

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.*

Proverbs 3:5-6



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

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Website: www.makedisciples.com
Facebook: [@MakeDisciplesSJL](https://www.facebook.com/MakeDisciplesSJL)
YouTube: @StJohnsWI

Pondering a Pastor

By Keith Paukner, Call Committee Chair

I would like to give everyone at St. John's an update on the progress of the call committee. We have finished interviews on all the candidates presented to us. We returned two names back to the synod as they were not the best fit for St. John's, in our estimation. We are proceeding with second "in person" interviews with the two other candidates that we feel have great potential. Interview dates have been scheduled for those candidates in August. Our hope is that one of those candidates will be our choice to be called as our next pastor. If we cannot make that decision to move ahead with a call, we would return those names back to the synod and ask for new names.

The committee and I appreciate your patience and ask for your continued prayers as we will continue to keep you updated on our progress.



Meet Our New Office Manager—Jason Hamilton

Who is Jason?

Born in Kentucky but drawn to the sailing on Lake Michigan (and the lack of blistering heat), Jason moved to Milwaukee during a blizzard in January 2023. He was smiling from ear to ear the whole time.

An avid fan of music, campfires, boating, and shoveling snow, Jason quickly discovered that Wisconsin is the perfect place to call home.



How to contact Jason?

Phone: 262-786-6887

Email: officemanager@stjohnsbrookfield.org

In Person: As Office Manager, you will find him in the office during regular office hours (9-12) and varying times before and after.

What Does Jason Do?

Everything.

Well, almost everything. While he isn't involved with program planning at St. John's, he does or oversees everything administrative and building related.

Contact Jason to:

- Change phone numbers, emails, addresses, and directory photos.
- Reserve a room for a meeting.
- Relay a concern or a thanks to the custodians.
- Get answers to general questions.

Anything you used to ask Heidi or Bill, now you ask Jason!

Music Notes

Bluegrass Worship

The bluegrass band returns to lead worship on August 2. Invite a friend!



Questions about
music at
St. John's?



Contact Becky!
bwhelpley@stjohnbrookfield.org

Sunday Sing-A-Long

This will take place on three Sundays in August, 15 minutes prior to the 9am service.

August 9, 16 and 23

The time is now to suggest favorite hymns (from the hymnals) and contemporary songs (from the provided list) for the Sunday Sing-a-Longs in August. The suggestion box, hymnals, and song list are in the gathering space. Don't see a song on a list or in a book? Write it down and we'll see if we can find it!



We Need You To Be In A Choir!

Choirs provide so many things in the life of a church: leading the congregation, making music together, fellowship. Please prayerfully consider joining one of the existing groups OR speak with Music Director Becky Whelpley if you have an idea for a need that we don't currently offer. I would love to hear from you!

Need childcare? I would love to hear from you!

Would like to meet during the day or only on Sundays? I would love to hear from you!

Our **Adult Choir** (we welcome middle school students with a guardian) will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 2 this fall, 6:30-7:30pm in the sanctuary.

KOTK (Kids of the Kingdom) begins in October, first rehearsal information is coming soon.

Ages 4 to 6th grade. KOTK spends time in rehearsal learning to sing and play musical instruments, creating dramatic presentations, and just having fun together. Preschool age children begin rehearsals with the large group and then continue with a separate, age-appropriate rehearsal led by Mrs. DeCoto.

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

If you've ever considered joining the St. John's **Handbell Choir**, now is a wonderful time! Openings are available beginning this fall. We welcome full-time, year-round ringers as well as seasonal participants. There is a place for YOU—come be part of something special!

For more information about handbell choir, contact Director Heidi Bischmann:

✉ hbischmann@gmail.com or

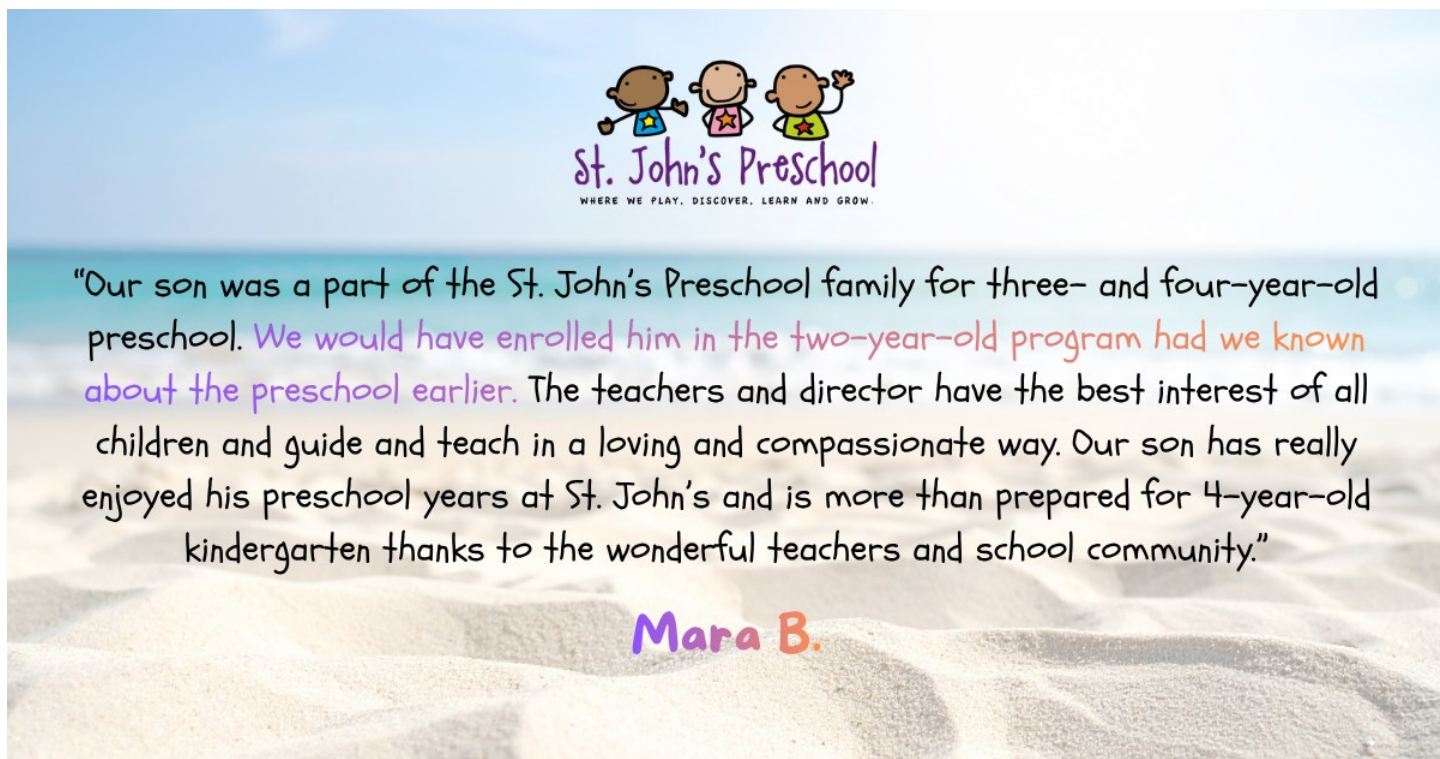
☎ (414) 305-7812.



Any aged instrumental player is encouraged to participate by contacting Becky Whelpley.

Children, Youth & Families

Preschool



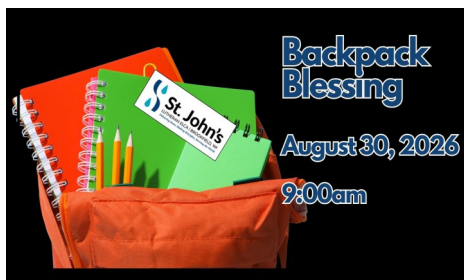
Children, Youth & Families

Backpack Blessing

We invite EVERYONE to bring their backpack, briefcase, lunch bag or tote bag for a special blessing to begin the school year surrounded in prayer.

August 30, 2026

9:00 am



Fall Registration is Open!

Please register your kids for Fall programming. The registration form is for Sunday School, Confirmation, High School Youth Group and Kids of the Kingdom. One form per family.

Link: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/XrGMdtZ2Q8>

Register

Family Fun Night

Thursday, August 6

You're invited to a church-wide Vacation Bible School Family Fun Night at 6:00pm at St. John's Lutheran Church. Join us for snacks, games, rockin' music, fellowship, and lots of fun! Meet Buzzy Bees Beekeeper and Blue, the Community Service Police Dog from Marquette! Families are encouraged to attend. Meet in the circle drive. Bring a friend!



Contact Joanna
with Toddler to 8th
Grade Questions



jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org

Confirmation in the Fall

Confirmation will continue
Sunday evenings this fall!

We are excited to continue our Sunday night tradition for 5th & 6th grade Connect Class, 7th & 8th grade Confirmation Class, 9th grade Confirmation, and High School Youth Group. Beginning Oct. 11, we'll meet from 4:30-6:00pm at St. John's and will start with a meal. Look for more information and a fall schedule to come out shortly!



Sunday School

Save the date for September 13 2026 for Rally Day and the first day of Sunday School! At St. John's Sunday School begins at age 3, though 2 year olds are welcome to join our Large Group time with a parent. Meet at 9:45 in the Sanctuary. More information can be found on our website!



Volunteer!

Have a love to share with the children of St. John's? Consider sharing your time and gifts with our students on Sunday Mornings as part of our Large Group Sunday School team or a Small Group leader! We are also looking for special event chaperones. Please reach out to Joanna at jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org to discuss possibilities!



Children, Youth & Families

9th Grade Lutherdale Retreat

Register by August 16

All 9th grade confirmation students are invited to join us for our **Lutherdale Retreat** on **September 11–13**! This weekend is a great opportunity to build friendships, grow in faith, and kick off the confirmation year together.

Registration is due by Sunday, August 16.

Please be sure to sign up by the deadline so we can finalize our food plans. If you have any questions, contact Stephanie.



High School Leadership Opportunity

The **Greater Milwaukee Synod** is seeking high school students **entering grades 9–11 this fall** to serve on the **Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Board**.

Board members help plan synod youth gatherings, represent the voices of youth across the synod, and develop leadership skills through faith formation and training. The first required training retreat will be held at **Lutherdale Bible Camp** on **October 9–10, 2026**.

If you're interested in learning more about this exciting leadership opportunity, please contact Stephanie.



ELCA Youth Gathering 2027

Minneapolis, here we come! The ELCA Youth Gathering is June 28–July 2, 2027, and it's shaping up to be an incredible week of faith, friendship, service, worship, and unforgettable experiences alongside thousands of Lutheran youth from across the country. If you're currently in high school, start getting excited—sign-up will be available in early fall!



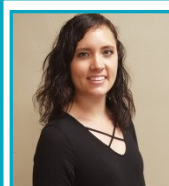
Chaperones Needed: ELCA Youth Gathering

We're looking for adult chaperones to join our group for the **2027 ELCA Youth Gathering** next summer! If you enjoy working with high school youth and would like to be part of this incredible faith-filled experience, we'd love to have you join us. Please reach out to Stephanie for more information.



Boundary Waters Crew Returns

Safely



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

262-453-9201 or

sbroussard@stjohnbrookfield.org

Chaperones Needed: Lutherdale Retreat

Need **one male and one female chaperone** to join our **9th Grade Lutherdale Retreat** on **September 11–13**. Chaperones play an important role in helping create a safe, meaningful, and fun weekend for our confirmation students. If you're interested in serving, please contact Stephanie.

Serving the World—Newborn Kit Assembly

WOW! THANK YOU!

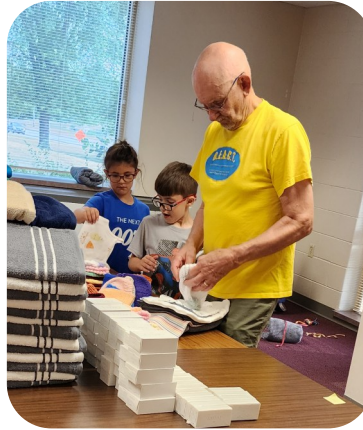
On July 21, 2026, we met to assemble the Newborn Kits. This was the 28th year St. John's has donated to this ministry.

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

After dinner, we assembled 725 Newborn Kits! Over the past 28 years, St. John's has donated a total of 15,142 Newborn Kits!

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

Each kit costs about \$14-\$15, for a total cost of about \$10,500, not to mention the time spent to make this happen. Through the generosity of so many people who



sew, crochet, knit, shop, wash, fold/count items, donate money, and pray, we are able to help less fortunate mothers receive better medical care as they come to medical facilities to receive these kits. This results in healthier babies being born and provides much needed supplies for the first months of their lives!

In the countries partnering with Global Health Ministries, the maternal and infant mortality rates have decreased tremendously over the past 30 years. However, infant

mortality rates are still up to 15% higher than in the U.S., while maternal mortality rates are still up to 58 times higher than in the U.S.! So while there has been much improvement, there is still much more to do

This ministry would not be successful without the generous donations of all. As they say, it takes a village, and St. John's has helped to improve the lives of 725 babies and their moms this year!

Thanks,
Mickey



Serving the World

Help Liam Fill the Shelves for August Outreach

Hello, my name is Liam Sadowski and for my confirmation project I am hoping to help our local food pantry. I am trying to collect canned goods for the Waukesha FOOD Pantry to give families shelf stable meal options as housing and grocery costs increase. Hundreds of families rely on the FOOD Pantry every year, and I think that it is important that everyone has something to eat every night.



My project, **Fill the Shelves**, will aim to gather canned food such as tuna or canned vegetables and fruit for the month of August to donate to the FOOD Pantry. Any other non-perishable items and can-openers are also welcome!

Thank you for helping me and our community!

Ride, Run, Walk and Register!

Phil Peters has volunteered to lead the team in 2026!
Contact Phil (peterspj@gmail.com) with questions about the event.



Morning of Saturday, September 26

Join all of your friends at the Outreach for Hope 2026 Family Ride Run Walk, and help fundraise \$175K for grants to ministries serving communities experiencing material poverty in the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA.

FOUR SITE OPTIONS:

Each site offers a road (8:30 am) and/or trail bike ride (9:30 am) unless otherwise noted, a 5K fun run, a walk (10:30 am), a picnic (11:30 am) and fellowship-only participant and volunteer options.

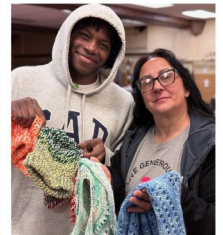
- **Grafton:** Meets at Grace Lutheran Church
- **Kenosha:** Meets at Petrifying Springs Park
- **Milwaukee:** Meets at Washington Park (*no bike rides at this site*)
- **Waukesha:** Meets at Fox River Sanctuary, E.B. Shurts Building

There is **no registration fee** - but we encourage you to donate and/or fundraise towards our \$175K goal!

Every dollar raised supports our Ministry Partners' work of feeding, clothing and caring for our neighbors in need.



Register + learn more at OFHRRW.org



WHAT IS OUTREACH FOR HOPE?

Outreach for Hope supports Greater Milwaukee Synod congregations and ministries serving low-income communities through grants, supply drives, and partnerships with congregations across the Synod.

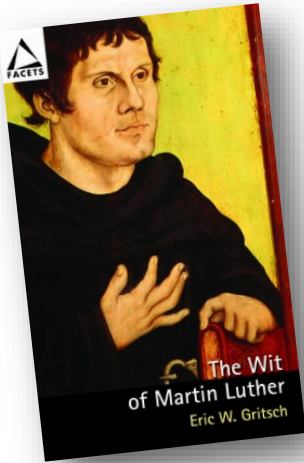
Through our Ministry Partners, neighbors receive practical, life-sustaining care — including food, clothing, youth programs, medical clinics, and more — along with the relationships, dignity, and hope that strengthen communities.

Builds Relationships • Strengthens Communities • Inspires Hope

OutreachforHope.org



Check It Out



This book The Wit of Martin Luther, by Eric W. Gritsch provides an interesting and entertaining introduction to Martin Luther's thought. It shows how Luther enjoyed using humor in his interpretation of the Bible, his pastoral relationships and his encounters with death. It brings out the deeper religious meaning behind Luther's theological thought.

Check it out in the library.

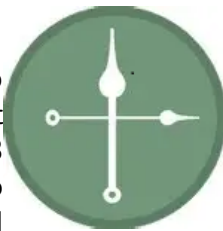
Action Needed by 8/16

Attention worship volunteers!

It is time to run the next worship assistant schedule. The next schedule will cover September 13 to November 29. Please login to Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP) and enter dates you are NOT available to serve during that time.

If you need help with a login, please contact [Pam](#).

Thank you for being a good steward of your talents and serving as a worship assistant.



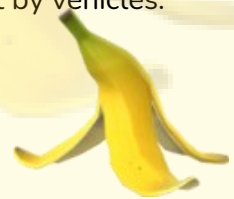
Creation Corner

Help Wildlife

Do NOT throw that banana peel!

According to the Wildlife in Need Center, when people toss an apple core or orange peel out their car window, they often think they are "helping" wildlife. Unfortunately, roadside litter attracts small animals such as rodents, which in turn attract larger predators, increasing the chance birds such as hawks, owls, and eagle may be hit by vehicles.

**Never throw litter
from your car, even if
it is biodegradable!!!**



Say "Cheese"

Have your kids grown?
Do you have a new hairstyle?



You may update your photo at any time, for any reason. Photos may be emailed to Jason at officemanager@stjohnsbrookfield.org.

Send us your favorite photo of everyone in your household. We can use it to update your photo in our database that we will use for the next directory.

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

August Birthdays



1 Josh Werner	7 David Douglas	14 Alyssa Vetta	21 Carol Wasemiller
2 Sonja Beyerlein	7 Linda Elfers	15 Addisyn Kaiser	22 Jason Gillette
2 Gene Kaiser	7 Judy Klawitter	16 Jonathon Lombardi	22 Bill Reed
3 Debbie Hipke-Fuller	10 Jorja Cesar	17 John Nugent	26 Dan Blask
3 Heidi Wright	10 Adelyn Lange	17 Karen Wilson	26 Nate Nelson
4 Oliver Lenell	11 Kekoa Broussard	18 Rhonda Bohne	26 Ella Salinas
5 Alea Martin	11 Isabella DuChateau	18 David Feller	27 Rich Warp
5 Ethan Vanden Heuvel	11 Sandy Landgren	18 Jack Shaffer	31 Carol Hein
5 Ryan Wagner	12 Lori Schettler	18 Kevin Wolfmeyer	31 Barb Lange
5 Karie Zach	13 Dale Granlund	21 Emily Krusche-Bruck	

Council Communications

Greetings to St. John's Members,
The Council met Monday July 20, 2026

The Council welcomed Jason Hamilton, newly hired Office Manager. Members introduced themselves and discussed Jason's role in supporting the ministry and daily operations of St. John's.

Review of the proposed Constitution revisions are pending. We are awaiting feedback from the Greater Milwaukee Synod Secretary.

Heidi Bischmann has submitted her resignation as Administration Coordinator, but we are happy that she remains our Handbell Choir Director.

The Council reviewed financial documents. Kathy reported that Pauline Shoemaker has resigned her position for health reasons. Kathy is recruiting for someone with financial experience to complete Pauline's term as Treasurer. The Council discussed the value of developing a formal

capital planning process that would allow ministry teams to identify anticipated facility needs prior to annual budget preparation. Jason Hamilton was identified as a potential future partner in helping coordinate and organize this planning process in alongside the Finance Committee.

The Call Committee has completed several initial candidate interviews and is scheduling follow-up interviews with selected candidates. Additional interviews are anticipated during late August and early September as the call process continues.

There was no significant update regarding the Pave the Way sign project.

Council continued discussion regarding the temporary transition to a single Sunday worship service during the summer months. Members reviewed a draft congregational survey designed to gather feedback regarding the summer

worship schedule. Council identified that the survey might provide an opportunity for members interested in future worship planning to identify themselves for additional involvement.

Council reviewed a draft organizational chart outlining reporting relationships among Council, staff, ministry teams, and congregational committees. The organizational chart will continue to be refined.

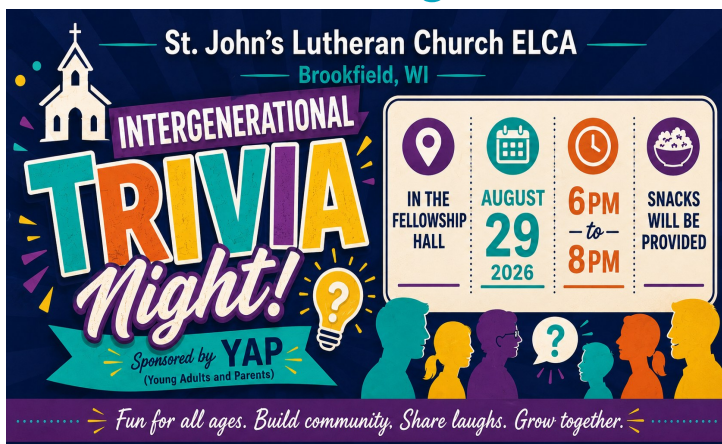
The next Council meeting is August 17.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Yours in Christ,
Kathy Davis
President

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

Intergenerational Trivia Night



Think you know a little about a lot?
Or maybe a lot about absolutely nothing useful?

Either way, you're invited to the St. John's **Intergenerational Trivia Night!** Join us for a fun evening of general trivia designed for **everyone in the family**—kids, parents, grandparents, trivia buffs, lucky guessers, and everyone in between.

No need to create a team ahead of time; just show up, bring your brain (and maybe your best random facts), and we'll take care of the rest! Snacks will be provided, laughs are encouraged, and bragging rights are highly possible.

Calendar of events for August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:00a worship*	3 <i>Food Pantry Pick Up</i> 9:00a VBS 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	4 8:30a property team 9:00a VBS 6:30p scouts	5 8:30a retired men's b-fast 9:00a VBS 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	6 9:00a VBS 6:00p Family Fun Night 6:30p AL-Anon 7:00p AA	7 <i>office closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 6:00p Tai Chi	1 8
9 8:45a Sunday Sing-a Long 9:00a worship* 10:30a stewardship team	10 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	11 8:30a property team 6:00p quilters 6:30p HR Team Zoom mtg 6:30p scouts	12 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	13 4:30p Finance Team mtg 6:30p AL-Anon 7:00p AA	14 <i>office closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 10:00a prayer shawl group 6:00p Tai Chi	15
16 8:45a Sunday Sing-a Long 9:00a worship* 1:00p Eagle Scout BOR	17 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p council meeting 6:30p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	18 8:30a property team 6:30p scouts	19 12:00p retired men's lunch 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	20 6:00p Preschool Open House 6:30p AL-Anon 7:00p AA	21 <i>office closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 11:30a Women of Faith 6:00p Tai Chi	22 2:00p Ben Shoemaker visitation 3:00p Ben Shoemaker funeral
23 8:45a Sunday Sing-a Long 9:00a worship*	24 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	25 8:30a property team 6:30p scouts	26 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	27 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS	28 <i>office closed</i> 6:15a virtual men's group 6:00p Tai Chi	29 6:00p Trivia Night
30 <i>backpack blessing</i> 9:00a worship*	31 11:00a staff mtg 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p AL-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	*worship service/event is live streamed	To request space for your small group or ministry to meet in the building, please complete the Facility Use Form on the St. John's website. It is under the Resources tab - Documents and Forms. Contact Jason with questions.			Coming Soon: 9/1 handbell rehearsal 9/2 choir rehearsal 9/7 Labor Day—office closed 9/13 regular worship schedule resumes

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

tbailiff@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	Pauline S
Carol M	Doris K
Dylan H	Mark A
Gary G	Nancy H

To help us to stay connected, we will be sharing the list with you monthly. Prayers may be for thanksgiving, hope and/or healing. The requests may be immediate, short or long term.

Prayer requests may be submitted at the bottom of the website www.makedisciples.com.

Council Contacts

St. John's Council

President

Kathy Davis 414-870-0307

Vice-president

Brittany Larson 262-527-2404

Secretary

Jack Shaffer 262-212-4240

Treasurer

open

At Large

Gregg Everts 414-640-9988

Bruce Campbell 414-708-5024

Liz Roth 847-533-4806

Patrice Krimpelbein 262-389-0014

Lily Fuller 262-606-0576



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

Following Jesus, Making Disciples,
Serving the World.

makedisciples.com



Staff Phone Extensions

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

Extensions:

100	Jason Hamilton, Office Manager
101	pastor
102	Pam Klink, Communications Coordinator
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**