


next steps  
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for January 14 & 15, 2017

St. John's Lutheran Church  
20275 Davidson Road  
Brookfield, WI 53045  
262-786-6887  
www.makedisciples.com

### welcome visitors!

If you are visiting St. John's, please fill out a [purple visitor slip](#) found in the back of the church seats. Prayer request forms are on the back of the visitor slips. Completed forms may be placed in the offering plate or handed to an usher. If you would like to know more about St. John's and our ministries be sure to stop at the Welcome Desk in the lobby.

### enhancing worship

- large print bulletins  
A limited number of large print bulletins are available for all services.
- personal listening devices  
We have 4 personal listening devices available.  
Please ask the ushers for assistance.



### focus of january outreach offering: socks and undies

January's local outreach emphasis will focus on Hope Center. The Hope Center serves a large population of folks who just don't have sufficient resources to "make ends meet". The Clothing Shop at Hope Center provides donated clothing items to help clients stretch their resources. It's a significant treat when the Clothing Shop has new underwear and socks to pass on, so St. John's is asking for new donations of those items in January. The greatest needs are for socks (all sizes) and underwear: kids (all sizes), ladies (sizes 5-8), and men (small and medium sizes).

### deacon vs. pastor

We welcome Deacon Stephanie Luedtke today to deliver God's message. What is a deacon? The ELCA has two leadership rosters. Deacons serve and lead in the ministry of Word and Service. Pastors serve and lead in the ministry of Word and Sacrament. While the primary call of the pastor is to serve within the church, the emphasis of deacons is to lead and equip the baptized for service within and beyond the congregation.

### annual meeting is january 29

Our annual meeting is scheduled for January 29 at 12 noon. Our agenda will include:

- Treasurer's report
- President's report
- Pastor's report
- Audit Committee report
- Approval of the 2017 6-month budget
- Election of a Nominating Committee
- Approval by simple majority vote of amendments to the St. John's constitution as approved by the 2016 Churchwide Assembly
- Approval by majority vote of the change from semi-annual meetings to one annual meeting in May or June.

Please review the copy of amendments posted on the member section of the St. John's website [makedisciples.com](http://makedisciples.com) prior to the annual meeting. If you would prefer to read paper documents, copies are available for review at the desk.

### elca world hunger

More than 800 million people — that's 1 in 9 people in our world today — are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. Please consider contributing to this very effective and efficient ELCA program this weekend.

New and fun is this year's program: **JIF FOR JESUS**. Eat a peanut butter sandwich in place of a fast food meal, then donate the cost of that fast food meal to world hunger. You'll be part of the **JIF FOR JESUS team**. JIF for Jesus is kid friendly! So please consider a one time donation, or if it will help you to remember, **grab a bundle of 12 hunger appeal reminder envelopes** conveniently available in a basket as you leave the sanctuary following service. Enjoy your peanut butter sandwich and join the monthly fight against hunger!

### next steps for this week

Jan 15	8:30a	worship
	9:45a	education hour
	10:45a	worship
	1:30p	boy scouts
	3:00p	Kannada Kali
	6:30p	Al Anon
Jan 16	9:00a	yoga
	11:30a	Hope Center meal
	6:30p	Al Anon
	7:00p	evening circle
Jan 17	10:00a	staff meeting
	10:30a	AA
	6:00p	TOPS
	6:30p	handbell choir
	7:00p	boy scouts
Jan 18	9:00a	quilters
	11:45a	afternoon circle
	5:15p	KOTK
	6:00p	AA
	6:30p	confirmation
	6:30p	choir
Jan 19	12:00p	retired men's lunch
	6:30p	Al Anon
	7:00p	property team meeting
	7:00p	women's board meeting
Jan 20	7:30p	Chinese Christian Church
	8:00p	AA
Jan 21	8:00a	CSS adoption meeting
	9:00a	diakonia
	9:30a	AA
	1:00p	Boy Scout Eagle ceremony
	5:15p	worship
Jan 22	8:30a	worship
	9:45a	education hour
	10:45a	worship
	3:00p	Kannada Kali
	3:00p	McDowell Club Concert
	6:30p	Al Anon

### future opportunities

Jan 29	12:00p	annual meeting
Feb 25		Day of Discovery
Feb 26	12:00p	Loaves and Fishes
Mar 1	6:30p	Ash Wednesday worship
Mar 19		pancake breakfast

### please pray...

blessings upon Lyla Rose Turner, daughter of Jason and Angela Turner, who was baptized last week and upon Weston Julius Koll Grabowski, son of Adam and Cheri Grabowski, who is baptized this weekend; may they always accept the free gift of love, grace and mercy as God's children.  
for these immediate needs of healing and strength Aiden, Barb, Bernie, Eleanor, Harry, Jerry, Judd, Marge, Matt, Stephen  
for ongoing treatment and recovery Kathy, Ruth, Kathy, Tim, Sara, Tim  
for our shut-ins Gretchen Brueske, June Carlson, Dolores Hartman, Alice Ladewig, Betty Mihelich, Audrey Reed, Lois Rosholt, Ruth Segal, Janet Vogelsang  
for our partner churches Los Héroes, Akeri Parish, All Peoples  
for all those serving in the military Tech. Sgt. Rick Bachtell; Michael Beasley; John Bruschi, Jr.; Michael George; Adam Kaczmarek; Cody Kallin; Maj. Nathaniel Lauterbach; 2nd Lt. Stuart McConnell; Lt. Cmdr. Bartholomew Sievenpiper; Sgt. Andrew Smith; Pvt. Kacey Slater; Maj. Rick L. Strickroot; Todd Westhauser; 1st Lt. Madeline Wilcox; William Wright

### altar flowers

Altar flowers were sponsored today by the St. John's Preschool and families in appreciation of the Preschool Board.

Please submit your announcements by **Wednesday at noon.**

The staff and pastors review and make final decisions based on space, timing and needs of the community.

Please submit announcements to Pam at email address: [office@makedisciples.com](mailto:office@makedisciples.com).



## children, youth & families next steps

### youth are heading back to the boundary waters this summer

The dates have been confirmed for this summer's Boundary Waters trip. July 15-22. We will have an informational meeting for all parents and students who are current high school students during youth group on January 22 in the youth room. If you would like the information but are unable to attend the meeting, please let Carrie Gaulke know and she will get you all the information. A signup sheet will be on the youth room bulletin board this Sunday!

### confirmation service

Join us as ten of our teenagers claim the promises of their baptism on Saturday, February 4. We start the day at 3:00 p.m. when our Confirmation students share their faith statements. The day culminates in worship at 5:15 p.m. with the Affirmation of Baptism Service. ALL are welcome to join in this festive and joyous occasion.



## music & worship next steps

### "rise up!" a jazz liturgy, to premiere february 25

Outreach for Hope and Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church are co-sponsoring the premier of a new jazz liturgy called "Rise Up!", by Rev Frank Janzow. Featuring piano, guitar, flutes, sax, drums and voices, the service theme is HOPE. The event coincides with Black History month. A free will offering will go to support Outreach for Hope ministries.

The worship service with jazz liturgy is Saturday, February 25, 5:30 PM at Mt. Carmel, 8424 W. Center St., Milwaukee. Reception to follow.



## learning and growing next steps

### adult education

This Sunday begins a 3 week educational series taught by St. John's member and Deacon Stephanie Luedtke. Stephanie will be teaching a series on Liberation Theology. This study is founded on Luke 4:18-19 in which Jesus stands in the synagogue and reads the scroll of Isaiah, declaring that he is the fulfillment of the scripture. The scroll outlines Jesus' ministry to the poor, outcast, and persecuted. Join Stephanie in the library at 9:45 today and again January 22 and 29. Bring your Bible!

### classes offered at luther manor

Did you know that Luther Manor holds regular classes for the community? These classes are held at their beautiful facility in the Linden Room and are free to the public. You can go to their web site for details of the class schedule, luthermanor.org. A schedule of upcoming winter/early spring classes is also posted on the bulletin board in the lobby. Check it out!

### preparing for marriage class

A "Preparing for Marriage" class is again being held on January 28, 2017 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Sussex. This class is taught by Rev. Tom Kent (D Min and LCSW). The cost is \$130 per couple. There are registration forms hanging on the bulletin board in the lobby if you are interested.

### men's retreat

Lutheran Men in Mission is hosting a **One Year to Live Retreat** March 24-26, 2017. This event is being held at Pine Lake Camp in Waupaca, WI. The contact person is Jim Schieble, 920-763-3433, [faithbassed@outlook.com](mailto:faithbassed@outlook.com). Details are posted on the bulletin board if you are interested.

## annual meeting

on Sunday, January 29  
at noon  
in the fellowship hall



## caring & serving next steps

### education for life

Would you like to make a difference in the life of a child in El Salvador? We have the scholarship plan for 2017 and there are new children looking for sponsors. Please contact Mary Beth Gubbins ([marybethgubbins@wi.rr.com](mailto:marybethgubbins@wi.rr.com)) if you would like to know more about sponsoring a student. Any donations are appreciated and will be used to fund a child's education. Donations can be made out to St. John's with El Salvador scholarships in the memo section. Thank you!

### cheers to 40 years!

The Women's Center is turning 40! As a thank you for your support, you are invited to join them to celebrate 40 years of providing safety, shelter, and support.

**when:** January 25, 2017  
5:30pm - 7:00pm  
6:00pm - Remarks, cake cutting, and champagne toast

**where:** The Women's Center  
505 N. East Avenue  
Waukesha, WI 53186

**why:** On January 25, 1977, The Women's Center filed articles of incorporation with the state of Wisconsin to become Waukesha's first and only domestic violence and sexual assault agency.

**who:** A special gathering of our long-time supporters, major donors, current and past Board members, and our community partners.



## next steps for administration | finance

### offering options

**simply giving**  
Members, please note that your 2017 envelopes are in your mailbox, unless you give electronically through Simply Giving. Simply Giving is a convenient, safe, and simple way to make your church offering through electronic funds transfer (EFT) directly from your checking account, savings account, debit card, or credit card. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis. Please contact the church office if you need more information about this or if you are ready to switch to electronic giving.

### IRA qualified charitable contributions

Important information for church members over 70½: "*IRA Qualified Charitable Contributions Made Permanent 2016*". The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 finally made permanent qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from individual retirement accounts. A QCD permits annual direct transfers to a qualified charity totaling up to \$100,000 of tax-deferred IRA savings. Funds that have been distributed from the IRA to the IRA owner and are then contributed to charity **do not** qualify. The transfer must be made **directly** from the IRA to the qualified charity. Importantly, QCDs automatically satisfy required minimum distributions (RMDs) for the year when the QCD is made. That's a real advantage for a charitably minded IRA owner.

*Please consult your tax advisor to see whether this may be a good option for you to explore.*

For more details, see <http://www.thetaxadviser.com/newsletters/2016/apr/charitable-ira-distributions.html>