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

Follow Us

Website: www.makedisciples.com
Facebook: [@MakeDisciplesSJL](https://www.facebook.com/MakeDisciplesSJL)
Instagram: [stjohnsbrookfield](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsbrookfield)

Pastor Ponders

by Pastor Brian Halverson

In the calendar year, December ends the year and January begins the new; therefore, Christmas, of course, is at the end of the year as we jump into the new year on New Year's Day.

In the church year, however, Christmas is more toward the beginning of the year, right after Advent. We believe that the birth of Christ begins a new period in history and his birth signifies a new life for us. In the church year we do not begin with new resolutions, but we begin by understanding and accepting that we cannot overcome sin by ourselves – that which leads us down the path of self-centered behaviors that damage our relationships, our health, and our community.

To be renewed means that we must recognize and acknowledge our own powerlessness so that we can accept the all-embracing love and grace of God who creates all things new. With the power and guidance of God, come to us in the Christ child, we can live freely and to amend our ways and our relationships.

In the church year we begin with hope and the joy we share in the God who comes to us for our salvation. That is a New Year worth celebrating!

Pastor Brian

Altar Flowers

Flowers are indeed an enhancement to our worship space. Their significance is evident when we celebrate blessed occasions such as marriages and anniversaries and births. A flower's beauty and scent comforts us as we mourn and remember loved ones who have died. For centuries, flowers have held a significant role in the house of God.

Weekly floral arrangements offer much to our worship setting here at St. John's. These arrangements are provided by Flowers by Cammy in Waukesha.

You have the opportunity to sponsor a weekly arrangement as a tribute. It could be in honor someone, in memory of someone, or in celebration of an event. The current cost is \$38 per week.



If you wish to sponsor a weekly arrangement, click the button below. (You may access the sign up through the website at any time.) Dates in 2023 are available for selection on a rolling 90 day schedule. If you want to select a date in October - check the sign up in July!

SIGN UP

What's New?

Christmas Paraments

Did you notice the new paraments on the altar and lectern? These were gifted in memory of our Ralph Baumbach, founding pastor of St. John's, by his family. They are pictured on the front cover.

Giving Envelope Delay

Due to supply chain issues, the vendor who prints our giving envelopes was unable to print and deliver them before the end of the year. If you use envelopes for your tithes and offerings, please watch for delivery updates.

Giving Envelope Changes

More and more people are giving electronically. To be good stewards of our finances and of our environment, we are reducing the number of envelopes ordered. If your current giving number is between 200-250, you will be reassigned a new number for 2023. If you had giving envelopes in 2022 but have switched to giving electronically, please inform the office.

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 29, 2023
11:45 a.m.

Fellowship Hall



Budget Listening Sessions

Thursday, January 19 | 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 22 | 9:30 a.m.

Children, Youth & Families

St. John's Preschool Christmas Program

On December 15, decked out in their holiday finest, our Two, Three and Four year olds sang Christmas songs and told a Christmas Tree story, led by Barb Lange, our Music Teacher, for family and friends.

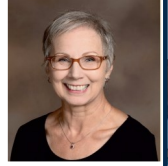
Everyone watched the "The Story of Christmas" video from our Sparks Story Bible. We laughed, wondered and rejoiced as we learned of God's love for the world with the gift of baby Jesus.

Then it was the grownup's time to sing lots of Christmas favorites in the Family Sing Along. There was a very fun Reindeer Pokey along with a lovely and gentle Silent Night to close the program.

We ended our evening with a cake and punch reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Questions About Preschool?

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



Enroll Now for Fall 2023-2024 Preschool!



2022-2023 PRICES

**ONE
TIME
ONLY**



FREE

- We are freezing next school year's tuition at current rates – No tuition increases.
- We are providing your child's healthy snack at no charge to you.

**The Preschool Board is Using Grant Funding
to Pass these Savings on to Our Families**

Children, Youth & Families

Sunday Morning Family Worship

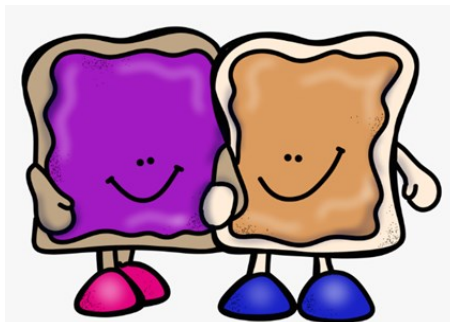
Join us Sunday mornings at 10:30 for Family Worship. We have incorporated interactive components into worship with the band for a whole family worship experience. Designed for kids, teens, parents, and grandparents.

Pageant Thank You

A huge thank you to John & Lizzie Roth for their help with our Instant Christmas Pageant!

Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive

Kids – Each week in January bring jars of Peanut Butter and Jelly to Sunday School for our next Stewardship Contest!



Volunteers needed:

1st-3rd grade Sunday School teacher

Do you have one hour a week to hang out with some AMAZING kids???

We are in need of a Sunday School teacher for our 1st-3rd grade class! Minimal prep required each week. (15 minutes or less). Must pass a background check.

Contact Joanna at jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org.

Contact Joanna with Toddler to 8th Grade Questions

Joanna is available by call or text at 262-278-8021 or by email at jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org.

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

Sunday School

Join us Sundays at 9:30am for Sunday School! In January we are diving into the Books of the Bible and launching our next Stewardship focus – a peanut butter and jelly drive!

Sunday School programming is for ages 2-5th grade. Students in 6th – 8th grade are invited to join the Youth Leadership Team which meets on Sundays in the Paul Room.

Questions? Contact Joanna at jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org.

Sunday Evening Education

Middle Schoolers! Can you believe we are halfway through the year?!? If you haven't connected with us yet this year, jump on in! We are excited to offer programming for our Middle Schoolers on Sunday evenings from 4:30-6:00pm.

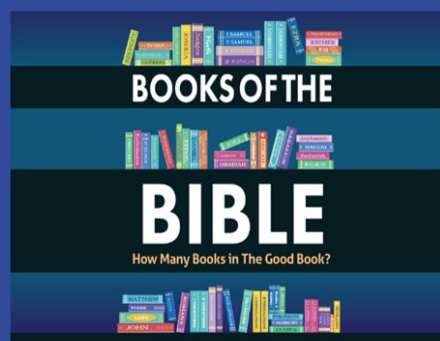
7th & 8th grade Calendar

- Jan 8 - Confirmation Class 4:30-6:00pm
- Jan 22 - Confirmation Class 4:30-6:00pm

5th & 6th grade Calendar

- Jan 15 - Connect Class 4:30-6:00pm
- Jan 29 - Connect Class 4:30-6:00pm

Join us for Sunday School



SUNDAYS
AT 9:30AM

www.makedisciples.com



Children, Youth & Families

Boundary Waters

Join us for an information session about our summer trip to the Boundary Waters!! Meeting date to be determined - please watch for more information.



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

sbroussard@stjohnsbrookfield.org

HS Youth Group Calendar

| Date | Event | Time |
|------|--|-------------|
| 1/8 | Youth Group | 4:30-6:00pm |
| 1/15 | Youth Group | 4:30-6:00pm |
| 1/19 | 9th grade confirmation - compare religions | 6:30-8:00pm |
| 1/22 | Escape Room | TBA |
| 1/29 | Youth Group | 4:30-6:00pm |

Escape Room

January 22 the high school youth are headed to an Escape Room. Watch for details and the sign up!



So Much Fun Was Had By All At Our Advent Party



Outreach Opportunities

Do You Wear Underwear?

January Outreach Offering: Undies and Socks for the Hope Center

Do you wear underwear?

Do you wear socks?

These are luxuries that some in our community do not have - but you can help! During January, our outreach offering focus will be socks and undies for Hope Center.

The greatest needs are for:

socks (all sizes) and

underwear:

kids (all sizes),

ladies (sizes 5-8), and

men (small and medium sizes.)

Contact Brian Cranfill at 262-786-2619 with questions.



Giving is not just about making a **donation**.
It is about making a **difference**.

Education For Life

El Salvador Student Scholarships

School fees for supplies, uniforms, and transportation make it difficult for families to send their children to school. Years ago, a scholarship system was established to assist families with the school costs.

You may sponsor a specific Kindergarten student or make a general scholarship donation.



Expectations of a sponsor matched to a specific student are to fund the \$200 Kindergarten scholarship and to send letters a few times a year.

If you wish to sponsor a child's education, contact Mary Beth at marybethgubbins@wi.rr.com.

Winter Farmers Market and Meal

SAVE THE DATE.

Winter Farmers Market and Meal

February 19, 2023

9:30am - 12:30pm

St. John's Lutheran Church, Brookfield



Terry Hoeppner's Retirement Party

*You are cordially invited to attend
Troop 16's Celebration of Scoutmaster Terry
Hoeppner's Retirement*

Sunday, February 5, 2023

***Location: St John's Lutheran Church
20275 Davidson Rd, Brookfield***



*Program Honoring Terry Hoeppner's Service to Scouting
Begins at 12:15 PM in the Sanctuary
(All are welcome to attend)*



*Lunch Catered by Robert's Meats, Waukesha - Promptly at 1:00 pm
(Due to Fellowship Hall Restrictions only the first 150 RSVP's Accepted)
Free-Will Donation to Conserve Troop Funds*

*RSVP to terry.retirement.40@gmail.com by Friday, January 27, 2023, with
the number of people attending.*

Troop 16 looks forward to Honoring Terry Hoeppner & Seeing You!

Troop 16

by Troop Historian, Jonathan McMahon

Will McCoy's Eagle ceremony was held at St. John's, which was participated by members of Troop 16. Mr. Mathes did the presentation, while Will's proud mom did the pinning. Congratulations, Will!

Christmas Carols were sung for the first time in years at the Care-Age Health Center. Scouts, families and residents of the establishment participated in the event. Troopers then went back to St. John's for gift exchange, games, and refreshments.



At various meetings, Mr. Selle had scouts participate in indoor Olympic Games, which consisted of straw javelin throwing, shot put, and the hammer throw. More fun games were orchestrated by Zac Watson.

Concluding our year, our last activity was at the G arcade in Menomonee Falls. It was a Christmas break activity with a plethora of activities and entertainment.

Mr. Hoepfner will be stepping back after 40 years of leading Troop 16. The troop will be disbanding and the boys moving on to other troops.



MONTHLY RANK ADVANCES

Second Class - Nolan Nelson

OCTOBER PARTICIPATION

1. Nolan Nelson
2. Matt & Zak Watson

NOVEMBER PARTICIPATION

1. Nolan Nelson
2. Jon McMahon
3. Matt Watson



January Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 4 Bill Sattler | 15 Jan Bigsby | 20 Helen Ranum | 27 Jeremy Hale |
| 6 Jeff DuChateau | 15 Austin Klemm | 21 Angela Sidebottom | 27 Jacki Hale |
| 7 Gary Grunau | 16 Dawn Vogelsang | 22 Karen Wolfmeyer | 27 Jim Johnson |
| 7 Matt Wafle | 17 Ruth Kirchhoff | 23 Kyle Weyer | 27 Valy Keierleber |
| 8 Jason Rateike | 17 Dennis Kramer | 23 Dan Wimmer | 27 Drake Wafle |
| 8 Henry Sidebottom | 17 Joseph Sidebottom | 25 Teresa DuChateau | 28 Floyd Keierleber |
| 12 Anja Logan | 18 Sia Rae Grabowski | 25 Eli Zach | 28 Sharon Krukar |
| 12 Andrew Zick | 18 Mark Latus | 26 Dorothy Eisenberg | 30 Jim Morgan |
| 13 Patti Baeten | 18 David Seamonson | 26 Tony Madrigal | 30 Evan Paget |
| 13 Natalie Mathes | 19 Ellen Bertrand | 27 Dave Beyer | 30 Jim Truax |
| 14 Jeff Gubbins | 20 Ellie Fuchs | 27 Malachi Beyerlein | 31 Justin Belli |
| 14 Kathy Hoepfner | 20 John Gatzke | 27 Marc Delzer | 31 Spencer Dominguez |

Council Communications

Fellow Disciples,

I pray this news finds you healthy and well. Following are highlights from the December 19 Council meeting.

President Report

- **Correction:** In the December Inspire, I wrote our upcoming Annual Meeting was going to be Sunday, February 5. Please update your calendars, as the correct date for our Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 29.
- Discussion and preparation continue as the Finance Team and Council work toward finalizing the 2023 budget.
- Budget listening sessions will take place prior to our Annual Meeting. Those listening session will be held on, Thursday, January 19 at 6:30 and Sunday, January 22 at 9:30 between the first and second service.

Financial Report

- Due to the lower than anticipated giving, Council agreed with the Finance's Team recommendation not to transfer any money into the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) this month.
- The balance of the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) as of December 5 was \$112,335.49.

Transition team

- Thank you to the Transition Team who continues to monitor and review ongoing COVID advancements.

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

Josh Werner 262-271-0639

Treasurer

Carrie Peters 262-853-5888

At Large

Jim Morgan 262-893-7385

Mark Latus 262-784-1183

Charlotte Yourell 414-405-6081

Brittany Larson 262-527-2404

Kris Wasserman 262-424-3383



Children, Youth & Families

The December youth group outing was a tour of the Milwaukee Art Museum.
Special thanks to Mary Tollander for serving as our docent!



Contact Us

Office Hours

The St. John's phone is answered and doors are monitored for entry 9:00-Noon, Monday to Friday.

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

rickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org

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 ...

We pray for those who are battling illness, are healing, or are needing extra prayers:

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| Barb K | Dorothy E |
| Floyd K | Cindy H |
| John G | Steve W |
| Kathy K | Jerry M |
| Connie P | Arlyn M |
| Cheryl H | Dylan H |
| Linda N | Nancy K |

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

Creation Corner

Test Your Home for Radon!

Radon is an invisible, odorless gas that occurs naturally in soils and rocks throughout Waukesha County and is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Experts suggest testing the lowest level of your home for radon in the winter. Thankfully, testing is easy! Test kits can be purchased at hardware stores, online, or through Waukesha County's Health Department.



**RADON
TESTING**



Staff Phone Extensions

St. John's Phone Number: 262-786-6887

Extensions:

- 100 Sue Smith, Admin Assistant
- 101 Brian Halverson, Senior Pastor
- 102 Pam Klink, Communications Coordinator
- 103 Bill Stace, Building Supervisor
- 104 Joanna Salinas, Children's Ministry
- 105 Stephanie Broussard, Youth Ministry
- 106 Rebecca Mitchell, Bookkeeper
- 107 Becky Whelpley, Music Director
- 200 Laura Rickinger, Preschool

Calendar of events for January 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|
| 1 New Years Day 9:00a worship* | 2 office closed 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:00p AI-Anon | 3 Food Pantry Pick Up 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:00p quilters 6:30p handbell rehearsal 7:00p Boy Scouts | 4 8:30a Retired Men's bfast 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal | 5 6:30p AI-Anon | 6 6:15a virtual men's group 7:30p Chinese Bible Study | 7 8:30a men's group |
| 8 8:30a worship* 9:30a education/fellowship 10:30a worship 4:30p 7/8 Confirmation 4:30p youth group | 9 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:00p AI-Anon 6:30p Adult Ministry Mtg via ZOOM | 10 8:30a property team 9:00a woman's Bible study (offsite) 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p HR meeting-virtual 6:30p handbell rehearsal 7:00p Boy Scouts | 11 9:30a Morning Circle 10:00a Purple Lily Cafe 4:30p Finance Team 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal | 12 4:00p Finance Team Mtg 6:30p AI-Anon 6:30p Faith Alive | 13 6:15a virtual men's group 9:00a Book Club 10:00a prayer shawl group 7:30p Chinese Bible Study | 14 8:30a men's group |
| 15 8:30a worship* 9:30a education/fellowship 10:30a worship 2:00p Boy Scout Jamboree 4:30p 5/6 Connect Class 4:30p youth group | 16 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 1:00p Women's Bible Study 6:00p AI-Anon 6:30p council mtg | 17 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 1:00p Book Club 6:30p handbell rehearsal 7:00p Boy Scouts | 18 12:00p Retired Men's lunch 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal | 19 6:30p AI-Anon 6:30p 9 th grade confirmation 6:30p budget listening session | 20 6:15a virtual men's group 5:00p Chinese New Year Celebration 7:00p book club (offsite) 7:30p Chinese Bible Study | 21 8:30a men's group |
| 22 8:30a worship* 9:30a education/fellowship 9:30a budget listening session 10:30a worship 4:30p 7/8 Confirmation TBA youth group | 23 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:00p AI-Anon | 24 8:30a property team 9:00a Women's Bible Study (offsite) 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal 7:00p Boy Scouts | 25 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal | 26 6:30p AI-Anon 6:30p Faith Alive | 27 6:15a virtual men's group 7:30p Chinese Bible Study | 28 8:30a men's group |
| 29 8:30a worship* 9:30a education/fellowship 10:30a worship 11:45a Annual Meeting 4:30p 5/6 Connect Class 4:30p youth group | 30 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:00p AI-Anon | 31 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal 7:00p Boy Scouts | | To request space for your small group or ministry to meet in the building, please complete the Facility Use Form on the St. John's website. It is under the Resources tab - Documents and Forms . Contact Sue Smith , Administrative Assistant with questions. | | *worship service/event is live streamed |

A Few Highlights of 2022



New projector in sanctuary

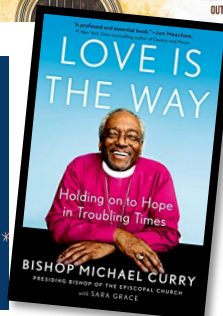


Because of your generosity...



Hymn Sing

Sundays in August | 8:15



Inspire

January 2023