

*O beautiful for  
spacious skies,  
for amber waves  
of grain*

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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

In last month's newsletter I wrote about Cindy and my trip to Greece/Turkey, following the footsteps of the apostle Paul. Having returned from the trip, I can tell you that it was an excursion of a lifetime! Led by my colleagues at the seminary and with the guidance of great tour guides from those areas, we learned so much about the history, culture, religions, and archeology of that period.

We realized that Paul was writing his letters to specific congregations in specific areas of the Mediterranean within certain contexts. Visiting the sites where Paul was, or at least we think he was, we were able to get a much fuller picture in our minds of what it may have been like living in the time of Paul. We now have a greater appreciation of Paul's missions and the hardships he endured in order to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. I can confidently say that without Paul, the church might have stayed as a remote and regional religious cult and not the Christianity we know today.

Standing at the river in Phillipi where Paul supposedly baptized Lydia, we as a group stood in that stream and sang "Shall We Gather at the River", feeling the power of the Holy Spirit in that moment. We stood in the place near the acropolis in Athens where Paul preached to the Athenians (and he got into some trouble because of it!) We traveled to the island of Patmos where it is thought that John wrote the book of Revelation. And we visited the area of Cappadocia where the Christians lived and worshiped in caves, seeing the beautiful frescoes that adorned those caverns.

As I said, it was an excursion of a lifetime. Now that I am back I have been reading the letters of Paul with a greater appreciation of his thought, context, and purpose of what he was doing two thousand years ago. Here we are today, building upon the work that Paul began all those years ago.

Thanks be to God!

*Pastor Brian*

## What To Do?

### CALENDAR

**Thursday, July 4**

Office is closed

Town of Brookfield parade at 9:00 a.m.

**Friday, July 5**

Office is closed

**Sunday, July 7**

one worship at 9:00 a.m.



**Friday, July 12**

Family Fun Night

**Saturday, July 13**

Youth leave for National Youth Gathering

**Tuesday, July 23**

Newborn Kit Meal and Assembly

**Thursday, August 1**

Handbell Camp Concert

## Did You Miss the Deadline?

Following the recent conversion from one database to another, we have been updating and verifying information. Personal information may be updated at any time. However, we are planning to print a new directory this fall - with updated information and photos provided by you! The sooner we have your information verified, the better.

If you need assistance with the updates or the photo, contact Pam.





# Children, Youth & Families

St. John's Preschool is Proud to be a Playing to Learn Preschool.

There's Time to Work  
and Time to Play



St. John's Preschool

WHERE WE PLAY, DISCOVER, LEARN AND GROW.

**OPENINGS AVAILABLE!**

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



## Baptisms: You Are a Child of God



On June 30, we had the privilege of baptizing four siblings/cousins. Avery, Westley, Lola, and Maria, you are children of God.



Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19





# Children, Youth & Families

## Family Fun Nights

Join us on Friday, July 12 from 6:30 -8:00 for our first Family Fun Night of the year! Activities for all congregation members, no matter your age!!! Held rain or shine. We will have a Family Game Night indoors if inclement weather.



## 4th of July Parade

Join us at 8:30am on July 4 at St. John's in the circle drive to cheer on the community participating in the 4th of July parade. We'll pass out St. John's info and popsicles to parade goers! Following the parade there is a Town of Brookfield 4th of July celebration in Marx Park. Bring a chair and a smile!



Contact Joanna  
with Toddler to 8th  
Grade Questions

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

## Calling All VBS Camp Counselors and Volunteers!

Our VBS theme is Olympics, which means lots of wacky games, and our kiddos LOVE their middle and high school leaders!!! Volunteer for one day or all week. Hangout outside at Rec, lead Storytime, or have your own group of kids for the week! All training is provided and volunteering for the week (M-F) at VBS counts for 30 hours of service for school! We will schedule a volunteer Lock In training in July.

Sign Up Here: [Volunteer](#)



## Are Your Children Registered for VBS Summer Games?

August 5-9 | 9:00-12:00

Join us this summer for Summer Games VBS: Champions in Training! Kids ages 4-5<sup>th</sup> grade will compete in our own Summer Games and learn what it really takes to be a champion using the Fruits of the Spirit as a guide.

VBS runs August 5-9 from 9:00am -12:00pm. The cost is \$35/child for the week (\$120 family maximum).

Registration deadline is July 31 or when classes are full. You may use the links or the QR code.

[Register Here](#)

[Pay Here](#)

A poster for Summer Games VBS: Champions in Training. It features a torch on the left. In the center, the letters 'V', 'B', and 'S' are each inside a colored circle (blue, black, and red respectively). Below 'V' is a yellow circle with 'August 5-9'. Below 'S' is a green circle with '9:00-12:00'. Below these circles, it says 'CHAMPIONS IN TRAINING' in large, bold letters. At the bottom left is a QR code. To the right of the QR code is a red arrow pointing to it with the text 'Use QR code to register or to volunteer!'. Below the arrow is the website 'www.makedisciples.com'. At the bottom right is the St. John's Lutheran ELCA logo.

# Children, Youth & Families



**2024 ELCA Youth Gathering**  
including **MYLE the tAble**  
Young Adult Gathering

July 13 – 21 we have seven young people headed to New Orleans to worship with 14,000 others!! We are so excited for this trip and cannot wait to connect with other congregations not only in New Orleans, but on our way down as well!! During our travels to get to New Orleans we will be stopping in a few others cities and staying at local ECLA churches alongside other traveling congregations.

There are still a few things left to help us prepare for the trip!

1. Sponsor an envelope to help with our travels. Filled envelopes may go in the gas can, in the offering, or in one of the drop boxes.

## ELCA Youth Gathering Participants

What: Mini Golf

Date: July 7

Time: 10:30am

We will meet at church and drive over together to mini golf!



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

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



## 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.

2. Donate non-perishable food items for our trip. We have six days of travel in total on our way to and from New Orleans! Would you be able to donate a non-perishable food item for us to take? Sign up here to see what we are in need of: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CADAA2DA0F85-50183931-youth>



# Worship and Music

## Hymn Sing

The annual Hymn Sing will proceed each 8:30 a.m. service in August.



## Ryan Logan a "Kid from Wisconsin"

Ryan Logan, Brookfield Central 2024 graduate, will be performing on the piano with Kids from Wisconsin this summer.

Kids from Wisconsin empowers Wisconsin youth through high caliber performances and music enrichment.

To check out the performance schedule please visit:

[Calendar | Kids From Wisconsin](#)

## Save the Date

Oct. 12, 2024

St. Olaf Orchestra Concert  
at St. John's



## What's All the Ringing About?

If you stop by St. John's the week of July 29, you are sure to experience a unique and fun event – Summer Handbell Camp 2024. Director Heidi Bischmann and members of our handbell choir will participate in this exciting, educational event. A total group size of 32-37 people is anticipated to fill positions in two or more handbell choirs. Participants are from various churches, schools and community handbell choirs from around the state of Wisconsin and Michigan.

Summer Handbell Camp is a four-day intensive workshop focused on handbell technique and musicianship. Daily rehearsals and individual practice emphasize hands-on learning and group performance. Music selections will range in difficulty from Level 2+ to Level 4+ of both sacred and secular music for use throughout the year. Well known composer and clinician Sandra Eithun will direct the mass choirs in a fast-paced group setting to make this workshop enjoyable for musicians interested in improving their handbell performance.

There will be a free concert on Thursday, August 1 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary featuring the 14 handbell selections from the workshop with guest instrumentalists on piano, flute and percussion.

All are welcome to attend! Invite a friend!

If you are interested in ringing in the St. John's Handbell Choir this Fall, contact Heidi Bischmann, 414-305-7812 or [hbischmann@gmail.com](mailto:hbischmann@gmail.com).



### FREE CONCERT

August 1  
7:00 p.m.

Sandra Eithun,  
director

## Questions about music at St. John's?

Contact Becky!

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



# Caring for Our Neighbors / Serving the World

## July Outreach Focus: School Supplies

Many students in Milwaukee begin school in August. Many students in Milwaukee cannot afford proper school supplies.

During July, our outreach focus is on school supplies that will support these students to have a successful school. The item list is below and at the welcome desk.

### 2024 All Peoples School Supplies

- New Backpacks (check zippers, please)
- Single subject notebooks (wide and college rule)
- Loose leaf paper (wide and college rule)
- 3-Ring hard side binders (1½ - 2")
- 12" Ruler with inches & centimeters
- Scissors (blunt tip and older kid)
- Box of 24 crayons
- Box of 10-12 colored pencils
- Glue bottles and glue sticks
- Box of tissues
- Pack of index cards
- Compasses, Protractors
- Graph Paper (tablets or loose)
- Fat Markers (8-10 count) – WASHABLE
- Thin Markers (8-12 count)
- Pencil sharpener (with receptacle)
- **Pocket folders**
- Red pens, red pencils
- Scientific or Graphing Calculators (new or used)
- Personal hand sanitizer
- Child-size face masks (KN95)
- **USB drives**
- New ballpoint pens (blue or black)
- Mechanical pencils
- Zippered pencil pouches

**Bolded items are most needed.**  
No pencils or erasers needed this year.

All items requested by 7/31/2024

## June Outreach Focus Thank You

Wow! Thank you for your generous food donations that will make a difference to many families.



Food donations to both the Waukesha Food Pantry and the All Peoples Food are accepted year-round. Future donations may be put into these bins located in the Donation Location.



## Loaves and Fishes Meal

We have the privilege of feeding the hungry by preparing and serving the 'Loaves and Fishes' spaghetti dinner on July 7. The meal is served at the Hope Center. A few people are needed to set up and to prepare the provided food (12:45-2:15). A few other people are needed to serve the food and clean up (2:00-3:30).



If you feel called to serve others, please sign up by scanning or clicking this QR code.



Following Jesus  
Making Disciples  
Serving the World

"Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

Matthew 25:34-36



## First Aid Training



Last month the Preschool Staff and members of the Property Team participated in First Aid Trainings as part of our new AED and OAK Box upgrades. Watch for details for additional classes coming up in July and August!



## Newborn Kits



### Pinning Diapers

A small crew gathered on Tuesday, June 25 to prepare the diapers that will be included in the Newborn Kits.



You are invited to help one baby at a time!

### Room Set Up

Monday, July 22 at 6:30 p.m.  
You are invited to help set up the rooms for the assembly of the kits.



Newborn Kit Meal July 23

### Fellowship Dinner

Tuesday, July 23 at 6:00 p.m.

Potluck dinner with sandwiches and beverages provided. [Scan or click this QR code to sign up to bring a dish to share or to RSVP.](#)

### Assembly of the Kits

Tuesday, July 23 after the meal.



# Is This a Handicapped Parking Spot or Not?



## How Many Handicapped Parking Spots Do We Have?

Striping of the parking lot is complete. There are twelve handicapped parking spots on the east side of the church and two handicapped parking spots on the north side, in the circle drive. The size of our parking lot requires us to have six spots.

## What Do These Signs Mean?

You will soon see these signs posted on the north side of the building.

**Between the signs:** On Sunday mornings and during Special Events, the six spots between the signs are handicapped parking. At all other times, these spots are flex parking spots; meaning anyone may park in these spots.

**NOT between the signs:** These spots are exclusively handicapped parking, as the spots are painted, at all times.

## Why do we have flex parking spots?

Safety.

Safety of members and guests. On Sundays and during special events we want to provide ample parking for members and guests with mobility issues. These spots are located on flat areas without curbs or steps.

Safety of preschoolers. These spots are close to the doors. For families dropping off preschoolers, especially on rainy or bitter cold days, it is helpful for the grown up to drive close to the door and drop off the student, without taking siblings out of the vehicle.

Safety of staff. Staff members often work late at night. The flex parking spots allow them to park close to the door.

## Creation Corner

### Replace the Use of a Toxic Household Product This Week!

Toxic products get into and contaminate our water supplies. Discarding harmful products correctly is important, but not buying them in the first place is even better. You can ask local stores to carry nontoxic products.

### Did you know?

Waukesha County has a Product Exchange Program available at its Ongoing Collection Sites. You can drop off Hazardous Products that you don't need but also pick up items that you do need. Check out these sites before purchasing new products! Go to [www.waukeshacounty.gov/hazardouswaste](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/hazardouswaste) for all the details.



# Council Communications

The council meeting was held on Monday, June 17, 2024.

**Special Guest:** Pastor Kristen Nielsen, assistant to the bishop for our Greater Milwaukee Synod, was our invited guest at the meeting. Pastor Nielsen talked about the process St. John's will go through in the next two to three years with Pastor Brian's final year and retirement, seeking an interim pastor who will lead the congregation during our pastoral vacancy, the Mission Exploration Team process, establishing a call committee and then calling a new pastor.

The church council will keep the congregation fully informed during all that is to happen.

**Interiors Committee:** A preliminary design for a sculpture to hang over the gathering area fireplace was presented on behalf of the Interiors

Committee. The sculpture will be paid for by donations from three members of the congregation. No "Pave the Way" funds will be used. Council approved paying the sculptor a deposit for the work. A rendering of the work will be put on display when the final design is available.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Brian shared some of his experiences from his recent trip to Greece and Turkey. He plans to lead several education sessions sharing these historic places and how they relate to the Bible.

Pastor Brian is working to put together a stewardship team for the fall.

**Finances:** Offerings in May were very strong, but we are still running a deficit for the year. The council will continue to monitor our giving.

**"Pave the Way" Campaign:** Work has been done on the circle driveway. Initial sketches for the new interior signage were shared with the council. \$236,000 has been received so far.

Council leaders will meet over the summer with all ministry groups who have displays at church to discuss the current and possible future locations of their displays. Council wants to make sure that all groups have an opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas as we continue our renovation work.

Paul Bulgerin  
Church Council President

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:**  
**JULY 15 AT 6:30 P.M.**



## July Birthdays

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

1 Gail Mathes	7 Mickey Fank	17 Alice Yourell	26 Deborah Petersen
1 Diane Mueller	7 Cali Walker	19 Michele Bertrand	26 Tom Potratz
2 Karen Davis	8 Vicki Latus	19 Emma Campeau	28 Linda Klemm
2 Adalyn Elfers	8 Barbara Reed	19 Kari Stahl	28 Janice Nelson
2 Michael Wright	10 Mary Spencer	19 Charlotte Werner	28 Jacob Roth
3 Michelle Werner	11 Huxley Peters	21 John Augustine	29 Jean Borkenhagen
4 Karmen Dippmann	11 Ricky Wicklund	21 Dennis Whitehead	29 Becky Smith
5 Todd Athorp	12 Kathi Campbell	22 Maggie Scanlon	30 Jan Delzer
5 Cindy Schaefer	12 Barb Falk	24 Kyle Cornelius	30 Tyler Rateike
6 James Mathes	14 Thomas Gubbins	25 Austin Fuller	30 Ryan Walker
6 Elizabeth Smith	15 Gail Rennie	25 Bill Hughes	31 Missi Anderson
6 AJ Warp	15 Isabella Salinas	26 Debbie Bruck	31 Paul Moran
7 Campbell Erdahl	17 Sharon Mahoney	26 Sherry Olson	



# Calendar of events for July 2024

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
*worship service/event is live streamed	1 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon	2 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:00p quilters	3 8:30a Retired Men's bfast 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	4 Office Closed 9:00a Town of Brookfield Parade 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	5 Office Closed 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi	6 National Youth Gathering Group Departs							
7 9:00a worship*	8 <i>Food Pantry Pick Up</i> 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon	9 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p HR Team Zoom mtg	10 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	11 4:00p Finance Team mtg 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	12 6:15a virtual men's group 10:00a prayer shawl group 1:30p Tai Chi 6:30p Family Fun Night	13 National Youth Gathering Group Departs							
14 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship	15 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon 6:30p council meeting	16 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg	17 12:00p Retired Men's lunch 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	18 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	19 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi 7:00p Book Club	20							
21 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship	22 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon 6:30p Newborn Kit set up	23 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:00p Newborn Kit Meal and Assembly	24 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	25 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	26 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi	27							
28 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship	29 Handbell Camp 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon	30 Handbell Camp 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg	31 Handbell Camp 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	1 Handbell Camp 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA 7:00p Handbell Concert	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="#">Margie</a> with questions.								

## 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	Jerry M
Floyd K	Nancy K
Dylan H	Carol S
Carol M	Phyllis W
Marion S	Mickey F

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

## 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



**St. John's**

LUTHERAN ELCA  
Brookfield, Wisconsin

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT  
MINISTRIES AT  
ST. JOHN'S, CLICK OR  
SCAN THIS QR CODE.  
[makedisciples.com](http://makedisciples.com)



## St. John's Council

#### President

Paul Bulgerin

#### 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

Brittany Larson

262-527-2404

Liz Roth

847-533-4806



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our posts, be sure  
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