

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

John 3:16

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

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Facebook: [@MakeDisciplesSJL](https://www.facebook.com/MakeDisciplesSJL)
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Pastor Ponders

by Pastor Brian Halverson

Well, here we are again – right in the middle of winter. The spring, with its warm air and longer days, seems a far way off. At least there is Valentine's Day!

We are moving along, moving forward as God calls us to do. Even in winter there can be exciting and new things in store for us. As the apostle Paul wrote in his many letter, the love of Christ and our commitment to God's mission in the world opens up new possibilities and new creations. Life which can feel dormant at times finds energy and purpose once again.

Our faith in God brings resolve and resiliency through dark days and joy and hope in the brighter ones. The Scriptures are full of stories of ordinary people doing extraordinary things with the strength of God at their side. We are no different.

In our own way and in many small ways we do extraordinary things to help others through crises, just by the care and compassion we offer to those who are suffering. And we celebrate together, in our humble ways, to give thanks to God for the grace which sustains all of us.

Yes, here we are together in the middle of winter, living one day at a time, in the assurance that God has something in store for us and that by the Holy Spirit we will have the will, fortitude, and faith that God will accomplish all things in his Son's name – Jesus Christ!

God's blessings to you in this time!

Pastor Brian

What's New?

The Agape Ringers Concert

Join us in the St. John's sanctuary on February 20, at 4:00 p.m. for a concert by The Agape Ringers, Chicago's premier handbell ensemble. You can learn more about the ensemble at their website (www.AgapeRingers.org) and on Facebook and YouTube by searching for "The Agape Ringers." The program encompasses a wide variety of musical styles.

Silent Auction

The St. John's Youth Group is hosting a Silent Auction to support their summer trip. The Silent Auction will be open February 13 through 4:00 on February 20.



Annual Meeting



Highlights from the January 30, annual meeting include:

- Announcement of the appointment of Carrie Peters as Council Treasurer
- Passing of the 2022 budget
- Election of Nominating Committee
- Election of Call Committee to call an associate pastor
- Successful integration of in-person and Zoom attendance.

The annual report is available on our website under Resources – Documents and Forms.

Worship and Music

THE AGAPE RINGERS LIVE CONCERT

LIVE Concert - In Person and Virtual



Sunday, February 20

at St. John's Lutheran Church
20275 Davidson Rd, Brookfield

3:00 church doors open for silent auction

3:30 sanctuary doors open for concert seating

4:00 concert begins, light reception to follow

Freewill donations are being accepted to support The Agape Ringers. Donations may be made by cash or check prior to the concert if you are unable to attend in person.

Go to the Events section of www.makedisciples.com for more information or to register for the virtual link.

Register for The Agape Ringers Concert

If you wish to enjoy the concert virtually, please register to receive the private link. The registration form is available on our website (makedisciples.com) under The Agape Ringers Concert event or by scanning this QR code.



Contact Heidi with
concert questions.
414-305-7812

Questions about
music at
St. John's?



Contact Becky!

bwhelp@stjohnsbrookfield.org

"Love Is The Way" Lenten 2022 Study

"You are invited to walk the path of love with one of the warmest most beloved spiritual leader of our time and learn how to put faith into action" (from Love is the Way book cover, 2020).

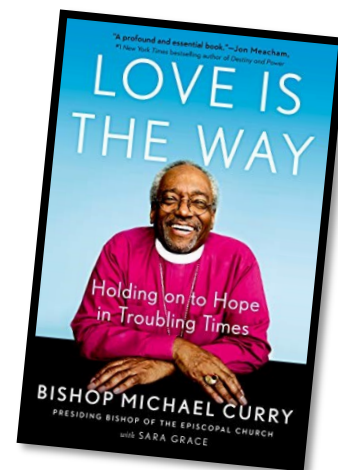
Read LOVE IS THE WAY: HOLDING ON TO HOPE IN TROUBLING TIMES by Bishop Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.

Sign up for a Zoom group facilitated by Rev. Carol Wasemiller:

- Sundays, 4pm-5pm,
March 6, 13, 20, 27, & April 3, 10
or
- Wednesdays, 6:30pm - 7:30pm,
March 9, 16, 23, 30, & April 6, 13
- Sign-up Genius at makedisciples.com website.

Other groups are welcome to use the resources.

Stop by the display in the narthex for more information and browse sample copies. You may buy the book through your favorite source.



Questions?
Contact Carol Wasemiller at
clinnea@yahoo.com
or 847-651-4694

Children, Youth & Families

We Are So Excited... **Wildlife In Need Center** is coming to Preschool for Family Night!

SAVE the DATE!  SAVE the DATE!

Tuesday, March 8 from 6:00-7:30pm (doors open at 5:45pm)


St. John's Preschool
WHERE WE PLAY, DISCOVER, LEARN AND GROW.
20275 Davidson Road Brookfield, WI 53045 Irickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org - 262-786-4298

Questions About Preschool?

Contact Laura:
262-786-4298 or
Irickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org



St. John's Preschool
WHERE WE PLAY, DISCOVER, LEARN AND GROW.




St. John's Preschool
WHERE WE PLAY, DISCOVER, LEARN AND GROW.
Now Enrolling for 2022-2023

Two Year Old Class
My introduction to Preschool

Three Year Old Class
I'm learning and exploring in Preschool

Four Year Old Class
I'm getting ready for 4K and 5K

Email Us at: Irickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org
Call Us at: 262-786-4298

Adult Education

The Adult Education committee has been meeting to find ways for our congregation to continue our education in the Word of God. Especially in this time of COVID, we want to provide opportunities for all of us to strengthen our faith and increase our knowledge.

In the past few months, we have provided the following opportunities:

Drop-in Lectionary discussions on Sunday mornings.

St. John's Academy with three lectures by Pastor Kris Ruffatto,

- 12/5/21 The Psalms as a Guide to the Spiritual Life
- 12/12/21 Prophecy and the Future
- 01/23/22 The Biblical Witness for Changing Laws for Changing Times

The lectures were well attended, however there was not as much interest in the drop in discussions which have been discontinued.

In the coming months we will be focusing on more group offerings in a variety of formats.

February

- The Small Ministries group will continue working on identifying resources for all of our small groups to access
- A presentation by Bruce Campbell focused on his book A Fullness of Uncertain Significance (February 27 at a time to be determined.)

March/Lent

- Rev. Carol Wasemiller will lead a group study on the book Love is the Way by Bishop Michael Curry and Sara Grace
- See page 3 for details.

Please keep a look out for further communications on these and other opportunities.

If you have ideas regarding future Adult Ed offerings, please contact one of the committee members:

Kathy Davis (kwDavis@wi.rr.com)
Chris Klink (klinklink@sbcglobal.com)
Patrice Krimpelbein (pkrimpelbein@gmail.com)
Teri Quam (ssstquam@aol.com)
Mark Sabin (sabinmark@aol.com)
Mary Sabin (sabinmary@aol.com)

Children, Youth & Families

Children, Youth, and Family Masking Statement

For Children, Youth and Family programming, including indoor Sunday School, Youth Group, Confirmation, and 10:30 Family Worship, **we value being able to connect in-person.** For now, we **strongly recommend and encourage** all to be masked during programming; young children masked as able.



Sunday School

Join us Sundays at:

9:30 a.m. for in person Sunday School or at

6:30 p.m. for our virtual Pajama Party School School Zoom!

Questions? Contact Joanna at jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org.



Encouragement To Sign Up To Assist At The 10:30 Family Worship

Middle and High School Students are welcome to serve as readers, prayer leaders, A/V assistants, and Communion Assistants at the 10:30 Family Worship. (Adults can do these, too!)

- Readers: Read the Bible Lessons for the week. You will get the reading in advance to practice.
- Prayer Leader: Lead the congregation in the Prayer of the day or the Prayer Petitions during worship. These will be provided in advance to practice.
- A/V Assistant: Operate the PowerPoint slides during worship. Learn the camera system.
- Communion Assistants: Serve communion with the Pastor.

Training is available and provided for all of these.

[Sign Up Here](#)



SIGN UP

Sunday Evening Education at St. John's

We are excited to offer IN PERSON programming for our Middle Schoolers on Sunday evenings.

5th & 6th grade Calendar

- Feb 6 Connect Class, 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- Feb 20 Connect Class, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

7th & 8th grade Calendar

- Feb 13 snow tubing, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
- Feb 27 Confirmation Class, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Family Worship

Join us Sunday Mornings at 10:30 for Family Worship. We've incorporated interactive components into worship with the band for a whole family worship experience. Designed for kids, teens, parents, and grandparents.

Contact Joanna with Toddler to 8th Grade Questions

Joanna is available by email at jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org 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

Youth Group Calendar

Date	Event	Time
2/6	Youth Group	4:30-6:00pm
2/13	Tubing	2:00-4:00pm
2/17	9th Graders/ Mentors	6:30-7:30pm
2/20	Fundraiser	2:30-4:30pm
2/27	Youth Group	4:30-6:00pm

"Youth Group" is the term used at St. John's to refer to all program activities for high schoolers.

High School Youth Group begins each week with a small optional meal from 4:30-5:00 p.m. with programming from 5:00-6:00 p.m. If your family/youth are not comfortable joining us for the meal, they may come at 5:00 for programming.

Youth Silent Auction Begins February 13

Silent Auction baskets will be available to begin bidding on in the Fellowship Hall. These baskets are filled with items that have been donated by members of the congregation to help support our high school youth. Bidding on the baskets will end on February 20 at 4:00 p.m. when the Agape Ringers concert begins. Purchased baskets will be available to pick up at the end of the concert.

Silent Auction Items Needed



Before The Agape Ringers concert the Youth will be having a silent auction. We are asking the congregation to donate items to be auctioned off. If you would be interested in donating something, please get it to Stephanie Broussard by February 6 so that the students are able to put the baskets together. Donations could be themed baskets (i.e. Packers, puzzles, beach, or warm and comfy) or services (i.e. yard clean up, will preparation, or vehicle detailing).

Appetizers and Desserts

Besides the baskets, we are asking families to consider donating an appetizer or dessert item that will be available for people to snack on as they walk around and look at the baskets available for bidding. The idea is to have tapas style, small plate, treats available with a free will offering basket next to the treats.

Contact Stephanie with questions about high school and young adult ministry at St. John's

sbroussard@stjohnsbrookfield.org



Youth Room Update

If you have gone into the Youth Room recently you may have noticed that we have new furniture! A huge thank you to the congregation and your incredible contributions for the children, youth and family team!



Tubing at The Rock

On February 20 we will be tubing at The Rock in Franklin from 2-4pm. Tubing will cost \$10 and you must sign up here: [Tubing Sign Up](#) so that we have enough tickets purchased. Tickets are not always available at arrival so to ensure that you have a ticket to tube, please sign up!

Outreach

Meals on Wheels

Do you want to make a difference?

The ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) of Waukesha County is in need of drivers for its Meals on Wheels program.

Meals are delivered to homebound individuals who may be unable to prepare meals for themselves, or who may need a helping hand with their meals. Receiving this meal assures proper nutrition, as well as the independence to remain in their own homes. Drivers are needed between 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on weekdays. Schedules are flexible and mileage reimbursement is available.

For more information, an ARDC brochure is available on the Info Desk. If you are interested, you can complete the form at the back of the brochure, or you can call the Center at 262-548-7848.

Please consider this caring program. You will be touching the hearts of these wonderful people, and making a difference!



See page 12
for information on our Afghan
Refugee Resettlement ministry.

February Outreach Focus: Women's Center

Their mission is to provide safety, shelter and support to empower all impacted by domestic abuse, sexual violence, child abuse and trafficking. Programs include: 24-Hour Hotline, Emergency Shelter & Transitional Living, One-on-One Support & Advocacy, Support Groups, Employment & Life Skills, Rape Crisis Response, and Community Education and Violence Prevention.

Donations items needed at this time:

- * disinfectant wipes
- * latex gloves
- * laundry detergent
- * face masks
- * paper products (i.e. facial tissue, paper towels, toilet paper)

Donations should be placed in the shopping cart located in the narthex.



Food Transport Team Ministry

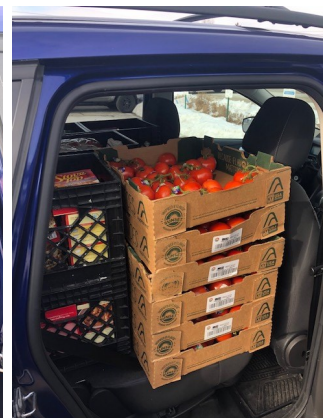
In December 2020, the Waukesha Food Pantry had a large excess of food and did not need our Christmas Food Drive donations. Thus was born a new ministry - the Food Transport Team.

What does the team do?

- Volunteers pick up excess food from Waukesha Food Pantry, driving it to All Peoples Church.
- All Peoples Church uses the food for its own food pantry and the St. Vincent DePaul meal program.
- Much of excess food from Waukesha is "institutional quantity" food, such as large cans, crates of frozen chicken, etc..

How can I help?

- The team currently has four volunteer drivers and needs one or two more drivers for a once a month effort.
- Contact [Brian Cranfill](#) for more information.



Troop 16

Three members of Troop 16 attended Winter Blast, a day long Cub Scout Activity at Johnson Creek High School. The scouts taught Wolf Cub Scouts about how to use a map and compass. Throughout the day, the scouts taught seven sessions with a few breaks in between. Over 200 cub scouts attended the event.



The annual Christmas party was held at St. John's this year and carols were held inside because of covid. Games included musical chairs, Pictionary and an annual gift exchange. Afterwards great refreshments were prepared by the Balzers.

by Troop Historian, Nolan Nelson

A Christmas Break meeting at the G arcade Arcade was held in Menominee Falls. Scouts played retro arcade games all afternoon. Afterwards Lunch was held at either DQ or Asia buffet.

At regular meetings this month, the scouts learned about ankle, collarbone and head bandages. Dan Warchol introduced the merit badge program to the scouts as well.

December participation honors

1. Nolan Nelson
2. Will McCoy and John McMahon
3. Jacob Balzer

And
brunch
to go!

Winter

FARMERS MARKET

All are
welcome

Sunday, February 6th

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

St. John's Lutheran Church

20275 Davidson Rd, Brookfield, WI

February Birthdays

1 Mary Beth Gubbins	10 Robert Poth	17 Ruth Dillon	
1 Stephanie Slater	10 Brian Reed	17 Nicolas Luebstorff	
2 Karen Aamot	11 Marion Holmberg	17 Declan Pirlot	
2 Kenn Anderson	11 Steve Johnson	17 Jenny Rouse	
3 Ryan Logan	11 Jennifer Templin	18 Patrice Krimpelbein	23 Ron Riesen
5 Ariella Beyerlein	12 Gary Hintz	18 Nick Vetta	23 Steven Schellin
6 Lia Holmberg	13 Jessica Everts	18 Lisa Weiss-Cornelius	24 Jenna Gumm
6 Shirley Kerschke	14 Jan Schemberger	19 Pamela Moore	25 Dave Peterson
7 Ron Novak	15 Ken Paulsen	20 Tierney Athorp	25 Pam Truax
7 Karen Pingel	15 LoRayne Schmidt	20 Karissa Klink	25 Dolores Wuttke
8 Debbie Allard	16 Mandi Barz	20 Skip Webb	26 Darlene Bahr
8 Katie Pavlichek	16 Gary Ertel	20 Beckham Zahn	26 Max Bohne
8 Dave Sidebottom	16 Callum Reinfeldt	21 Todd Vogelsang	26 Josh Brooks
9 Jim Holmberg	16 Mary Tollander	21 Grayson Yourell	26 Adrian Williams
9 Bill Schmidt	17 Mallory Adams	22 Sam Salinas	28 Jackson Schilling



Council Communications

Fellow Disciples,

I pray this news finds you healthy and well. Following are highlights from the January 6 Council meeting.

President Report

- The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 30. This will be an in-person meeting with the option to attend via ZOOM for those prefer that method.

Financial Report

- December's financials remain strong by your faithful giving. It is your generosity which allows St. John's to invest in and carry out the remaining ministry goals sets for 2021. Thank you!
- Council approved the Finance Team's recommendation to transfer \$7,797.11 to the capital improvement fund (CIF).
- Council approved a preliminary 2022 budget for the listening sessions scheduled for January 16 & 17.

Transition team

- The Transition Team met on January 11 to discuss the the ongoing changes with COVID, CDC guidelines, and the recent variants developments.

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

Keith Paukner 414-916-2618

Secretary

Christine Hintze 262-993-4637

Treasurer

Carrie Peters 262-853-5888

At Large

Jim Morgan 262-893-7385

Tim Tollander 414-429-3609

Maddie Beug-Hoffman 262-439-9732

Linnea Logan 262-358-0501

Kris Wasserman 262-424-3383



Lent and Holy Week Worship

Ash Wednesday
March 2, 12:00 and 6:30 p.m.

Lent Wednesdays
March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6
12:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday
April 14, 12:00 and 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday
April 15, 12:00 and 6:30 p.m.

Creation Corner

Limit Outdoor Salt

This month, limit your use of Outdoor Salt.

In Wisconsin, road salt is synonymous with winter. But did you know? Road salts are toxic to children, pets, birds and wildlife. Salt can damage vegetation and destroy the organisms in soil. And, just one teaspoon of salt can permanently pollute 5 gallons of water!

Limit your use of road salt around your home and business. Try a natural alternative, such as sand. Identify the critical areas where ice builds up and then shovel often and early.



New Treasurer Appointed by Council

The Church Council appointed Carrie Peters to serve as Church Treasurer. Her term will end in June 2023.

Carrie, her husband Phil, and their three boys are newer members of St. John's. Please congratulate and thank Carrie for serving when you see her.



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 or are healing:

Barb K	Dorothy E	Floyd K	Cindy H
John G	Steve W	Tim M	Kathy K
Hope H	Connie P	Sharlene W	Kim S
Dennis W	John S	Jim T	Vivian Y
Charlotte Y	Alice Y	Grayson Y	
Gregg and Joy M's Grandson Cole	Sharon Mahoney's Friend Betty		
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
Irickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Financial Emails

Treasurer:

SJT20275@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Bookkeeper:

SJA20275@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Online Giving

Offerings.
Donations.

Tithes.
Gifts.

Whatever you call giving in response to God's blessings to support our ministries, we thank you. God calls us to work together to spread the Good News. No matter where you live or how frequently you attend services, your generous gifts make that happen.

This past year we've seen church families band together to help each other and support our congregation with time, talent, and financial contributions. You are making a difference!

We offer convenient eGiving options that help you make donations on a one-time or recurring basis. Through our website or the Vanco Mobile app you are able to give from the sanctuary or from your couch!

Calendar of events for February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*worship service/event is live streamed		1 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:00p quilters 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p virtual HR meeting 7:00p Boy Scouts	2 8:00a Retired Men's bfast 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 5:30p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	3 6:00p Faith Alive 6:30p Al-Anon	4 6:15a virtual men's group	5 8:30a men's group
6 8:30a worship* 9:00a Winter Farms Mkt 9:30a education hour 10:30a worship 4:30p Connect Class (5/6) 4:30p youth group (HS) 6:30p Zoom Sunday School	7 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 1:00p women's Bible study 6:00p Al-Anon	8 8:30a property team 9:00a woman's Bible study 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal 7:00p Boy Scouts	9 9:30a Morning Circle 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 5:30p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	10 4:00p Finance Team 6:30p Al-Anon	11 6:15a virtual men's group 10:00a prayer shawl group	12 8:30a men's group
13 8:30a worship* 9:30a education hour 10:30a worship 2:00p MS and HS tubing	14 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:00p Al-Anon 6:30p council mtg	15 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 1:00p Tuesday Book Club 6:30p handbell rehearsal 7:00p Boy Scouts	16 12:00p Retired Men's lunch 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 5:30p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	17 6:00p Faith Alive 6:00p confirmand/mentor 6:30p Al-Anon	18 6:15a virtual men's group 9:00a Friday Book Club 7:00p Women of Faith Book Club	19 8:30a men's group
20 8:30a worship* 9:30a education hour 10:30a worship 4:00p The Agape Ringers Concert* 4:30p Connect Class (5/6) 6:30p Zoom Sunday School	21 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 1:00p women's Bible study 6:00p Al-Anon	22 8:30a property team 9:00a woman's Bible study 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal 7:00p Boy Scouts	23 5:30p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	24 6:30p Al-Anon	25 6:15a virtual men's group	26 8:30a men's group
27 8:30a worship* 9:30a education hour 10:30a worship 4:30p confirmation (7/8) 4:30p youth group (HS) 6:30p Zoom Sunday School	28 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:00p Al-Anon	1 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:00p quilters 6:30p handbell rehearsal 7:00p Boy Scouts	2 Ash Wednesday 8:00a Retired Men's bfast 12:00p worship 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 5:30p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p worship*	3 6:00p Faith Alive 6:30p Al-Anon	4 6:15a virtual men's group	5 8:30a men's group

Refugee Resettlement

We are close to being matched with a specific Afghan refugee family. Regardless of the match, there are basic needs: household item donations, temporary storage and housing.

DONATIONS: Donations of basic household items are being accepted. Small items may be left in the labeled blue bins in the Donation Location in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Jim for donations of larger items. The donation list is on our website [Sign Up Genius](#).

STORAGE: Small items will be stored at church, but a larger space is needed to store larger furniture donations as they are received. Do you have a larger space to offer for temporary furniture storage? If so, contact [Jim Holmberg](#).

HOUSING: The Refugee Resettlement Ministry Group is asking for assistance from members of the congregation who may be involved in property management, real estate or know someone who is who would be willing to help and advise us in this process. We are looking for housing in the Waukesha/Brookfield area or possibly southwest Milwaukee. Cindy Halverson and Stephanie Slater are currently in the search process and would be grateful for assistance in this area.

Cindy at chalvers57@gmail.com

Sonja at sjc@beyerlein.com

Jim at jimholmberg@msn.com

Stephanie at stephaniemslater@gmail.com

Transition Team Update

Fellow Disciples,

Since March 2021, we have been gathering in person for worship, education, and small groups. We have enjoyed hearing the amazing gifts of our musicians and resumed singing. It feels good to return to what we all identify, value, and appreciate as a church. Hopefully someday soon we can safely bring back the other parts of fellowship and gathering we deeply enjoy (i.e., sharing peace).

Sadly, COVID and the recent variants have affected our lives beyond what we could have ever foreseen. Currently the reported case numbers are reaching record numbers, which prompted a letter from the Wisconsin Council of Churches urging churches to return to virtual gatherings for the next 4-6 weeks.

Our goal is to continue to keep the doors of St. John's open for those ready and comfortable gathering in-person, knowing how important and valuable this is to our spiritual health. We recognize others may not be comfortable with gathering in-person and will continue to offer virtual options so that we can all stay connected to one another and the church. That said, keeping the doors open becomes easier when we have our amazing staff present to lead and support us in all the wonderful ministries at St. John's.

In response to the rising cases and the Wisconsin Council of Churches letter, **we are requesting you wear a mask while at St. John's through February 7**. Masking is a simple and easy way we can ensure that our staff and worship leaders are able to continue to offer worship, music, and education each week. The Transition Team will meet February 8 to reassess further recommendations.

Transition Team: thank you for your dedication and guidance, and gratitude to all of you, for your continued prayers and support.

Brian Zach – President & Transition Team Chair
brianzach@gmail.com, 608-279-3577