Christensen

Mar 9

8:30am Harry Junker, Allison Junker
11:00am Doris Ostronic

Mar 12

7:30pm Virginia Willats

Mar 16-Palm Sunday

8:30am Dick & Leana Flynn
11:00am Doris Ostronic

Mar 20-Maundy Thursday

10:00am Karen Arp, Grace Baty
7:00pm Les & Janiece Coe

Mar 21-Good Friday

7:00pm Don & Pat Mahoney

Mar 23-Easter

6:30am TBA
8:30am Wade & Allison Junker
11:00am Doris Ostronic

Mar 30

8:30am Richard & Lois Musel
11:00am Doris Ostronic

USHERS

Mar 2

8:30am Ken & Brian Jensen
11:00am Jim & Micah Peterson

Mar 5

7:30pm Doug & Meade Laaker

Mar 9

8:30am David & Mary Larsen
11:00am Gene & Joyce Baldwin

Mar 12

7:30pm Dick & Leanna Flynn

Mar 16-Palm Sunday

8:30am Dale & Colleen Smith
11:00am Gene & Joyce Baldwin

Mar 20-Maundy Thursday

10:00am Curt & Jane Frost
7:00pm Harry & Mary Carol Junker

Mar 21-Good Friday

7:00pm Mike & Adam Iltzsch

Mar 23-Easter

6:30am TBA
8:30am Richard & Lois Musel
11:00am Gene & Joyce Baldwin

Mar 30

8:30am Clancy Laaker, Mert Opfer
11:00am Jim & Micah Peterson



Greetings Members and Friends of St. John's,

The Season of Lent is almost over and Holy Week is about to begin on Palm Sunday when we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem which took place over 2000 years ago. Lent is a time for spiritual growth. During this Lenten Season we have been focusing on Prayer. I pray that you have been able to enjoy time spent in prayer in preparation for the coming of Holy Week and Easter.

This year Holy week begins on Palm Sunday, March 16. Our Holy Week worship schedule is as follows:

- Maundy Thursday Worship Services:** 10:00am and 7:00pm.
- Good Friday Worship Service:** 7:00pm
- Easter Worship Services:**
 - 6:30 a.m. Sunrise w/Communion
 - Easter Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m.
 - 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship w/Communion
 - Easter Breakfast served until 10 a.m.
 - 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship w/Communion

At our 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday worship service, those that have completed 1st Communion Instruction will be able to receive Holy Communion with their families for the first time. At the end of the Maundy Thursday service, the altar will be stripped as we remember Jesus' passion.

On Good Friday we will gather again at 7:00 p.m. for our evening worship service in remembrance of Jesus' death on the Cross and burial.

Then we will celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Morning with three worship services along with the celebration of Holy Communion.

On behalf of all the staff here at St. John's Lutheran Church, we would like to wish you a Happy and Blessed Easter!

Sincerely,
Pastor James Price

DID YOU KNOW...

Thrivent makes available to everyone a free program called "Simply Giving" (an automated giving program) that will make your contributions for you no matter what the weather is or if you happen to be out of town or on vacation and can't be in church. Just pick up a brochure in the narthex or contact the church office if you are interested in knowing more about the "Simply Giving" program.

Easter Lilies may be ordered by checking your Sign-Up Opportunities form enclosed in your Sunday bulletin or by calling the church office at 238-2483. The cost is \$6.00. **Easter memorials** and **donations** toward the purchase of the palms can also be given. Deadline to order is March 16.



**Friday, March 7 is World Day of Prayer
Prayer Services are being held at:**

Peace Presbyterian Church-333 S. 204th Street Elkhorn
9:30am Coffee and **10:00am** Service

Grace United Methodist Church in Kennard
2:00pm Service-Anyone wishing to carpool from St. John's, please meet in the eastside of the church at 1:15pm.

Kid's Kingdom Preschool, St. John's Lutheran Church will hold an open house/fall registration on **Thursday, March 13, from 6pm-7:30pm.**

The following fall classes are being offered.

- M W F 8:30-11:00 \$100 per month for children turning 4 by Oct.1
- T TH 8:30-11:00 \$80 per month for children turning 3 by Oct 1
- M T W TH F 12:30-3pm \$165 per month for children who are 5 or turning 5 by Nov. 1

For more information call Diane Frizzell at 290-5014 or the church office at 238-2483.

Scholarship applications for those attending an accredited college, trade school, community college, or other form of post secondary education in the Fall of 2008 on a full time basis (as defined by the institution college) and St. John's College Scholarship (for those attending an ELCA Church College) are available in the narthex. Look for the yellow and green folders. **Deadline April 30, 2008.**

St. John's Women in Action

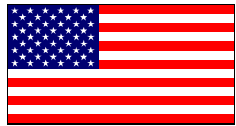


*News and Information for all Women of St. John's
March, 2008*

West Omaha Lutheran Mission Church Update

Back in our November issue of the TTW we informed you of how, after 20 long years, the Nebraska Synod was once again starting several new Mission churches in the state. In Omaha, Rev. James Lindberg has been called to be the Mission Developer of a new mission congregation beginning on the west side of Omaha. Pastor Lindberg's wife, Lori, if you remember, had just given birth back then to twin girls, Sarah and Rachel, and whose newborn pictures were included in the article asking for our prayers.

Pastor Lindberg is now scheduled to come to St. John's on **Sunday, March 9**, to preach for us and to lead an Adult Forum about how the new mission church is coming and what we can do to help. Please attend and give Pastor Lindberg a warm welcome.



We would like to be in contact with our local and congregational service men and women. If you know of anyone serving, please call the church office with this information.

Coming Events

Fair Trade Sales

March 9th

in Narthex between services
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, Hot Chocolate, Nuts
and Chocolate Bars

World Day of Prayer

All are invited!

March 7th at 2:00 p.m.

Grace United Methodist Church
Kennard, Nebraska

2008 Saved to Serve Events

Refresh and Refurbish Camp Tomah Shinga
Junction City, Kansas
April 18-19, 2008

Create Banners and a Bible Garden at the Welcome
Center

Wayne Campus Ministries, Wayne, NE
June 13-15, 2008

**Join us in Bible Study
All Women are welcome!**

Faith Circle Bible Study – March 11,
at 1:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall
Lesson Leader-Lorene Andersen
Refreshments – Betty Deardoff

Rejoice Bible Study –March 18, at 7:00 p.m.
Conference Room
Lesson/Refreshments – Cathy Price

Ex. Board Meeting
April 1, at 6:00 p.m.

*Don't forget to support the Western Douglas
County Pantry with food items. You can place them in the
shopping carts located in the entry to the lower level and to
the fellowship hall. Also, Campbell's Soup labels may be
left in the box below the mailboxes.*

Young Women of the ELCA – BE BOLD! – Check
out this website! ***boldcafe.org***
*Café is a free, monthly on-line magazine for young women
offered by Women of the ELCA Women of all ages are
reading it!*

***Café stands for Community, Advocacy, Faith, and
Enlightenment***

St. John's Women of the ELCA
Mission Action Project for 2008

**100 School Kits for
Lutheran World Relief.**

A school kit may provide the only supplies for children returning to
school after the disruption of war. We need your help!

The kits contain nine special items. There will be an emphasis each
month asking for one of these special items. Please donate new items
without any religious or patriotic symbols on them. If you are not able
to go out and purchase the item you can make a cash donation to the
Women of St John's and we will go out and buy the items for you.

Thank you for your support!

This month's item:

An Eraser

2 ½ inches long x 1 inch wide

Jesus Erases Our Sins



Quilters in Action

Spring Gathering Tangible Offering

The following items will be gathered in the narthex until April 11, and will be taken to Spring Gathering. They will be given to Mosaic Agency Homes and Vocational Centers.

For fun:

- Jenga
- uno
- Jigsaw puzzles 50 – 100 pieces
- Wooden puzzles – large pieces with knobs on the pieces
- Rhythm instruments

For crafts:

- Coloring books
- Colored pencils
- Pencils
- Pencil sharpeners
- Markers
- Crayola modeling clay
- Elmer's glue sticks
- Glitter glue
- Construction paper
- Paint by number kits
- Pens, blue or black

Another Opportunity for Giving

Paper products such as paper towels, toilet paper, paper tissues, etc., as well as monetary gifts are being collected so that Emily Laaker can take them with her on the Saved to Serve Event at Camp Tomah Shinga on April 17. Keep this in mind if you see a bargain on paper products.

A true missionary is God's child in God's place, doing God's work in God's way---for God's glory!

...fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen.

For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:18

On February 11th and 12th, the following seven ladies met: Doris Hoier, Lorene Andersen, Addie Backhuus, Suzanne Kirby, Emily Laaker, Gloria Jacobsen, and Betty Deardoff. We tied and completed 2 full size quilts. We also worked on our Yo-yo quilt top. In January, we gave one lap robe to Gloria Jacobsen for her recuperation during knee surgery. In February, we donated a lap robe to Evangeline Meyer.

We would like to extend an invitation for others to come and join us for quilting. We always meet the second Tuesday of the month and the Monday that precedes it.

The Binding Stitch: Lord, I love what is right, but I don't have the power always to carry it out. Thank you for accepting me the way I am and Binding me into Your family quilt.

Confirmation News

Our Lenten journey will be ending this month. I hope that your time of reflection and self-examination has been rewarding. Many thanks to the families that helped with the Lenten soup suppers.

With Lent ending, this means a couple things for us. The first is that we will rejoice in the Easter celebration of our Lord's resurrection; rejoice for this is good news. The second good news is that we will continue our confirmation classes, starting Wednesday, March 26. This will be the first class for all 6-8th graders. Our 7th and 8th grade program will continue to meet as separate classes. The 8th graders will be on the 2nd Article of the Apostles Creed, while the 7th graders will continue with the commandments (#5 Thou shall not kill).

Remember to review your schedule and course work to ensure that you are on task to completing the requirement for your specific grade. 6th graders please take advantage of the spring recharge listed below to meet any retreat requirement not yet met. This year the 7th and 8th grade class will conclude on April 30 with a family fun night. The 6th grade will conclude in May with their own Fun Night. Please contact us if you have any question regarding our Spring classes.

Okoboji Recharge, April 11-13

This Spring, Camp Okoboji is offering a Right Here, Right Now Recharge for all 6th-12th graders. A chance for you to relive the excitement and get recharged for what God has in store for you. Check out the youth Bulletin Board for a form and more details.

Welcome to

THE BYG

Bennington Youth Group

BYG, Bennington Youth Group is for all youth in 9th-12th grade. We meet every Wednesday Evening, 7:30-9:00pm at the St. John's Youth Center. Each evening starts with a gathering time for you and your friends to join in a game of pool, PS2, Xbox, or just relax with some refreshments. Based on the night and the theme, we gather as a large group for varied activities; games, faith discussion, prayer, and/or videos (all depending on the night). BYG is meant to be a place for you to gather and grow in friendship and faith. **ROCK ON!** Jeremy and the BYG Team

COSMIC BOWLING

Test your bowling skills against other BYGs.

April 4, 2008

Watch for flyers and details at BYGs and on the Board

Sr. HIGH in SERVICE...

There are a few opportunities for you in which you can help serve...

March 5, Soup Supper

March 14, Movie Night for Elementary

March 22, Easter Breakfast Set-up

March 23, Easter Breakfast Serving

Make an Impact... Serve!

YOUTH NOTES...

February was Awesome! This month has been very full.

The first weekend, 3 other adults and I embarked on the Urban Plunge with 10 Jr. High youth. We were able to experience a number of different ministries, all serving in many various ways. This was an amazing experience and a big eye opener for all that were in attendance. We still are talking about the trip.

The next week I attended a continuing education conference in Anaheim, CA. This was a great time for renewal and networking. I was able to connect with many other youth directors and pastors as we explored workshops on the many different issues affecting youth ministry.

Upon returning home, I spent the weekend with three of our high school students attending the Dare 2 Share Conference in Lincoln, NE. This conference, as it sounds, talked a lot about sharing our faith and approaches to doing so, as we filtered through the messages of decision theology. It allowed us to really appreciate and better grasp our faith. The way that God's grace is poured out is not contingent on our choice, but is an amazing gift from God. Let us hold strong to this gift and share grace with others that they too may know God's love.

Rock On! Jeremy Hansen

MISSION TRIPS GALORE FOR 2008 MAKE AN IMPACT

SERVE GOD!

YOU HAVE 2 CHANCES THIS SUMMER

Summer is just around the corner so it is time to start planning our summer activities. This year we will have two opportunities to travel to Ocean Springs, MS. Both unique in their own regards. Either way each trip will allow us to serve God and his children by helping rebuild after the Hurricanes. Below you will find a brief description of the two options. Please prayerfully consider one of these trips in your summer plans.

OPTION 1: This particular trip is the Nebraska Synod Trip. We will travel with fellow youth and leaders of congregations throughout the state of Nebraska. We will travel to Camp Victor and Camp Biloxi to participate in the rebuilding process of the Hurricane relief. This trip will take place in June. We would leave Camp Carol Joy Holling on Saturday, June 14 and return on Saturday, June 21. Following our trip we will share our experience with the congregation. This trip is lead by the Nebraska Synod planning team and was a great experience for all that attended last year. This trip is for all youth entering 9th grade in the fall of 2008 through those who graduated from high school in the spring of 2008.

OPTION 2: This trip is also to Ocean Springs, MS. However, this is being planned by myself and leaders from First Lutheran in Fremont. This is a partnership of our churches and youth groups to travel July 25-August 3. This trip allows for us to plan our activities and really utilizes the many gifts God gives each of us. This trip is offered to all 9th-12th grade youth.

Both trips offer a great experience. If you would like more details about each trip, please check the youth bulletin board for forms or talk to me. In order to register for either trip you will need to return to Jeremy all the completed forms non-refundable deposit corresponding to the trip you chose or you may choose to do both. This will secure your spot. Once we have all registrations in, we will meet to discuss the trip and the further fundraising opportunities.

ROCK ON! as we serve the Lord. Jeremy Hansen

**Registration
Deadline:
Sunday, March 16!**

June 14-21 or
July 25-Aug 3

Estimated cost:
Varies on Trip

Earn money for the trip at the with
different fundraising
opportunities

Here's the
scoop!

- Grow in your faith life
- Travel to new places
- Make new friends
- Study God's Word
- Ride the BUS!
- SERVE OTHERS
- Sightsee and explore
- Worship
- Laugh and have fun

MISSION TRIPS
GALORE FOR
2008

LIFE CHANGING EVENTS

"WHEN IT WAS TIME
TO GO HOME, I
WANT TO STAY AND
HELP EVEN MORE."

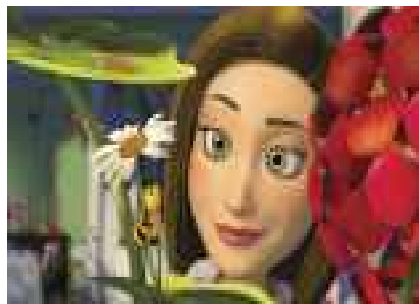
BEE MOVIE

What: Movie Night, "BEE MOVIE"
When: Friday, March 14
Where: St. John's Lutheran Church
Who: Anyone 6th grade and under with a parent or adult.
Time: Doors open at 6:30pm
Show starts at 7:00pm



Cost: 25cents and a can of food. Also pop corn and pop will be sold for 25 cents

If you have any questions feel free to call St. John's Lutheran Church at 238-2483.



Flowers/Bulletins

February 3

The flowers on the altar were given in celebration of scouting by the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of Troop 13.

Bulletins were given in loving memory of George Reimers by his wife, Dorothy, and their children.

Our sympathy to Brian, Brenda, Hailey and Paige Teller. Brenda's 16 year-old nephew, Jason Larsen, lost his courageous fight against cancer on January 20. His funeral service was held in Des Moines on January 23. Children's bulletins were given in loving memory of Jason.

A memorial was given in memory of Roger Petersen and his February 5 birthday by his mom, Lois Petersen.

February 10

The flowers in the narthex were given by Scott, Michelle, Benjamin and Lauren Pierson in loving memory of Michelle's step-mom, Meredith (Max) Sabbag, who passed away earlier this week. A February 6 memorial service was held at Roeder Mortuary. Please keep them your prayers.

We extend our sympathy to Terry and Carol Loptin, Rob and Di Loptin and family, Sherri & Kurt Sowers and family in the recent passing of Terry's mother, Dorothy Loptin. Funeral services were held at St. John's on February 9 with interment at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Please keep them in your prayers.

Children's bulletins are given by Dick Fritz in the recent birth of his great grand-daughter, Campbell Sophia who weighed 4 lbs/14oz. Campbell's parents are Sarah and Brandon Dean of Dallas, TX.

February 17

Flowers were given by Dick Fritz in honor of his wife, Sherry's, February 13 birthday and in memory of her being "called home" on February 17, 2007.

Mia Taylor Korth was received into God's Holy Kingdom through the washing of Holy Baptism at the 11:00am service. Mia is the daughter of Ryan and Katie(Sass) Korth. Her sponsors are Wendy Lukert, Becky Jensen, and Tim Sass.

Children's bulletin were in honor of Mia Taylor Korth's baptism and were given by her grandparents, Vic and Dec Sass.

February 24

Flowers were given in loving memory of Chester Auch by his family. Chet passed away on February 19. Funeral Services were held at St. John's on February 23 with interment at the German Cemetery. We extend our sympathy to Londo & Lorna Auch, Adrienne (Auch) and Bruce Larsen and Andrew Auch..

FEBRUARY CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS

The Church Council met on February 13.

Present: Mert Opfer, Bill Dunn, Mark Backhuus, Jim Pinegar, Grace Baty, Scott Pierson, Dana Tompkins **Guest:** Winston Anderson

Absent: Jenny Hansen, Jeremy Hansen, Mark Misfeldt, Jim Peterson, Wayne Andersen, Pastor Price, John McClelland

Devotions: Given by Bill Dunn **Devotions for next month:** Grace Baty

New Business: Restructuring of committees, discussed the annual meeting, church roster needs to be updated, new member dinner on March 16-Palm Sunday, March TTWs, bookkeeper position, goals for 2008, finance committee structure.

Unfinished Business: Council resolutions for 2008: budget, Bookkeeper position, Nebraska Synod Campaign for leadership & youth were voted on and passed at the annual meeting.

Youth Ministry: Posted on bulletin board located in the office hallway

Evangelism: Posted on bulletin board located in the office hallway

Pastor's report: Posted on bulletin board in the office hallway.

Complete Church Council Meeting Minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the office hallway.

he next church council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Feb 3	127	41
Feb 10	87	121
Feb 17	55	139
Feb 24	79	100

Wednesday Night Lenten Services

(Ash Wednesday)

Feb 6 10am- 20 and 7pm-116

Feb 13 70

Feb 20 72

Feb 27 100

1. Pamela Andersen
2. Julie Clements
3. Evelyn Suverkrubbe
Michaela Di Mauro
Leyla O'Connor
Janet Olson-Finken
4. Maxine Altic
Kassidy Goertz
Karla Reynolds
5. Faye Bridgeford
Stacey Havekost
Angie Schmidt
Al Weberg
6. John Pierson
Caleb Logemann
7. Tonya Eureka
8. Ruberta Christensen
Caleb Schneider
9. Annette McClelland
10. Sue Hinton
Caryn Stichler
Cassidy Noble
11. Bailey North
12. Adrienne Larsen
Tami Sass
John Lichty
13. Kerry Frey
Katelyn Kramer
Alyssa Di Mauro
14. Ben Weidner
16. Genevieve Campbell
JoAnn Redel
17. Mayone Japp
Chelsi Pinegar
Logan Wright
18. Duane Ellermeier
Patsy Mahoney
Allyson Mohr
George Poulsen
Trevor Logeman
Kris Carl
19. Sarah Stephens

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

21. Darian Reed
Tyler Brunk
22. Londo Auch
Jerry Kuhl
Kirk Weidner
23. Nick Coe
Jeffery Coe
Brynlee Loptin
Michelle Rivera
Gloria Jacobson
Jordyn Pratt
24. Linda Bohn
25. Justin Bonney
Paige Teller
Jennifer Bressman
Thomas Book
26. Kenneth Gottsch
Donald Jensen
27. Jeremy Hansen
28. Kim Blacketer
Joshua Menard
Eric Johnson
29. Jerry Gottsch
Gerald McMurphy
Caitlyn Simmons
30. Janiece Coe
Jessica Curtsinger
Sena Jensen
Shawn Klabunde
31. Andrea "Musel" Kadavy
Lisa Muhleka
Kelley Wenz
Lucy Roth

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

- George Poulsen, 86
- Evelyn Suverkrubbe, 88
- Ruberta Christensen, 95



CELEBRATING THEIR ANNIVERSARY

- 1 Jim & Jodie Tulson
Floyd & Delores Thorell
- 5 Mitch & Roxanne Lenhart
- 6 Josh & Jacquelyn Frost
- 10 David & Mary Larsen
- 13 J & Jodi Grothendick
- 14 Lee & Kathy Bunz
- 16 Earl & Connie Timm
- 18 Michael Di Mauro
- 20 Wes & Pamela Andersen
- 24 Jerry & Marilyn Roe

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

- Jim & Jodi Tulson, 5
- Earl & Connie Timm, 30
- Jerry & Mimi Roe, 52
- Floyd & Delores Thorell, 64

THRU THE WINDOWS

St. John's Lutheran Church
322 North Molley Street
James M. Price, Pastor
238-2483 (Church)
238-2958 (Home)

WWW.STJOHNSBENNINGTON.ORG (website)
STJOHNSOFFC@msn.com (Email)

Worship Services

8:30am Traditional with Holy Communion

11:00am Contemporary*

*Holy Communion will be celebrated on the
First and third Sunday of each month

2008 Church Council

Mert Opfer..... President/Special Funds Treasurer
Bill Dunn..... Vice President/Music/Worship
Mark Backhuus..... Co-Treasurer/Mutual Ministry
Deb Almquist*..... Co-Current Fund Treasurer
/Mission Share Treasurer
Wayne Andersen..... Financial Secretary
Jim Pinegar..... Secretary/Property
Jim Peterson..... Evangelism/Property
Grace Baty..... Evangelism
Mark Misfeldt..... Music/Worship
Dana Tomkins..... Stewardship
Scott Pierson..... Stewardship
John McClelland..... Christian Education
Jenny Hansen..... Social Ministry

* * * * *

Youth & Family Director..... Jeremy Hansen
Secretary Debbie Misfeldt
Organist..... Michael Bauer
Choir Director..... Kerry Frey
Junior Choir Director Kerry Frey
Custodians..... Tom Koziol/Cindy Koziol