

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8



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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

"If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 2:1-5)

This passage from Paul's letter lifts up the virtue of humility. Humility is a difficult thing, though, and true humility, the way Paul describes it, is almost impossible. Even when we believe that we are doing

things for others, there is most often a selfish or self-serving hidden motive behind it. Our egos may want a little recognition for the good we are doing for others. Or we may think that we are right and know better than others about what is right, and do not consider the thoughts, feelings, or experiences of others. Self-righteousness can hide itself in our believing that we are doing something that is in God's righteousness.

What Paul is calling his congregation to do is to have the courage and honesty to look within themselves to see where there own sin lies. As Jesus said, "why do you see the speck in someone's eye when you don't see the log in

your own". Paul knows very well that we cannot be of one mind if our own egos stand in the way of seeing the true mind of Christ. Sadly, many congregations in Paul's time and in our own are caught in what seems like perpetual conflict.

The question is not whether we can avoid conflict, but rather, how do we move through the conflict to come together for the sake of the gospel. This is the question that Paul tries to answer, not only to the Philippians, but to all the churches with whom he is in contact.

His answer: humility.

Pastor Brian

Plan for Wednesdays in Lent

Ash Wednesday Worship

Ash Wednesday, March 5
12:00 and 6:30 p.m.



Lenten Wednesday Worship

Wednesday Worship,
March 12 - April 9
6:30 p.m.

Lenten Wednesday Meals

March 12 - April 9
5:45 p.m.

As is customary at St. John's, there will be a meal shared at 5:45 p.m. prior to each Wednesday night Lenten service.

Volunteer Opportunity

We are looking for volunteers to organize, prepare, serve, and clean up the meals each week. In the past, meals included soups or chili, sandwiches and even pulled pork. Simple desserts and beverages round out each meal. This is the perfect one-time service project for a ministry group, choir, leadership team or circle of friends at St. John's.

Do you enjoy the fellowship shared on Wednesday evenings? Would you organize one meal this Lenten season? Contact Sonja Beyerlein for more information.

Children, Youth & Families

Science Friday in Preschool

Mrs. DeCoto's Science Friday experiments introduce Preschoolers to science and help them learn new, exciting things in a fun and hands-on way.

This Friday's lesson was Absorption and Dissolving. How do you teach that to curious Three Year Olds? With a Sugar Cube Experiment.

First, we learned what a sugar cube is (they'd never seen one!) counting to eight three times (never pass up an opportunity to count aloud), and why and how to color the water green, blue and red (next to Rainbow, these are our favorite colors).

Then the Science questions and answers began right before their eyes. When we saw the sugar cubes melting, we asked if green melted faster than blue or red. No, color doesn't matter. If not color, what is making them melt? Water. Does melting happen right away? It colors the sugar cube and then melted very quickly! Can you stop the melting? No.

And there you, too, have learned about Absorption and Dissolving.



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

Now Enrolling for 2025-2026

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

Email Us at: lrickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org
Call Us at: 262-786-4298

Children, Youth & Families

Save the Date

Sunday School

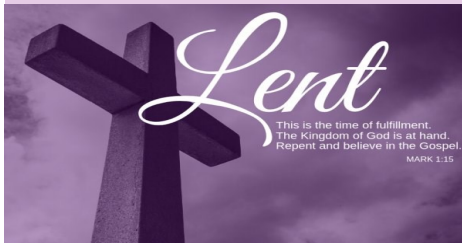


Join us Sundays at 9:45am for Sunday School! Our unit in February is all about how God made each one of us unique and exactly who we are meant to be!

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.

Family Lent Resources

Families, beginning February 23, stop by the gathering space and pick up family Lenten Resources to help guide you and your family through the Season of Lent.



Join us for
Sunday School

Sundays
at 9:45

Sunday School Offering



Join us in February as we collect boxes of cereal for area Food Pantries!

On February 23, we will line up all the boxes of cereal like dominoes and see how far our donations go!

Sunday Evenings

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

5th and 6th grade calendar:

Feb 2 Connect Class 4:30-6:00p
Feb 16 Connect Class 4:30-6:00p

7th and 8th grade calendar:

Feb 9 No Confirmation Class
Feb 23 Confirmation 4:30-6:00p



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

jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org

First Communion

First Communion Service

March 9, 2025
Worship at 8:30 or 10:45 a.m.
Chat with Pastor Brian at 9:45 a.m.

Bread Baking with Joanna

March 2, 2025 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 spring on March 9 with a Communion Chat with Pastor Brian in between services. Please RSVP to Joanna at jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org and [fill out the form online](#).

Children, Youth & Families

Subs and Pizza Making

Join us on Saturday, February 8 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!!

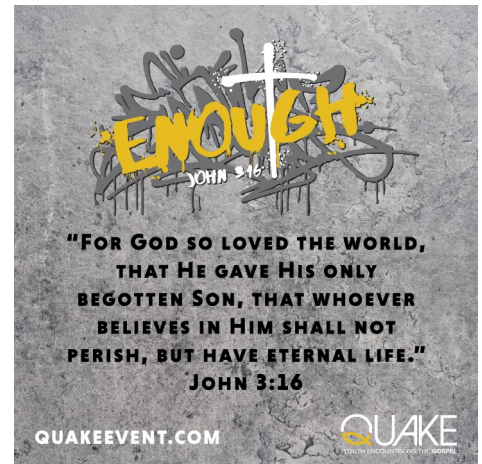


Contact Stephanie with questions about high school and young adult ministry at St. John's
sbroussard@stjohnsbrookfield.org
 or 262-453-9201

Middle School Events

Youth Quake – February 14-16

Keep Joanna and the Middle Schoolers in your prayers the weekend of February 14-16 as they travel to Wisconsin Dells to attend Youth Quake! Youth Quake gathers teens from around the Midwest who are eager to explore their faith through worship, dynamic speakers, and engaging activities.



HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR		
DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME
2/7	9th grade confirmation - Jewish Synagogue	5:30p-9:30p
2/8	Sub/Pizza Making	11:00a - 1:00p
2/16	HS Led Service Project	between services
2/16	9th grade confirmation - Sikh Temple	11:00a-1:30p
2/20	9th grade confirmation - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	6:30p-8:00p
2/23	Youth Group	4:30p-6:00p

January Service Project – Toys for Shelter Pets

Our youth led a successful service project in January. The toys they created will help keep many shelter pets active this winter.



Youth Leadership Team

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

In January, we filled health kits to send to El Salvador!



Next Service Project is February 16
 Watch for details!

Build VBS: Faith in Action

- Who:** Kids ages 4-5th grade (finishing)
Ages 6th grade and up are encouraged to join us as leaders!
- What:** Kids will learn to BUILD their lives on the Solid Rock of Jesus! Each day the Bible lesson will connect Legos and STEM as we explore putting our faith in action as we build a Giant Lego Man!
- Where:** St. John's Lutheran Church, 20275 Davidson Rd, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53045
- When:** August 4-7, 2025 from 9:00am-12:00pm.
Join us for closing Family Fun Night at 6:30 on August 7.
- How:** Register online [HERE](#).
- If you are registering more than one child, please complete a registration form for each child. Registration deadline is July 20 or when classes are full.
- Costs:** \$35 per child before June 1 (\$100 family maximum), \$40 per child after June 1 (\$120 family maximum) for VBS Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, including snacks and projects.



AUGUST 4-7, 2025
9AM - 12PM
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BROOKFIELD



Clothing Swap

Sundays in February there will be a clothing swap. Ella Salinas is hosting this service project for her confirmation! Tops, bottoms, and coats will be accepted (no undergarments, socks, or shoes please.) Anyone is welcome to look through the clothes donated and take anything they want/need! Items not taken by the congregation will be donated to local organizations. Hosting a clothing swap helps the environment because it is a sustainable practice and reduces landfill waste. The clothing swap is also important to build communities and to help people in need especially in the cold seasons.



CLOTHING SWAP

On Sundays in February

After morning services

Ella Salinas is doing a service project for her confirmation! She is collecting clothes on Sundays in February. Feel free to pick out any items donated to keep! Items not taken will be distributed among multiple community organizations.

Collection Items include: Tops, bottoms, and/or coats!

Please do not bring: Undergarments, socks, and/or shoes

Creation Corner

Explore Alternative Health and Beauty Products

This month, when you are running low on shampoo or toothpaste, consider an alternative product. Look for a plastic free alternative or one with fewer ingredients that you cannot pronounce or consider making your own at home!



Worship and Music

Music Notes

The musicians of St. John's are busy preparing for Lent - our journey together through the 40 day season.

Did you know?

St. John's has a children's choir (that includes preschoolers and middle school students), a handbell choir, a senior choir, a brass ensemble, and a praise band.

You can join any time by talking with a director, yes, there is a place for you!



Middle school ensemble that meets during the KOTK time on Wednesdays.

Make a Joyful Noise

Did God give you musical talent to share? Join a group at St. John's! Join at any time. Join for a month, join for a season, or join for a year.

Handbell Choir - Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Director: Heidi Bischmann

Children's Choir - Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m.

Directors: Lisa Weiss-Cornelius and Lana DeCoto

Senior Choir - Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Director: Becky Whelpley

Praise Band - Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Director: Kenn Anderson

Brass Ensemble - plays during 8:30 worship a few times each year. Director: Brent Logan

Questions about
music at
St. John's?



Contact Becky!

bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Becky is Back from El Salvador



On January 13, I was able to travel to El Salvador to be part of the Dedication of the Mission of Healing Community Clinic at Los Heroes (Heroes in the Faith, Salvadoran Lutheran Church). I was met by Tim and Linda Muth, seven other women mostly from Chippewa Falls, Pastor Santiago, Pastor Sonja, and the lovely people who live in the community of Los Heroes. What an absolute

joy to be a part of this visit celebrating 26 years of partnership with St. John's Lutheran Church. The trip included mini-teaching sessions on the impact of sugar in the body, wound care, a women's fair and the distribution of first aid kits for folks to keep at home and Days for Girls kits. A back to school event included registering Family Circle/ preschool children, meeting the scholarship students, passing out school supply kits and a lot of coloring!

There was also a lot of singing, praying and happiness at being together, sharing of food and much prayer. The actual buildings are a testament to the partnership but also the scholarship students

past and present that are making a difference in the community is a testament to the importance of the partnership. Thank you for your prayers and financial support

Micah 6:8

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?



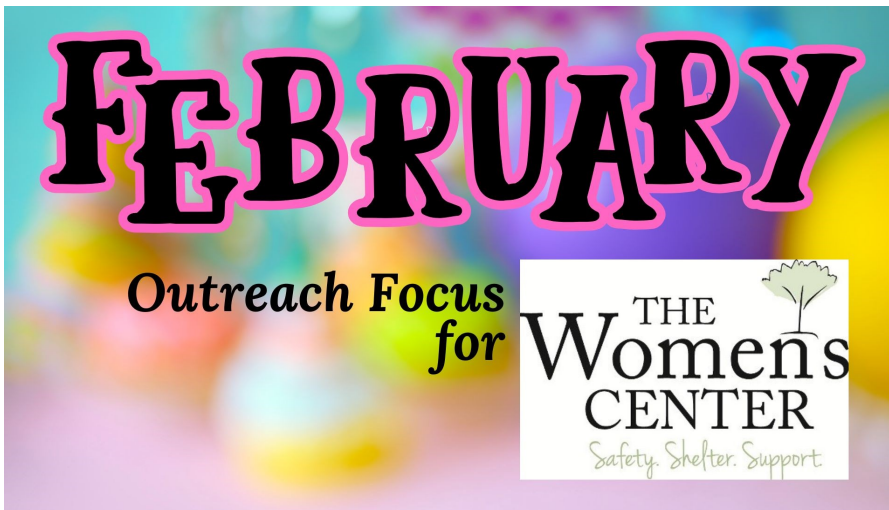
Serving the World

February Outreach Offering

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

The greatest needs, as suggested by the Center are:

- reusable water bottles
- silk and satin bonnets / head scarves for hair protection
- young adult chapter books (no violent or sexual themes)
- adult chapter books (no violent or sexual themes)
- card games (Uno, Skip-Bo, Farkle, etc.)
- word search/sudoku activity books
- individually packed snacks
- hand soap
- 2025 planners
- USB-C phone charging cords
- phone charger wall adapters
- wireless headphones (child and adult sizes)
- wireless ear buds
- TracFone phones and minute cards.



The Gift of Sight

Do you have old prescription eyeglasses laying around in a drawer? Great news. You can recycle them! Place them in the blue bin in the Fellowship Hall Donation Location.



Your old glasses will be donated to the Lions Club. The Lions Club cleans, repairs, and distributes them to needy people in developing countries.



You may also donate your old eyeglasses at any Walmart Optical center.

Loaves and Fishes

February 23

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..."

This passage from Matthew 25:34 is exactly what Loaves and Fishes is all about. This program gives people the opportunity to serve those in need of a hot meal in Waukesha County. St. John's provides the food for the meal while members help prepare it, greet the guests, and serve the meal. It is a wonderful occasion for families to work together to serve others!

St. John's will be serving the Loaves and Fishes meal at Hope Center on Sunday, February 23. We need a few people to help prepare food, greet our guests, and serve the meal. Reserve your spot online or with the QR code.

If you are not familiar with this program and would like more information, please contact Dawn Williams at 262-309-9333 or nytwnd88@gmail.com.

LOAVES and FISHES
FEBRUARY 2025



The Property Times

A monthly insight behind-the-scenes at St. John's

The Property Team

The St. John's property team is a group of volunteer members who bring their knowledge and skills to keep things running smoothly. Some members have professional backgrounds, some do not, but together they make St. John's a pleasant place to worship.

We meet weekly on Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m. to fellowship and discuss items needing attention.

HVAC Update

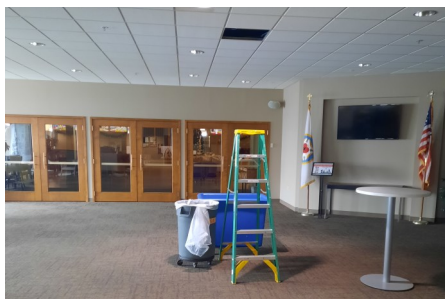


We are updating our HVAC system, which involves running new data cables.

Leaky Roof

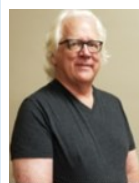
Did you notice a large blue bin in the gathering space in early January? It was not our new Baptismal Font! We had a leak in

the roof, but the team was on the job and quickly repaired it.



More Eyes Needed

We need more eyes! If you see anything that you feel property should address, feel free to contact me ... or better yet ... join our property team!



Questions about property at St. John's?

Contact Bill!

wstace@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Bargello Quilting

Here are a few of the beautiful Bargello quilt tops we made on January 10. We gathered to sew together, learn a new technique, and contribute to a worthy cause: Lutheran World Relief quilts. It's fun to sew together in a group. We will do it again soon, maybe Bargello, maybe a different technique. If you're interested, let Klaudia Hollander or Jennifer Cranfill know.



The Month of February

The month of February
Is about true love.
Hearts open as flowers
To receive their dove.

The month of February-
A time to receive,
And celebrate the one
In whom you believe.

To treasure what is,
And all that was-
In a life of belonging
To the one you love.

© Walterrean Salley

Council Communications

The meeting was held on Monday, January 20, 2025.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brian said that the Christmas Eve worship services were well attended and well received by those at worship.

Finances: The congregation ended 2024 with offerings about \$100,000 less than anticipated. However, due to the diligent work of our church staff, expenses were \$50,000 less than budgeted so we ended the year with about a \$50,000 deficit. This will be covered by congregational cash reserves.

The Finance Committee worked long and hard to prepare a budget for 2025 which reflects a more realistic income number. We have received about 110 pledges for a total of \$575,000 in pledged giving for 2025. We anticipate

total income of around \$711,000. Having made reductions in many areas and taking money from designated funds to cover some ministry needs, the council approved a budget of \$727,000 which includes a planned \$16,600 deficit. This budget will be presented to the congregation at the February 2 annual meeting.

Carrie Peters, council treasurer, presented plans to create a permanent stewardship committee which will begin work to look at ways of increasing giving, dealing with our congregational financial needs and planning for the Fall 2025 stewardship program. The council approved the creation of this committee.

Property Committee: A proposal to spend \$16,000 for needed repairs to the boiler was approved.

The money for this has been designated from the Capital Improvement Fund.

"Pave the Way" Campaign: \$302,000 of the \$312,000 pledged has been received.

The group working on the new outside sign for the church will meet on January 21 to study a proposal from Lemberg Electric for this project.

New Business: Those council members whose terms are ending in June were asked to serve, as is our policy, on the Nominating Committee.

Paul Bulgerin
Church Council President

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:
FEBRUARY 17 AT 6:30 P.M.**



February Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Luke Beukema | 8 Debbie Allard | 15 Peyton Lenell | 21 Todd Vogelsang |
| 1 Mary Beth Gubbins | 8 Katie Pavlichek | 15 Ken Paulsen | 21 Grayson Yourell |
| 1 AJ Harwood | 8 Dave Sidebottom | 15 LoRayne Schmidt | 22 Sam Salinas |
| 2 Karen Aamot | 9 Jim Holmberg | 16 Mandi Barz | 23 Ron Riesen |
| 2 Kenn Anderson | 9 Bill Schmidt | 16 Mary Tollander | 23 William Sadowski |
| 3 Carter Harwood | 10 Robert Poth | 17 Mallory Adams | 23 Steven Schellin |
| 3 Ryan Logan | 10 Brian Reed | 18 Patrice Krimpelbein | 25 Pam Truax |
| 3 Nolan Sukowatey | 11 Marion Holmberg | 18 Nick Vetta | 26 Darlene Bahr |
| 5 Ariella Beyerlein | 11 Steve Johnson | 18 Lisa Weiss-Cornelius | 26 Max Bohne |
| 6 Lia Holmberg | 11 Jennifer Templin | 19 Pamela Moore | 26 Josh Brooks |
| 6 Shirley Kerschke | 12 Gary Hintz | 20 Tierney Athorp | 26 Christine Hintze |
| 7 Ed Hamman | 14 Dennis Mueller | 20 Karissa Klink | 26 Adrian Williams |
| 7 Karen Pingel | 14 Jake Pavlichek | 20 Skip Webb | 28 Jack Schilling |

Calendar of events for February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*worship service/event is live streamed		<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 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 Heidi with questions. </div>				1 8:30a Saturday Group
2 8:30a worship* 9:45a education and fellowship 10:45a worship 12:00p Annual Meeting 4:30p youth programming	3 <i>Food Pantry Pick Up</i> 9:45a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon	4 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:00p quilters 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p Kathka dance group	5 8:30a retired men's breakfast 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	6 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	7 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi 5:30p 9th grade to Synagogue 7:30p Chinese Church	8 8:30a Saturday Group 11:00a subs and pizza making
9 8:30a worship* 9:45a education and fellowship 10:45a worship	10 9:45a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon	11 8:30a property team 8:30a ladies Bible study 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p HR Team Zoom mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p Kathka dance group	12 9:30a Morning Circle 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	13 4:30p Finance Team mtg 6:00p Faith Alive 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	14 6:15a virtual men's group 10:00a prayer shawl group 1:30p Tai Chi 5:00p Chinese Church	15 8:30a Saturday Group 9:30a Women of Faith (offsite) 10:30 Chinese New Year celebration
16 8:30a worship* 9:45a education and fellowship 9:45a service project 10:45a worship 11:00a 9th grade to Sikh Temple 4:30p youth programming	17 9:45a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 1:00p Women's Study Grp 6:30p AI-Anon 6:30p council meeting	18 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 1:00p book club 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p Kathka dance group	19 12:00p Retired Men's lunch 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	20 6:30p AI-Anon 6:30p 9 th grade confirmation 6:30p 9th grade to Church of Latter-day Saints 7:00p AA	21 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi 7:30p Chinese Church	22 8:30a Saturday Group 10:30a Tzu Chi Foundation
23 8:30a worship* 9:45a education and fellowship 10:45a worship 12:30p Loaves & Fishes 12:30p Creation Care Network 4:30p youth programming	24 9:45a yoga 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AI-Anon	25 8:30a property team 10:00a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p Kathka dance group	26 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	27 6:00p Faith Alive 6:30p AI-Anon 7:00p AA	28 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi 7:30p Chinese Church	

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:

Marion S	Connor
Floyd K	Carol M
Dylan H	Julia
Dale L	Mark A

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.

Council Contacts

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

Jack Shaffer 262-212-4240





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 Heidi Bischmann, Office Coordinator
- 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



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COMMENT
SHARE**