

# November 2020

Stay Informed. Be Inspired.



All Saints' Day prayers in the Memorial Garden

# In This Issue

All Saints' Day	3
Birthdays	6
Building on a Foundation	
Children, Youth and Families	4
Council Communications	7
My Faith Statement	5



### Follow Us

www.makedisciples.com

Facebook: @MakeDisciplesSJL

Instagram: stjohnsbrookfield

Twitter: @Makedisciples

# **Pastor Ponders**

by Pastor Brian Halverson

I give thanks to God always for you because of the grace of God which was given to you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him with all speech and all knowledge – even as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you – so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

These are the words that the apostle Paul wrote in his first letter to the people in Corinth. These are beautiful and powerful words that I am sure help sustain the church and give it strength in difficult times.

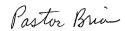
We are living through difficult times today. With so much that is unsettling, we turn to sources of inspiration and comfort. We remember that we must take care of our physical health, our mental well-being, and perhaps most importantly, our spiritual wellness. Like the disciplines of good physical and mental health, we must continue to practice our disciplines of spiritual heath as well.

Spiritual health begins with gratefulness. Gratitude is the key that unlocks the spiritual gifts of kindness, compassion, understanding, wisdom, faith, and love. Each morning I give thanks to God for the grace and strength to live each day, knowing that I am a small but still significant part of God's plan. I meditate on God's word as it speaks to me, revealing something important, an insight or inspiration that I will need for the day's work.

Writing a list of things for which I am grateful everyday is a spiritual discipline that takes me out of my self-pity and worry. And on the top of my list of gratitude is my family and you. I am always grateful that we are in this work – God's work - together. Although I miss the energy of seeing and being with you in this time, I know that the sacrifices we are making today will be rewarded in a stronger, more vibrant gathering once we are back together again.

In the meantime, let us always be grateful for the guidance the apostle Paul has gifted to us in his words to the Corinthians: "God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." "He will sustain you to the end."

Thanks be to God!





### What's New?

### Are You Thankful?

As part of our recorded worship for Thanksgiving Eve, we want to continue our tradition of having attendees express thanksgiving for their blessings.

Are you thankful? Take a short video of yourself completing the sentence "I am thankful for

Send videos in mp4 format, by November 22, to Pam at connect@makedisciples.com.



### November Worship

- Virtual worship will continue to be recorded and offered weekly.
- 2. Thanksgiving Eve worship will be recorded and available by Wednesday, November 25.

### Secured Dropbox

Do you have important papers or an envelope to deliver to church? Good news! We are working to install a dropbox to the left of the office doors so you may drop papers off at your convenience.

# **Music Notes**

# An Update on the Organ Project

With the consent of the financial committee and the church council we are moving ahead with the organ maintenance project that was previously put on hold. We are blessed to continue to maintain this instrument that supports our congregational singing, choirs, and so much more.

We have contracted with Berghaus Pipe Organ Builders, Inc., located in Bellwood, IL. They will clean all of the pipe work (it will be removed from the building to be cleaned properly). While the pipes are in the workshop they will also strip stoppers of deteriorating leather, repair cracks in wooden pipes, disassemble each reed pipe and clean.

The other part of the project will be the replacement and revoicing of the 8' Principle rank and the 4' Octave. A rank of pipes is a row of pipes all of which make the same sound, but at a different pitch. If you looked at a keyboard, each key would have a different pipe, the lowest note would be the largest and they get progressively smaller as the pitch gets higher.

After all of the pipes are reinstalled at St. John's, Berghaus will spend one week with every pipe in the organ to clean up the voicing and blend the new resources to work seamlessly together. Throughout the project the objective is to create a lighter, cleaner tone that fills the room but does not feel forced. If all goes well and the new pipes can be ordered/produced as planned, the work will begin in January 2021.

# All Saints' Day

In this month of All Saints' Day we thank God for the beloved saints of our congregation. From the ground-breaking in the fall of 1962 to today we have been blessed with faithful believers who together have built our church. Our beautiful Memorial Garden stands as a reminder of those who have gone before us.

Oh blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle they in glory shine, yet all are one, in thee for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia! (Hymn #422, For All The Saints)

#### Saints From This Past Year

Lilly Allbaugh Martha Andeen
Earl Kerschke Jerome Kopecky
Alice Ladewig Dick Schemberger

Ron Reick

#### **Memorial Garden Committee**

One of the reasons we maintain an active Memorial Garden committee is to communicate with congregation members, answer questions and assist you in the very important end-of-life planning. Please feel free to contact any committee member. We are most willing to visit with you.

DAY

Memorial Garden Committee: Mark Aamot, Chair, Karen Aamot, John Almasi, Mary Almasi, Darlene Bahr, Dick Granholm, Kyle Weyer, Jeff Weyer, Marlene Zick, Ralph Zick.

# Our Columbarium is Famous



### St. John's Columbarium Now on Eickhof's Website

The Columbarium Committee received notice in early October that Eickhof Columbaria, Crookston, Minnesota (the company that built our columbarium units) is featuring photos of our Memorial Garden on their website and in their magazine. We can all be proud of this publicity.

Click the link below to see how we are featured. <a href="https://eickhofcolumbaria.com/project/st-johns-lutheran-church/">https://eickhofcolumbaria.com/project/st-johns-lutheran-church/</a>

# Children, Youth & Families

## 5<sup>th</sup> & 6th Grade Pre-Confirmation Class

**Beginning October 11** 

Meet via Zoom Every Other Sunday Evening 4:00-5:00pm

Join us for Fellowship, team building, and to continue our journey through the Bible!





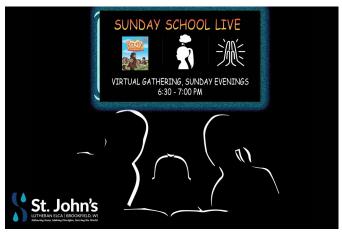
### 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation Class

**Beginning October 4** 

Meet via Zoom Every Other Sunday Evening 4:30-5:30pm

Join Pastor Brian and Joanna for Confirmation Class! Our new curriculum, Confirm not Conform (CnC) is focused on helping young people ask tough questions and search out answers through innovative and highly interactive sessions. CnC lets youth take real responsibility for understanding their faith and its power.





### Sunday School Live!

For Families ages 2 & Up

Sunday Evenings Online via Zoom 6:30-7:00pm Giggles required

We will meet together via Zoom for a weekly family Pajama Party!
We will tell the weekly Spark story using fun, interactive storytelling
techniques, have show and tell, and play games.
You can join together as a family or individually!

Coming in November...

Fidget Spinner Prayers!



Watch for details on when you can stop by St. John's with your family and pick up a special fidget spinner and prayer card.

### Contact Joanna with Toddler to 8th Grade Questions

Joanna is currently working from home and picking up mail a few times a month. She is available by email at <a href="mailto:josalinas2014@gmail.com">josalinas2014@gmail.com</a> or by call or text at 262-278-8021. M-F from 8:00 - 1:00.

Joanna sends out weekly Children, Youth and Family emails with the Sunday School video links and other resources. If you are not receiving those emails and would like to, let Joanna know!



# Children, Youth & Families

#### KOTK Children's Choir

KOTK (Kids of the Kingdom) started meeting by Zoom at the beginning of October. The group is currently made up of 11 children. We have had the chance to share lots of musical activities and songs.





Because the meetings are on Zoom we are using fun videos to see the lyrics and sing along with instrumental accompaniment. Throughout our session we use activities to get the kids moving and thinking about musical ideas.

It is nice to know that we will be ready to share songs once the church

opens up in the future. The songs we are singing are based on Bible verses and include helpful hand motions. The conclusion of our meeting is a short devotion and prayer.

Contact <u>Lisa</u> Weiss-Cornelius if your child would like to join the fun!





### The Faith of Our Youth

In August, six ninth graders from St. John's affirmed their baptism by publicly professing their faith. Each month, one of these statements will be shared in the Inspire newsletter.

This month we hear from Josh Schilling.



To me confirming my faith means confirming the promises my parents made at my baptism. Being a Christian has made a difference in my life because it affected my weekly routine. It has affected it by going to service and youth group. My weekly routine has made my faith in God grow.

I will become an involved member of the church by helping in Sunday school and going to youth group. Throughout my life, I see myself serving Christ by staying involved with the church and helping out other people. To help my faith grow I will continue to attend service and continue to help at the Hope Center.

My mom has been very influential in my faith development because she has been the one to get me involved with the church. My mom has influenced me by going to the Hope Center and on mission trips. The verse I chose is 1 Corinthians 13:13: there are three things that remain faith, hope, and love- and the greatest of these is

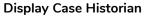
love.

#### Merry Mac's Camping

Seven scouters camped at Merry Mac's campground for the weekend near Devil's Lake State Park. When we got there we were losing light, so we set up camp and finished the night with a campfire and s'mores! The next day we made a hearty breakfast and headed off to hike both bluffs at Devil's Lake. After the hike we finished off our adventure with an ice cream treat!

Dominic Eggert fulfilled his First Class Cooking requirement by organizing the three meals: pancakes, eggs and spam for breakfast, Long Lake spaghetti casserole with boiled broccoli for supper, and biscuits and gravy for the final breakfast.

Before we left, we played campground games at the Merry Mac's office and headed home. We rode the Wisconsin River Ferry and stopped for fast food on the way.



Nolan Nelson's troop position is the Display Case Historian. He keeps the fellowship hall troop display case clean and arranges the awards.

#### September Participation Honors

- Jacob Nienhaus
- 2 Nick Huebner, Nolan Nelson
- 3 Josh Balzer
- Jon McMahon, Zac Watson, Matt Watson



#### **Patrols Choose Names**

The Troop has continued meeting at Marx Park since the church building isn't open The Patrols have chosen their names Anaconda patrol, Ka-Chow patrol and the 2020 patrol. We are all working on making Patrol Flags and recently we had a Mini Golf Meeting at Swing Time!



#### Scout Exposition

Our Troop participated in the Scout Exposition at the Corners of Brookfield Shopping Center. Packs, Troops, and Venture Crews demonstrated scout skills.

Our troop demonstrated Knot Tying, In our troop's location, shoppers got their name on the "Square Knot Wall of Fame" by tying a square Knot behind their backs!



# **November Birthdays**

- 1 Jessica Nettekoven
- 1 John Roth
- 1 Sandra Wicklund
- 1 Colton Wright
- 2 LeNay Anderson
- 2 Kathy Kempke
- 2 Jordan Larson
- 2 Sandra Paukner
- 2 Andy Truax
- 2 Luan Unger
- Joseph Gatzke
- Debbie Wimmer 4
- 4 Kim Zick
- 5 Connie Braun
- 6 Henry Berthold
- Janice Franzen

- 6 Brian Resop
- Nancy Kraus
- 7 Ethan Zach
- 8 James LaHann
- 9 Angela Turner
- Kurt Zaeske
- 10 Cheryl Poth
- 11 Brynn Fuerstenberg
- 11 Carolyn Krause
- 14 Josh Belli
- 14 Cindy Proeber
- 14 Cris Sievenpiper
- 14 Chris Spofford
- 16 Ben Allbaugh
- 16 Vicki Fuerstenberg
- 16 Karen Klousnitzer

- 16 Jerry Olson
- 16 Arlene Traxel
- 18 Barbara James
- 18 John Rickinger
- 19 Sue Hamman
- 19 Cheryl Woodworth
- 20 Alice Beyer
- 20 Chris Elfers
- 21 Maddie Beug-Hoffman
- 21 Heather Cheslock
- 21 Roger Krebs
- 22 Ann Marie Haas
- 23 Sherry Henschel
- 23 Jim Koscielniak
- 24 Skye Bertrand-Zweig
- 24 Mickey Gipp

- 24 Liam Turner
- 25 Paul Cornelius
- 26 Jeffrey Baeten
- 26 Kathy Davis
- 27 Lisa Belli-Fuchs
- 27 Susan Gaulke
- 27 Josh Schnepf
- 28 Jim Cheslock
- 28 Gregg Everts
- 28 Sarah Gillette
- 28 Klaudia Hollander
- 28 Bonnie Suhaysik
- 29 Joshua Balzer
- 29 Mick Scanlon
- 30 Zachary Luebstorf
- 30 Kyle Schaefer

# **Council Communications**

Fellow Disciples,

I pray this news finds you healthy and well. Following are highlights from the October 12 Council meeting.

#### **President Report**

- GROTH Design Group has wrapped up their interactive workshops and ministry interviewsand will be meeting with the Planning Group on October 22 to review the accumulated findings from the workshops.
- The Adult Education and Sunday School partnership with Gethsemane Lutheran has begun. Education leaders, thank you for flexibility and creativity in this time of virtual education.
- Necessary maintenance (revoicing) of the organ was authorized to begin in the upcoming months. This maintenance was previously approved and was scheduled to begin early spring, though that was put on hold.

 The Fall Stewardship Season is underway. An initial mailing will be going out in October to highlight St. John's 2021 goals.

#### Financial Report

 General giving was down in September and continues to be down throughout this time of COVID-19. With that said, expenses are also down, and the overall financials still remain in good shape. Thank you for your faithful giving.

#### Transition team

- The team continues to monitor and review local health data and CDC guidelines
- Ongoing updates will be communicated in the weekly Happenings.

Please reach out to me or the Council members with any questions you may have.

Peace and good health to all, Brian Zach, President

### St. John's Interim Council

#### **President** Brian Zach 608-279-3577 Vice-president Gary Schettler 262-542-2309 Secretary Christine Hintze 262-993-4637 **Treasurer** Dawn Williams 262-309-9333 At Large Jerry Hanson 262-785-8098 414-429-3609 Tim Tollander Maddie Beug-Hoffman 262-439-9732 Linnea Logan 262-358-0501

Barb Lange

262-542-4010

Building on a
Solid Foundation
for the Church
and the World

is
November 15

# Life Together Newsletter

The Greater Milwaukee Synod, the ELCA synod to which St. John's belongs, produces a quarterly newsletter titled "Life Together". Click below to read it!

Read "Life Together"

# **Transition Team**

- Q: Who is part of the Transition Team?
- A: Currently the team is composed of Ken Bahr, Dr. Bruce Campbell, Gregg & Sara Everts, Pastor Brian Halverson, Dr. Jerry Hanson, Laura Rickinger, Tom Potratz, Dan Thompson and Brian Zach.

# TRANSITION TEAM

To see past Q&A from the Transition Team, check out the Message Board Blog on our website. Then, plan to check back often for future posts.



# Mission of Healing in El Salvador

When Deb, a nurse practitioner and member of St. John's, received a call from God to go serve in the world, she never imagined it would lead to 20 years of making annual trips to El Salvador. When Linda, a staff member at St. John's helped organize that first Mission of Healing, she didn't realize it would lead to living in El Salvador as a part-time worker in the Salvadoran Lutheran Church. God's plans can be unpredictable like that. Back in



2000, none of us at St. John's nor in Los Héroes, could have imagined how four days of doing physical exams on a rickety altar and teaching VBS with 100 kids in a tiny tin schoolroom would have such a measurable impact on the health of the Los Héroes community or transform so many lives.

St. John's and All Peoples have the oldest Salvadoran sister church relationship in the Greater Milwaukee Synod. Since 1998, wellness, healing and education have been at the center of our relationship with Los Héroes. St. John's has been a leader in walking with the Salvadoran Lutheran Church in health education ministries, dozens of members and former members of St. John's have participated on Mission of Healing teams, and

St. John's has sponsored one or two participants from All Peoples as team members most years. Team members could tell you stories of lives saved, of miracles, of baptisms in the river.

The Missions of Healing are a highlight of the Salvadoran Lutheran Church year and are held every February, the month of love and friendship. The focus is holistic education - the spiritual, physical, and mental well-being of individuals, families and communities. St. John's, All Peoples (Milwaukee), Hope (Chippewa Falls) and Holy Cross (Menomonee Falls) work together on the US end to provide team members and financial support for the Mission in the Northern Region of El Salvador. That region has 16 Lutheran Church communities, one of which is Los Héroes. In 2020, the volunteer team of about 60 people from the Salvadoran Lutheran Church, local health clinics and the US taught minicourses on 25 different themes with a big emphasis on hygiene and prevention of communicable disease. That education has served communities well during this time of COVID-19.



In the presence of COVID-19, the Mission of Healing leaders made the decision to suspend the inperson big Family Wellness Fairs November Outreach
Offering
Bandages and Tylenol
for local health kits.

for 2021. Instead, the US team leaders (Deb and Linda) are working with the Salvadoran Lutheran Church Youth Group to create a fun, year-round health education experience for churches and families. The team is creating educational videos which can be shared in WhatsApp groups (using the same system that El Salvador's schools have been using all year for virtual school). Each month will feature a different theme. The videos (for adults and kids) will be accompanied by printed education materials delivered to each of the 16 churches. Each church is also being outfitted with a medical supply kit with some basic diagnostic equipment, wound care items, and medications. In part, these materials are being funded through a grant from St. John's Endowment Fund. Each church has a credentialed doctor, nurse or health promoter who will offer free medical check-ins for folks with diabetes, high blood pressure or other concerns.

The Mission of Healing North 2021 Remote Version will feature several components in English and Spanish and the team hopes to be able to share monthly themes not only in El Salvador, but in our local congregations as well. To learn more, contact <a href="Chris Klink">Chris Klink</a> and watch for links on our public Facebook partnership page (you do not need Facebook to view).

# Who's Who in our Salvadoran Sister Church

#### Get to Know Pastor Francisco García

Many of us know Pastor Santiago and a few of the youth who have visited us from our sister church, Los Héroes en la Fe (Heroes in the Faith Lutheran Church) in El Salvador. Over the next few months, we will share stories about a few folks whose names might be familiar, but who have never been able to come for a visit. This month, we meet Pastor Francisco.

We asked Francisco how he came to work in the Lutheran Church. Here is what he wrote:

"In 1986, I arrived for the first time by way of an agronomist named Betty to work on a project in the zone of Cabañitas in Apopa (a city near to the capital, San Salvadorl and was supervised by the religious community of Sweden. After that, I participated in followup with communities affected by the 1986 earthquake, and the repoplulation [after the civil war] of Copapayo, Suchitoto in the beginning of 1988. [Pastor Santiago's father was on the repopulation team. It involved getting families past the front lines of troops to homes they had abandoned years before.] I stayed in contact with Pastor Santiago, who wasn't a pastor then, and one day he made a proposal that I come to Los Héroes to get to know the community. That is how my work with the church began."

Francisco studied philosophy during his university years, and has worked with several nongovernmental organizations. After coming into the Lutheran Church, Francisco studied first to be a Catechist, then an Evangelist and now serves the community of Los Héroes as a diaconal pastor as well as the coordinator of the Education for Life program. He raised two sons as a single father, and now has 3 grandchildren.



Pastor Francisco's work with the Education for Life program includes running parent and youth group meetings. He visits the schools and homes of the students. Many aspects of Pastor

Francisco's life and work in the church are complicated by the presence of gang boundaries and real threats of violence. During the war, Francisco survived some dangerous situations due to his intelligence and what he describes as miracles. Francisco's street smarts, wisdom, sense of humor and faith serve him well in the work he does.

by Mary Beth Gubbins

Sometimes the youth roll their eyes at his dry jokes, but many young people have grown very close to Pastor Francisco over the years and readily seek his advice.

We asked Francisco to share some words of encouragement to scholarship sponsors:

"To the brothers and sisters in the vineyard of the Lord, I invite you to cultivate hope, building bridges of progress walking by the hand of God and with your neighbor, balancing the kingdom of abundance and spirituality, that puts us at the right hand of the Lord. I believe that the dignified future of your sibling is in your heart and your hands; assume the work with pride and without fear God for searches for you as God's instrument. Don't neglect to end your day without having grown a little, without having been happy, without having fed your dreams of love; never neglect to dream and to value the beauty in simple things."



# **About Us**

#### Welcome Statement

At St. John's we align with Paul's words in Romans 15:7 "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." We welcome one another all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race, age or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to physical or mental health, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in our commitment to the ways, grace and love of Christ.

### Core Values of St. John's:

- Serving our world, locally and globally;
- · Inspiring worship and music that honor God;
- Nurturing relationships with one another as Jesus walks with us:
- Growing in God's grace through education and discipleship;
- Engaging children and youth in the life of the church.

# **Contact Us**

# Office Hours

The St. John's office is closed until further guidance from the Transition Team.

#### Church

phone/fax: 262-786-6887 email: to email a staff member, please click on their website photo

#### Preschool

phone: 262-786-4298

stjohnspreschoolbrookfield@gmail.com

# Follow Us

Website: www.makedisciples.com

Facebook: <a href="MakeDisciplesSJL">MakeDisciplesSJL</a>
Instagram: <a href="stiphnsbrookfield">stiphnsbrookfield</a>

# 22nd Annual HOPE Thanksgiving Dinner and Auction

#### **HOPE Thanksgiving Dinner and Auction**

Thursday, November 19, 2020 | 5:00 p.m.. – 9:00 p.m. Brookfield Conference Center 325 South Moorland Rd, Brookfield, WI

We need your help! This year Hope Center has experienced an ever increasing number of clients coming to us for help.

To that end, each year, Hope Center, holds its annual HOPE Thanksgiving Dinner and Auction, which is a fundraiser for Hope Center programs that helps the less fortunate in Waukesha County. The event, begins with a silent auction during the social hour. Attendees bid on a multitude of very nice items donated by our generous sponsors. We will be practicing social distancing, providing sanitizing stations and the use of masks. If you do not have a mask we will provide one for you. Next is a delectable dinner and desserts. Then, the real fun begins! The live auction kicks off and the room comes alive! Donations of all sizes fill the room.

There are several ways that you can help.

- Purchase reservations for \$125 per person or \$1250 for a table of ten for your business or your friends and family.
- We rely on member congregations for baskets for our silent auction. Please get a group together and donate a basket that you could even bid on virtually!
- No donation is too small. It takes as little as \$3.33 to provide one meal and every penny makes a difference. Consider making a financial donation today!

Not able to attend live? This year, you can attend the event virtually. Click below to register, donate, to get more information to support your community.

Register or sign up for a donation online at www.hopecenterwi.org/events.html

For more information contact them at 262-549-8726 or info@HopeCenterWi.org

# Calendar of events for November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints' Day Worship online 9:45a HS Youth Group 4:30p Confirmation 6:30p virtual Sunday School Pajama Party	2 11:30a Hope Center meal	3 Election Day 8:30a virtual property team 10:00a virtual staff mtg 7:15p virtual adult ed  VOTE!	4 5:15p virtual Kids of the Kingdom	5 8:30a retired men's b-fast 3:00p virtual Finance Team meeting 6:30p virtual Transition Team meeting	6 6:15a virtual men's group	7 8:30a virtual men's group 9:30a virtual Adult Ed
8 Worship online 9:45a HS Youth Group 4:00p 5th and 6th Graders 6:30p virtual Sunday School Pajama Party	9 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p virtual council	10 8:30a virtual property team 10:00a virtual staff mtg	11 5:15p virtual Kids of the Kingdom	12 6:30p virtual Master Planning meeting	16 6:15a virtual men's group	14 8:30a virtual men's group 9:30a virtual Adult Ed
15 Commitment Sunday Worship online 9:45a HS Youth Group 4:30p Confirmation 6:30p virtual Sunday School Pajama Party	16 11:30a Hope Center meal	17 8:30a virtual property 10:00a virtual staff mtg 6:30p virtual HR meeting 7:15p virtual adult ed	18 5:15p virtual Kids of the Kingdom	19 12:00p retired men's lunch	20 6:15a virtual men's group 9:00a Friday Book Club 7:00p virtual Women of Faith book club	21 8:30a virtual men's group 9:30a virtual Adult Ed
22 Worship online 9:45a HS Youth Group 4:00p 5th and 6th Graders 6:30p virtual Sunday School Pajama Party	23 11:30a Hope Center meal	24 8:30a virtual property team 10:00a virtual staff mtg	25 Virtual Thanksgiving worship	26 Office closed	27 Office closed 6:15a virtual men's group	28
29 Advent 1 Worship online 9:45a HS Youth Group 4:30p Confirmation 6:30p virtual Sunday School Pajama Party	30 11:30a Hope Center meal		Be part of our Thanksgiv a short video of yourself "I am thankful fo Send the mp4 video to co	thankful? ing Eve worship by taking completing the sentence r" rennect@makedisciples.com ember 22.		

# Building on a Solid Foundation

### Commitment Sunday is November 15

In spire of the pandemic, which has led to a disconnect from church, we need to remember that we remain part of a strong faith community and are God's children. The opportunities for us through St. John's to serve and witness are great and exciting. We need to offer all the support, financial and otherwise, that we can to this ministry in this time.

- Mark Latus

We are in the midst of our annual fall stewardship appeal. Please pray about where and how God is calling our congregation to fulfill its mission and ministry together. Pray about your financial commitment next year. Pray about your response to the letter from the Stewardship Team, who asks you to consider increasing your pledge for next year.

You are encouraged to return your Statement of Intent by November 15. It may be returned via U.S. mail or hand-delivered to church. (There will be a dropbox to the left of the office doors.) We request that you return the card even if you are unable to commit at this time.

With your continued generosity, we will build on a strong foundation and renew our ministry to meet the changing needs of our congregation, our community, and our world.

"By the grace God has given me, I laid the foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay a foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ."

1 Corinthians 3:10-11 (NIV)

# Think. Pray. Commit.



# Powerful giving with your smartphone

Apps make life easier. With GivePlus Mobile, you can use your smartphone to give anytime, anywhere!

- Download the FREE app on your Apple or Android phone
- Make one-time or recurring donations using your debit/ credit card or checking/ savings account
- Log in or donate as a guest
- Securely and conveniently manage donations

To give through the app, search your phone's app store for "GivePlus Mobile" or contact the church office.

GivePlus, a Vanco Company

# Technology Concerns and Needs

Last year, several of our older students had technology issues (devices/internet connection/software). To help, we have created a program, through the generosity of the Stewardship for All Seasons funds, to help families connect! We strongly recommend connecting to Zoom via a tablet, iPad, computer or Chromebook. Connecting with a phone is discouraged.

If any of the following apply, please reach out to Joanna or Pastor Brian and we can confidentially connect you with the appropriate assistance.

- 1. You don't have a device (other than a phone) that can connect to Zoom.
- 2. If you do not have internet in your home or your device cannot connect to it.
- 3. If your internet is chronically unstable and cannot support a Zoom meeting, let us know that too!

