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

262-786-6887

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Pastor Ponders

by Pastor Brian Halverson

During this month of February, the church will observe Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent and the start of the journey to Good Friday. It is a time of reflection on our mortality and a time for many to observe spiritual disciplines such as fasting or “giving up something for Lent”. Most importantly, it is a time in which we realign ourselves to the teachings of Christ and understanding more deeply his sacrifice for us.

This year, Ash Wednesday falls upon the secular observance of Valentine's Day, a Hallmark-driven idea of love and romance that traditionally includes flowers, cards, chocolate, and for children, candy shaped hearts with small messages like “Be Mine” on them. It can also be a day filled with some guilt if you had forgotten that it was Valentine's Day and your partner did not. If that is the case, then an imposition of ashes of the forehead might be a proper conclusion for the day!

Both the religious and secular observances reflect an aspect of love – the romantic and the sacrificial. The depth, however, is what differentiates the two. Whereas romantic love can ebb and flow, the love of God in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for us is everlasting and constant. Human feelings can be fleeting and ephemeral, but God's love for us is grounded in the very being of God in God's self.

How do we know this? We know this in faith. We know this in God's revelation to us through his Son. We know this in the power of the Holy Spirit who gives us the strength to carry on the good work we do and to do it with the love of Christ our Lord.

Pastor Brian

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14, 2024
12:00 p.m.
and
6:30 p.m.



Remember
you are dust
and to dust
you will return.



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



LENTEN WORSHIPS

February 21 - March 20
6:30 p.m.



LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

Children, Youth & Families

Celebrating Mrs. DeCoto on 10th Anniversary

Join us at St. John's Preschool in recognizing Lana DeCoto as we celebrate her 10th Anniversary as our Preschool teacher.

Lana came to St. John's Preschool with a wealth of knowledge and years of experience in early childhood education and has continued to lovingly and creatively impact the lives of our youngest learners every day.



Lana is also a member of St. John's Choir and is the KOTK Preschool Director. She has a true heart for ministry and she blesses us in many ways.



Happy
10th teaching
anniversary,
Mrs. DeCoto!




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

We're Now Enrolling for 2024-2025

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
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Email Us at: lickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org - Call Us at: 262-786-4298
20275 Davidson Road Brookfield, WI 53045

You're Invited!
Wildlife In Need Center is coming to Preschool for Family Night!
Join Us


SAVE the DATE!
Thursday, March 7 from 6:00-7:30pm (doors open at 5:45pm)

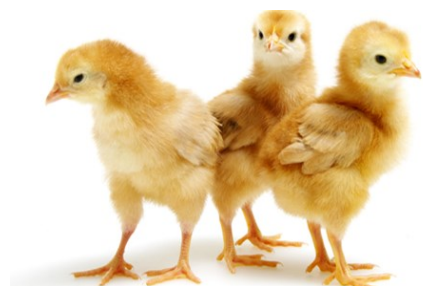

St. John's Preschool
WHERE WE PLAY, DISCOVER, LEARN AND GROW.

20275 Davidson Road Brookfield, WI 53045 | lickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org - 262-786-4298

Children, Youth & Families

Great Job Sunday School

Since Christmas, your offering has purchased two goats, two pigs, one beehive, and over 50 chicks through ELCA Good Gifts!!!



Sunday School

Join us Sundays at 9:45am for Sunday School! During Lent we are learning about the ministry of Jesus!

Sunday School programming is for ages 3-5th 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.



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

jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org.



Family Lenten Resources

Families – beginning February 11, stop by the Narthex and pick up family Lenten Resources including a Labyrinth Sticker and an illustrated Lenten Spiral which will guide you, your family, and your community through the Season of Lent with activities, family questions, inspiring nature walks, and feast days to enjoy together.



Children, Youth & Families

Middle School Lock-In

Attention 6th-8th graders - SAVE THE DATE!



Sunday Evening Ed

We are excited to offer programming for our Middle Schoolers on Sunday evenings from 4:30-6:00pm.

7th & 8th grade Calendar

Feb. 11 NO Confirmation Class
Feb. 24-25 Lock in

5th & 6th grade Calendar

Feb. 4 Connect Class 4:30-6:00pm
Feb. 18 Connect Class 4:30-6:00pm
Contact Joanna with questions!

Youth Leadership Team

6th – 8th graders! Join Mrs. Beyerlein and Mrs. Zach on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:30 downstairs for food and fun!



Lenten Fasting

The practice of fasting (or “giving something up”) during Lent is not required for Lutherans because it is not commanded in Holy Scripture. Rather, as a matter of Christian freedom, starving oneself of a pleasure of the flesh is a way to remember daily the great sacrifice of Jesus on the cross to pay for the world’s sin.

Here are some ideas for things to give up for Lent

- A favorite toy or game
- Social media for a day
- A favorite snack
- Drinking only water at school
- A favorite chair at home or seat at school.

At the start of Lent, we should ask ourselves – what pulls me away from loving God, loving others, and loving myself well? How can I incorporate acts of sacrifice, acts of giving, and acts of prayer that will help me love as God loves?

Giving thought to observing Lent is important. Whether you wait until the last minute to decide or you’ve known your Lenten sacrifice since last Lent, it’s worth spending time to thoughtfully consider how to make the most of your experience this year.

Because observing Lent is so much bigger than what you “give up.”

Sources: LutheranReformation.org and Hallow.com, blog by Stephen Spiewak

Children, Youth & Families

HS Youth Group Calendar

Date	Event	Time
2/4	Youth Group	4:30-6:00pm
2/10	Sub/Pizza Making	11:00am-1:00pm
2/15	9th Grade Confirmation	6:30-8:00pm
2/18	Youth Group	4:30-6:00pm
2/25	Youth Group	4:30-6:00pm

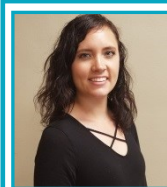


Annual Meeting

Confirmed high school youth may either attend the annual meeting or join us in the youth room for a fun activity!

Sub/Pizza Making

Join us on Saturday February 10 to prepare the pizzas and subs for our fundraiser! We will begin prep at 11:00am and have a prep reward of a handmade pizza for lunch once all orders are completed!!



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

sbroussard@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Confirmation

January was FILLED with so much fun and learning for our 9th graders! We were able to attend a service at both the Jewish Temple as well as the Gurudwara (the place of worship for people of Sikh faith).

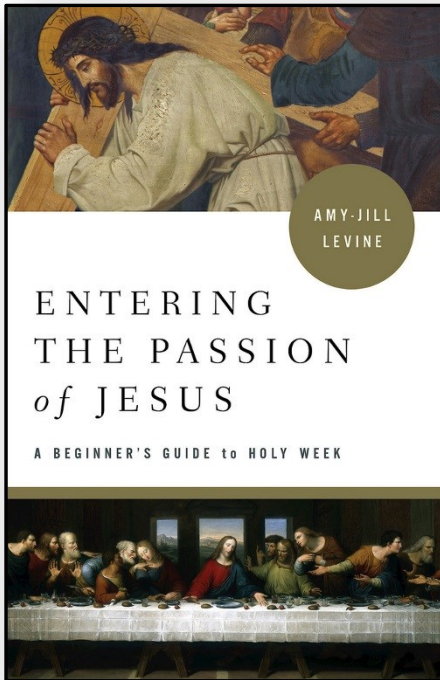


Fun Fact:

Sikh is pronounced like "sick", not like "seek".



Adult Ministries



Lenten Small Group Book Study

Several small groups will be studying "Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginners Guide to Holy Week" by Amy Jill Levine this Lenten season. There is a signup in the narthex to join a group for the study. Options are Saturday mornings, Sunday mornings, and Thursday afternoons. Books are available from the group leaders.

The author delves into the history and literature surrounding the last days of Jesus' life. Levine sets the narrative in historical context and analyzes the risks and motives of the story's characters.

Levine brings forward aspects and details that open doors for beginners as well as seasoned readers of the Bible. She shows how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in or Christian experiences.

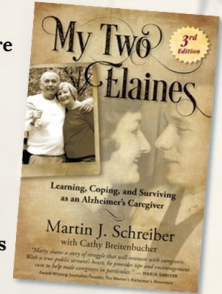


Learning, Coping, and Surviving as an Alzheimer's Caregiver



Former Governor of Wisconsin
Marty Schreiber,
author of "My Two Elaines"

In *My Two Elaines: Learning, Coping, and Surviving as an Alzheimer's Caregiver*, Marty candidly counsels those taking on this caregiving role. More than an account of Marty's struggles in caring for his wife, *My Two Elaines* also offers sage advice that respects the one with Alzheimer's while maintaining the caregiver's health. As two-thirds of those with Alzheimer's are women, he offers special guidance for men thrust into an unexpected job. With patience, adaptability, and even a sense of humor, Marty shows how love continues for his Second Elaine.



Suggested donation of \$5.00.

Sunday, March 3, 2024 | 5:00 PM



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

A light meal will be
served at 4:30

Marty Schreiber will
speak from 5-6 PM

Unable to attend? Recordings of past Academy lectures are available on the St. John's website. Hover over the Ministries tab, click on Adults, scroll to St. John's Academy and select the wanted presentation.

Caring for Our Neighbors

Thank You For Exceeding Expectations

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to deliver four overflowing bins of socks and undies to Hope Center! They were all sizes, colors, and patterns—exactly what was needed! Your thoughtfulness will bring huge smiles to Hope Center visitors of all ages!! We appreciate your kind and caring hearts!

Please remember that Hope Center is always in need of these items, as well as other gently used clothing. You can drop off your donations in the Hope Center bins at the Donation Location—anytime!

or

You also can drop items off at the Hope Center's new location:
101 W. Broadway, Waukesha.

It is beautiful! Take a look and see for yourself!

We are grateful to all of you for warming many hearts on these cold winter days!! 😊



2023 Giving Tree Donation Update

The Women's Center:
\$825 in gift cards.

Angel's Baby Closet:

16 packages of diapers, 3 diaper rash creams, 3 baby shampoo, 3 baby lotion, 1 baby monitor, 36 sleepers, and 1 car seat.

WILC:

36 jars of Play-Doh, 14 crayons/markers/paint/colored pencils, 1 scissors, 1 glue, 1 cardstock, 7 fidget toys, 1 box Mason jars, 2 weighted blankets.

ACAP:

3 pickleball sets, 2 watercolor paint sets, blank watercolor postcards, 1 large package dry erase markers, 4 large packages assorted colors Sharpie markers.

Thank you!

Women's Center is Focus For February

February Outreach Offering: Items for the Women's Center

St. John's members can make a difference in the lives of women and their children who are SHELTERING from abuse at the WWC and the five transition houses.

The current greatest needs, as suggested by the Center are:

- dye and scent free laundry soap
- twin size sheet sets
- twin size comforters
- canned fruit (any kind)
- seasonings - salt, pepper, others
- bath towels
- dish soap.



Loaves and Fishes

St. John's has the privilege of serving the Loaves and Fishes meal at Hope Center on Sunday, February 18. We help prepare the food, greet the guests, and serve the meal. Thank you to those signed up to fulfill the mission to "feed the hungry."

Ongoing Food Pantry Collection

The people of St. John's continually show their generosity in many ways, including food donations. We have a collection location for non-perishable food donations in the Fellowship Hall across from the door to the kitchen (large blue wheeled bin). It's very convenient for anyone wanting to donate, as the Waukesha Food Pantry stops by St. John's monthly to pickup these donations.

New for 2024, we will also be collecting and transporting food donations for All Peoples Church Food Pantry.

Please consider donating to either, or both, using the labeled blue bins. Even the smallest donations will really help!

Music Notes

Member Recital

Please plan to join us for an incredible afternoon of music making at the Member (and a few friends) Recital on Sunday February 4, 2024, at 3:00 pm in the sanctuary. The program will include a number of high school, middle school and elementary school age performers as well as the St. John's handbell and senior choir. Selections will range from pop to jazz to sacred, join us!

Mark Your Calendars

Our 6:30 p.m. Lenten services will begin after Ash Wednesday on February 21. These services will include singing the Holden Evening Prayer, readings, and a short message.

Easter Choir

Do you want to be a part of our Easter choir? To sing with the choir at 8:30 on Easter Sunday, join our Wednesday evening rehearsals. Rehearsals will follow the Lenten services February 21-March 27, 7:00-8:00pm. We need your voice!

Questions about
music at
St. John's?

Contact Becky!

bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org



First Communion

First Communion Service

March 10, 2024

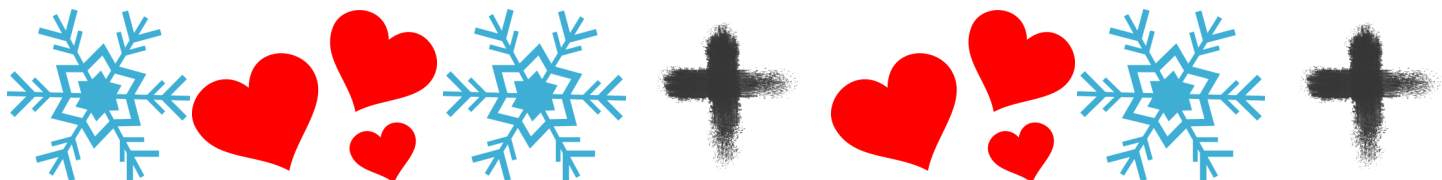
Worship at 8:30 or 10:45am

Chat with Pastor Brian at 9:45am

New! Bread Baking with Joanna

March 2, 2024 at 3:00pm

Is your child ready to take communion? Here at St. John's, we welcome children of any age to the Table when you as a family feel it is appropriate. We will be holding 1st Communion this year on Palm Sunday with a Communion Chat with Pastor Brian in between services. Please RSVP to Joanna at jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org and [fill out the form online](#).



To the Angels of St. John's,

A belated Thank You for your support and prayers for the death of my dear husband, Pastor R. W. Pat Anderson. Sharing this difficult journey has been a great comfort to me and my family.

Blessings,
LeNay Anderson

Creation Corner

Join Joanna for a Plastic Free Lent!

This Lent, journey to walk lighter on the planet and reflect on our consumptive habits. Join us as we examine our dependence on plastics and examine alternative choices and habits. Participate through a public Facebook group or receive challenges via email weekly. Sign up at www.wcccn.org



Council Communications

Fellow Disciples,

I pray this news finds you healthy and well. The following are highlights from the January 22 Council meeting.

President Report

- Council approved a preliminary 2024 budget for a congregational vote at the upcoming Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 4 at 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.
- Thank you to the St. John's staff and Finance Team, for your fiscal responsibility in preparing this budget.
- In conjunction to the Annual Meeting, Council and the Finance Team will conduct budget listening sessions on Thursday January 25 @ 6:30 and Sunday, January 28 between services to review the 2024 budget.

- Thanks to your generous Pave the Way pledge commitments Council has approved to move forward with the paving of the circle drive and the installation of the new circle drive lights (we do not own the current lights, as they are in a rental agreement with, We Energy). Hopefully that project can begin in the spring when weather permits.

Financial Report

THANK YOU for your faithful and gracious giving throughout the year as I am happy to report the 2023 financials wrapped up on a positive note. We will acknowledge and celebrate this wonderful news at the upcoming Annual Meeting on February 4.

With more than 45 days cash on hand, Council approved to transfer \$6,000.00 to the Capitol Improvement Fund.

- Point of reference: To determine the amount of funds which can be set aside, The Finance Team and Council review the daily cash on hand calculation and value. If there is more than 45 days cash on hand, funds beyond the 45 days cash on hand, is then eligible for discussion, recommendation, and approval.
- The balance of the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) as of January 3 was \$114,248.64

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:
FEBRUARY 19 AT 6:30 P.M.**



February Birthdays



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

Calendar of events for February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*worship service/event is live streamed	<div> 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 Pam with questions. </div>			1 6:30p Al-Anon 6:30p Indian Culture Dance	2 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi 5:00p Chinese New Year Party	3 8:30a Saturday Men's Grp 8:30a Jubilate Chorale Rehearsal
4 8:30a worship* 9:45a education & fellowship 10:45a worship 3:00p Member Recital 4:15p Soup and Salad 5:00p Annual Meeting 5:00p 5th/6th graders	5 <i>Food Pantry Pick Up</i> 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon	6 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:00p quilters 6:30p handbell rehearsal	7 8:30a Retired Men's bfast 5:15p KOTK 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	8 6:30p Al-Anon 6:30p Indian Culture Dance	9 6:15a virtual men's group 9:00a book club (offsite) 10:00a prayer shawl group 1:30p Tai Chi 7:30p Chinese Bible Study	10 8:30a Saturday Men's Grp 11:00a Youth Fundraiser: Pizza/Sub Making
11 8:30a worship* 9:45a education & fellowship 10:45a worship No youth programming	12 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon	13 8:30a property team 8:30a ladies Bible study (offsite) 10:00a staff mtg 1:00p book club 6:30p handbell rehearsal	14 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 9:30a women's Bible study 12:00p worship 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p worship	15 4:00p Finance Team mtg 6:30p Al-Anon 6:30p 9th Grade Confirmation	16 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi 7:30p Chinese Bible Study	17 8:30a Saturday Men's Grp 10:00a Book club (offsite)
18 8:30a worship* 9:45a education & fellowship 10:45a worship 4:30p youth group 4:30p 5th/6th graders	19 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 1:00p women's study grp 6:30p Al-Anon 6:30p council meeting	20 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 1:00p Book Club 6:30p handbell rehearsal	21 12:00p Retired Men's lunch 5:15p KOTK 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p worship 7:00p choir rehearsal	22 6:30p Al-Anon 6:30p Indian Culture Dance	23 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi 7:30p Chinese Bible Study	24 8:30a Saturday Men's Grp
25 8:30a worship* 9:45a education & fellowship 10:45a worship 4:30p youth group	26 10:00a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon	27 8:30a property team 8:30a ladies Bible study (offsite) 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal	28 5:15p KOTK 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p worship 7:00p choir rehearsal	29 6:30p Al-Anon 6:30p Indian Culture Dance		

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

lrickinger@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:

Dorothy E	Neal S
Floyd K	Cindy H
John G	Steve W
Dylan H	Jerry M
Carol S	Cheryl H
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

Thrivent Dollars

Member to Member Reminder

A reminder to members of St. John's who have Thrivent accounts with Thrivent Dollars to use. Those Thrivent Dollars can be given to St. John's! My wife and I had received notification of dollars available from Thrivent and directed those funds to St. John's. The window for donating runs into March so there is ample time.



THRIVENT
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Connecting faith & finances for good.®

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 262-527-2404

Brittany Larson 847-533-4806

Liz Roth

Staff Phone Extensions

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

Extensions:

100	office
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