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St. John's Lutheran
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Pastor Ponders

by Pastor Brian Halverson

"April showers bring May flowers". Yes, indeed. We are all looking for May flowers. Of course, there is much work to do in the yard and in the garden before those flowers bloom. Cindy and I have already received our springtime allotment of topsoil and mulch which will go down on the ground after we have pulled up the dead things and the weeds that are already springing forth. Cindy has been diligent in getting the grounds prepared and cleared of all the overgrowth that has occurred over the years. Each year the landscaping around the house looks better than the year before. I keep waiting for the time in which there will be no need for any more yard work – a time when the gardens and yard will just take care of themselves!

Apparently, I am told and quite often, that there is no self-sustaining garden no matter how often I look for one on Google or in the neighborhood nursery. The earth is too organic and wild to let anything like this occur. It needs care and attention, and yes, a bit of work. This is a good thing. To be outdoors in the sunshine with hands in the ground and smelling the clean air, what could be better after being cooped up through the winter months? At least, that is what Cindy keeps telling me! But it is true. And who can argue with the results? Not me.

Our spiritual lives need care and attention, too. Weeding out the resentments and accumulated slights, the dormant ill feelings of shame we may have buried, the guilt that may still plague us and prick our consciousnesses, and the sins we carry with us; these need to be eradicated so our lives can be filled with the blessings that God showers upon us each and every day.

Jesus is the gardener who takes away the sin of the world and in our hearts. He prunes the branches so we can bear the good fruit that God has planted in all of us. Will we be perfect? No, but then again, with the power of the Holy Spirit, we can be what God has intended us to be – beautifully created human beings filled with love for God and one another. Who can argue with that? Not me.

Pastor Brian

Friday Family Fun Nights

Who is ready for some summer fun? We are!!

Join us this summer for Friday Family Fun Nights. All are welcome. We will gather outside at St. John's for a night of fun.

June 18 | 6:30 p.m. | "Ball" Games

July 9 | 6:30 p.m. | "Rocket" Games

August 20 | 6:30 p.m. | "Water" Games



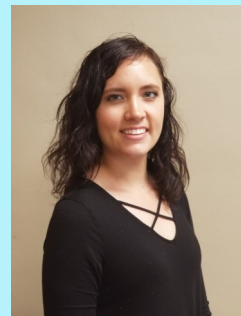
What's New?

High School/Young Adult Ministry Coordinator

St. John's is pleased and excited to announce that Stephanie Broussard has accepted the position of Youth Ministry Coordinator. Stephanie, who is currently the Ministry Coordinator, will leave that position and begin her new role on May 1.

She is scheduled to work 20 hours per week, developing

relationships with young people (high school and college age) and their families, and organizing and leading youth programming. If you have a passion for youth ministry and would like to volunteer as a mentor, teacher, or youth activity leader please contact Stephanie at St. John's to be a part of this great ministry!



Annual Meeting

June 6, 2021 | 10:30 a.m.

The annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 6 at 10:30 a.m.

There will be the Zoom option for those who prefer that method.

There will be one worship service this day, at 9:00 a.m. Both the worship and the meeting will be outside, weather permitting.

Worship and Music

New Supplemental Hymnal Now Available

Augsburg Fortress Music Publishers has been working for years on a new hymnal supplement that we would like to purchase for the St. John's worshipping community.

All Creation Sings is a new, comprehensive song and prayer collection for every worshipping community. Supplementing *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, this resource contains expansive hymns and liturgies that invite us to join our voices with God's whole creation.

Why purchase a new supplemental hymnal when we are not singing in indoor worship?

This is a great question that I have struggled with. Although we are not singing together indoors this week, we will sing again, and I believe it will be coming soon. Singing together is an integral element of our corporate worship. I believe that this resource will allow us to sing new texts that will bring us a strong connection to the earth, social justice themes and inclusive language. It also brings a hope that we are close to singing together again.

Will this replace the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnals that we currently have?

No, it will be used in conjunction, it is not meant to replace. We believe

that there is a want and desire especially from the 8:30 a.m. worshipers to sing out of a hymnal when possible.

Is this in the budget?

No. We are looking for donations to purchase 150-200 books. Currently they are \$12.50 plus shipping each; mid June 2021 they go up to \$14.50 a book.

Interested?
Contact Becky.



Kids of the Kingdom

This has been a year of new technology for the KOTK. Much of the year we met through Zoom and had the chance to work on fun music together. It is amazing how kids can work these computers. When we got closer to Palm Sunday, the kids learned a song that we sang with the Adult Choir at our outdoor Church Service. After Easter we started meeting in person with safe social distancing. The KOTK had a chance to record some songs to add to both the virtual and in person church services. We are looking forward to a more normal year when we return to meeting in the Fall.



Music Notes

THANK YOU to all of the musicians who joyfully worked to provide virtual and live music this Holy Week and Easter! Vocalists and Instrumentalists rehearsed and recorded, and the choir and Kids of the Kingdom not only rehearsed but braved cold weather at the outdoor Palm Sunday service. Easter Sunday we were able to celebrate inside and outside; outdoors we were able to sing and open the sanctuary doors to the hear the organ. As we slowly return to some normalcy I truly appreciate everyone's flexibility and willingness to worship in a different way.

Peace,
Becky Whelpley

Children, Youth & Families

5th & 6th Grade

Pre-Confirmation Class

In-person hybrid class
May 9 & 23 | 4:00 p.m.

7th & 8th Grade

Confirmation Class

In-person hybrid class
May 2 | 5:30 p.m.

8th Graders & Parents

Informational meeting regarding
9th grade confirmation

May 16 | 6:30 p.m.

Eagle's Nest Adventure

Save the date for Eagle's Nest
Adventure Center at Lutherdale!

We will participate in the
Challenge Course, High Ropes,
and Climbing Tower!

May 22 | 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.



First Communion

We celebrate with our students
who are receiving First
Communion on May 2.

Lucy Berthold
Addison Hintze
Alea Martin
Mikayla Martin
Evan Roth
Kate Schettler
Joseph Sidebottom
Vivian Yourell

Sunday School Options: Morning, Evening, Both

1 In person -- Sunday Morning Family Worship

Is it Sunday School? Is it a
worship service? It's BOTH!

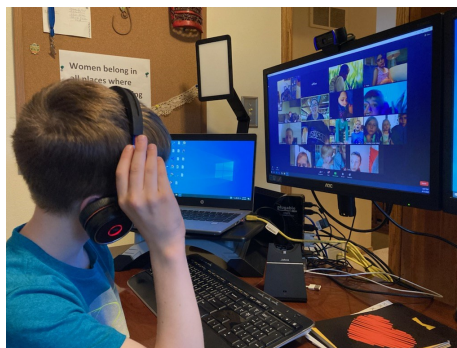
Join us Sunday Mornings at 10:15
in the sanctuary for Family
Worship. We will incorporate our
Large Group Sunday School
components into worship with the
band for a whole family worship
experience. Designed for kids,
teens, parents and grandparents. It
will be interactive and joyful!



2 Virtual Sunday Night Pajama Party Zoom

Sunday nights at 6:30

We will continue with our Sunday
Night Zooms during May. Sunday
nights will expand on the same
Bible stories that we explore
during Sunday morning worship.
Kids are welcome to attend both
programs or just one.



End of Year Celebration for All Ages!

May 23, 2021 | 11:30-12:30

Join us after the 10:15
worship on May 23 for an
outdoor celebration.
Details to follow!

Youth in Service



Packing Hope
Center lunches.

Cleaning the
St. John's yard.



Contact Joanna with Toddler to 8th Grade Questions

Joanna is available by email at
josalinass2014@gmail.com or by
call or text at 262-278-8021.

Joanna sends out weekly
Children, Youth and
Family emails. If you
are not receiving
those emails and
would like to, let
Joanna know!



Children, Youth & Families



Meet in-person and via Zoom
every Sunday evening

5:30-6:30 p.m.

May 2 - Gaga Ball Tournament
May 9 - no meeting
May 16 - Paint Night
May 23 - End of year celebration
bonfire!

For all high school age youth.
Invite your friends!
*Contact Stephanie for the link
to attend virtually.*

9th Grade Confirmation Class

May 2 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.



9th Grade Confirmation

Sunday, May 16 | 10:15 a.m.

Affirming their baptism will be:

Sophia Ayer
Skye Bertrand-Zweig
Aaron Hintze
Ryan Logan



This summer the high school youth and college aged young adults will have the opportunity to gather twice a month as a large group! We will be gathering once a month to complete a service project and once a month to grow in our relationships with one another and strengthen our faith.

June

High School Mission Trip: 6/28-7/1

Family Night: Friday, June 18

July

Service Project: Sunday, July 18
Car wash during worship services

Family Night: Friday, July 9

August

Service Project: week of August 8
Local service project

Family Night: Friday, August 20



Gathering Volunteer Corps Applications Open

May 22 – June 22

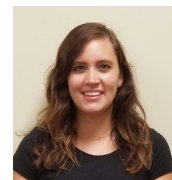
The Gathering Volunteer Corps serves in multiple capacities throughout the Gathering. Duties might include ushering and assisting during mass gatherings, helping with Interactive Learning activities, directing foot traffic in the convention center, staffing the info booth or moving equipment in a Gathering facility. GVCs serve wherever Gathering planning teams have identified the need for additional help!

Eligibility: GVCs **must be 19 years old or have been out of high school for one year by the time of the Gathering** and be able to commit to being in Minneapolis for one week, likely Friday, July 22, to Thursday, July 28, 2022. The Gathering will provide GVC volunteers per diem or catered meals while onsite in Minneapolis, shared lodging, and mileage reimbursement or airfare travel to and from the Gathering.

<https://www.elca.org/YouthGathering/Attend/Volunteer>

**Questions about high school
and young adult ministry at
St. John's?**

Contact Stephanie!



youthministry@makedisciples.com

Troop 16

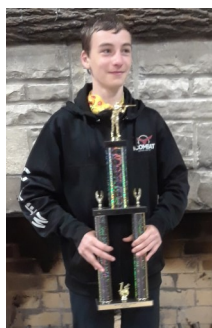
After a year of scrambling for meeting locations, St. John's has finally invited us back in the Fellowship Hall for meetings starting in May!

Last spring we stayed in contact by only email having "online meetings" with activities given by Mr. Hoepfner! Since then we've had meetings at the scout office, ICombat, Town Hall, St. John's Fire Bowl, and Marx Park. We have done off site activities such as, swimming, archery, arcade, hikes, duckpin bowling, regular bowling, tours, roller skating and mini golf! We will be more than happy and grateful to get into a normal routine again.



Eight scouts attended the Opening Day Troop Shoot at Camp Long Lake with 500 other scouts! Some of our scouts shot rifle, shotgun, and archery, two scouts

earned Welding & First Aid Merit Badges, another scout took on Tenderfoot Skills. Zac Watson won a trophy for shooting the best in his age group!



Zac organized our participation at the Camporee for an eagle requirement.

The camp provided and served the food. We ate outside. Burr! It was more than cold at night - down to 32 degrees with frost on the tents and pillows in the morning!

We've had many exciting meeting activities recently; quarry tour at Payne & Dolan, bandaging at the Town Hall, nature hike at Marx Park Popular Creek, bowling at Sunset Bowl.

earned Welding & First Aid Merit Badges, another scout took on Tenderfoot Skills. Zac Watson won a trophy for shooting the best in his age group!

by Troop Historian, Dominic Eggert

We've also done a lot of service projects! The Troop collected 440 items for the food Pantry and Scouting for Food Program! Scouts set up and tore down tables and chairs for the Elks Lodge Bingo, and participated in the Pack 30 Webelos crossover to Boy Scouts!

The Troop Scribe position is held by Matt Watson. He takes weekly attendance, assigns participation points, and distributes monthly awards!

Monthly Rank Advancement
Jacob Nienhaus - Star

March Participation Honors

- 1 Nolan Nelson
- 2 Matt Watson, Zac Watson
- 3 Will McCoy, Owen Chartier



May Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Gavin Campeau | 11 Terry Hoepfner | 17 Sam Turner | 23 Tommy Werner |
| 1 Sonja McCormick | 11 John Holmberg | 18 Dolores Hartman | 24 Jan Gregoire |
| 2 Tyler Remmers | 11 Andrea Reinfeldt | 19 Kris Wasserman | 25 Gary Schettler |
| 3 Judi Berglund | 11 Mary Sabin | 20 Ginny Jung | 27 John Almasi |
| 3 Michelle Sternkopf | 12 Brent Keierleber | 20 Roy Osmon | 27 Brian Halverson |
| 3 Justin Stollberg | 12 Brianna Luebster | 20 Ardythe Seeber | 27 Kristy Olson |
| 5 Teri Kramer | 13 Diane Nelson | 21 Pat Janz | 27 Julie Webb |
| 5 Pat Nolan | 13 Gavin Stefanski | 21 Max Kapellusch | 28 Anna Petersen |
| 8 Bob Davis | 14 Greg Reinfeldt | 21 Gerry Milz | 28 Ethan Runkle |
| 8 Helen Linsemeyer | 15 Jarod Everts | 21 Carol Smith | 29 Ezra Pfeffer |
| 9 Stephanie Athorp | 15 Ariel Klink | 22 Sara Everts | 30 David Balzer |
| 9 Dennis Mueller | 15 Andrea Rebisch | 23 Stephanie Kaiser | 30 Joseph Balzer |
| 11 Edith Belli | 16 Donna Yourell | 23 Eloise Lange | 30 Ed Henschel |
| 11 Karen Gumm | 17 Arlene Katka | 23 Joshua Seamonson | 31 Virginia Degenhardt |



Outreach

Garden Ministry



St. Johns, St. John's on Davidson Road
How does your garden grow?
Tomatoes and beans and lots of peppers,
Nothing grows without helpers.



St. John's began a garden ministry seven years ago. Under the direction of Jerry Hanson, the gardens have flourished. Last year over 400 pounds of produce were harvested!

However, Jerry is being called to new ministries. He is willing to train a new leader or co-chair the team, but will not be coordinating or leading this ministry. Without a new leader or co-leader, this ministry will likely not continue.

Do you like to garden? This might be the ministry for you! There is a great team of volunteers to help plant, water, weed, and harvest; they just need an organized leader!

Planting season is fast approaching. If you might be interested in leading this important ministry, please contact Jerry for details.

jerryhansonrhp@gmail.com

Luther Manor Thank You

Lutheran Manor was our March Outreach Offering Focus. Your generosity was recognized with a thank you letter. Following is an excerpt from that letter.

"Thank you on behalf of our residents for the amazing 400+ Easter and Spring Gift Bags which included spring door decorations, candy, lotion, Packer hats, word search books, quilted prayer squares, slippers and so much more! Your generosity and thoughtfulness uplifted the spirits of our residents and staff as this especially made Easter a little brighter for them."

Our mission is to share God's love by enriching the lives of older adults. Through your kindness and generosity, you help make that possible."

The Gift of Sight

Due to the pandemic, our collection of used eyeglasses has been temporarily suspended.



Some of the generous donations.

Goal Set for 500-550 Newborn Kits for 2021

Newborn Kits is St. John's Outreach Ministry for May.

Each Newborn Kit consists of two cloth diapers, two diaper pins, a bath towel, a bath washcloth, a bath bar of Ivory soap, a receiving blanket, a baby hat, and a baby shirt/onesie. The kits are given to new moms when they deliver their babies at a hospital. This incentive has been very successful at getting expectant moms to a hospital, so their babies can be delivered in sanitary conditions with medical personnel. The new moms are given the kits when they leave. This gives the mom and newborn some much needed supplies to start their new life.

The kits will be assembled in early August and shipped to developing countries.

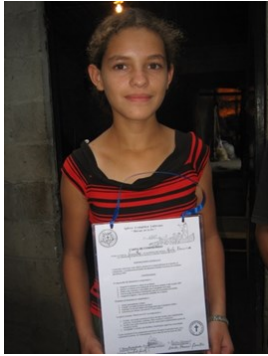
Thanks to all of the ongoing donations we are well on our way to this year's goal! Our current needs are:

- Bars of Ivory Soap (3.17 – 4 oz bath size bars)
- Onesies (Preemie, Newborn, or 0 -3 month sizes only)
- Monetary Donations for:
 - Diapers
 - Transportation cost to deliver kits to Minnesota
 - Donation to Global Health Ministries toward shipping costs to distribute the kits
- Washcloths

If you have questions, want to help, or would like to receive email updates, please contact Mickey Fank at 262-548-9542 or mickeyfank@gmail.com.

Who's Who in Our Salvadoran Sister Church: Get to Know Karla Vanessa

Karla Vanessa joined the Education for Life scholarship program as a 7th grader, back in 2007. Over the



next few years, she was sponsored by the Warp, Chiang and Wuttke families from St. John's. Karla had dreams of

being an accountant or working in a business, and studied accounting in high school. Before she completed high school, Karla became pregnant. Dolores Wuttke and Karla shared letters back and forth, with Dolores never failing in her encouragement for Karla to complete her studies. Karla's fiancé moved into the home Karla shares with her mom, seven of her siblings, a sister-in-law and some cousins. Karla's little family grew, and now includes her fiancé, and their children Hassell and Byron.

Karla has always been a strong youth leader in the church, teaching Sunday School and serving on the church council. She knew she loved teaching children, but never thought of it as a career until Los Héroes started the Family Circle (preschool). One of Karla's own



middle school teachers became her mentor. With her mentor's help and encouragement, as well as a little extra support from the Education for Life program, Karla went to night and weekend classes. She received her high school diploma as well as accreditations for early childhood education. She served as the assistant preschool teacher for four years, taking on more responsibility each year, and then became the lead teacher in 2020.



During the pandemic, Karla ran the preschool by phone, porch drop and in the street. She taught herself how to use online applications to create lessons and send them to parents. She organized the moms, who put tables outside of their doors so that all the little ones could work at the tables and hear Karla's voice. The moms took turns running gym class in the street.

Karla currently serves on church council and runs the Family Circle preschool (which will open for in-person teaching in June). She does all of the digitization for the Education for Life program (using the computer which St. John's was able to give the church). She also has set up hours at the church



when families can come to print the student guides (needed to do school at home) using the church computer and printer. Families bring their own paper and pay a very small fee to cover ink. This is a HUGE help to families that cannot afford to go to a print shop and print the materials they need for school each week. This is one example of Karla's gift for solving problems with practical and community effort.

What's Your Story?

Are you involved in an outreach ministry?

Are you connected with one of our partner churches?

We would love to share your story. How are you involved? Why are you involved? How did you become involved? Why do you continue?

Contact Cindy Halverson, chair of the Partnership and Outreach Team, with questions. Please share your story - or don't be surprised when we ask to hear it!

Council Communications

Fellow Disciples,

I pray this news finds you healthy and well. Following are highlights from the April 12 and 26 Council meeting.

President Report

- The Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 6 at 10:30. This meeting will be held outdoors (weather permitting) and will be available via Zoom for those who prefer that option.
- Indoor worship continues with the traditional service at 8:30 and an interactive family service at 10:15.

Visioning Report

- Council held a joint Visioning Meeting on April 26 with the Preschool Board, to discuss the short and long term goals of the Preschool.
- As one of our cornerstone ministries, we examined the current needs of our families and surrounding community.
- We proposed to continue the wonderful work of the Preschool at the current levels and begin to explore possible options to expand the ministry to match the changing needs of the community.

Financial Report

- Our financials continue to remain strong and remain above budget. Thank you for your faithful giving.
- With more than 45 days cash on hand, Council approved the Finance Team's recommendation

to transfer \$8,630 to the Capitol Improvement Fund.

Transition Team

- The Transition Team continues to monitor health data and review the latest CDC guidelines.
- Our first goal was to safely begin in-person worship and allow small groups to return.
- The Transition Team is meeting in May to determine when we can safely introduce other traditions such singing, coming to the altar for communion, sharing the peace, etc.
- Thank you for your support and prayers throughout this time.

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

Praying for peace and good health to all,

Brian Zach, President

St. John's 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
Tim Tollander	414-429-3609
Maddie Beug-Hoffman	262-439-9732
Linnea Logan	262-358-0501
Barb Lange	262-542-4010

Come and Get It

The Retired Men's Group will have its first breakfast session on Wednesday, May 5, at 8:30 a.m. We will be meeting in a new place, since our former restaurant was another victim of the COVID pandemic. The new place is called the Honey Berry Pancake Restaurant which has recently opened in the former Chili's at 17915 W. Bluemound Road in Brookfield. So it is close to where we were before.

Mark your calendar for the date and let either Roy Osmon (rosmon@wi.rr.com) or Jerry Hanson (jerryhansonrhp@gmail.com) know that you will be attending. See you there!



Facility Use

To request space for your small group or ministry to meet in the church building, please complete the Facility Use Form on the website. It is under the Resources tab - [Documents and Forms](#). Contact [Dan Thompson](#), Building Supervisor, with questions.

Remember... masks and distancing are required in the building, even during meetings.

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.

Praying for Our Church Family

We pray for those who are battling illness:

Mary S	Barb K	Dorothy E	Floyd K
John G	Ken B	Steve W	Tim M
Hope H	Connie P	Sharlene W	Kim S
Dennis W	Katie A	John S	Jim T
Gregg and Joy M's Grandson Cole		Sharon Mahoney's Friend Betty	
Brittany L's Family Member		Bonnie S's sister Jeanne and BIL	

To help us to stay connected, we will be sharing the list with you monthly. Prayers may be for thanksgiving, hope and/or healing. The requests may be immediate, short or long term.

Prayer requests may be submitted at the bottom of the website www.makedisciples.com.



*Without ceasing
I remember you
always in my
prayers.*

Romans 1:9

Contact Us

Office Hours

The St. John's phone is answered 9:00-Noon, Monday to Thursday.

Church

phone/fax: 262-786-6887

email: to email a staff member, please click on the link by their photo on the website under Staff

Preschool

phone: 262-786-4298

stjohnspreschoolbrookfield@gmail.com

Changing Emails

St. John's is in the process of updating technology and how we are able to do ministry. One result of this technology update is a change in our email addresses.

The staff emails will be switching one at a time. If you are unsure of the current email for a staff member, please use the links provided on the website by the staff pictures.

The first two email changes are:

Becky Whelpley
bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Dan Thompson
dthompson@stjohnsbrookfield.org

You will notice the domain name change from @makedisciples.com to stjohnsbrookfield.org. Also, the email address uses names not titles.

As each email address is updated, a notice will be put in the weekly Happenings email.



Calendar of events for May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 30 Online worship 9:00a outdoor worship	May 31 office closed 11:30a Hope Center meal Memorial Day					1 8:30a virtual men's group 9:30a New Member Gathering
2 First Communion Online worship 8:30a traditional worship 10:15a family worship 4:30p 9th gr conf 5:30p 7/8 hybrid class 5:30p HS youth group 6:30p virtual SS PJ Party	3 9:00a virtual Bible study 11:30a Hope Center meal	4 8:30a virtual property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal	5 8:00a Retired Men's bfast 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir	6 3:00p Finance Team mtg 6:00p Faith Alive	7 6:15a virtual men's group	8 8:30a virtual men's group
9 Online worship 8:30a traditional worship 10:15a family worship 4:00p 5/6 hybrid class 6:30p virtual SS PJ Party	10 11:30a Hope Center meal 1:00p virtual women's Bible study 6:30p virtual council mtg 6:30p virtual adult ed	11 8:30a virtual property 9:00a woman's Bible study 10:00a staff mtg 1:00p Tuesday Book Club 4:00p stewardship mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal	12 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir	13	14 6:15a virtual men's group 10:00a prayer shawl group	15 8:30a virtual men's group
16 Confirmation Online worship 8:30a traditional worship 10:15a family worship with Confirmation 6:30p 8th grader/Parent mtg re: confirmation 5:30p HS youth group 6:30p virtual SS PJ Party	17 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p virtual adult ed	18 8:30a virtual property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal	19 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir	20 6:00p Faith Alive	21 6:15a virtual men's group 9:00a virtual Friday Book Club 7:00p virtual Women of Faith book club 7:00p Eagle Scout ceremony	22 8:30a virtual men's group 7:00a MS youth at Lutherdale 6:00p Eagle Scout ceremony
23 Online worship 8:30a traditional worship 10:15a family worship 4:00p 5/6 hybrid class 5:30p HS youth group 6:30p virtual SS PJ Party	24 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p virtual council mtg	25 8:30a virtual property team 9:00a woman's Bible study 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal	26 6:00p TOPS	27	28 6:15a virtual men's group	29 8:30a virtual men's group

Preschoolers Playing Outdoors Are Learning

Research tells us children's exposure to nature promotes attention and relieves stress, boosts self-discipline and motivation. It's physical fitness and increases a child's autonomy. Children use their imaginations to create their own games and are developing social skills, interaction with other people and problem solving.



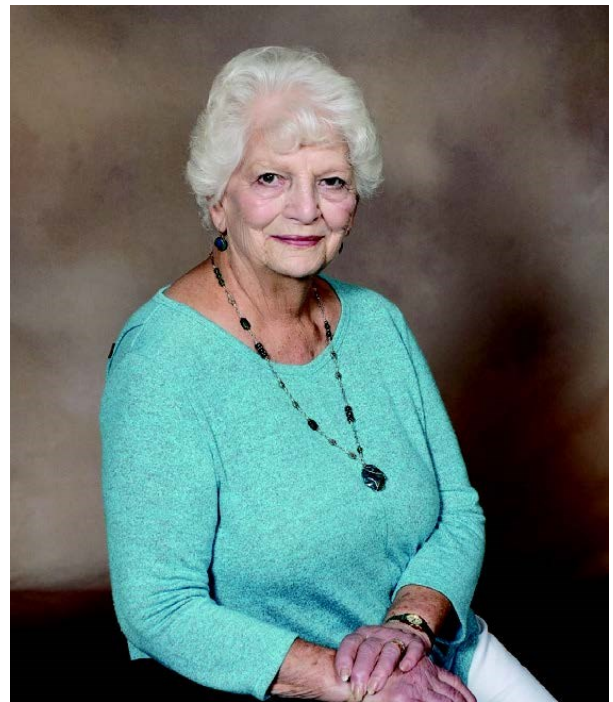
"Kids just aren't outside enough doing it on their own — we need to teach it."

Temple Grandin

Featured Charter Member: Jean Borkenhagen

Jean was hanging clothes outside at her family home on the corner of Main and Davidson when Pastor Ralph Baumbach walked up to her and struck up a conversation. He explained that he was the pastor of a new church at the corner of Davidson and Barker (which were country roads). Jean and "Bud's" family was attending another Lutheran church in Waukesha at the time; however, they decided to "give it a try" a couple months later. It must have worked out because Jean has been at St. John's for nearly 60 years!

The Borkenhagens came to worship at St. John's with their four children under seven. Their family joined the many young families in Sunday School and confirmation. Bud worked in the printing business and taught Sunday School. Jean was involved with her children's activities and women's ministries. The family grew with three more children, including twins, so Jean and Bud were very busy parents!! They had three baptisms and seven confirmations at St. John's.



Jean's family now includes nineteen grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. They are living in Wisconsin and Illinois. Bud dealt with four heart surgeries and died in 2002. May God continue to bless Jean and her wonderful family!