

August 31, 2020

As you have read in my “Pastor’s Ponderings” we are always exploring and creating a vision for St. John’s Lutheran Church. I should better say that God has a vision for our church and we are continually discovering the possibilities of new ministries, as well as strengthening the ministries we currently have, in order to further the mission of God’s church in the world. One of these opportunities is to review the overall church building and grounds design and usage.

It is essential that our congregation looks forward while at the same time assessing our current situation. As we are aware, change is a constant part of our lives. So, how have things changed for us over the last twenty years, thirty years, and fifty years? This leads to additional questions:

- How will things change over the next 10, 15, 20 years?
- Are we able to adapt to future changes while still maintaining the core of who we are as a church?
- What overall plan will guide us now and in the future?

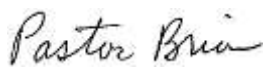
To help answer these questions we have engaged an architectural consulting firm, Groth Design Group, to help us assess our building and grounds and how they are used currently in our ministry. Their work will provide us with an overall, comprehensive building and grounds design, one that will include not only ideas about redesigning and upgrading our interior space, but also assess the mechanical and structural condition of our plant.

We need an overall plan at St. John’s, one that will help us enhance, improve, and upgrade our space in a more intentional way, one that will move us forward with a vision of who we will be. When visitors come to St. John’s, they will experience us as a vibrant, forward-looking, and energetic congregation, one that is reflected in our architecture, and in our gathering, worship, and educational space filled with faithful and welcoming people of God.

Groth Design Group is our partner on this project. In their work, they have scheduled Visioning Workshops to share ideas and passions about who we are, what we are about, and the picture of what you want St. John’s to be now and in the future. They will listen to our feedback and present design plans that incorporate your views, adding ideas they see from their professional experiences and perspectives. This process will take about three months to complete; after that, we will gather to see what Groth Design Group has proposed for us. With these overall plans, we can assess when and how we can move forward in a deliberate way to upgrade our building and grounds.

Let’s keep in mind that the goal of our work is to provide a welcoming, exciting, and functional building that is attractive to all who come here, so that people will continually be fed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and sent into the world by the Holy Spirit who enlivens us all.

Attached you will find the workshop agenda. Please use the [SignUp Genius](#) button on the SJLC website to secure your place, either in-person or via Zoom, at one of the two dates. Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. I look forward to your participation in the upcoming visioning workshops.



Pastor Brian



## VISIONING WORKSHOP

Saint John's Lutheran Church, Brookfield

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### AGENDA

- I. **Introductions/Opening** (Provided by Pastor or Leaders) 10 minutes
  - A. Brief Prayer
  - B. Welcome
  - C. History of Planning
  - D. Introduction of Visioning Leader

- II. **Architectural Presentation** (Presented by GDG) 30 minutes
  - A. "Introduction"
  - B. Presentation: Design for Faith & Growth

5 minute break

- III. **Open Discussion** (moderated by GDG) 60 minutes
  - A. Introduction & Ground Rules 10 minutes
  - B. Topics (7 minutes each) 50 minutes
    - 1. Exterior & Entry
    - 2. Entry & Hospitality
    - 3. Place of Worship & Music
    - 4. Places for Parenting, Family & Care
    - 5. Places for Meeting & Fellowship
    - 6. Places for Education
    - 7. Anything Else

- IV. **Conclusion** (provided by GDG) 5 minutes
  - A. What Happens Next (GDG)
  - B. Thank You (Provided by Pastor)
  - C. Closing Prayer (Provided by Pastor)