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**St. John's Lutheran**  
20275 Davidson Road  
Brookfield, WI 53045

262-786-6887

### Follow Us

Website: [www.makedisciples.com](http://www.makedisciples.com)

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

Instagram: [stjohnsbrookfield](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsbrookfield)

# Pastor Ponders

by Pastor Brian Halverson

What a summer this has been!

While we have been enjoying beautiful weather (mini drought notwithstanding), many persons in our country and around the world have been suffering from severe weather in the form of extreme heat, torrential rainfall that has caused massive flooding, major droughts, tornados, and other weather-related events. Wildfires in Canada have affected the air quality even here in Milwaukee, where we now have air quality alerts that confirm the smokey haze we see out the window.

Some environmental conditions are natural while many others are caused by human activity that adversely affects the world around us. There is fierce debate around how much is natural and how much is due to our own activities, what are the correct solutions to these environmental concerns, and what and where investments are needed to ensure a healthy and thriving world in which we all live. Sadly, because of our political divide in this country, it is increasingly more difficult to agree with one another, let alone work together to ensure that we and the generations that follow can live in a clean and stable environment.

In scripture, God calls us to be good stewards of the world and its resources. We pray that God gives us the wisdom to steward our world in the way that is faithful to God and to our neighbor. It is vitally important we work together as people of faith to preserve and protect our earth while marshalling its resources for the benefit of all. We can do this individually and communally in many ways.

One way is to go the web site for the Waukesha County Creation Care Network that promotes ways in which we can live faithfully in God's creation, stewarding God's resources that enhance the quality of life through taking care of our environment. We can find ways in which we can all agree to work together in this important effort.

Stewardship is more than just giving money to the church. It is a total commitment to give thanks to God for all of God's blessings. Investing our time and energy in taking care of God's world in light of the environmental challenges facing us is a faithful response to what God has first given us!

*Pastor Brian*

# What's New?

## Family Fun Night

August 3 | 6:30 p.m.

Don't miss the night of fun for all ages as we celebrate summer!

## Car Wash

August 6

Praying for good weather as the youth raise funds for the 2024 summer trip to New Orleans.

## Hymn Sing

August 6, 13, 20, 27

Gather to sing your favorite hymns each Sunday in August at 8:15 a.m.

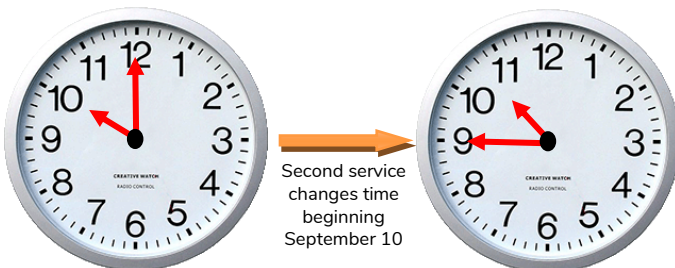
## Backpack Blessing

August 27

Students of all ages are invited to either service for a backpack blessing before school begins.

See page 8 for information on a Sustainability Fair

# Second Service Time Switch in September



Our second service will continue at the summer time of 10:00 a.m. through August. The time for that service, which features music led by the Praise Band, will move to 10:45 a.m. on September 10 for the program year.



# Children, Youth & Families

## St. John's Preschool

As we get ready for a new school year of Learning and Growing in Preschool on September 5, let's meet the teachers!



LaBree Paukner is our Four Year Old class teacher who joined St. John's Preschool last school year and is ready for her second year with us. When one of our teachers retired, LaBree, then a Preschool parent in this class, was the perfect fit for our Four Year Old class. She had been a Physical Education teacher at an area parochial school for ten years and she brings all that experience to her classroom. LaBree gives each preschool a day filled with lots of energy and an excitement to learn.



Lana DeCoto is a team teacher in our Two and Three Year Old classrooms. Lana, proudly from Watertown, WI, has spent her career in Early Childhood Education. Lana joined St. John's Preschool in February 2014. Lana is an active member at St. Mark's Lutheran in Waukesha and you'll recognize Lana as a member of St. John's Choir. Teaching the youngest children is where her heart lies.

And whoever welcomes a child like this in my name, welcomes me.  
Matthew 18:5

Laura Rickinger is the Director of St. John's Preschool. Laura is a longtime member of St. John's and feels blessed to have found many ministries to be involved in over the years. Building on St. John's firm foundation of Early Childhood Education and excellent reputation in the community, she is beginning her eleventh year with St. John's Preschool working with teachers to provide the best preschool experience for our 21<sup>st</sup> century children. Laura also works closely with the Children, Youth and Family ministries at St. John's to share opportunities for Preschool families to join in all we do at St. John's.



Mary Wagner team teaches with Lana with our Two and Three Year Olds. As a longtime member of St. John's with her family, you'll see her on Sundays worshipping, being a Worship Assistant and a member of our Handbell Choir. You may see Mary teaching and playing with the preschoolers, matching their energy in whatever they're doing together, in the classroom or outdoors.



# Children, Youth & Families

## Fall Registration is Open

Please register your kids for Fall programming. The registration form is for Sunday School, Confirmation, High School Youth Group and Kids of the Kingdom.

One form per family.

Link: <https://forms.gle/r9NsKSDAULsEyduv9>

# Register

## Confirmation

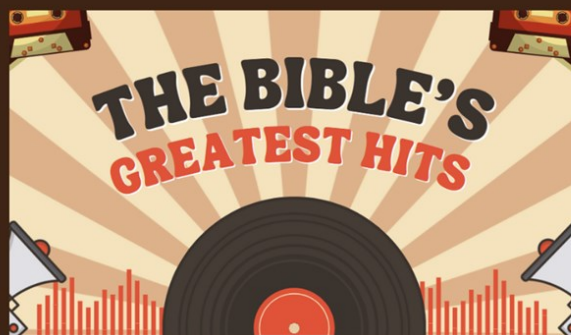
Confirmation will be continuing Sunday evenings this fall!

Due to overwhelming parental feedback, Pre-Confirmation for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders, and Confirmation for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will continue with twice monthly, Sunday evening gatherings in the fall. The classes will alternate weeks beginning on October 8, 2023. We'll meet from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in person at St. John's, starting each session with a meal.

More info can be found at <https://makedisciples.com/ministries/child-youth/middle-school/>



## Join us for Sunday School



SUNDAYS  
AT 9:45AM



Starting September 10!

## Sunday School

Save the date for September 10, 2023 for Rally Day and the first day of Sunday School! At St. John's Sunday School begins at age 2. Meet at 9:45 in the Sanctuary.

More information can be found on our website!

## Volunteer - It's for the Kids

Have a love to share with the children of St. John's? Consider sharing your time and gifts with our students on Sunday Mornings as part of our Large Group Sunday School team or a Small Group leader! Please reach out to Joanna at [jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org](mailto:jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org) to discuss possibilities!

## Backpack Blessing

We invite EVERYONE to bring their backpack, briefcase, lunch bag or tote bag for a special blessing to begin the school year surrounded in prayer.

August 27, 2023

8:30 & 10:00 a.m.



## Family Fun Night

You're invited to a **church-wide Family Fun Night** at 6:30 p.m. on August 3 at the fire bowl behind St. John's Lutheran. Join us for s'mores, bucket drumming, ga-ga ball, fellowship, and lots of fun!

Families are encouraged to attend; bring a friend! All children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring labeled roasting sticks if you have them!





# Children, Youth & Families



## Confirmation Retreat at Lutherdale

Who: 9<sup>th</sup> Graders

Date: Sept 22-24

What: Our 9<sup>th</sup> graders will be spending the weekend at Lutherdale connecting and building positive relationships with one another, as well as digging deeper into their own faith journeys.



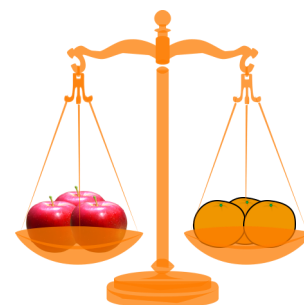
## Car Wash Fundraiser Rescheduled

Who: High School Youth

Date: August 6

Time: During both services

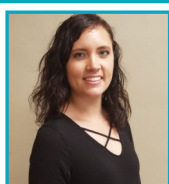
What: HS Youth will be having a car wash fundraiser to help support their upcoming trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans next summer.



## Comparative Religion Mentors

Are you interested in learning more about different faith communities right here in our own backyard, and creating lasting memories with our high school youth? Then do I have the perfect monthly opportunity for you!

If you would like to learn more about this experience, contact Stephanie.



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

[sbroussard@stjohnsbrookfield.org](mailto:sbroussard@stjohnsbrookfield.org)



## Help Needed for M&M Skit

Are you interested in putting together a small skit for our M&M fundraiser this year to be played during both services? If so, please contact Stephanie!

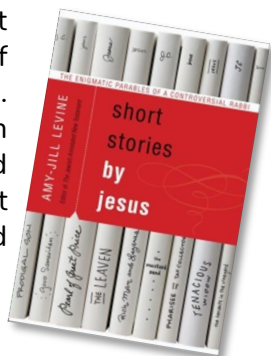
## Coming This Fall - Short Stories by Jesus

Do you like short stories? What are your favorite short stories (parables) that Jesus told? Two of mine are "The Prodigal Son" and "The Good Samaritan".

Have you ever thought much about the older son in the story of The Prodigal Son, the one that seems left out?

If you were the victim in the story of The Good Samaritan, would you refuse help from someone different than you?

These are the types of questions author Amy-Jill Levine raises in her book "Short Stories by Jesus". Plan to join us this fall as we dive deeper into six of Jesus' parables. We will start the week of October 1. Each session is supported by a thought provoking and entertaining DVD by Levine.



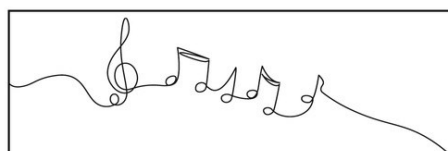
### Six Short Stories

- ◆ Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son
- ◆ The Good Samaritan
- ◆ The Pearl of Great Price
- ◆ The Mustard Seed
- ◆ The Laborers in the Vineyard
- ◆ The Widow and the Judge

**Begins October 1**

# Music Notes

## You Could Be a Ringer!!



### BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL!

#### ST. JOHN'S HANDBELL CHOIR

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm Beginning September 5

**OUR CHOIR** – The SJLC Handbell Choir is an intergenerational group made up of 11-15 ringer musicians. We play 4-1/2 octaves of Malmark Handbells and 3 octaves of Malmark ChoirChimes once or twice each month at the 8:30 a.m. worship service.

**OUR MUSICIANS** – Each person brings to the bell choir his/her individual level of musical ability, patience and a sense of humor. Together we play hard, laugh lots and share God's blessings through our special music in rehearsals and worship.

**NO SCARY AUDITION** – There is no audition required to join the handbell choir, and it is not necessary to have past ringing experience. Music reading skills are helpful. What are most important are a willing spirit, a joyful heart and a positive attitude!

**WE NEED YOU** – There are openings in the choir beginning this fall. We would love to have you join us! We are looking for full time ringers year round, or seasonally. We have a place for YOU! Be a part of something special!

**CONTACT HEIDI** – If you or someone you know would like to play with the Handbell Choir, contact Heidi Bischmann – [hbischmann@gmail.com](mailto:hbischmann@gmail.com) or (414) 305-7812.

**NEW RINGERS ALWAYS WELCOME**

## Kids of the Kingdom

Wednesday, October 4 Kids of the Kingdom begins for K5 - 6th graders. We meet 5:15-6:00 p.m. with a dinner to follow.

**KIDS  
of the  
KINGDOM**

For more info, contact Lisa at [lisajwc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lisajwc@sbcglobal.net)

We also welcome 7th-12th graders during this time to work with Becky Whelpley.

## Join The Choir!



Choir is beginning Wednesday, September 6 and we NEED YOU!

The choir meets every Wednesday in the sanctuary 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. and we generally sing 2- 3 Sundays a month at the 8:30 a.m. service September through May.

We are actively looking for new members and hope you will prayerfully consider.

Highschool age - adult (middle schoolers are welcome with an adult)

Never sung before in a choir - NO problem! There is no audition.

Can't commit to the whole year - NO problem!

Contact Becky Whelpley before the 1st rehearsal.

[bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org](mailto:bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org)

## Bluegrass Services

The later worship services on the following Sundays will feature bluegrass music:

August 13 at 10:00

September 24 at 10:45

## Thank You

A huge THANK YOU to all who provided special music this summer!



## Hymn Sing

Suggest your favorite hymns in the box on the information desk. Then join in the hymn sing each Sunday in August at 8:15 a.m.



## September Sunday Schedule

### September 3

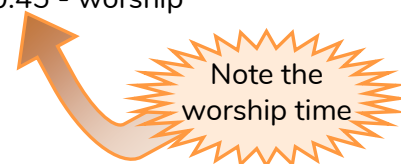
9:00 one service outside

### September 10 - May

8:30 - worship

9:45 - education and fellowship

10:45 - worship



## Members' Recital

Mark your calendar - we are planning a members' recital in February, more details to come.



## Service and Social

### Newborn Kit Assembly was Huge Success

#### We Did It!

We gathered on July 25 to assemble 625 newborn kits! These kits will be driven to Minnesota (thanks to Bill Schultz) and then shipped by Global Health Ministries to developing countries to help save one baby at a time!

Thank you, Mickey Fank, for your countless hours of organizing.



CELEBRATING  
**10**  
YEARS

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday

September 10  
2023

### God's Work, Our Hands

Save the Date

Sunday,  
September 10

Planning is happening for several options for St. John's to participate in "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. Watch for details in September!

Tuesday, August 15  
7:00-9:00 p.m.  
at Café Hollander

All are invited to  
join in the fun.  
Let the office know  
you are coming so we  
can save you a seat!

### Donated Fabric Was Quilted and Donated

The quilters would like to thank the anonymous donor of a large box of homespun fabric. It was used to make this twin size quilt which was donated to the Women's Center.



### Showcase Your Talent

Talent Show participants needed! Do you have a hidden talent that is bursting to get out? Tell jokes? Play the kazoo? Do a kickline? We are looking for acts to perform between Bingo games on November 4 in the evening.

Contact Becky Whelpley  
[bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org](mailto:bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org)



### Pieper's Porch

All women of St. John's are invited to an informal gathering in the beautiful backyard of Pieper Porch Winery. Come enjoy a relaxing afternoon with women of all ages from St. John's ... and feel free to bring a friend!

Exact date in September is yet to be determined.



# Pot Holes Just Aren't Cool!

In July, Jude Peters gave us all a good look at the current condition of our circle drive...cracks, ruts, and deep pot holes! Not cool.

For many years, members of the property committee have expressed the need for work to be done on the drive. **Now is the time!**

This fall, St. John's will kick off the **Pave the Way** campaign to raise funds needed, not only for the reconstruction of the circle drive, but for three other important ministry supporting improvements and a tithe to our ministry partner, the Hope Center, as they too, improve their ability to meet ministry needs.



Reconstruction of the circle drive and landscaping, a new church sign on Barker, covering the painting of our church building, and re-imagining the narthex are all part of the **Paving the Way** funding campaign which will kick off at a churchwide picnic on October 1. Save the date on your calendar and join the fun. Join the commitment to strengthen ministry for years to come. Look for more information on the projects included and the campaign as we near the kickoff.



## St. John's Men's Softball Team

The men of St. John's had another fun season of softball. They successfully wrapped up seventh place in their division. Set aside Monday evenings next summer to come cheer them on!



Left to Right Back: Terry Hoeppner, Dave Balzer, Jason Rateike, Tim Lange, Joe McGrath, Ray Furstenberg, Carter Aune, Alex Stephens, Scott Lange, Brian Harms

Left to Right Front: Joe Balzer, Malachi Beyerlein, Leo Tramm, Justin McCann, Jared Cisz

Not Pictured: Ben Albaugh, Bill Hughes, Lucky

Empowered Community. Brighter Future.

### Sustainability Fair

Discover. Connect. Engage.

hosted by:  
**WAUKESHA COUNTY GREEN TEAM**

**SAT. AUG 26TH, 2023**  
9:30am - 3:00pm  
Retzer Nature Center

**Join us! Activities for Kids and Adults of all ages.**

- Learn from Exhibitors and Demonstrations
- Participate in the Urban Forest
- Tour the EV and Energy Showcase
- Experience Fun Kid and Family Activities
- Participate in a Drum Circle
- See "A Place Like No Other" at the Planetarium
- Enjoy Food Trucks and Beverages
- Take the Wild Wisconsin Walk
- Explore the Retzer Discovery Trail and Nature Center

Scan to Learn More

[www.2023Fair.org](http://www.2023Fair.org)

For more info visit: [www.waukeshacountygreenteam.org](http://www.waukeshacountygreenteam.org)



# Council Communications

Fellow Disciples,

I pray this news finds you healthy and well. Following are highlights from the July 17 Council meeting.

## President Report

- Council welcomed Liz Roth to an At-Large seat. Liz was elected to Council at the Congregational Meeting in June. We look forward to her insight and guidance in the leadership and visioning of St. John's. Thank you to outgoing At-Large Council member Kris Wasserman for her service to St. John's.
- Council approved the terms of Rich Warp and Phil Peters to serve on the Endowment Committee. Rich and Phil will be filling the Committee seats of Phil Lange and Mark Sabin who completed their committee seat term. Thank you, Phil and Mark, for your leadership and service to an amazing ministry.

- Work for the upcoming Pave the Way campaign, which will fund crucial property improvements maintenance and repairs, and ministry enhancements continues to shape up. Stay tuned for additional news and announcements in the upcoming month!

## Financial Report

- Thank you for your faithful giving! As of July 8 financials, your gracious giving has allowed St. John's to carry out the many wonderful programs and ministries in 2023. Additionally, we have been able to set aside \$12,102.31 in funds, which will be put towards reducing the 2023 budget deficit. As a reminder, the 2023 budget approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting had an approximate \$37,000 deficit.
- The balance of the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) as of July 8 was \$113,631.59.

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

## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

AUGUST 21  
6:30 P.M.

## St. John's Council

<b>President</b>	
Brian Zach	608-279-3577
<b>Vice-president</b>	
Keith Paukner	414-916-2618
<b>Secretary</b>	
Josh Werner	262-271-0639
<b>Treasurer</b>	
Carrie Peters	262-853-5888
<b>At Large</b>	
Jim Morgan	262-893-7385
Mark Latus	262-784-1183
Charlotte Yourell	
Brittany Larson	262-527-2404
Liz Roth	847-533-4806



## August Birthdays

1 Josh Werner	9 Cordelia Reinfeldt	17 John Nugent	28 Sue Murack
1 Emelia Zaeske	9 Levi Wiesner	17 Norma Poulsen	28 Paul Whitaker
2 Sonja Beyerlein	10 Adelyn Lange	17 Karen Wilson	30 Cathy Whitaker
2 Gene Kaiser	11 Isabella DuChateau	18 Rhonda Bohne	31 Sophia Ayer
3 Debbie Hipke-Fuller	11 Nathan Gaska	18 Kevin Wolfmeyer	31 Carol Hein
3 Phyllis Reichert	11 Sandra Landgren	21 Carol Wasemiller	31 Thomas Kallin
5 Jason Ayer	12 Lori Schettler	22 Jason Gillette	31 Barb Lange
5 Ryan Wagner	12 Kevin Slater	22 Weston Grabowski	
5 Karie Zach	13 Denny Bigsby	22 Bill Reed	
7 Linda Elfers	13 Dale Granlund	24 Zach Hintz	
7 Judy Klawitter	14 Alyssa Vetta	26 Dan Blask	
7 Steven Wimmer	15 Carol Elder	26 Ella Salinas	
9 Sheena Gatzke	15 Addisyn Kaiser	27 Rich Warp	

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY

## 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: 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

Irckinger@stjohnbrookfield.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
Dylan H	Jerry M
Carol S	Cheryl H
Neal S	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](http://www.makedisciples.com).



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

Romans 1:9

## Creation Corner

Stop by the Trading Table in the Fellowship Hall during August and pick up a Tank Leak Detection kit!

**SAVE WATER!**  
**TEST YOUR TANK FOR HIDDEN LEAKS!**



A leaky toilet can waste  
200 gallons of water a day!

Compliments of the: 

[www.waukeshacountygreenteam.org](http://www.waukeshacountygreenteam.org)

**I see you at**



**St. John's Preschool**  
WHERE WE PLAY, DISCOVER, LEARN AND GROW.  
Enrollment is Now OPEN for September!  
20275 Davidson Road Brookfield, WI 53045  
Irckinger@stjohnbrookfield.org  
262-786-4298



## 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



**Attention Facebook Users**

Evangelize with our posts, be sure to:

**LIKE  
COMMENT  
SHARE**



# Calendar of events for August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*worship service/event is live streamed		<b>1</b> 8:30a property team 9:00a VBS 10:00a staff mtg 6:00p quilters	<b>2</b> 8:30a Retired Men's bfast 9:00a VBS 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p Summer Sampler	<b>3</b> 9:00a VBS at Retzer 6:30p Family Fun Night 6:30p Al-Anon	<b>4</b> 6:15a virtual men's group 9:00a VBS	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 8:00a car wash 8:15a hymn sing <b>8:30a worship*</b> <b>10:00a worship</b>	<b>7</b> <i>Food Pantry Pick Up</i> 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon	<b>8</b> 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg	<b>9</b> 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p Summer Sampler	<b>10</b> 6:30p Al-Anon	<b>11</b> 6:15a virtual men's group 10:00a prayer shawl group	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 8:15a hymn sing <b>8:30a worship*</b> <b>10:00a worship</b>	<b>14</b> 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon	<b>15</b> 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 7:00p trivia at Café Hollander	<b>16</b> 12:00p Retired Men's lunch 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	<b>17</b> 4:00p Finance Team mtg 6:30p Al-Anon 6:30p Fall Facilitator Jump Start Session	<b>18</b> 6:15a virtual men's group 7:00p book club (offsite)	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 8:15a hymn sing <b>8:30a worship*</b> <b>10:00a worship</b>	<b>21</b> 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon 6:30p council mtg	<b>22</b> 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p HR mtg (virtual)	<b>23</b> 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:00p Preschool Open House	<b>24</b> 6:30p Al-Anon	<b>25</b> 6:15a virtual men's group	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <i>backpack blessing</i> 8:15a hymn sing <b>8:30a worship*</b> <b>10:00a worship</b>	<b>28</b> 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon	<b>29</b> 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg	<b>30</b> 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	<b>31</b> 6:30p Al-Anon	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 - <a href="#">Documents and Forms</a> . Contact <a href="#">Sue Smith</a> , Administrative Assistant with questions.	

# BOUNDARY WATERS

## July 8-15



Thank you for your prayers and support of this year's youth group boundary waters trip.

Throughout the week our group learned more about ourselves and each other. We each tried new things and learned we can accomplish difficult tasks.

One of the bible verses we focused on during the trips is

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."



Northern Lights