



Annual Program Report

JUNE 7, 2026

Following Jesus, Making Disciples, Serving the World

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agenda..... 3

Minutes from February 1, 2026 4

Administration Reports..... 6

- President’s Report
- Pastor Report
- Membership Report
- Communications
- Finance Team/Treasurer Update
- Human Resources

Committee Reports..... 14

- Endowment Fund
- Gifts and Memorials
- Interiors Visioning Team
- Library
- Memorial Garden with Columbarium
- Stewardship
- Worship

Care Ministries..... 19

- Funeral Reception Ministry
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Quilting Group
- Visitation Ministry
- Yoga Group

Grow Ministries 21

- Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
 - Preschool
 - Children’s Ministry
 - Middle School Ministry
 - High School and Young Adults
 - Children, Youth, and Family Board
- Adult Ministry 25
 - Adult Ministry Team
 - Ad Hoc Groups
 - Friday Morning Ladies’ Book Club
 - Friday Men’s Group Discussion (MGD)
 - Koinonia Support Group
 - Retired Men’s Meal Ministry
 - Saturday Morning Men’s Group
 - Sunday Night Couples Group
 - Tuesday Morning Bible Study Group
 - Tuesday Afternoon Book Club
 - Tuesday Night Bible Study Small Group
 - Wednesday Morning Circle

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Women of Faith Book Club
- Women’s Monday Afternoon Study Group
- Young Adult and Parents Group

Service/Outreach.....31

- Music Ministry
 - Music Coordinator/Organist
 - Handbells
 - Kids of the Kingdom
 - Praise Band
- Service at St. John’s35
 - Hospitality Ministry
 - Offering Counters
 - Property Team
- Local Service37
 - Christmas Food Drive
 - Hope Center
 - Hope Center Lunch
 - Loaves and Fishes
 - Monthly Outreach Focus
 - Ongoing Collections and Donations
 - Outreach Support
 - Project Move
 - The Women’s Center
- Global Service41
 - ELCA World Hunger
 - Newborn Kits
- Partnerships42
 - Akeri/Nguruma Parishes and School, Tanzania
 - All Peoples Lutheran Church, Milwaukee
 - Héroes of the Faith, El Salvador

Interest Groups.....45

- Men’s Softball Team
- Winter’s Farmer Market

Pave the Way Update.....46

New Business47

- Nominating Committee

AGENDA

1. Call to Order, Opening Prayer
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes from the February 1, 2026, meeting
4. Finance Team Report
5. Pastor, Staff, and Ministry Reports
6. Unfinished Business
 - a) Pave the Way and church sign update
 - b) Church Constitution Revision
7. New Business
 - a) Call Committee update
 - b) Coming Search for a Bridge Pastor
 - c) Nominating Committee Report and Election of Council Members
8. Announcements
9. Closing Prayer / Adjournment

MINUTES – FEBRUARY 1, 2026

St. John's Congregational Meeting Minutes for February 1, 2026

- Opening Prayer – P. Bulgerin
- Approval of Minutes from June 1, 2025
 - Approved as written
- Treasurer's Report 2025 – P. Shoemaker
 - Income 4% above budget, Expenses 4% below budget
 - Overall, approximately \$30,000 net positive for 2025
- Unfinished Business
 - Pave the Way update
 - Outdoor sign approved by Town of Brookfield for electronic messaging center
 - Permitting is currently underway
 - Goal is sign installed Summer 2026
 - Interiors to replace brown chairs with additional PTW funds
 - Expected excess funds are 50-60K. Finance recommends excess funds transferred into Capitol Improvement Fund.
 - Update on Youth Endowment Fund
 - Discussed at June 2025 meeting. Started with matching funds from a congregational donor
 - Current fund is over \$30K and meets requirements to place into ELCA Growth Fund
 - Dividends will be used for additional youth needs beyond the annual budget
 - Church Constitution
 - Started revising in 2019 but derailed by COVID
 - Goal is to bring into alignment with ELCA Synod guidelines
 - Pastor Scobee (from Synod) has reviewed and returned a draft with suggested changes
 - Goal is for congregational review and hopeful approval at June Congregational Meeting
- New Business
 - Information on the MET – Shelley Saeger
 - Surveys completed, themes gathered by MET team
 - Small groups are underway, targeting a variety of voices
 - Community outreach to local community to find where areas of need and opportunity exist
 - Results will be used for the Mission Site Profile (MSP) that is the document the Synod will use to find pastoral candidates
 - Next steps:
 - Goal is to have MSP and MET work complete by the end of April 2026
 - Committee Financial Reports (provided in written form)

MINUTES – FEBRUARY 1, 2026

- Endowment Fund
 - Open Enrollment Window for Grant Applications (March/April 2026)
 - Online and paper applications available
- Representatives to Synod Assembly (May 29-30)
 - Greg Everts
 - Phil Peters
- Election of Nominating Committee
 - Carol Wasemiller
 - Lisa Belli-Fuchs
 - 2 Council Members TBD
 - Need to fill one council position, Secretary and President
- Budget discussion and approval
 - Overall budget is similar to actual 2025 income and expenses
 - Projected income: \$748,229.72
 - Projected expenses: \$770,772.30
 - Slight deficit budget (about 2%; 22K absolute)
 - Restored funding to those ministries that had significant cuts in 2025
 - Question: Is there a budget for the Call Committee?
 - Motion to amend \$1000 for Call Committee
 - J. Beyerlein, L. Belli-Fuchs
 - Passed
 - Question: budget for partnership travel?
 - No trips planned this year
 - Budget passed as amended.
- Meeting Adjourned at 12:42. – P. Bulgerin

ADMINISTRATION

Council President Report

Paul Bulgerin

This past year has seen a lot going on at St. John's as we began all the necessary work following Pastor Brian's retirement in May of last year.

The biggest accomplishment was calling Pastor Karen Natterstad to serve as our interim pastor in July. Pastor Karen has done an outstanding job leading our congregation, preaching wonderful sermons and working with the staff and leadership.

She also put together the Mission Exploration Team (MET) and worked with them from last fall until April of this year. Under her guidance the MET held meetings with members, gathered all the necessary information and created the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) which was presented to the congregation at our Town Hall meeting in April.

She recruited the members of our Call Committee who are now beginning their important work of seeking to find our new pastor.

Many thanks to Pastor Karen for all her hard work!

Her ministry with us ends in mid-July and we are beginning the process to find a "bridge pastor" who will serve St. John's following her departure to the time our new pastor arrives. We obviously don't know how long this will take, so there are a lot of unknowns about calling a "bridge pastor". We will keep the congregation informed.

Our congregational finances are in good shape after strong offerings in 2025 and through the first five months of this year. Our Stewardship Committee and Finance Team continue to keep a close eye on offerings and expenses.

The many volunteers on our Property Committee continue to care for our building, doing all those necessary jobs, both big and small, to keep it in good shape.

The "Pave the Way" campaign is wrapping up. The one big job still to complete is the electronic outside sign. Here, thanks need to be given to Brian Zach who continues to work with the Town of Brookfield trying to get approval for this project.

Finally, we are working to update our congregational constitution to bring it in line with the model constitution for the ELCA. I had hoped to bring the constitution up for a vote at our June meeting, but there are still several items in it where we are working with Pastor Sarah Stobie, the secretary of the Greater Milwaukee Synod, to make sure that everything is properly done and in order. When we are ready for approval, we will hold a brief congregational meeting to do so.

In Christ,

Paul Bulgerin

ADMINISTRATION

Pastor Report

Interim Pastor Karen Natterstad

In July 2025, I started as interim pastor at St. John's following the retirement of Pastor Brian Halverson. My primary task was to work with a Mission Exploration Team (MET) to create the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) for St. John's. This document serves like a job description for the next called pastor. I join you in giving thanks for this six member MET: Ben Allbaugh, Sarah Everts, Jerry Hanson, Andy Petersen, Shelley Seager, and Mary Tollender. Their dedication, imagination, and prayerful reflective work was to collect your input, condense it, and identify the skills and attributes for the next pastor that will best serve with this congregation. They finished their task in early April, presenting their work to the congregation and Synod in a Town Hall meeting on April 12. The Call Committee's work is now underway, to use the information MET put into the MSP to interview and recommend a pastor. I'm not involved in this part of the call process. Our synod, Pastor Kristin Nielsen - Assistant to the Bishop, works with the Call Committee and Council to complete the call to your next pastor.

In my time with you, I understand that St John's has evolved into a solo pastorate, and possibly for numerous reasons. It is important however to acknowledge that the years of a Senior and Associate pastor (or 3 pastors) is in your past (for now). I've been able to experience this condensed work of weekly preaching and worship leading, pastoral care, staff leadership, and programmatic development and involvement. Even with all my experience and developed skills, it's been a big job that is both exciting and can become overwhelming. For your next pastor both setting priorities and a manageable pace will be important. I'm happy to see that evaluating ministry commitments is part of the MSP that I believe will both support St. John's current staff and volunteer capabilities as well as invigorate prioritized ministries.

I have greatly appreciated the staff at St John's, all who work part time with a full time commitment. This year we hired a new Bookkeeper, Dorothee Chen, to replace a much appreciated Rebecca Mitchell. We also hired a new Preschool Director, Teresa Bailiff to follow Laura Rickinger, who retired. The staff continue to work as a team and have welcomed me as team leader. (And while I don't have direct oversight of custodians, musicians, and preschool teachers, I'm also aware and grateful for their contributions.) Your church staff have appreciated, want, and need a pastor who will lead them by holding a big picture for this congregation's ministry, who will coordinate their work with Council leadership, and who will bring prayer, faith and theological reflection to our shared work of ministry.

Likewise, I have appreciated the gifted lay leaders with whom I have had the privilege to serve. I especially want to thank the Council and President Paul Bulgerin. I have found Paul, your former pastor to be an effective, thoughtful, and faithful President. And your current Council are insightful, fair, and good decision-makers.

There are many more of you who I want to thank for your leadership as teachers and small group leaders, visitation ministers, and committee members and leaders. Every week I get to see examples of church members engaged in meaningful service in this church and through this church. And, I thank God for you.

ADMINISTRATION

Another important part of my interim ministry has been to lead evaluations of our work (in other words, ask lots of questions!), to help you grieve what has changed and let some things go, and to encourage us to be creative or just try some new things. I was able to bring a preaching series to the Adult Ministry team's fall book discussion, Rick Warren's book, *40 Days of Community*. I expanded the reflection on community with a 6-week preaching series. With Music Director, Becky Whelpley, we designed a new format for the mid-week Lenten worship. We made it into a series on prayer, through a reflection on five biblical characters engaged in prayer. And with Becky, we evaluated worship attendance and volunteer support, deciding to try one service for this summer. Please, evaluate again, as trying something includes reflecting on its effectiveness in engaging worshippers.

With Children's Ministry Coordinator, Joanna Salinas, and Youth Coordinator, Stephanie Broussard, we committed to offering a weekly children's message in worship. We are pleased by both the children and adult engagement in these messages. I also invited you to use a new tool, a Prayer Card, to share prayer concerns and celebrations with the gathered at worship. You've embraced this practice whole-heartedly, understanding what "the prayers of the people" is about praying for one another and for our world. I hope the practice will continue.

I couldn't be more pleased by the emergence of a young adult/Sunday School parent small group that formed this year. My thanks to group leaders Jen Logemann and Jack Shaffer who felt the Spirit's nudge to try something, wanting to form deeper connections with their peers and grow in faith. What passions, vision, leadership comes for St John's from this group will be exciting to watch.

Finally, my commitment to St John's was to serve as your Interim pastor for one year. Our time together comes to an end July 15. Thank you for honoring our agreement. It's been a joy to serve with you. I'll be praying for you and your next called pastor. You have an exciting future ahead of you. The world and our community need you to shine with the love of Christ.

On the journey with you for this brief time,
Pastor Karen

1 Corinthians 3:6 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. ⁷ So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

ADMINISTRATION

Membership Report for 2025

(January 1 – December 31, 2025)

submitted by Heidi Bischmann, Office Coordinator

Members Received

Jeremy and Kimberly Zimdars (Children: Annabell Zimdars and Hannah Baake) – September 14, 2025

Members Removed

Three members were removed by death during 2025 (see Funerals below).

Fourteen people requested transfers in 2025:

Brian and Cynthia Halverson

Jeff and Peggy Keough

Sharon and David Krukar

Donald and Judy Moffett

Michael Schubert, Kristy Olson-Schubert and Olson, Maelyn

Erica Steiner

Virginia and Duane Walsh

Baptisms

Mason Ed Holz – January 5, 2025

Anakin Ford Waller – May 24, 2025

Benjamin Jan Beukema – September 14, 2025

Xander Allyn Zimdars – October 19, 2025

Fynnicks Francis Allbaugh – November 16, 2025

Aspen Lee Bleskan – November 16, 2025

First Communion

Gwendolynn Karen Templin – March 9, 2025

Cooper Jacob Templin – March 9, 2025

Thomas Jeffrey Werner – March 9, 2025

Jackson James Rebisch – March 9, 2025

Liam Edward Sadowski – March 9, 2025

Samuel Alexander Sadowski – March 9, 2025

Kekoa Naveen Broussard – March 9, 2025

Haley Mackenzie Larson – November 9, 2025

Noah Patrick Rebisch – November 9, 2025

ADMINISTRATION

Confirmations on May 4, 2025

Isabella DuChateau
Isabella Fuchs
Grant Gundlach
Ella Salinas
Kate Schettler
Abigail Senior
Ethan Zach

Funerals

Floyd Robert Keierleber – Date of Death February 10, 2025
Ida Mae Kummer – Date of Death February 24, 2025
Sharlene Waller – Date of Death April 16, 2025

Weddings

None

ADMINISTRATION

Communications

submitted by Pam Klink, Communications Coordinator

Worship

- Worship support is provided with bulletins, PowerPoints, lector sheets, and streaming.
- Sunday morning volunteers are scheduled using Ministry Scheduler Pro. This program allows volunteers to indicate when they are unavailable to serve and to easily request volunteers. Schedules are recreated three times a year, allowing volunteers to try new ministries without a long commitment.

Social Media

- Our 8:30 service is live streamed to YouTube.
- Our YouTube channel grew to 341 subscribers.
- Our Facebook page grew to 595 followers.

Announcements

- Announcements are on the back of the bulletins each week.
- A PowerPoint of announcements runs before the early service and between services.
- Announcements are sent weekly in the Happenings email.
- Events are on the website.

Emails

- The *Happenings* email is sent each week on Friday.
- The *Inspire* newsletter is published each month. A link is sent via email to those who are subscribed to receive the newsletter. It is available on the website (makedisciples.com) under Resources along with a limited number of paper copies. We continue to mail a few newsletters to those unable to view it online and unable to pick up a copy.
- Prayer requests are emailed to the Prayer email list as requests are received.
- The “Subscribe” button on the bottom of each website page is the place to manage the emails you receive. There currently are five email lists: newsletter, Happenings, prayer requests, members, and Sunday School. If your email is not on the mailing list, you will not receive that information. (Please contact me with questions.)

ADMINISTRATION

Finance Team/Treasurer Update

submitted by Pauline Shoemaker

The Finance Team at St. John's meets monthly during the week before the Council meeting to examine the financials and make any necessary recommendations to Council.

The April 30 reconciled financials yielded the following:

- Giving year-to-date is 16% under budget. Year to date giving is \$36,380 under this time in 2025.
- Total income is 35% under budget.
- Expenses are at 31% over budget year-to-date.*

*The May 1 payroll was processed on April 30, putting April over budget, and this will right itself after May is complete.

St. John's had over \$250,000 in assets at the Waukesha State Bank. A company that audited our church recommended that funds over \$250,000 be moved to other banks or credit unions, so the funds would be insured. We moved three CD's totaling \$171,870 to the Summit Credit Union when they matured. We also moved our Capital Improvement fund, which had \$85,762 in it from the Waukesha State Bank to a high yield business account at the U.S. Bank in March 2026. It currently pays 3.4% APY.

Linnea Logan had \$62,175 added to the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust so the money in our Youth Endowment Fund would earn money as the value of the trust fund increases.

Finance Team: Gary Schettler, Pauline Shoemaker, Jim Morgan, Keith Paukner, and Curtis Templin, with help from Carrie Peters.

ADMINISTRATION

Human Resources Committee

submitted by Lori Schettler

The staff members at St. John's Lutheran Church are vital to our ministry. The Human Resources Committee (the "Committee" or the "HR Committee") is a strategic partner with St. John's Lutheran Church leadership and the Congregation and is committed to assisting in the development of a high performing staff, capable of supporting the mission of the church. The Committee's core responsibilities include maintenance of job descriptions, participation in recruitment and staffing, performance management, employee relations, investigations and disciplinary actions through termination, employee development, compensation and benefits design, budgeting and administration, Human Resource information management, regulatory compliance related to employment, Human Resources policy development and monitoring of compliance with them.

During the program-year ended May 2026, The HR Committee revised its Charter to address quorum requirements and the number of members.

The Committee participated in the selection and recruitment process for the positions of Interim Pastor, Bookkeeper and Preschool Administrator/Director. The Committee assisted in updating the job descriptions for the following positions: Custodian and Preschool Administrator/Director job descriptions.

The HR Committee updated the Security Camera Policy, Incident Reporting and Investigation Policy and Property Committee description.

Throughout the program year, the Committee kept abreast of and discussed new laws and regulations pertaining to human resources. The HR Committee Chair worked closely with the Office Coordinator to ensure the personnel files were complete and the labor law posters were updated and posted per government regulations.

The HR Committee continued to monitor St. John's performance management process, which enables managers to have more robust discussions with staff about what each is doing well and how that person can be even more effective. The performance management process at St. John's continues to be effective and enables us to serve our strategic priorities.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with Council to ensure that St. John's continues to have a high-performing staff, which serves the mission of our church at a high level.

Respectfully submitted,
St. John's Human Resources Committee

Tom Potratz, Chair
Lori Schettler, Secretary
Paul Bulgerin, Ex-Officio

Kathy Davis
Lisa Belli-Fuchs
Brian Zach

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Endowment Fund

submitted by Curtis Templin, chair

Committee:

- Curtis Templin, chairperson (term expires May 2027)
- Phil Peters, recording secretary (renewing - term expires May 2029)
- Rich Warp, Financial Secretary (term expires May 2026)
- Nancy Kraus (term expires May 2028)
- Linda Shaffer (term expires May 2028)

The St. John's Endowment Fund was set up to generate income to be awarded to groups/ministries/charities recommended by St. John's members. The restricted balance (principal) is the accumulation of donations made to the fund over the years, for this purpose.

The Endowment Committee was able to offer an "Open-Window" campaign in March 2026 to accept nominations for Endowment grants. This campaign was used to award \$26,900.30 of income to 24 grant requests. The grant award recipients were:

America Scores Milwaukee	\$1,500
Belize Mission Project	\$1,500
Christmas Food Drive	\$1,500
Cub Scout Pack 1-Waukesha	\$1,500
ELCA World Hunger Appeal	\$1,500
Family Service	\$1,500
Habitat for Humanity-Waukesha	\$1,500
Heritage Home Delivers	\$1,500
Just One More Ministry	\$1,500
Newborn Kits	\$1,500
Serenity Inns	\$1,500
Waukesha Women's Center	\$1,500
St Johns Interiors Team	\$1,335
Partnership with Los Heroes	\$1,308
Marquette University Police Department	\$1,007.30
Spina Bifida Wisconsin	\$1,000
U-W MKE- Economics Department Support	\$1,000
Waukesha County Creation Care Network	\$750
Vacation Bible School	\$600
St. John's Garden Ministry	\$500
St. John's Lutheran Church Preschool	\$500
Community Projects for Seniors	\$300
St John's quilt ministry	\$300
St. John's Property team - Landscape	\$300

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Gifts and Memorials

submitted by Barb Reed, Chair

The Gifts and Memorials committee should consist of five members. Current members are: Dick Granholm, Barb Reed and Jim Truax. Two new members for the committee are needed. If you're interested in serving, contact one of the current members.

The Gifts and Memorials committee meets as needed to give approval on expenditures from the account. A brochure is available which explains procedures used within the committee and offers information on memorials to families who have lost a loved one.

You're welcome to leave a gift or memorial in memory or honor of someone at any time. All that is needed is to complete a "Designation of Gift" form. Persons or committees requesting to use undesignated memorial funds for an unbudgeted need within the church can complete a "Request for Use of Funds" form. Both forms are available at the Information Desk or from the church office.

Interiors Visioning Team

submitted by Gail Rennie, Chair

The Gathering Space is always "alive" when we gather to worship, serve, and share seasonal opportunities together. It is also now being used as a comfortable space to gather for meetings and personal moments of sharing. As a team we continue to monitor the space, to update and to note additions that can be made to serve our ministries. In coordination with the Property Team, we are monitoring the furnishings and being increasingly aware of staff and ministry needs. We are also responsible for decor and color coordination throughout the entire church building.

Soon you will see replacements for the brown chairs that have been evidencing wear and need to be replaced. We are also working towards consistency in the furnishings as encouraged by CDI, the design firm we worked with to do the Gathering Space project. The grocery cart has been a great way to encourage donations and a reminder of the need to reach out to the needs of our local, partnership and world community.

We will continue to monitor the building and the Gathering Space. We are open to suggestions from the congregation to provide for a welcoming atmosphere and the needs of our members, guests and future members.

Interiors Team:

Dick Granholm

Jan Delzer

Jeff Gubbins

Ken Bahr

Gail Rennie

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Library

submitted by Peg Schellin

St. John's Library has a large collection of books and virtual materials available for everyone to check out. There is a wide range of topics, such as the Bible, Luther, Devotionals, Prayer, Outreach (El Salvador), Children's Bible stories, Parenting, Aging, Christian living, and much more.

There also are numerous resources that are very useful for the Bible Study Groups.

Memorial Garden with Columbarium

submitted by Karen Aamot and John Almasi

A Sacred Space for Remembrance and Reflection

The Memorial Garden Committee lovingly maintains the Columbarium and its surrounding garden – providing a beautiful resting place for loved ones. The Columbarium was opened in 2017 to members and those with close relationships with the congregation. There are 72 niches in the Columbarium. At this time thirty-eight niches have been purchased for sixty-four individuals. Beautifully engraved pavers are placed on the “floor” of the Columbarium to honor loved ones. They may be purchased at any time for \$125. It is a very special gift for a family member or special friend.

There are 15 committee members who are responsible for the care, operation and finances of the Garden. The Garden is debt-free. The budget is separate from the church budget.

The Garden is a beautiful place for meditation and prayer. Funeral services may be conducted in the Garden. In the past, Easter Sunday sunrise services were held in the Garden. The following committee members are available for further information: Karen and Mark Aamot, Carrie and Ben Allbaugh, Mary and John Almasi, Gregg and Sara Everts, Dick Granholm, Pam and Chris Klink, Kyle and Jeff Weyer, and Marlene and Ralph Zick. We thank Darlene Bahr for her years of dedication and welcome Gregg and Sara to this team.

The Committee offers clarity and comfort to families in moments that matter most. For more information contact Jeff or Kyle Weyer.

Jeff and Kyle Weyer – 262-664-2364 jfweyer@gmail.com.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Stewardship Team

submitted by Phil Peters

First and foremost, thank you for your continued support of St. John's. Because of this congregation's generosity, dedication, and willingness to jump in wherever needed, St. John's continues to be an amazing place to worship, grow, serve, and connect. Whether it's volunteering, leading a study, helping behind the scenes, or simply showing up for one another, this church is powered by people who care deeply—and it shows.

Seriously... have you seen how much this congregation does? Some churches are excited to get volunteers for one event. At St. John's, we casually have people coordinating ministries, organizing meals, leading studies, serving the community, fixing things, moving things, cleaning things, and occasionally trying to figure out where that one extension cord disappeared to.

Over the past year, your Stewardship Team has been busy too! Some highlights include:

- Providing regular financial updates to help keep everyone informed about the shared commitment that keeps St. John's moving forward
- Organizing a Ministry Fair to showcase all the incredible ways to get involved at St. John's (because there are a lot)
- Coordinating our annual pledge drive so we could better plan for the ministry and mission we share together
- Assisting with updates to the Ministry Connection Booklet to better reflect the many opportunities available throughout the church (soooo many ministries).

In short: lots of meetings, lots of emails, and at least a few spreadsheets. Truly exciting stewardship stuff!

Looking ahead, we're preparing for another pledge drive this fall and continuing to build greater understanding around church finances and stewardship. Our hope is to keep making stewardship feel less like "talking about budgets" and more like what it really is—working together to support the ministries and mission of St. John's.

Again, thank you for your incredible commitment to this church. Your generosity of time, talent, and financial support continues to make a real difference every single day. We are grateful to be part of a congregation that shows up so faithfully for one another—and always seems willing to help move tables when needed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Worship Team

submitted by Pam Klink

This year we worshiped on Sunday mornings with a traditional style at 8:30 a.m. and a more contemporary style worship at 10:45 a.m. The summer of 2026 we are worshipping together at one service at 9:00.

Volunteers are vital on Sunday morning to ensure worship runs smoothly. To coordinate those volunteers, we returned to using a scheduling program called Ministry Scheduler Pro. Three times a year, volunteers are scheduled as assisting ministers, acolytes, AV, greeters, communion servers, communion set up/clean up, lectors, and ushers.

Acolytes have returned to worship! This is a work in progress because the students who are of acolyte age haven't seen an acolyte at St. John's because they have been on hiatus since Covid. Among the students, the term candle-lighter is used in place of acolyte.

CARE MINISTRIES

Funeral Reception Ministry

submitted by Carol Wasemiller

The Funeral Reception Committee offers with care and concern an opportunity for family and friends to gather at church where there will be a quiet setting made available to family during the visitation and a place to have post funeral receptions for family and friends.

The brochure with reception options is available to families when they first meet with the Pastor. (available on website or from the office.) Since June 2025 we have served four families with funeral services at St. Johns. Thank you to everyone who made this ministry possible. Contact any team member if you are interested in joining us to call, bake, shop, set-up, serve or clean up in the future.

Mary Almasi	262-549-1369
Darlene Bahr	262-894-9582
Barb Lange	262-542-4010
Carole Lewis	262-617-0605
Cindy Schaefer	262-271-6623
Carol Wasemiller	847-651-4694

Prayer Shawl Ministry Group

submitted by Linda Nelson

As always, our mission is to bring comfort and hope to anyone who needs it. We meet monthly on the second Friday of the month from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Our usual place to gather is in the narthex. When the weather permits, we meet outside in front of the church. We welcome new participants – from those who have years of knitting or crocheting experience to those wanting to learn. (We will teach you!) If you are unable to meet with the group every second Friday, come when you can. If you are unable to meet on Fridays, you may knit or crochet at home. New participants in this ministry are always welcome! Yarn is available for this ministry.

Our ministry provides three different items. Periodically, the completed items are blessed in worship.

1. Prayer Shawls. These are available in the narthex to be given to anyone in need of comfort or support. (i.e. illness, recovery, new baby).
2. Pocket Patches. Essentially, these are mini prayers shawls that fit in your pocket.
3. Baptism Blankets. These are given to anyone being baptized.

We continue our ministry with love and hope.

CARE MINISTRIES

Quilting Group

submitted by Klaudia Hollander

St. John's Quilters group is made up of a small group of dedicated women who meet monthly to assemble and sew quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We are supported by a mostly anonymous group of home sewists. Many utilize the 'Quilt to Go' packets found on the rack in the gathering area, available to anyone who would like to support our mission by sewing a quilt top.

In October 2025, we packed and sent 83 quilts following our annual quilt Sunday display in the worship area. Last fall we also were honored to have a visit from Pastor Tim Krick, who is Senior Advisor, Congregational Engagement with LWR. His inspirational talk and video presentation informed us about LWR outreach around the world and how meaningful our quilts are in so many depressed areas, both in our country and around the world.

We are thankful for continued support of those who support this ministry, whether it be by monetary or cotton fabric donations, home sewing, or tying of quilts. Our group meets on the second Tuesday of the month from 6-8 pm in the Ruth-Naomi room. Sewing skills are not necessary and new members are always welcome.

Visitation Ministry

submitted by Karen Aamot, Facilitator

Flexible schedule – Monthly Visits – Email Communication

Bringing Church to Those at Home

The Visitation Ministry extends the care and connection of St. John's to those who are unable to attend worship in person. Through monthly visits and the sharing of Holy Communion team members bring comfort, prayer and a sense of belonging to our homebound members.

At the current time, we visit seven shut-ins every month. We have fourteen visitors who usually call on shut-ins in pairs. Visitors are encouraged to bring cards, prayer shawls, small gifts and communion. Youth and Sunday School students often make cards for our shut-ins. Visits can range from twenty minutes to an hour. Following the visit, the visitors send a brief summary of their visit to the team. This ministry is a blessing both to the Shut-Ins and the Visitors.

Karen Aamot – 262-720-1606 – kaamot1@gmail.com

Yoga Group

submitted by Kathi Hanson

Our yoga group met for almost 15 years. Starting in 2011, I taught for the first 9 to 10 years. Covid 19 interrupted our gathering together at church. When we were allowed to begin again, I asked Kimberly Walbrun (an excellent teacher whom I knew from my training) to teach us. We all benefited from her extensive training and years of experience. She taught us until March 2026.

GROW MINISTRIES

Preschool

submitted by Laura Rickinger, St. John's Lutheran Church Preschool Director

St. John's Preschool, founded in 1999, is part of the Children, Youth and Families Ministries. We are proudly a diverse community both culturally and with the skills, gifts, and challenges of our children. Our neighbors are happy to belong to St. John's Preschool as well as the eight preschoolers who are St. John's members.



Looking ahead to our 2026-2027 school year, there are changes in the St. John's Preschool Ministry.

Changes in our staff

Laura Rickinger has retired as Preschool Director after 13 years working with this ministry. Teresa Bailiff began in mid-May as the new Director coming from Bezael Christian School in Colgate, WI.

Changes in our classroom

Beginning in September 2026, we are taking part in Wisconsin's new 4K Get Kids Ready initiative, a state-funded school readiness program serving four year olds. We are proud that St. John's current preschool program and our Playing to Learn curriculum meets the criteria for school readiness as required by the state for participation in this new program. The Preschool Staff is excited to be taking part in Get Kids Ready. Currently nine children are enrolled in this class with room for four more to join.

2025-2026 Preschool Year Highlights:

In our Two-Year-Old class, team teachers Mary Wagner and Lana DeCoto enjoyed the eagerness of seven children playing and learning as their first classroom experience. We continue to be successful in enrolling children throughout the school year after their second birthday.

Our Three-Year-Old class with thirteen children, taught by Mary and Lana, showed us how children learn and grow with the age-appropriate learning skills that are introduced and practiced every day in a fun, fast-paced and nurturing classroom.

Our Four-Year-Old class with six eager and energy-filled learners was led by LaBree Paukner. LaBree has an emphasis on Group Work Skills to practice and learn collaboration, communication, and problem-solving. We are confident that each child is well-prepared for their next step after this year of our Playing to Learn curriculum.

Children's Ministries

Joanna Salinas, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Sunday School had a great year! This is our 11th year utilizing the Large Group/Small Group format. Children gather first in Large Group, where they experience music, stewardship, the lesson and prayers all together as a group. Families often attend this time together and several families have now dubbed this time as "kids church". Then students ages 2-5th grade head to Small Groups where they build peer relationships and expand on the lesson.

GROW MINISTRIES

The benefits of this framework are that it allows us the freedom to be highly creative in how we present the lesson and allows for greater volunteerism and family participation. It also provides an environment for children with specific needs to fully participate in (and enjoy) Sunday School in areas where they may struggle in a traditional format. We are utilizing Think Orange Curriculum.

Highlights and milestones of the year include:

- Sunday School enrollment of approx. 40 children.
- Six students received their First Communion.
- Bible Distribution to our preschoolers and 3rd graders.
- Over 12 Youth/Adult volunteers (Large Group team, Small Group leaders, planning teams)
- Collaboration with the Confirmation students in a Youth Leadership Team on Sunday mornings
- Stewardship Projects brought in over \$2000 in funds as we focused on local & world hunger, our Los Heroes partnership, and connecting with St. John's ministries.
- Impromptu Christmas Pageant.

Summer Programming

Summer of 2026

This summer we are offering Animal Encounters VBS for children ages 4-5th grade the week of Aug 3-6. Kids ages 6th grade and up will join us as Youth Leaders! Each day we will dive into different animal stories in the Bible and meet their animal stars! VBS includes live animal encounters, crafts, snacks, and outdoor fun!

Summer of 2025

Last summer we offered a Lego themed VBS called Build VBS: Faith in Action! It was for kids ages 4-5th grade and we had 57 children attend. Kids learned to BUILD their lives on the Solid Rock of Jesus! Each day the Bible lesson connected Legos and STEM as we explored putting our faith in action as we built a Giant Lego Man!

Middle School Ministry, 6th-8th grade

Joanna Salinas, Middle School Ministry Coordinator

Our Middle School Ministries consist of approximately 25 students in 6th-8th grade. Our 5th & 6th grade students participate in a two-year Bible Overview Class and our 7th & 8th grade students are invited to participate in the Confirmation program. This is an age group that thrives with in person programming, and we have their own space for them downstairs in the Paul Room. We continued to partner with our High School Youth this year to offer bi-weekly Sunday evening programming and meals for all our students.

5th & 6th grade Pre-Confirmation students participated in a twice monthly Bible Overview class on Sunday evenings taught by Karie Zach and Carrie Peters using the Sparkhouse Connect Curriculum. This is a two-year program and this year we studied the Old Testament. A highlight of the year was "eating through the life of Moses".

GROW MINISTRIES

Our 7th & 8th grade Confirmation Students participated in twice monthly instruction on Sunday evenings taught by Pastor Karen, Linnea Logan and Joanna Salinas. This year we explored the foundations of Lutheran Faith.

In addition to our Sunday evening meals, we traveled to WI Dells for Youth Quake, a weekend in February where the students spent a weekend in worship, prayer, and workshops with 600 other young people from across the state. On Sunday mornings our Middle Schoolers participated in the Youth Leadership Team where they helped in Sunday School and participated in over a dozen service projects.

This summer, we will continue to connect with students during our Family Fun Nights, service opportunities, and as Camp Counselors during VBS.

High School and Young Adult

submitted by Stephanie Broussard, Youth Ministry Coordinator

2025 Mission Trip – Nashville

This past summer, 8 high school students and adult leaders from St. John's traveled to Nashville, Tennessee for a week-long mission trip focused on service, faith, and community. Throughout the week, students partnered with several incredible organizations including Room in the Inn, Nashville Rescue Mission, Soles4Souls, Second Harvest Food Bank, BELL Garden, and Project C.U.R.E. Together, they served meals, sorted clothing and medical supplies, packed donations, worked in community gardens, and supported organizations caring for individuals experiencing homelessness, hunger, and hardship. Each experience helped students better understand the importance of compassion, dignity, and service in action.

In addition to daily service work, students participated in worship, reflection, and evening community-building activities around Nashville. The group explored Broadway Street, visited Centennial Park and the Parthenon, and even learned how to line dance together. These moments helped strengthen friendships and created space for meaningful conversations about faith, justice, gratitude, and how we are called to care for others. Students returned home with a deeper understanding of the challenges many communities face, along with a renewed sense of empathy, confidence, and purpose.

We are incredibly grateful for the support, prayers, and encouragement from our congregation and families that made this experience possible. The Nashville Mission Trip was not only an opportunity to serve others, but also a transformative week of growth for our students as they lived out their faith and discovered new ways to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

Youth Group:

Our bi-weekly high school youth group continued to provide a welcoming and supportive space for students to connect, grow in their faith, and build meaningful relationships with one another. Each gathering began with a shared meal together giving students time to unwind from busy schedules, catch up with friends, and feel at home before transitioning into games, discussion, service projects, and faith-based conversations.

GROW MINISTRIES

Throughout the year, attendance varied as students balanced school activities, sports, work, and other commitments, with an average of 5–10 students participating regularly. Even with fluctuating numbers, the heart of the ministry remained the same: creating an authentic community, encouraging students in their faith journeys, and helping them feel connected to one another and to the larger church family. This year, especially, we saw students continue to deepen friendships, step into leadership opportunities, and support one another through both celebrations and challenges.

9th Grade Confirmation:

Our 9th grade confirmation program provided students with a meaningful year of learning, reflection, and spiritual growth as they continued exploring their faith and preparing for their Affirmation of Baptism. The first portion of the year focused on comparative religions, helping students better understand both their own Lutheran identity and the beliefs of others. Students participated in thoughtful discussions, welcomed guest speakers from a variety of faith traditions, and had opportunities to ask questions and learn directly from individuals sharing their personal experiences and practices.

As the year progressed, the focus shifted toward preparing students for confirmation and what it means to claim their faith as their own. Through conversations, worship participation, service, and reflection, students spent time considering how their faith shapes their lives and relationships. In May, we joyfully celebrated the Affirmation of Baptism for 7 students, each of whom took an active role in the service and marked this important milestone surrounded by family, mentors, and the church community. It was a wonderful celebration of growth, commitment, and God's continued work in their lives.

College & Young Adults:

This year, we remained intentional about staying connected with our college students and young adults as they continued their journeys beyond high school. As a way to remind them that their church family continues to support and care for them no matter where life takes them, our high school youth helped assemble and send thoughtful care packages filled with encouragement, snacks, and small reminders of home.

For our spring care packages, we also invited the congregation to participate by writing personal notes and letters to our college-aged young adults. These messages of love, prayer, encouragement, and support were meaningful parts of the packages, reminding our students that they are deeply valued and remembered by their church community. It was a wonderful way for multiple generations within the congregation to stay connected and continue walking alongside our young adults during this important season of life.

GROW MINISTRIES

Children, Youth and Family Board Report

Submitted by Linnea Logan, CYF Board Member

Our Children, Youth and Family Board's (CYF) mission is to help guide our educational programming. We would like to thank the members of the CYF Board and the CYF staff for their dedication and vision for the future of St. John's CYF programs.

Children, Youth and Family programs actively serve and engage many, including:

St. John's Preschool	Birth to 2 (formerly cradle roll)
Children Ages 2 - Elementary Age	Middle School Students
High School Youth Ministry	Young Adult Ministry

One of many highlights this year is students planning service projects for the entire congregation.

Thank you to the generous donors who donated to the Youth Endowment Fund. As a result, we invested \$62,175 in a Youth Endowment Fund in February. Once the fund has grown, the interest will be used to support educational and church scholarships and special non-budgeted projects for all ages Pre-school - College. The purpose of the Youth Endowment Fund is to provide 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.

The CYF board asks the congregation to consider proposed language for the constitution/bylaws specifying a framework for the CYF board and Youth Endowment Fund.

Do you have an interest in serving on the Board? Reach out to any CYF board member or CYF staff.

ADULT MINISTRIES

Adult Ministry Team

Submitted by Ralph Berglund

Our theme this past year has been "Care of God's Community". Key events in the Fall were focused on being "Better Together" as a congregation. This included several small groups participating in Rick Warren's "40 Days of Community" six-week video series. In parallel, Pastor Karen's sermons for these six weeks focused on the same weekly themes. After the holidays there were two St. John's Academy lectures, one in February and one in April. The first in February was presented by current Wauwatosa mayor, Mayor Dennis McBride. He shared his story, as he has done in his book "A City on the Edge", a story of leading through the chaos in the city during the pandemic and associated events. It was a powerful example of a man of faith leading in tough times. The April Academy was presented by Sarah Pfeiffle and Patti Mueller from the Waukesha County Aging and Disability Resource Center. They gave a very helpful and detailed presentation of the ADRC resources and options available in Waukesha County. The Adult Ministry team members are Brian Cranfill, Kathy Davis, Steve Johnson, and Ralph Berglund.

GROW MINISTRIES

SMALL GROUPS

Friday Morning Ladies' Book Club

submitted by Linda Gugel



We are a group of 10 - 20 women who meet once a month to discuss a book we've chosen. We meet in each other's homes or a coffee shop/restaurant.

Involved in our group are Karen Aamot, Kathy Davis, Linda Gugel, Cindy Halverson, Klaudia Holander, Kathy Hansen, Gail Rennie, and Mary Tollander; with others popping in now and then.

Books we've read this year are

- The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah
- James by Percival Everett
- The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon
- A Quilt for Christmas by Sandra Dallas
- The Collective Regrets of Clover by Mikki Brammer
- The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese
- Horse by Geraldine Brooks
- Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult
- Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver.

If you are interested in joining our lively discussions, speak to one of us.

Friday Men's Group Discussion (MGD)

submitted by Chris Klink

The Friday Men's Group Discussion (MGD) meets at 6:15 a.m. weekly throughout the year. We have continued to meet by Zoom to allow members to join in from throughout Wisconsin, the rest of the US, and internationally. Our group has been in existence since the late 1990s and as we have all become more "seasoned", most of us are retired. We study a variety of biblical and faith-based topics. Our group currently numbers 12 and we are always open to new members. If you would like to find out more, please contact Chris Klink at klinklink@sbcglobal.net.

Koinonia Support Group

submitted by Doris Klitzke

We are a small group who meet after 8:30 a.m. church services for breakfast a few times each year. We are a support and social group. Social outings include Spring Creek veterans program, Schutze building Vet ceremony, and Memorial Day picnic at Marx Park. Group members are Gary and Sharon Grunau, Rick and Linda Evans, Bill and Kathy Satler, Dawn Williams, Doris Klitzke, and Linda Brazin.

GROW MINISTRIES

Retired Men's Meal Ministry

submitted by Jerry Hanson and Roy Osmon

This activity addresses an important group in the St. John's church family, older men with a variety of backgrounds in their vocational experiences, who nonetheless desire to be a part of Christian life with others who can understand and value them and be mutually supportive. Virtually everyone wants to have an identity which puts them in a positive light, especially when one is now getting up in years and faces the special challenges of changes in body, mind and even spirit. Our gatherings provide a unique opportunity to share fellowship, food, a devotion and prayer, as well as caring for one another's situation in life.

The group meets for breakfast at 8:30 a.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at the Machine Shed in Pewaukee. On the third Wednesday of the month, we meet for lunch at noon at Good Eats Café in Pewaukee. The breakfast session usually is attended by about 10-14 men with the lunch by 6-10 men. If you are a man in this age group and are not yet on the mailing list or just want more information, please contact either of us to get in on the fun.

Contact:	Roy Osmon	Jerry Hanson
Email:	rosmon@wi.rr.com	jerryhansonrhp@gmail.com
Phone:	414-405-5799	262-785-8098

Saturday Morning Men's Group

Submitted by Ralph Berglund

This group meets every Saturday morning at 8:30 in the church library during the school year except Holiday weekends. Our purpose is to provide an opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and other Christian men through book discussion and Bible study. We started this past Fall by participating in the congregation's focus on "Better Together" or "Care of God's Community" using Rick Warren's six week "40 Days of Community" video series. We followed with a several weeks discussion of the book of Deuteronomy. Next was a discussion of the book "The Lost Gospel Q – The Original Sayings of Jesus". We finished the Spring with plenty of in-depth discussion of the book "The Meaning of Jesus – Two Visions". It is amazing the insights that you discover through discussion in a small group format.

We look forward to starting up again in the fall. Bring a mug of coffee and join us for some fellowship and meaningful discussion with other Christian men. Contact Ralph Berglund (email ralph.berglund@gmail.com or phone 262-547-8231) if you would like more information.

GROW MINISTRIES

Sunday Night Couples Group

submitted by Steve Johnson

The Sunday Night Couples group is made up of 6 current and former St. John's couples (Beyer, Johnson, Keough, Kramer, Lange, Wallrath) who meet most Sunday Evenings, from mid-September through May, at couples homes. During the 2025-2026 period we participated in the Church-wide study: 40 Days Of Community and then followed that with a reading and discussion of Colby Martin's book, Unclobber. The Unclobber book examines the six Bible Verses which have been often used as arguments against homosexuality. Martin unpacks those verses and argues how they are misunderstood and have been misused against the gay/lesbian community. We highly recommend this book for any group or individuals interested in this topic.

During late winter/spring we read Rachel Held Evan's book: Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking On Water, And Loving The Bible Again. To quote a blurb on the book cover, "Evans wrestles through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating Scripture's mysteries." Since almost all members have been/are already engaged individually with activities at St. John's as well as other organizations in the community, we have not participated in service projects, etc, as a group. We started discussing possible books for reading/study for the coming fall/winter session. Topics under consideration include: the historical Jesus, Revelation, and an Old Testament Overview.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study Group

submitted by Kathi Hanson

The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, September thru May, at 9:00 a.m. We are a small group that alternates leading and hosting. We meet in our homes or at church. Traditionally we have studied books of the Bible, Christian books, video studies. Most recently we have studied Philippians.

Tuesday Afternoon Book Club

submitted by Darlene Bahr

Our group of about eight meets monthly at St. John's from September thru May, with summers off. Members recommend books and the group makes the selections with the person suggesting the book becoming the leader for that month. Most of our choices fall into the historical or biographical fiction genre, but we are open to all suggestions. Some books from past months have been The Seed Keeper, Huckleberry Finn, The Lost Passenger, the Thursday Murder Club, Forty Autumns, and The Soul Surfer. Many heartfelt discussions on life issues have resulted from books chosen. The group is open to new members.

GROW MINISTRIES

Tuesday Night Bible Study Small Group

submitted by Kyle Weyer, facilitator

Our small group meets from 7-9 p.m. on Tuesday evenings. We schedule approximately six weeks in the fall and six weeks during Lent. We select books that are closely tied to books in the Bible. Our goal is to grow in discipleship. Because we meet in homes, we are at capacity at this time.

Wednesday Morning Circle

submitted by Kathy Hoepfner

The Wednesday Morning Circle group meets on the second Wednesday of each month from September through May at 9:30 a.m. in the library. We are a group of women who have a social hour breakfast followed by a Biblical video study. The women take turns hosting the breakfast. New members are always welcome.

Women of Faith Book Club

submitted by Patrice Krimpelbein

Women of Faith is a community of women ready to discuss topics inspired by the books we read, by current events and by the needs of the group. We currently meet on the third Friday of each month (except December) at 11:30 a.m., meeting at the homes of our members. We read a wide range of book titles, selected by the group (those that are together at the time the list needs to be expanded) and then sent out to the full email list of members. We use the free version of the BOOKCLUBS App to keep track of our reading list and gathering times. We recently completed "The Frozen River," "The Book of Lost Names" and "The Secret Keeper of Jaipur." Our upcoming book titles are "Black Cake" and "The Lemon Tree."

You are not required to offer your home for meetings, and it is not necessary to have read the book to join us, so long as you attend with an open heart and a loving spirit.

Women's Monday Afternoon Study Group

submitted by Patrice Krimpelbein

Our group has studied from several sources, always based on the Bible, and chosen to enrich our faith. We are currently using "Pew Sisters" as a study resource. We meet on the third Monday afternoon, September through May, in the church library. We are a group of 12-15 women, who alternate leading the discussions and hosting. If you would like to join us, contact Patrice Krimpelbein.

GROW MINISTRIES

Young Adults and Parents (YAP) Group

submitted by Jen Logemann

YAP (Young Adults and Parents) launched this past March in response to a recognized gap in fresh, new fellowship opportunities for adults ages 20 to 50 at St. John's Lutheran Church. This age group currently has a lower population at St. John's. YAP's goal is to change that by building genuine connections, deepening ties to the church beyond Sunday service, and growing a generation of engaged, rooted members. The group meets bi-weekly in the youth room during the educational hour. It currently centers on devotionals and small group study, but may expand in the future.

This summer we're planning a few social get-togethers—a baseball game and a cookout at the fire pit—before regrouping with regular programming in the fall. We're excited about where this is heading and hopeful that YAP becomes a place where new energy, new ideas, and real fellowship can grow.

*If your ministry group is not listed in this report,
please see Pam so it may be included next year.*

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

MUSIC MINISTRY

Music Coordinator/Organist

submitted by Becky Whelpley, Music Director

Dear Friends in Christ,

It has been a joy and honor to serve St. John's! I am thankful for the existing ministries as well as for the new ways that the Holy Spirit has moved us. I would like to thank the people of St. John's, the church staff, the choir members, and instrumentalists for all the support. Many thanks to Kenn Anderson, Heidi Bischmann and Lisa Weiss-Cornelius, Lana DeCoto and Brent Logan for their wonderful musical leadership at St. John's. A heartfelt thank you to our interim, Pastor Karen for her leadership, support and collaboration.

A few highlights this past year included Advent Fest on December 5, Lent Wednesday services, and of course Christmas, Holy Week and Easter.

Advent Fest was a wonderful intergenerational event this year that included a light meal with trivia, a time of worship with a special skit and music from the choir and KOTK, a children's Advent craft, Christmas decorating, cookies and Christmas carols. Special thanks to Laura Rickinger, the rest of the team, and grants received from Thrivent.

A special middle school music ministry has grown from kids who have "aged" out of KOTK but still want to be involved in music. This has been a great blessing to me and the congregation.

All instruments have been faithfully maintained this year; the grand piano in the sanctuary received the extra maintenance on May 6 that has been in the planning stage for a few years. This maintenance will ensure that the piano serves St. John's for another 28 years. 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.

The choir has been rehearsing all year and has certainly blessed our Sunday services. I am so thankful to these dedicated volunteers that rehearse weekly to enhance our worship. Thank you! In addition, the choir has collaborated with KOTK, brass, and instrumentalists during the year.

Looking forward to serving with you in the coming year!

Peace,
Becky Whelpley
Director of Music

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Handbell Choir

submitted by Heidi Bischmann, Handbell Choir Director

The Handbell Choir enjoyed our 2025/2026 ringing season. Highlights include:

- Regular handbell musicians and available substitutes included: Chris Anderson, Sonja Beyerlein, Heidi Bischmann, Jill Dahlgren, Mickey Fank, Sue Keith, Pam Klink, Linnea Logan, Patti Mueller, LaBree Paukner, Joanna Salinas, Pauline Shoemaker, Chris Standley, Bonnie Suhaysik, Mary Wagner, and Becky Whelpley.
- The choir met regularly throughout the year on Tuesday evenings – September through May – to learn and perform 18 musical selections at 12 worship services/events.
- Our weekly rehearsals begin with a devotion and conclude with a time of prayer focused on special requests and concerns. These moments together help uplift and strengthen us as we share in the love, joy, challenges, and losses that are part of our daily lives.
- For several months this season, we focused on small ensemble groups of 4–6 musicians with piano accompaniment. Performing in ensembles challenges musicians to play in various positions, listen more independently, and adapt to a less full sound, helping them develop stronger musical awareness and confidence.
- The Handbell Choir partnered with the Adult Choir to provide and serve the Lenten suppers on Wednesday, March 18, 2026.
- We highlighted the handbell choir in worship on Sunday, May 17, 2026, when they performed for the last time prior to their summer break.
- Becky Whelpley invites the full handbell choir or a just a few musicians to ring with the adult choir from time to time throughout the year.
- A highlight of 2025 was the Summer Handbell Camp held at St. John's July 28–31, featuring clinician and renowned handbell composer Sandra Eithun. This fast-paced event included multiple choirs and welcomed participants from across the area to St. John's. It was a unique and inspiring experience for both the musicians and visitors who stopped in to listen throughout the week or attended the closing concert. We are excited to offer the Summer Handbell Camp again in 2026, scheduled for July 27–30. The workshop will conclude with a free public concert on Thursday, July 30, at 7:00 p.m., featuring music prepared during the camp.

New musicians are always welcome and encouraged to join Joyful Bells for laughter, prayer, fellowship, fun, and the opportunity to create beautiful music together!

Blessings,

Heidi Bischmann, Handbell Choir Director

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Kids of the Kingdom (KOTK)

submitted by Lisa Weiss-Cornelius

2025 - 2026 was an exciting year for children's music and singing. We rehearsed on Wednesday evenings followed by a meal which was prepared by each of the families involved. A "Sign Up Genius" was used to give families a list of weeks that needed dinners. There was no cost for families to be part of KOTK, they just prepared a dinner contribution. The families did a wonderful job of covering meals. KOTK sang one or two times a month from October to May. This year we continued to include the preschool aged members so that we could work on growing our ensemble. Lana DeCoto worked with the younger preschool participants. It was wonderful to have such a nice size group of kids from age 3 to 10. We had about 12 members who participated regularly. It was such a joy to see the musical growth weekly. KOTK became a supportive musical family in every way. Looking forward to this next year!

Preschool KOTK

- This year, the KOTK continued to include preschool children ages 3-5
- The children had time for singing with the older children.
- They then went and did some singing, a story, and some time to play instruments and playtime.
- They were able to join the older children in singing at worship.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Praise Band

submitted by Kenn Anderson, Contemporary Music Director

- Create a mix of familiar (old) hymns and songs with newer refreshing material to enable congregation participation.
 - Work alongside Music Director for special services, Holiday services, etc.
 - Continue using a keyboard player when available and appropriate.
 - Learn new music when requested (by congregation, pastors, KOTK)
 - Work with KOTK on song presentation, when requested.
 - Work with Pastor to provide continuity of the service.
 - Provide special music services including bluegrass and steel guitar.
 - Continue electric drums and “no amps” on stage to ensure volume control.
 - Research sound reinforcement options.
 - Utilize in ear monitors as well as speakers.
 - Select appropriate music for all services.
 - Coordinate distribution of weekly music to band and provide adequate instruction on each song.
 - Led worship outside last summer.
 - Keep band supplies within budgetary constraints.
 - Researching “new” material.
 - Enlist outside musicians when necessary to ensure full sound.
 - Cooperate with single service days.
 - Support sermon with sermon song.
 - Provide a comfortable “work” environment for the band.
 - Turn in bi-weekly time sheets and accountings for the band.
-

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S

Hospitality Ministry

submitted by Barb Lange

The Hospitality Ministry's purpose is to continue to provide a welcoming and supportive environment for both members and visitors every Sunday morning between the two church services.

Sunday Morning Coffee Committee

Currently the committee is made up of four individuals/couples that volunteer their time on a rotating Hospitality basis to prepare the coffee, plate the cookies/treats, and clean up afterward. During the program year coffee is available between services in both the Gathering Space and Fellowship Hall, and treats are available in the Fellowship Hall between services. Generous donations offset the cost of the coffee, and treats are donated by willing St. John's members. More volunteers are needed for the weekly coffee serving/clean up and for providing the weekly treats enjoyed by both adults and children.

Coffee Committee

Sara and Gregg Everts

Linnea Logan

Barb Lange

Kyle and Jeff Weyer

Offering Counters

submitted by Mickey Fank

The Offering Counting Team is responsible for recording all offerings received by mail, the drop boxes, special events, & the Sunday offering plates. We have four teams of 2 or 3 counters, & each team counts about once each month on Monday mornings.

One person on each team enters the donor's name, the amount, & the specific fund, if identified, on an Excel spreadsheet/form on the computer. The other person/people on the team count offerings given in weekly envelopes, any loose cash, & cash from specific groups/funds (Sunday School, Coffee & Donuts, etc). Once this all balances, we turn it over to the office for recording, & one of us takes the checks, cash, and deposit slip to the bank.

We would love to have a few more people join the team. Prior to scheduling, I ask for each member's availability, so I can work around everyone's schedules. Also, other team members are always very willing to sub for each other when conflicts arise.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Property Team

submitted by Bill Stace, Building Supervisor

As Building Supervisor at St John's Lutheran, I have the pleasure of working with the hard-working group of dedicated men and women that make up the Property Team. The Property Team meets every Tuesday morning to go over future projects and delegate tasks to be completed on that day, of which there are many. Our goal is to keep everything running smoothly, from heating and cooling systems to changing light bulbs! You may not see us working but let me assure you that we are working hard in the shadows, and along with our custodial team of Debra and Ethan, we keep the building clean, safe and inviting for all who enter.

The Property Team has been hard at work doing major projects such converting ALL light fixtures in the Sanctuary to LED fixtures and working with Focus on Energy to get a rebate for some of our costs. We routinely fix plumbing and electrical issues as needed. Along with replacing boiler pumps, we upgraded our boiler system for the Sanctuary to more efficient and reliable controllers. There are many other improvements on the horizon to look forward to. So far, we have saved around \$13,000 that would have been spent on outside services. Being part of such a talented group is a pleasure, and I look forward to making St John's a beautiful and welcoming house of worship!

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

PARTNERSHIP AND OUTREACH

SJLC outreach and partnership ministries continue to run strong in both commitment by members and impact of the lives of people. Our budget and designated gifts were used to support our three parish partnerships and several local and global ministries and programs throughout the ELCA and in our community. On behalf of the committee and the whole congregation, thank you for your offerings and special gifts that make this amazing level of support for the care of others possible!

Below are reports from the many ministry activities supported by SJLC:

LOCAL SERVICE/OUTREACH

Our ministries at St. John's provide us many opportunities to "outreach" in the name of Jesus Christ to those less fortunate. Folks of all ages help in numerous ways, through the many ministries for which we advocate.

Christmas Food Drive

submitted by Brian Cranfill, Outreach Chair

This was our 41st year for the Christmas Food drive. We delivered 100 bags of groceries, plus 45 hams and 23 turkeys as well as 40 bags of oranges, and 10 bags of apples. Our delivery teams transported the donated food items to All Peoples and the Waukesha Food Pantry. We continue to enjoy assistance from our high school youth group with shopping duties for hams, turkeys, apples, and oranges. This year's youth shopping excursion was funded by an endowment committee grant. Thanks also to our loaders and delivery drivers.

Hope Center

Hope Center has been a valuable partner in the community, providing basic needs ... food, shelter, and clothing ... to anyone who needs a helping hand. Our special relationship with Hope Center continues, thanks to your generosity and caring hearts!

Over the years, St. John's members donate clothing, hygiene items and furniture, as well as volunteer their time and give financial support to this very worthy program. Thank you for your support, and for making a difference to all those who benefit from the Hope Center. Special thanks to George Vogt who transports donations placed in the blue donation bin to the Hope Center.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Hope Center Lunch

submitted by Brian Cranfill, Outreach Chair

Every Monday since Dec 2020, one of our dedicated volunteers shops for lunch food items, makes 65 sandwiches, and delivers it all to Hope Center. We have a very dedicated core of volunteers who participate each month to support this ministry. St. John's general budget pays for the food served each week. As a special bonus, Dawn Williams makes a large batch of chocolate chip cookies every week to accompany the sandwiches.

Loaves and Fishes

submitted by Dawn Williams

St. John's continues to support Loaves and Fishes, serving an afternoon meal two to four times a year at the Hope Center for about 40-60 guests. Loaves and Fishes started many years ago and was funded by the Cooperative Congregations of Waukesha County. This program provides a nutritious meal for families and individuals who are in a variety of difficult situations.

As a church, we have been part of the Loaves and Fishes for over 20 years! For the past couple of years, Joanna and many of our youth have also committed to preparing and serving a few meals as well. Although our traditional meal has been spaghetti, garlic bread, and tossed salad (with cookies for dessert), any group willing to take a spot on the roster can prepare any meal they would like.

We'd love to have more groups sign up since there are always more weeks in the year than the number of volunteer groups serving Loaves and Fishes. If you are part of a group at St. John's and would like to be a part of this vital mission, please contact Dawn Williams for more information.

Monthly Outreach Focus

submitted by Brian Cranfill, Outreach Chair

Each month we focus our in-kind giving to one of our local or global partners. Many of these efforts have a long history of support at St. John's. Our collections include:

- Conformation student selected items
- Backpacks and school supplies for All Peoples
- Mission of Healing for Heroes of Faith in El Salvador
- Coats/gloves/scarves for All Peoples
- Socks & undies for Hope Center
- Women's Center donations
- Newborn Kits
- Personal care items for Hope Center
- All Peoples Food Pantry

Thank you to all leaders and contributors who help make a difference in the lives of many each month.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Ongoing Collections and Donations

submitted by Brian Cranfill, Outreach Chair

St Johns has large blue bins in fellowship hall to facilitate ongoing donation collections for several ministries. St Johns dedicated volunteers care for deliver to All Peoples and Hope Center, while the Waukesha Food Pantry has their own delivery volunteers that pickup from St. John's. Requested items for these ministries are posted near or on the bins.

- Waukesha Food pantry
- All Peoples Food pantry
- Hope Center
- The Women's Center
- El Salvador

A group of dedicated volunteers picks up food donations for direct delivery to the Hope Center from multiple locations in the area including Rogers in Oconomowoc, Shorehaven and Amelias.

Outreach Support

submitted by Brian Cranfill, Outreach Chair

St. John's continues to dedicate a percentage of budget to several ministries outside the church, including our partners at All Peoples, Akeri Parish, and Heroes of Faith as well as LSS (Lutheran Social Services), Hope Center, Women's Center, Oaks Indian Center, and Lutherdale.

Project Move

submitted by Chris Klink

Project Move was a branch of ministry through the Hope Center where a number of church groups, including one from St. Johns, rotated Saturday mornings to pick up donated furniture that was then available at no charge for people in need. In October of 2025 the Project Move Coordinator at the Hope center left the organization. Then in April of 2026, we learned indirectly from a Hope Center newsletter that the Project Move ministry was sunset due to apparent duplication of efforts with other community organizations. It is with a sad heart that we end our decades-long participation in this program. I want to say a huge THANK YOU to all the members of St. John's that helped in this ministry over the years.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

The Women's Center (TWC)

submitted by Mary Almasi, TWC liaison for St. John's congregation

Donations Support:

St John's offers our congregation two giving opportunities to TWC whose mission is to provide safety, shelter, and counseling to all women and children impacted by domestic abuse and trafficking.

Opportunities for giving:

(1) Each December gift cards may be given for groceries, gasoline, and shopping. The requests for gift cards are displayed on the Christmas tree in the narthex area.

(2) Annually, for one month of the year, the emphasis for giving in the narthex shopping cart are items suggested by TWC as most needed that month.

St John's members respond generously on both occasions.

In addition:

There is a labeled bin in the fellowship hall for donations throughout the year. They are routinely delivered to the Women's Center. (Also labeled as Sister House.)

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

GLOBAL SERVICE AND OUTREACH

ELCA Hunger Appeal

submitted by Brian Cranfill, Outreach Chair

St. John's has a very long history of supporting ELCA World Hunger Appeal and ELCA Disaster Relief in a big way. Hunger issues were highlighted in October 2025 through announcements and sermon emphasis. We donated over \$6433 from direct giving.

Newborn Kits

submitted by Mickey Fank

In 2025, St. John's assembled and donated 700 Newborn Kits. Over the past 27 years, St. John's has donated a total of 14,417 Newborn Kits! We partner with Global Health Ministries in Minnesota. They ship the kits to various developing nations in Africa, Asia, and Central America. In countries partnering with GHM, the infant & maternal mortality rates have decreased (improved) more than 48% over the past 30 years, but many of those countries are still on the list of the top 50 countries with the highest mortality rates in the world. Progress has been made, but more still needs to be done.

Newborn Kits are gifts that help a new mom celebrate her baby and help her clothe and care for her child. Importantly, the kits 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 and 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.

Our goal for 2026 is 600 kits. Newborn Kits will be assembled Tuesday, July 21. There will be a fellowship meal prior to assembling the kits this year. Each kit contains a towel, wash cloth, receiving blanket, onesie/shirt, baby hat, Ivory Soap (bath bar), two cloth diapers, two diaper pins, and a pillowcase. The receiving blankets, onesie/shirt, hats, towels, washcloths, and pillowcases can be new or gently used. Hats can be sewn, knitted, crocheted, or purchased. Blankets can be sewn or purchased (must be all cotton – flannel).

About \$3500.00 is needed in monetary donations to purchase the diapers, diaper pins, towels, and washcloths and to help offset the cost to deliver the kits to Minnesota. Additional cash donations are used to purchase blankets and onesies when I find a great sale. This year we received \$1500.00 from St. John's Endowment Fund, which is a huge help towards meeting our goal. Other items are purchased & donated by members/friends of our mission. Depending on sales/deals, each kit costs about \$10.00 - \$12.00, for a total cost of \$6000.00 - \$7200.00 each year! St. John's members are so generous! If there are any questions, please contact me.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

PARTNERSHIPS

Akeri/Nguruma Parishes and School, Tanzania

Submitted by Deborah Petersen, Ministry Leader

PARTNERSHIP

We continue to be blessed to be a blessing to our partners in Africa. Those blessings included a financial contribution to the Nguruma Parish to assist them in completing a second building on their property. The building is multi-purpose including offices and Sunday school classrooms. They are nearly finished with door, window, and furniture purchases remaining.

SCHOOL

Other blessings were donations to Akeri Hope school to provide dining tables chairs for students. A new project we also contributed to is a solid fence/wall to keep unwanted visitors out when school is not in session.

COMMITTEE REQUEST

The Akeri/Nguruma Partnership Committee met in May and sent the following message:

Praise the Lord Jesus, our beloved friends, Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the Akeri/Nguruma Partnership Committee, I would like to share the recommendations that were made during our committee meeting held on 26 May 2026.

The committee proposed the following priorities for our partnership:

- 1. To continue praying for and strengthening the relationship between St. John's and Akeri/Nguruma.*
- 2. To support the construction of two classroom buildings to improve educational facilities.*
- 3. To assist with the salaries of the teachers at Akeri Hope School, enabling the school to continue providing quality education.*
- 4. To strengthen and expand the Gospel ministry within the congregations.*
- 5. To support the construction of a Sunday School building at Nguruma Congregation.*

We humbly present these recommendations for your prayers, consideration, and support as we continue serving together in God's mission.

May the Lord bless and guide our partnership abundantly.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Franaely Joshua Issangya

District Pastor

On behalf of the Akeri/Nguruma Partnership Committee

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

THE FUTURE

Bishop Elias Kitoi is ending his tenure with the Meru Diocese. The election for his replacement will take place in November. From then through February Bishop Elias and the Bishop-elect will work together to ensure a smooth transition of leadership. February will bring a large celebration honoring Bishop Elias and wishing him well in his retirement.

Our objectives for the upcoming year include offering steadfast prayer and encouragement to our partners, maintaining regular communication, consistently sharing updates with St. John's, and ensuring our financial contributions are impactful.

All Peoples Gathering Church, Milwaukee

Our partnership with All Peoples is 34 years old! We share a lot of history and continue to look for ways to partner with this congregation.

- **Backpacks & School Supplies** – St. John's continues to be a strong partner for this annual late-summer campaign which enabled All Peoples to give backpacks, filled with a complete supply of items required for their grade levels, to students in Kindergarten through High School.
- **Food Justice** - a faithful team from St. John's delivers donations received at St. John's to the All Peoples Food Pantry.
- **Christmas Food Baskets** – St. John's provided grocery bags filled with items needed by families to create their Christmas feasts.
- **Winter Wear** – St. John's collected new and gently used children/youth jackets and accessories in early fall. All Peoples created a gift bag with a coat, hat, scarf, and gloves in sizes newborn through Men's XXL and distributed them in early November.
- **Financial Support** – St. John's continues to support All Peoples as one of three partnerships through benevolence giving.

Héroes of the Faith, El Salvador

Submitted by Mary Beth Gubbins – Ministry Leader

This year we celebrated 28 years of partnership with our sister church Heroes of Faith. Pastor Santiago Rodriguez has been the lead pastor for all these years. We are blessed by his leadership, friendship, and spiritual guidance. We also helped the congregation celebrate 30 years of becoming a community in March. A delegation was sent to help celebrate the event led by Linda and Tim Muth. While no one from St. John's attended, gifts were presented on our behalf. A poster was created commemorating the 30 years, which hangs in the church, a commemorative brass plaque was installed on the front of the church, the church name was proudly painted on the outside of the church by the entrance - Iglesia Luterana Heroes En La Fe, and substantiable silverware was gifted (no more plastic).

We support the community in three primary ways; scholarships/education (known as the Education for Life Program), Days for Girls, and the health clinic called Los Heroes Centro Comunitaria Dra. Debora

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Adams.

The Education for Life Scholarship Program consist of 52 students and sponsors from St. John's and elsewhere. Currently we have 20 students in Elementary, 21 students in Middle School, 5 students in High School and 6 students at the University. I manage the program for St. John's which includes finding sponsors, transferring funds to meet the program needs and aiding in communication between the students and sponsors. Pastor Francisco Garcia is a deacon pastor at the church and coordinates the program in El Salvador. He is paid an administrative fee for his services to the program.

Another area of education that we support is the Family circle preschool and Sunday School. The preschool is run by Karla Fuentes, (a graduate of the Education For Life Program.) The preschool currently has 26 part time students. In addition to running the preschool, Karla coordinates logistics for Sunday and all church events. Karla Jazmin (a university student in the scholarship program) is the Sunday School coordinator.

Days for Girls Sonia Hercilia - this name for the project was chosen by Pastor Sonia's family and the project leaders to honor Sonia. Roxana is the new project coordinator - she has been the lead seamstress for several years. The team (Roxana, Yessenia, Monica, Karla and Lorena) has conducted 4 events so far in 2026, teaching about women's health and distributing kits in Los Héroes, Tonacatepeque and Guazapa. New initiatives this year include producing menstruation kits for pre-menopausal needs and offering sewing lessons to women in the church. All kits are given free of charge to girls and women. The sewing team members are paid \$7 per full day of work. A BIG thank you from the team for the prayer support you gave them during Sonia's difficult journey and following her death.

Los Héroes Centro de Salud Comunitaria Dra. Débora Adams known as the Health Clinic. Nurse Lorena and Doctor Yanett offer full services at the little clinic every Saturday. During the week, Nurse Lorena provides care at the clinic on demand and is on call for home visits. The center now has internet, which allows Lorena to use an online database to manage patient data and offers the possibility of providing video consultations. Lorena and Yanett set up a calendar for the year with health education topics and have conducted three teaching workshops so far.

Lorena and Yanett are paid through donations from St. John's and Hope Lutheran Churches. We also support the center by sending first aid and other supplies. Patients pay a small fee for services and purchase medications at a reduced cost. That income covers basic operating expenses (power, water, internet) and the continued purchase of medications from a supplier.

Education and access to health care bless our brothers and sisters in El Salvador! We continue to give thanks for this special partnership and trust God to continue to bless it and show us how to walk in faith together.

INTEREST GROUPS

Men's Softball Team

submitted by Brian Harms

We have approximately 15 participants that play softball on Monday evenings throughout the summer from May to mid-August. Games are played against other churches in the area at Wirth Park in Brookfield and at Village Park in Pewaukee. This past year, one of our long-time team members in Refugio "Lucky" Longoria changed his address to Heaven. While we miss him, his memory lives on. The team and St. John's helped provide his family a place to come together and pay their respects. Winning the first game in this new 2026 season was a big lift for the team and we toasted "Lucky." That toast gets to the spirit of the team. While we enjoy playing softball, at the heart of the team is just getting together to enjoy fellowship and friendship. A number of the members of the team have participated for many years together and always welcome new players to the team. If interested, please reach out to Brian Harms – (414) 651-2120.

Looking for something to do on a Monday evening? Come cheer for us!

Winter Farmers' Market

submitted by Joanna Salinas

Our Winter Market was a great success again this year. On November 23, 2025, we welcomed the Food, Faith, and Farming Network to St. John's. We hosted 10 area farmers and served a brunch made entirely of local products. We raised \$700 to donate to the Harvest of Hope Fund, an emergency resource for local farmers in crisis.

PAVE THE WAY

Pave the Way Report

Submitted by Brian Zach

In 2023, St John's embarked on a year-long giving Pave the Way campaign to address important property concerns. With your loving and generous gifts, St. John's exceeded campaign giving goals and began attending to those areas of concern. The final Pave the Way project is to improve exterior signage with a goal centered around sharing our mission, church news and amazing ministry work with members, guests, and the community. To achieve this goal, a new sign would be installed on Barker Road approximately 100 feet south of our current corner sign located on Davidson Road and Barker Road. The new location will greatly increase visibility to the large volume of north and south bound traffic. While not finalized, work is underway with the Town of Brookfield, and I am hopeful this project will come to fruition this year.

Thank you for continued prayers and support,

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee Report

submitted by Paul Bulgerin

The committee members of Pastor Karen, Carol Wasemiller, Lisa Belli-Fuchs and Paul Bulgerin worked to recruit four new members for the church council.

Council Members

Council positions are staggered two-year terms. The Nominating Team presents these individuals to the congregation for election to a first or second term on Council.

President	Kathy Davis
Secretary	Jack Shaffer
At Large Member	Lily Fuller
At Large Member	Bruce Campbell

2025-26 Council Members

Paul Bulgerin - President
 Brittany Larson - Vice-President
 Pauline Shoemaker - Treasurer
 Josh Werner - Secretary
 Gregg Everts - At Large #1
 Mark Latus - At Large #2
 Jack Shaffer - At Large #3
 Patrice Krimpelbein - At Large #4
 Elizabeth Roth - At Large #5

Proposed 2026-27 Council Members

Kathy Davis - President (1st term, 1st year)
 Brittany Larson - Vice-President (1st term, 2nd year)
 Pauline Shoemaker - Treasurer (1st term, 2nd year)
 Jack Shaffer - Secretary (1st term, 1st year)
 Gregg Everts - At Large #1 (1st term, 2nd year)
 Bruce Campbell - At Large #2 (1st term, 1st year)
 Lily Fuller - At Large #3 (1st term, 1st year)
 Patrice Krimpelbein - At Large #4 (1st term, 2nd year)
 Elizabeth Roth - At Large #5 (2nd term, 2nd year)