

“You have as much laughter as you have faith.”

Martin Luther

St. John's Lutheran Church ELCA | www.makedisciples.com

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

262-786-6887

Follow Us

Website: www.makedisciples.com

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

YouTube: @StJohnsWI

An Evening of Fellowship and Service

Newborn Kit Meal and Assembly Night is July 22

All are invited! We begin the evening by sharing a light meal. Following the meal and time of fellowship, we will move downstairs to assemble the kits.

Once we assemble the kits, we deliver them to Global Health Ministries in MN. They then ship the kits to various developing nations in Africa, Asia, & Central America. Newborn Kits are gifts that help a new mom celebrate her baby, with supplies & clothes to care for her child. Importantly, they are also used by overseas partners to encourage young women to seek prenatal care during pregnancy, greatly improving their chances for a healthy, happy outcome. Once that connection is made, they can also encourage postnatal care, including vaccinations & well-baby checks

that can help a newborn thrive. Simple access to a skilled nurse or midwife during pregnancy can mean the difference between life and death for a mom and her baby.

This ministry is only successful due to your generous donations! In

the past 26 years, St. John's has donated a total of 13,717 Newborn Kits! Let's continue to help one baby at a time!

Please contact Mickey Fank with any questions!



VBS Last Call

Hurry—Registration Closes July 20

- Who:** Kids ages 4-5th grade (finishing)
Ages 6th grade and up can be leaders!
- 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](#) or click or scan the QR code below.
- Costs:** \$40 per child (\$120 family maximum) includes snacks and projects.
(Preschool classes are full!)



Ministry Fair Rally

Join the fun on Rally Day

Ministry leaders start planning! All groups are encouraged to participate; from softball to quilting, Bible studies to choirs, book clubs to partnerships and visitation team to property.

Between services on Rally Day, September 7, St. John's will host a Ministry Fair. Discover ways you can get involved, serve others, share your talents, and be in community.



Children, Youth & Families

Preschool



There's always
room for a new
friend at Preschool



St. John's Preschool

WHERE WE PLAY, DISCOVER, LEARN AND GROW.

We have Openings in Our Preschool
Classes for You in September!

makedisciples.com/preschool
irlickinger@stjohnsbrookfield.org - 262-786-4298
20275 Davidson Road Brookfield, WI 53045



Have you tried out your
smile today?

St. John's Lutheran Church ELCA
www.makedisciples.com

We are Thankful, Grateful, & Blessed This is what our families say about St. John's Preschool

St. John's Preschool represents faith, family, and community.
For the past nine years, it has truly been a second home to our family.
We could not have asked for a more nurturing, loving, supportive, and accepting
environment. Through our time here, we've formed lasting friendships with both staff
and fellow families. St. John's has strengthened and nurtured the foundational tools
our children need to move forward in their academic journeys
—with confidence, compassion, and humility.

-Madeline C.

The teachers and staff have become like family.
Teachers have been so receptive to our feedback and insight into our
children's learning needs. They are fantastic partners in our children's education.
The staff focuses on meeting our kids where they are to encourage them to
achieve their goals. St. John's Preschool has been an incredible start
to foster a love of learning in each of our kids.

-Justine B.



St. John's Preschool

WHERE WE PLAY, DISCOVER, LEARN AND GROW.

Children, Youth & Families

Family Fun Night Recap

Our June 27 Family Tailgate Fun Night was a success with wiffle ball, sprinklers, popsicles, and more! Thanks to all who joined us. Mark your calendars for the next Family Fun Night on August 7 at 6:30.



VBS Volunteer Training Lock-In Students 6th Grade and Older

Calling all Camp Counselors & Volunteers

VBS is August 4-7. Join us for the week of VBS and help create an amazing experience for all of our elementary school friends. This year's theme is Build VBS and is Lego themed! It's sure to be a super fun week. Sign up to help with preschoolers, at a station, be a camp counselor, and more! [Sign Up Here](#).

Out of the Office

Joanna will be out of the office July 4-July 20, traveling with the delegation to El Salvador and then heading to Nashville with Ella and Charlotte to meet up with the rest of the High School Mission Trip. If anything urgent arises, please contact Heidi in the office.

July 26-27



Contact Joanna
with Toddler to 8th
Grade Questions

jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org



Children, Youth & Families

Nashville Bound!

Our Youth Are Off on a Mission Trip!

We are so excited to share that eight of our high school youth will be heading to **Nashville, Tennessee** from **July 12–19** for a week of service, spiritual growth, and unforgettable experiences! While in Nashville, our group will be partnering with local organizations to serve the community—whether it's through hands-on projects, relationship-building, or outreach opportunities. Along the way, we'll also take in the sights, sounds, and culture of this vibrant city!

As we prepare for this journey, we are inviting our church family to support our youth in two important ways:

Gas Donations: We'll be driving to Nashville, and donations toward gas costs are greatly appreciated to help get us there and back safely!

Snack Sign-Up: A Signup Genius has been created to collect snacks for our road trip down. From trail mix to granola bars to bottled water, every little bit helps keep our crew energized for the long ride! Sign up here:

[SIGN UP
HERE](#)

Thank you for keeping our youth in your prayers as they embark on this meaningful adventure. Stay tuned for updates from the road—and thank you for supporting the next generation of faith-filled leaders!





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

sbroussard@stjohnsbrookfield.org
or 262-453-9201

HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR	
DATE	ACTIVITY
July 12-19	Nashville Mission Trip
Aug 16-17	Lock-In

Save the Date: High School Lock-In!

SAVE THE DATE

**HIGH SCHOOL
LOCK-IN!**

AUGUST 16-17

**SIGN-UP INFO
COMING SOON!**

Mark your calendars for an epic night you won't want to miss! Our High School Lock-In is happening August 16–17 at church!

It'll be a full night of games, snacks, late-night laughs, and time to grow in faith and friendship. Invite your friends and get ready for an unforgettable night!

More details and sign-up info coming soon!

HELP SHAPE YOUNG HEARTS
AND MINDS:
**BE A COMPARATIVE
RELIGION MENTOR!**

Mentors are needed for 9th graders
in their final year of Confirmation.

MENTOR COMMITMENT:

- Once a month on Sunday evenings (October–April)
- One worship visit per month to another congregation

INTERESTED? CONTACT STEPHANIE.

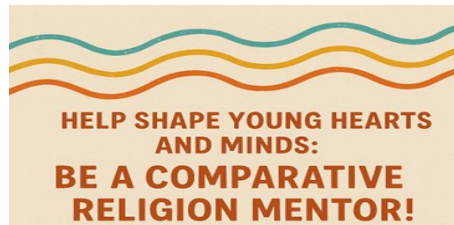
Support and Connect with Our Youth

Comparative Religions

Help Shape Young Hearts and Minds: Be a Comparative Religion Mentor!

As our 9th graders enter their final year of Confirmation, we invite you to play a vital role in their journey of faith and understanding. This year, students will explore Comparative Religions, learning not only about Christianity but also about other faith traditions through study, conversation, and real-world experiences.

We are looking for adult mentors who are willing to walk alongside our youth as they reflect on their beliefs, ask big questions, and expand their understanding of the world around them.



Mentor Commitment:

- Once a month on Sunday evenings (October–April) during our regular Confirmation gatherings.
- One worship visit per month to a congregation of another religion, accompanying students to experience different faith traditions in person.

You do not need to be an expert in world religions—just someone who is curious, compassionate, and willing to grow alongside our young people. If you're looking for a meaningful way to give back, to build relationships, and to help shape the future of our church, this is a powerful and rewarding opportunity.

Interested? Reach out to Stephanie for more details or to sign up. Let's make this an unforgettable year of learning and connection!



Youth Endowment Fund

At our June Annual Meeting, we introduced our new Youth Endowment Fund!

St. John's has a very exciting opportunity to create a legacy gift to the Children, Youth, and Family program through an incredibly generous \$15,000 financial gift designed to match all gifts towards the fund. Similar in structure to St. John's current Endowment fund, the Youth Endowment fund would use a portion of annual returns to provide children and youth of the congregation with educational scholarships, scholarships for church sponsored activities and/or trips, and to provide additional funding for special CYF programs or events. The fund is not intended to be used for funding normal

planning, in the event of budget deficits or for regular budget items.

The initial \$15,000 gift is intended as a matching gift, so as congregation members donate to the fund, their gift will be doubled! Funds will be deposited in the ELCA Ministry Growth Fund and the Children, Youth, and Family Board will oversee the Youth Endowment Fund.

If you are interested in giving a legacy gift to the Youth Endowment Fund, you can do so in a variety of ways.

Ways to donate

- Online through Vanco
- Written check with "Youth Endowment Fund" in the memo note
- Directed Required Minimum Distribution to St. John's Youth Endowment Fund
- Directed Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. John's Youth Endowment Fund

If directing Thrivent Choice Dollars or a Required Minimum Distribution to St. John's Youth Endowment Fund, please notify St. John's treasurer of the donation so it is deposited in the correct account.

**As of June 30, 2025
we have \$5,000!**
(\$2,500 donation plus
\$2,500 matching)

July Outreach is School Supplies

2025 All Peoples 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** (plastic only)
- **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.



Creation Corner

**Don't Be s Light Polluter!
Turn off all exterior lights
at bedtime!**

For millions of years, life has relied upon Earth's daily cycle of light and dark. Artificial light at night has negative and deadly effects on many creatures including amphibians, birds, bats, mammals, insects and plants. Every flip of the switch alters ancient patterns of mating, migration, feeding, and pollination. Sometimes, being in the dark is a good thing!



July Birthdays

1 Gail Mathes
1 Diane Mueller
2 Karen Davis
2 Adalyn Elfers
2 Michael Wright
3 Michelle Werner
4 Theodore Boll
5 Todd Athorp
5 Cindy Schaefer
6 James Mathes
6 Elizabeth Smith
6 AJ Warp
7 Campbell Erdahl

7 Mickey Fank
7 Cali Walker
8 Vicki Latus
8 Barbara Reed
9 Nicco Caravella
10 Mary Spencer
11 Huxley Peters
11 Sam Sadowski
11 Ricky Wicklund
12 Kathi Campbell
15 Gail Rennie
15 Isabella Salinas

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

17 Sharon Mahoney
17 Alice Yourell
19 Michele Bertrand
19 Emma Campeau
19 Kari Stahl
19 Charlotte Werner
21 John Augustine
21 Dennis Whitehead
22 Maggie Scanlon
24 Kyle Cornelius
25 Austin Fuller
25 Bill Hughes
26 Debbie Bruck

26 Deborah Petersen
26 Tom Potratz
28 Linda Klemm
28 Janice Nelson
28 Jacob Roth
29 Jean Borkenhagen
29 Becky Smith
30 Jan Delzer
30 Tyler Rateike
30 Ryan Walker
31 Missi Anderson
31 Paul Moran

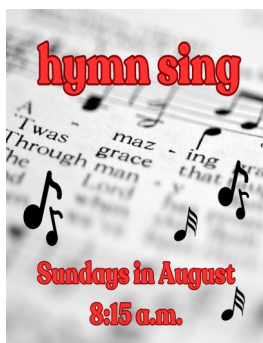
Worship and Music

Thank you, Heidi



Thank you, Heidi, for your dedication to St. John's hand bell choir as we celebrate your 10 year anniversary! We thank you for your faithful service and direction!

Suggestions Needed for Hymn Sing



In August we will again be singing your favorite hymns during the prelude to the 8:30 worship service. There will be a box out in the coming weeks for hymn suggestions. Advance notice is especially important if the suggested hymn is not in the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

Which Choir is Best For You?

It's not too early to be thinking about joining a choir. The Adult Choir and Handbell Choirs both begin rehearsals in September and the Kids of the Kingdom begins rehearsal in October. More info to follow in the August Inspire or ask Becky Whelpley, Heidi Bischmann or Lisa Weiss-Cornelius for more info.

bwhelpley@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Thank You, Musicians

Thank You

Thank you to all of the special musicians who have enhanced worship this summer!



What's All the Ringing About?

If you stop by St. John's the week of July 28, you are sure to experience a unique and fun event – Summer Handbell Camp 2025. 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, July 31 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.



FREE CONCERT

July 31
7:00 p.m.

Sandra Eithun,
director

Travel to Tanzania

We are thrilled to share we are in the early planning stage for an extraordinary journey to Tanzania in 2026!

This unique trip will be an incredible opportunity to engage with our partners in Akeri and Nguruma and experience Tanzania's vibrant culture and beautiful landscapes.

Trip Highlights:

Engage with Local Students:

Come be a witness to how you are changing children's lives through your support of the school. Spend four days interacting with teachers and students, learning about their lives, and forming meaningful connections.

Explore Diocese Ministries: Meet the district Bishop, visit Diocese ministries, such as the Goat Project, the Hospital and Orphanage, and the Coffee Project, gaining insight into their impactful work.

Cultural Immersion: Enjoy seven nights at the lush and private Arusha Serena Lodge, with two nights spent in the welcoming home of one of our partners.

Safari: Enhance your adventure with a safari to witness Tanzania's stunning wildlife and breathtaking scenery. We will spend time at Ndutu Safari Lodge and Tarangire Safari Lodge.



Trip Costs:

Prices fluctuate and depend on how many people we have in our group.

\$1200-\$1700 (approx.) per person airfare

\$4200-\$4600 (approx.) per person for park entrance fees, meals, ground transportation, accommodations, and medical insurance.

STAY TUNED for an informational session to be held in early September.

Have questions? Contact Deborah Petersen at debbierah71@gmail.com or 262-951-8893.



The Property Times

By Bill Stace

A MONTHLY INSIGHT
BEHIND-THE-SCENES AT ST. JOHN'S

BRRRRR!

I know ... it's July and heating is the last thing on your mind, BUT...



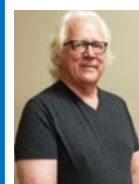
We have completed Phase 1 of our boiler system upgrade. Brian, Dave and Ken worked with Dillett Mechanical to make sure the process went smoothly.

The Property Team

Our Volunteer Team of non-professional and professional members brings their knowledge and skills to keep things running smoothly and make St. John's a pleasant place to worship.

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

building **unity**
in our
community

Council Communications

Church Council Meeting Update for June 2025

The church council met on Monday, June 16. We welcomed our new council members, Patrice Krimpelbein, Gregg Everts and Pauline Shoemaker.

Finances: Offerings for May were 29% less than budgeted. This was the first month of the year where offerings were under the budgeted amount. Expenses were also under budget for the month. So far for 2025 our offerings are 8% over the budgeted amount.

We discussed the process for setting salary and benefits for the interim pastor. These may exceed what we have budgeted for the year since the Finance Committee budgeted for an interim pastor with fifteen years of experience and all the candidates we have received have more experience than that.

Interim Pastor Search: We have received the names of three pastors who are interested in serving as our interim pastor. The synod office told us it is unusual to have so many pastors interested in serving as an interim at one congregation.

A group of council members, along with a member of the Human Resources Committee, will serve as the interview group to meet with the candidates. We hope to meet with all three during the week of June 22 so that we can keep the process going in a timely fashion.

I also shared a brief summary of the Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly which was held on May 30-31. I served as St. John's voting member at the assembly.

Property Committee: The council examined and approved the estimate to do the needed HVAC work at church. The money for this was previously set aside and will not affect the church budget.

"Pave The Way Campaign": The Town of Brookfield is holding a meeting on June 24 to discuss changing its ordinance so that it would allow institutional organizations to have electronic outdoor signs. Funds for this, if approved by the Town, are part of the money given to the "Pave the Way Campaign".

Sincerely,
Paul Bulgerin
Church Council President

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:
JULY 21 AT 6:30 P.M.**

In Our Hearts and Minds

Are you looking for a special way to honor, memorialize and/or recognize significant and special individuals in your life? These special people may be family members or dear friends. Consider placing a paver in our St. John's

Memorial Garden. You may purchase a 4"x 8" decorative paver with three lines of an engraved message of your choosing for \$125. It will be a lasting tribute to your loved one in the beautiful Garden setting.

If you would like to visit with a committee member about the pavers, you may contact Marlene Zick (262-349-4106) or Mary Almasi (262-349-1267).



Calendar of events for July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<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 Heidi with questions. </div>		1 8:30a property team 5:30p dance class 6:00p quilters	2 8:30a retired men's b-fast 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	3 5:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	4 <i>Office Closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 8:30a parade prep 9:00a parade	5
	6 9:00a worship outside*	7 <i>Food Pantry Pick Up</i> 9:45a yoga 10:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 5:00p VBS planning mtg 6:30p Al-Anon	8 8:30a property team 5:30p dance class 6:30p HR Team Zoom mtg	9 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	10 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	11 <i>Office Closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 10:00a prayer shawl group 1:30p Tai Chi
Delegation in El Salvador						
13 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship outside (bluegrass)	14 9:45a yoga 10:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 5:00p Al-Anon 7:00p stewardship meeting	15 8:30a property team 1:00p book club 5:30p dance class	16 12:00p Retired Men's lunch 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	17 4:30p Finance Team mtg 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	18 <i>Office Closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi	19 9:30a Women of Faith book club
Youth Mission Trip to Nashville						
20 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship outside	21 9:45a yoga 10:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p council meeting 6:30p Al-Anon 6:30p Newborn Kit set up	22 8:30a property team 5:30p dance class 5:30p Newborn Kit meal and assembly 6:30p Footsteps of Paul	23 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	24 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	25 <i>Office Closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 1:30p Tai Chi	26 3:00p VBS Training
27 8:30a worship* 10:00a worship outside	28 9:00a handbell camp 9:45a yoga 10:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon	29 8:30a property team 9:00a handbell camp 5:30p dance class	30 9:00a handbell camp 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	31 9:00a handbell camp 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA 700p handbell concert	*worship service/event is live streamed	Coming in Aug: Aug 4-7 VBS Aug 7 Family Fun Night Aug 21 Preschool Open House Aug 24 Backpack Blessing

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

lrlickinger@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
Carol M	Julia
Dylan H	Mark A
Nancy H	

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

Brittany Larson 262-527-2404

Secretary

Josh Werner 262-271-0639

Treasurer

Pauline Shoemaker 262-784-1638

At Large

Gregg Everts 414-640-9988

Mark Latus 262-784-1183

Brittany Larson 262-527-2404

Patrice Krimpelbein 262-389-0014

Jack Shaffer 262-212-4240



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	a pastor to be determined
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