

Ecclesiastes 3:11

He has made  
everything  
beautiful in its  
time.

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

262-786-6887

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# Pastor Ponderings—Another Season

By Pastor Karen Natterstad, Interim Pastor

As spring gives way to summer signs of new growth are visible all around us in God's creation. And, for many of us, summer is a season to take time away from our usual schedules to travel, go up north, visit family and friends. My husband Dean and I enjoy this time to get our RV out and travel to our state parks and to family in Minnesota. Time away to attend big events or find quiet moments, to have a great adventure or share a memorable experience with others, can be a great way to refresh the body and soul, and it can help give us a new perspective.

Let me suggest two ways to include spiritual renewal in your summer plans, especially if you are away.

First, consider finding a church and attend their worship. It's easy, with online search tools, to find a church near where you are. God desires your worship. And, you can learn a lot by being a visitor. Have some free coffee and experience the hospitality practiced by another congregation. Healthy churches love visitors. They don't care if you're just in town for the weekend or have moved in down the block. They're just glad you came and are genuinely delighted to meet you. In fact, churches in tourist areas learn to expect visitors, and see it as part of their ministry. Also, you might bring back some ideas for St. John's. Churches love to borrow good ideas from each other. I'd love to hear your experiences when you are back worshipping with your faith family at St. John's.

Secondly, the change of routine or travel that comes with summer can be another chance to develop a daily habit of personal devotions. This has been a way Christians have practiced their faith for a long, long time before the congregation with pastors and Sunday Schools became the perceived "experts" for teaching or nurturing our faith. Martin Luther, concerned about the faith of the people, wrote a Catechism that he believed was more effective if used by parents to instruct their children at home. Today, there are many devotional books or APPS that you can use. Taking five minutes to read a devotion or a short prayer will help you connect

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." says the writer of Ecclesiastes (3:1).*

with God and create a perspective for your day. I'm currently using the APP called "Daily Prayer" (I use the morning prayer) by the Church of England. Ask friends what they are using if you need some ideas.

Finally, I want to let you know that the season for my interim is soon coming to an end. My last Sunday will be July 12. I had agreed to serve for a year. And while I have enjoyed our ministry together immensely, I want to honor that

commitment to my family. Council is already in conversation with the Synod staff about the possible need for another interim (or what is called a Bridge Pastor, who serves until your next called pastor arrives.) Keep praying for

your Call Committee and the candidates they will interview. Maybe it won't be long.

On the journey with you for only a bit longer,  
Pastor Karen



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**JUNE 7, 2026**  
**10:15 A.M.**

St. John's LUTHERAN ELCA Brookfield, Wisconsin

A poster for a congregational meeting. It features a blurred background of a person in a light blue shirt standing at a podium in a church sanctuary. The text is overlaid in white and blue boxes. The St. John's Lutheran ELCA logo is in the bottom right corner.



St. John's  
**Summer WORSHIP**  
MEMORIAL DAY TO LABOR DAY  
**9:00 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY**

St. John's LUTHERAN ELCA Brookfield, Wisconsin

A poster for summer worship. It has a light blue background with a bokeh effect. The text is in various fonts and colors. The St. John's Lutheran ELCA logo is in the bottom left corner.

# Worship

## A Grand Tune Up

On May 6, Kris Klein from Klein's Piano Workshop began scheduled maintenance on the grand piano in our sanctuary. Kris brings over 40 years of professional service. The keys and hammers were physically moved to the shop and brought back two days later to be reinstalled.

This maintenance will ensure that the piano serves St. John's for another 28 years, sounding and feeling great.

It included:

- Reshape & Restore Hammers; Remove deep grooves from hammer felt.
- Voice hammers for even volume and tone
- Grand Action: Partial Regulation; Regulation is the process of making each key play and respond properly to the pianist's touch.



# Staffing Update

## Staff Changes

Council and HR Team are moving forward with a new full time staff position of Office Manager due to the resignation of Office Coordinator, Heidi Bischmann. (Heid will continue on staff in her role as Bell Choir Director). This new position will assume some of the staff oversight, reducing the number of staff our next pastor will supervise. It also will mean the elimination of the part-time Property Manager, currently filled by Bill Stace. Bill has agreed to continue in this role until a new Office Manager is hired.

## Office Manager Job Opportunity

St. John's Lutheran Church in Brookfield has an immediate opening for an Office Manager. This key member of our leadership team will provide leadership and oversight for the Financial, Administrative, Operational, IT and Human Resources functions of the Church.

Responsibilities include:

- Finance and Accounting. Serving as Financial Secretary for the Church,
- Supervision of Bookkeeper, Administrative and Custodial employees,
- Oversight of facilities and building maintenance and security,
- Information systems and Office Technology management,
- Human Resources responsibilities and oversight of payroll and benefits administration.

This is a full-time salaried position with benefits. The ideal candidate for this position will have three to five years related management experience.

A complete job description is available at [www.makedisciples.com](http://www.makedisciples.com) under Resources, Job Opportunities. Applicants should submit resumes and references by June 21, 2026, to [info@stjohnsbrookfield.org](mailto:info@stjohnsbrookfield.org).

# Children, Youth & Families

## Meet Teresa Baliff

### *Hello St John's Congregation!*

This is Teresa Bailiff, the new director here at St. John's Preschool. I am passionate about early childhood education and helping children develop a love for learning. It's an honor to be a part of this preschool ministry and I look forward to serving our students and families.



## Thank You for the Statues

Thank you for my truly meaningful retirement recognition in worship, your gifts, your kind words, and lovely reception. It has been an honor to work with the Preschool staff and Board, the church staff, and the Preschool children and their families for the past thirteen years. I'm looking forward to spending time in my gardens and will smile as I see your gift of the little boy and girl garden statues as a remembrance.



## What a Great Year We Had!



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



# Children, Youth & Families

## Save the Date: High School Lock -In!

High school youth — mark your calendars for our Lock-In beginning on **Saturday, August 1!** This overnight event is always a favorite filled with games, food, laughter, late-night fun, and time together as a youth group community.

More details to come, but for now, be sure to save the date!



## Baptism Vows Affirmed!



## Prayer Partners

This summer, our high school youth will be heading to the Boundary Waters for a week of canoeing, camping, community, and faith growth. We invite you to support our group by becoming a Prayer Partner during the trip!

Prayer Partners will receive a packet with:

- A profile of our youth participants
- A brief trip itinerary
- Daily prayers and ways to support the group throughout the week

Thank you for surrounding our students with encouragement and prayer as they embark on this unforgettable adventure!



## Creation Corner

### Visit a Local Farmers Market!

Do you love summer farmers markets? Did you know you can find one every day of the week in Waukesha County?! It's true! Eat locally sourced food year-round while supporting your local economy. Visit the link below to explore all the different farmers markets in Waukesha County!




<https://lakecountryfamilyfun.com/local-farmers-markets/>

# Vacation Bible School

## Calling all Camp Counselors and Volunteers

Students finishing 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older – 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 Animal Encounters and each day there will be a new animal to meet! It's sure to be a super fun week. Sign up is below.

**WHO???**  
Students finishing 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older!



**VOLUNTEER**



Sign up to help with preschoolers, at a station, as a camp counselor, and more!

[Sign Up Here](#)



**lock In**

Back by popular demand  
--  
Volunteer Training Lock In on July 25-26

## Classes are Filling Up ... Register Soon



**Animal Encounters VBS**  
August 3-6, 2026  
St. Johns Brookfield  
[www.makedisciples.com](http://www.makedisciples.com)

**Who:** Kids ages 4-6<sup>th</sup> grade (going into). Ages 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up are encouraged to join us as leaders!

**What:** Join us for an exciting week of Animal Encounters as we dive into stories in the Bible and meet their animal stars! Each day will include a live animal encounter, crafts, snacks, and outdoor fun!

**Where:** St. John's Lutheran Church, 20275 Davidson Rd, Brookfield, WI

**When:** August 3-6, 2026, from 9:00am-12:00pm.  
Join us for closing Family Fun Night at 6:30pm on August 6.

**How:** Register online here  
<https://forms.gle/te15ApooSkztTuzU7>

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:**  
\$40 per child after June 1 (\$120 family maximum) for VBS Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, including snacks and projects.

Scan or click this QR code for all things VBS.

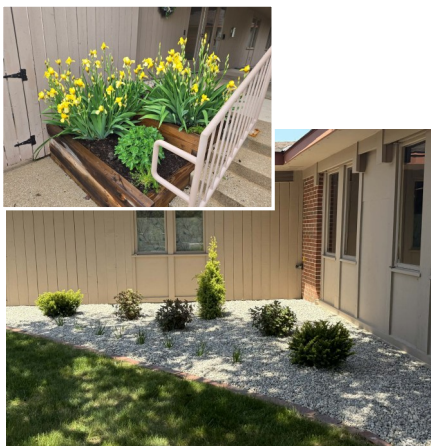


# Outdoor Refresh

## Main Entry Makeover

Have you noticed the refreshed landscaping at the main entry? There are new shrubs & perennials, borders cleaned up, mulch, and the rocks have been top dressed!

This was a much-needed spruce up to the area and has been funded by private donations. The raised beds will be receiving some colorful flowers soon too, with a grant from St. John's endowment.



## Raking and Weeding and Pruning, Oh My!

Our volunteers celebrated Spring on May 5 in the best way possible, by sprucing up our lovely grounds!

Thank you all for another great Spring Clean-up! The volunteer work crew included:

Dan Hintze, Keith Paukner, Sandy Paukner, Jerry Hanson, Kathi Hanson, John Almasi, Mary Almasi, Taylor Biernasz, Jen Logemann, Ali Logeman, Bill Davis, Kathy Davis, Uncle Phil Peters, Carrie Peters, Huxley Peters, Jude Peters, Marl Latus, Dave Yourell, Brian Cranfill, Bill Stace, Dick Gennermann, Steven Schellin. Ken Bahr, Terry Hoepfner, R. George Vogt, Gregg Everts, Sara Everts, Dave Beyer, Evan Zach, Eli Zach, Kani Zach, and Brian Zach.



## June Birthdays

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

- |                         |                     |                            |                         |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Claire Zuck           | 9 Keith Paukner     | 14 Kim Rateike             | 22 Neal Mathes          |
| 2 Allison Krusche-Bruck | 9 Kim Zimdars       | 15 Nolan Dominguez         | 22 Benjamin Zaeske      |
| 3 Macy Kaiser           | 10 Benjamin Beukema | 15 Dale Riley              | 23 Aaron Hintze         |
| 3 Doris Klitzke         | 10 Heather Campeau  | 15 Benji Salinas           | 23 Chris Klink          |
| 4 Samuel Aune           | 10 Brian Cranfill   | 17 Gerri Johnson           | 23 Andy Petersen        |
| 4 Marlene Zick          | 10 Amy Hutchinson   | 17 Chuck Klawitter         | 23 Willy Wright         |
| 5 Olivia Sukowatey      | 10 Carter Lurvey    | 17 Abby Senior             | 25 Laura Gundlach       |
| 6 Dennis Hartman        | 13 Erica Burns      | 18 Tyler Schettler         | 27 Denise Kirschman     |
| 7 Mikayla Martin        | 13 Juliet Gundlach  | 18 Meredith Wafle          | 28 Josh Petersen        |
| 7 Kate Schettler        | 13 James Janz       | 19 Barry Dahlgren          | 29 Scott Bingenheimer   |
| 7 Mary Wagner           | 13 Joanne Reinfeldt | 19 Liam DuChateau          | 29 Marie Emmons         |
| 8 Justin Douglas        | 14 Bill Davis       | 19 Evie Wright             | 29 Penny Holt           |
| 8 Ralph Zick            | 14 Terrence Katka   | 20 Samantha Price-Bertrand | 29 Sally Schoeneman     |
| 9 Kathryn Bingenheimer  | 14 JoAnn Klein      | 21 Tom Hoffman             | 30 Maddie Vanden Heuvel |

# June Outreach Offerings

**During June, Don't Purchase ... Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle**

## Soccer Cleat "TACOS" for El Salvador

In El Salvador, soccer cleats are called "tacos". Community soccer teams for children and youth in Los Héroes are once again practicing and competing. We can support this healthy and fun activity by donating soccer cleats!

Have your kids outgrown their cleats? Please wash them thoroughly and bring them to church to donate. Deadline is August 2.



## Gently Used Purses for Women Veterans

The American Legion Todd Post is collecting new or used purses (in excellent condition) to fill with things such as tissues, lip gloss, or other items we have in our own purses. They will be distributed to women veterans in need.

If you have any purses to donate, you can put them in the designated blue bin in the donation location or give them to Barb Reed.



## Plastic Caps and Tubes for All Peoples

All Peoples Church is collecting plastic caps to be used to create a sustainable mural on the greenhouse wall.

Cardboard tubes (toilet paper or paper towels) will be used to help their seedlings grow strong in the garden!

**All Peoples Gathering Church:**  
**Cap & Tube Drive**  
Collection Date: **June 01- August 23**  
Caps and plastic lids will be used to create a sustainable mural on the greenhouse wall.  
Tubes will be used to help our seedlings grow strong in the garden!  
Drop-off Location:



*Donated items may be placed in the shopping cart during the month of June.*

## Synod Assembly

### Relationships and Representatives



Joanna, Ella, Charlotte, and Dave reunited with EL Salvadoran Bishop Guadalupe Cortés.

St. John's was well represented at the 2026 Synod Assembly by Pastor Karen and voting members Gregg and Phil.



## Check It Out

Another very interesting book that is available at St. John's Library, is "The Women of the Bible Speak" written by Shannon Bream. She details the lives and wisdom of 16 women in the Bible, and their lessons for all of us today. As author Ainsley Earhardt put it, "Shannon shows us that no matter what you are going through, other people experienced the same types of things, and still came up on top."



Check it out at our library.

# Council Communications

The meeting was held on Monday, May 18, 2026.

The council thanked its out-going members, Josh Werner and Mark Latus, for their service to St. John's.

**Finances:** There were some major revisions and clarifications to the financial report. Earlier in the year the Finance Committee had decided to allocate some of the 2026 offerings, which were given at the end of 2025, to our April income numbers. This was not done in April, so this amount of \$17,000 will be applied to the May financial report.

Staff salaries were higher in April due to the beginning of May payroll being paid on April 30. This gave us three salary pay periods in April. There will only be one in May. Finally, \$21,000 in property expenses for the new sanctuary LED lights and the door lock security system, were charged to the property budget. These will later be switched to the capital improvement fund which will lower the amount spent from the property budget.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Karen shared that her interim ministry will end on July 15.

We have hired a new preschool director, Teresa Bailiff. She begins her duties the week of May 18.

**President's Report:** The Nominating Committee is still seeking a candidate for church council president.

An update was given on the work to revise our church constitution. We have a few items still to include and some minor revisions to make. A special congregational meeting will be held at a later date to approve the new constitution.

A "Thank You" letter from the Greater Milwaukee Synod was shared with council in appreciation for the mission support St. John's gives.

**"Pave the Way" (PTW) Campaign:** Brian Zach reported that the Town of Brookfield has approved changing its regulations concerning electronic signs for institutions and government organizations. This is good news. Work on these changes will begin soon which will allow St. John's to move forward with getting our sign. All funds for this have previously been allocated through the Pave the Way campaign.

**New Business:** The Call Committee is holding a mock interview with Pastor Kristin Berglund on May 19 to practice for future interviews with potential pastoral candidates. They offer their thanks to Pastor Berglund for volunteering to help with this. They will also meet with Pastor Kristin Nielsen from the synod on June 2 to receive more information on the call process and how we will receive information from pastors interested in the call to St. John's.

All the recommended bequests from the Endowment Committee were approved. Twenty-four grant applications, totaling over \$26,900, were funded.

Information was shared about the process to call a "bridge pastor" once Pastor Karen's interim ministry ends. A bridge pastor serves a congregation for the period between the ending of an interim ministry and the calling of a new pastor. We obviously don't know how long this will be. Our initial plans call for using pulpit and visitation supply during the last two weeks of July and the first two weeks in August, with the bridge pastor beginning at St. John's in mid-August.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Paul Bulgerin  
Church Council President

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

**CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING**

**JUNE 7, 2026  
10:15 A.M.**



# Calendar of events for June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*worship service/event is live streamed	<b>1</b> 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	<b>2</b> 8:30a property team 6:00p quilters 6:30p scouts	<b>3</b> 8:30a retired men's b-fast 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	<b>4</b> 6:30p AL-Anon 7:00p AA	<b>5</b> <i>office closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 1:00p Tai Chi	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>9:00a worship*</b> 10:15a annual meeting 1:00p piano recital	<b>8</b> <i>Food Pantry Pick Up</i> 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	<b>9</b> 8:30a property team 6:30p HR Team Zoom mtg 6:30p scouts	<b>10</b> 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	<b>11</b> 4:30p Finance Team mtg 6:30p AL-Anon 7:00p AA	<b>12</b> <i>office closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 10:00a prayer shawl group 1:00p Tai Chi	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>9:00a worship*</b>	<b>15</b> 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p council meeting 6:03p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	<b>16</b> 8:30a property team 6:30p scouts	<b>17</b> 12:00p retired men's lunch 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	<b>18</b> 6:30p AL-Anon 7:00p AA	<b>19</b> <i>office closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 11:30a Women of Faith 1:00p Tai Chi	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <b>9:00a worship*</b> Scout Open House 1:00p Eagle Scout BOR	<b>22</b> 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	<b>23</b> 8:30a property team 6:30p scouts	<b>24</b> 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	<b>25</b> 6:30p AL-Anon 7:00p AA	<b>26</b> <i>office closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 1:00p Tai Chi	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>9:00a worship*</b>	<b>29</b> 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	<b>30</b> 8:30a property team 6:30p scouts	<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;">                     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="#">Heidi</a> with questions.                 </div>			<b>Coming Soon:</b> 7/3 office closed 7/11 Boundary Waters 7/15 Pr. Karen's last day 7/27 handbell camp 7/30 handbell concert

## Contact Us

### Office Hours

The St. John's phone is answered and doors are monitored for entry 9:00-Noon, Monday to Thursday.

### 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

tbaliff@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:

Connor	Sonja B
Carol M	Doris K
Dylan H	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](http://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

Liz Roth 847-533-4806

Patrice Krimpelbein 262-389-0014

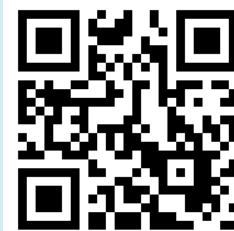
Jack Shaffer 262-212-4240



To learn more about ministries at St. John's, click or scan this QR code.

Following Jesus, Making Disciples, Serving the World.

[makedisciples.com](http://makedisciples.com)



## Staff Phone Extensions

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

### Extensions:

- 100 Heidi Bischmann, Office Coordinator
- 101 Pastor Karen Natterstad, Interim Pastor
- 102 Pam Klink, Communications Coordinator
- 103 Bill Stace, Building Supervisor
- 104 Joanna Salinas, Children's Ministry
- 105 Stephanie Broussard, Youth Ministry
- 106 Dorothee Chen, Bookkeeper
- 107 Becky Whelpley, Music Director
- 200 Teresa Baliff, Preschool



### Attention Facebook Users

Evangelize with our posts, be sure to: **LIKE COMMENT SHARE**