

Inspire

August 2024
Stay Informed. Be Inspired.



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

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

Pastor Ponders

by Pastor Brian Halverson

August marks the last month of the unofficial summer season. Many are taking their vacations before the kids go back to school. Most are enjoying the weather, hopefully by a lake somewhere or at least at a pool. The days are getting shorter and soon we will be in the middle of the fall season.

The fall season in the church has historically started with Rally Day, when the church's programs resume and the rhythm of activity picks up. Rally Day is a day in which we begin to rally our energies toward the upcoming liturgical cycles of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost.

This year our emphasis for the year's programming will center on Stewarding God's Gifts in all aspects of our lives. Often in church, stewardship is something we do in the fall to prepare for next year's budget. We have associated it with the collection of money, and the biblical texts we use in the fall emphasize this.

We want to expand our understanding of stewardship to include God's creation itself and

how we steward the resources that will bring about well-being for all of God's people. For example, in September we will celebrate the 50-year anniversary of World Hunger, our Lutheran response to hunger around the world. We will intentionally look at the issues affecting food scarcity in our country and in the world to better understand the underlying issues and what we can continue to do in our mission to serve the world. St. John's has been extremely active and generous in the past, and we are committed to continue our efforts in the present and future. This is, at the heart of the matter, a stewardship effort.

As we move through the year, we will lift up the various emphases with resources and opportunities to see stewardship in all of its aspects, and to see how everything is connected to it. We will be reassured and challenged which means we will grow in our faith in God, who provides all good things!

Pastor Brian

Coming Soon...

Hymn Sing

The annual Hymn Sing will proceed each 8:30 a.m. service in August. Have you requested your favorite hymn? Suggestions may be put in the box in the narthex.



Dinner Groups

Do you like to eat? Keep your eyes open this fall for information regarding Dinner Groups.

September Sunday Schedule

September 1

9:00 one service outside with bluegrass music

September 8 - May

8:30 - worship

9:45 - education and fellowship

10:45 - worship

Register for Children's Programming

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/SjnWD4ZFbwphKcLgZ>



Children, Youth & Families

Look Who's Coming to Preschool

Look Who's Coming to
Preschool this September

We Still Have Room for Preschoolers,
But No More Room for Dinosaurs



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



Happy 20th Teaching Anniversary, Mrs. Wagner

Join us at St. John's Preschool in recognizing Mary Wagner
as we celebrate her 20th Anniversary as our Preschool teacher

Mary came to St. John's Preschool teaching staff having first been a Preschool parent.

Mary continues to lovingly and creatively impact the lives of our youngest learners every day.

Mary is also a member of St. John's Choir Bell Choir and enjoys serving communion in worship.

She has a true heart for ministry and she blesses us in many ways.



Happy 20th teaching anniversary, Mrs. Wagner

Children, Youth & Families

Volunteer!

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 to discuss possibilities!

Sunday School - Created By God To Be

Save the date for September 8, 2024, for Rally Day and the first day of Sunday School! At St. John's Sunday School begins at age 3. Meet at 9:45 in the Sanctuary. More information can be found on our website!



Confirmation in the Fall

Confirmation will be continuing Sunday evenings this fall!

Due to overwhelming parental feedback, Pre-Confirmation for 5th & 6th graders, and Confirmation for 7th and 8th graders will continue with twice monthly, Sunday evening gatherings in the fall. We'll meet from 4:30-6:00pm in person at St. John's and will start each session with a meal. Look for more information and a fall schedule to come out shortly!

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.

Register

Link: <https://forms.gle/SjnWD4ZFbwphKcLg7>

Blessing of Backpacks, Briefcases, and Bags

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 25, 2024
8:30 & 10:00 a.m.



Contact Joanna
with Toddler to 8th
Grade Questions

jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org



Children, Youth & Families

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.



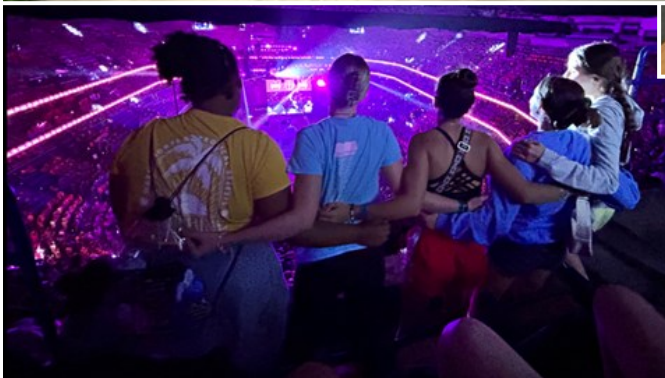
Contact Stephanie with questions about high school and young adult ministry at St. John's

sbroussard@stjohnsbrookfield.org

ELCA Youth Gathering

The end of July brought a group of seven young people and two chaperones to the fabulous city of New Orleans for a week full of fun, education, and growing in our faith! During the days we had the chance to learn & grow with some amazing Lutheran organizations, explore the city, help out with a local ELCA church, and worship with our region (where some of our youth had the opportunity to serve communion) including three Bishops! In the evenings we spent our time hearing from incredibly talented and genuine speakers as well as worship with 16,000 other people singing along with the incredible house band & professional musicians. During this week, we were:

- Created to Be Brave: You Are Not Alone.
- Created to Be Authentic: You Are Seen.
- Created to Be Free: You Are Loved
- Created to Be Disruptive: You Are Called.
- Created to Be Disciples: You Are Sent.



Worship and Music

Bluegrass worship



KOTK

Wednesday, October 2, Kids of the Kingdom begins for PreK - 6th graders. Preschool age children begin rehearsals with the large group and then continue with a separate, age appropriate rehearsal led by Mrs. DeCoto.

We meet to rehearse songs from 5:15-6:00 p.m. with a dinner to follow.

There is no charge to be involved, we just ask families to share a few meals throughout the year.

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

For more info, contact Lisa at lisajwc@sbcglobal.net.

KIDS of the KINGDOM

Questions about
music at
St. John's?

Contact Becky!

bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org



Contemporary Worship Update

Our goal for contemporary worship is to keep our congregation singing the Lord's praises. We attempt to do this in many ways.

- Kyle on lead vocal, Sam on bass (and voice) and me (Kenn) on guitar are the core of the weekly group. Missi on vocals has also been a wonderful addition.
- Paul, our drummer, adds so much to our sound, we are blessed to call him "ours". We also feature a very accomplished keyboard player whenever possible. This year we had a guest artist playing the pedal steel guitar on July 28.
- Once a quarter we offer up a bluegrass service with banjo, fiddle and frottoir (washboard).
- We work closely with Becky on special services to provide a nice blend of musical styles.
- We try to incorporate new material when appropriate to ensure a fresh sound.
- We also continue to play familiar hymns and worship songs which encourage participation from the congregation.
- We are always open to requests from the public and we will listen to your ideas and use them if we can.
- We are constantly looking to improve our sound quality and will be working with consultants in the upcoming months to that end.
- Summer worship continues outside when weather permits and is always a blast!

In His Name,
Kenn

Thank you

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

thanks

Join the Choir!

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.

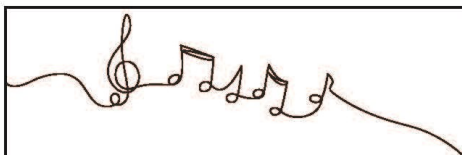
Can't commit to the whole year - NO problem!

Contact Becky Whelpley before the 1st rehearsal. bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org



Handbells and Orchestras

Summer Handbell Camp 2024



BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL!

ST. JOHN'S HANDBELL CHOIR

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm beginning Sept. 10

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 or (414) 305-7812.

NEW RINGERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Director Heidi Bischmann and members of the Handbell Choir hosted a Summer Handbell Camp at St. John's the week of July 29. Our guest clinician was Sandra Eithun, a well-known handbell composer and director. Twenty-seven handbell musicians from Wisconsin and Michigan participated in the 4-day workshop focused on handbell technique and musicianship.

The workshop emphasized hands-on learning and group performance. Fourteen pieces – ranging in difficulty from Level 2+ to Level 5 of both sacred and secular music were given to the musicians on Monday morning sight unseen. The schedule included over seven hours per day of mass rehearsals, small group sectionals and individual practice as well as snack breaks,

meals and much-needed down time. The week concluded with a public concert given by two mass choirs. It was an enjoyable week of learning new music and techniques in a group setting to improve overall handbell performance.

Thank you to St. John's staff and members for your help and support of this unique and special event.

There are openings in the St. John's Handbell Choir beginning this fall. If you are interested, 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 Bischmann – hbischmann@gmail.com or (414) 305-7812.

Save the Date

Oct. 12, 2024

St. Olaf Orchestra Concert
at St. John's



Church-wide Family Fun Nights

Fun Night Was Wacky

Over fifty people gathered for an evening of wacky fun in July. Wacky? Yes! Games you know, but with a twist like the tricycle races - the slowest is the winner. Also, no humans were hurt during the human piñata game.



Next Fun Night is August 8

You're invited to a **church-wide Family Fun Night** at 6:30 pm at the fire bowl behind St. John's Lutheran Church. Join us for s'mores, 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!



Creation Corner

Adjust your water softener cycle!

Does your home have a water softener? If your bill comes from the Waukesha Water Utility, you likely no longer need it! If you do use one, be aware that older water softeners regenerate on a timer, flushing unneeded sodium and precious water down the drain on a regular schedule. You may be wasting up to 50 gallons of water each time! Minimize the environmental impact of yours by making sure it has an on-demand setting and have a service technician come out to adjust your unit's settings for the proper level of hardness and efficiency.



Outreach Offerings



JULY - The team at All Peoples is busy assembling backpacks with school supplies. THANK YOU for your generosity in ensuring students get a good start to the school year!

AUGUST - During August, outreach offerings take a sabbatical. The word sabbatical is drawn from Sabbath. The Hebrew word for Sabbath means to “close or rest” and is connected with the last day of Creation when God rested.

A ministry sabbatical is not an extended vacation. A ministry sabbatical is a release from the routine for the well-being of the ministry.

Newborn Kits

WOW! THANK YOU!

On July 23, 2024, we met to assemble the Newborn Kits for Global Health Ministries. This was the 25th year St. John's has donated to this ministry.

The night began with a wonderful fellowship meal. It's always fun to gather & have time to relax & catch up with old friends & meet new friends while sharing a meal together.

After dinner, we assembled 650 Newborn Kits! Over the past 25 years, St. John's has donated a total of 13,717 Newborn Kits!

So often, we tell ourselves that we can't make a huge difference. This is a perfect example of making a huge impact by working together to improve so many lives.

Each kit costs about \$10-\$12, for a total cost of about \$7000, not to mention the time spent to make this happen. Through the generosity of so many people who sew, croquet, knit, shop, wash, cut & trim, fold/count items, donate money, & pray, we are able to help less fortunate

mothers receive better medical care as they come to medical facilities to receive these kits. This results in healthier babies being born & provides much needed supplies for the first months of their lives!

This ministry would not be successful without the generous donations of all. As they say, it takes a village, & St. John's has helped to improve the lives of 650 babies & their moms this year!



Council Communications

The meeting was held on Monday, July 15, 2024.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Brian shared some of the preliminary plans for the fall stewardship program. The theme will have an emphasis on caring for creation and how we can be better stewards of our property and the ecosystem around our church home.

The stewardship team will look at adding a new outreach ministry without cutting back on our current partnerships.

September will be the fiftieth anniversary of the Lutheran Hunger Appeal.

Council discussed ideas for using a generous special gift to be given by a family at church.

Finances:

Offerings in July were above the planned level. We are still behind in planned giving for the year, but the last two months have been good ones.

President's Report:

Council will meet with those groups and individuals who have ministry displays in the gathering area to discuss how to improve how they are used.

Property:

Council discussed the proposed buy-out of our current waste collection contract to save us money in the long run. Further steps will be taken to decide the best course of action on this.

"Pave the Way" Campaign:

The incorrect parking lot painting has been redone and we will move forward to paying for the work.

Paul Bulgerin
Church Council President

St. John's Council

President

Paul Bulgerin 262-352-9050

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

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:
AUGUST 19 AT 6:30 P.M.**

August Birthdays

1 Josh Werner	9 Levi Wiesner	17 Karen Wilson	30 Cathy Whitaker
2 Sonja Beyerlein	9 Cody Wright	18 Rhonda Bohne	31 Carol Hein
2 Gene Kaiser	10 Jay Carlson	18 Kevin Wolfmeyer	31 Thomas Kallin
3 Debbie Hipke-Fuller	10 Adelyn Lange	21 Emily Krusche-Bruck	31 Barb Lange
3 Phyllis Reichert	11 Kekoia Broussard	21 Carol Wasemiller	
3 Heidi Wright	11 Isabella DuChateau	22 Jason Gillette	
5 Ryan Wagner	11 Nathan Gaska	22 Weston Grabowski	
5 Karie Zach	11 Sandy Landgren	22 Bill Reed	
7 David Douglas	12 Lori Schettler	26 Dan Blask	
7 Linda Elfers	13 Dale Granlund	26 Nate Nelson	
7 Judy Klawitter	14 Alyssa Vetta	26 Ella Salinas	
7 Steven Wimmer	15 Addisyn Kaiser	27 Rich Warp	
9 Sheena Gatzke	16 Camryn Jablonowski	28 Sue Murack	
9 Cordelia Reinfeldt	17 John Nugent	28 Paul Whitaker	



Calendar of events for August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*worship service/event is live streamed				1 Handbell Camp 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA 7:00p Handbell Concert	2 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi 5:00p John James visitation (offsite) 7:00p John James funeral (offsite)	3 4:00p Jerry Mahoney visitation 5:30p Jerry Mahoney funeral service
		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.				
4 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship	5 Food Pantry Pick Up 9:00a VBS 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon	6 8:30a property team 9:00a VBS 10:00a staff mtg 6:00p quilters	7 8:30a Retired Men's bfast 9:00a VBS 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	8 9:00a VBS 6:30p AI-Anon 6:30p Family Fun Night 7:00p AA	9 6:15a virtual men's group 9:00a VBS 10:00a prayer shawl group 1:30p Tai Chi	10
11 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship	12 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon	13 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p HR Team Zoom mtg	14 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	15 4:00p Finance Team mtg 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	16 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi 4:00p Creation Care Network 7:00p Book Club (offsite)	17
18 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship	19 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon 6:30p council meeting	20 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg	21 12:00p Retired Men's lunch 5:30p Preschool Open House 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	22 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	23 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi	24
25 backpack blessing 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship	26 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon	27 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg	28 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	29 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	30 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi	31

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

We pray for peace for those who mourn the deaths of:

- John James
- Jerry Mahoney



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

Romans 1:9

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.



St. John's
LUTHERAN ELCA
Brookfield, Wisconsin

TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT MINISTRIES AT
ST. JOHN'S, CLICK OR
SCAN THIS QR CODE.



makedisciples.com

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**