Inspire

November 2026

Stay Informed. Be Inspired.



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St. John's Lutheran
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Follow Us

Website: www.makedisciples.com

Facebook: @MakeDisciplesSJL

YouTube: @StJohnsWI

Pastor Ponderings

We concluded our special fall series “Faith Odyssey”, woven into Sunday worship hymns, liturgy, sermon and children’s messages. Now we turn to November. The beauty of the autumn colors in the changing season actually reminds of us that our journey involves big changes, too. Like the falling leaves, in Christ we claim that in our endings lay the seeds of new beginnings. We trust in a God who makes all things beautiful in their time.

The first Sunday of this month is All Saints Day, when we give thanks for the lives and faith of those who have died this year and now reside with the saints. We will name each aloud, light a candle in their memory, and toll the bell. It is a moving service in which all tears and joys are welcome. All who wish may come forward, light a candle for a loved one and place it in the sand-filled cross, as we rejoice in the promise of resurrection.

Our new Director of Music, Brian Eggers, and I have planned the November worship. Our theme is “The Wonderful Reign of God”. We’ll explore the ways our loving God RULES, culminating in a celebration on Christ the King Sunday.

Our Thanksgiving Eve service will be on the 26th at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by PIE! Come, you thankful people, Come!

I continue serving among you until your new pastor arrives, grateful for all your loving support! A big thank you again to all who organized worship till Brian arrived. And also a giant gratitude to who accompanied worship, as well staff and members who faithfully offered worship support in so many ways! (Too many to name here, but please know - you are appreciated!

Now as we await our new pastor, let’s hold each other close in prayer and love, trusting the Spirit to lead and guide and work all things together for good.

Peace, love, and joy,
Frank

Pondering a Pastor



The Call Committee is pleased to announce that they unanimously agreed to support one of the recent pastor candidates! Watch for updates as they proceed through the list of next steps. We will know more when they can share more!

Don’t Miss It

Join Us for Advent Fest

Our 2026 Advent celebration will include a light meal, worship, music, decorating, and a gingerbread house competition.



Get into the spirit of the season with food, worship, music, and decorating!

5:45 We will begin the evening in the fellowship hall with a light meal. Come any time between 5:45-6:20 pm; food will be provided.

6:25 Prelude music will begin in the sanctuary as we transition to a short time of worship.

6:30 Worship will include special Advent music and readings.

7:00 So many activities:
- gingerbread house decorating competition for all ages
- a children’s craft
- Giving Tree and sanctuary tree decorating
- festive music by our youth.

Please invite a friend. We do ask that children be accompanied by an adult.

Summer Survey

As promised, a survey has been prepared to gather feedback on having one worship service this past summer.

Please take a moment to complete this short survey. Your opinion matters.

St. John's Brookfield - Summer Worship Survey – Fill out form

The survey is accessible here and on our website.



Worship and Music

Welcome Brian Eggers

I'm excited to begin my ministry here with you. I have been involved with music and Church Music since I was a child growing up in the Lutheran Church. Playing the piano, singing in choirs, playing organ for church and accompanying choirs through out my years in school. I have served in the church in one capacity or another for the past 40 years. My most recent position was at SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, where I was Director of Liturgy and Music for 11 years.



Seven years ago, I began a real estate business and have been loving the opportunity to help people during some of their most important times in their lives, similar to serving as a church musician. I still run my real estate business, but wanted to get back into serving in a church that has a vibrant music ministry, thus here I am at St. John's.

Outside of work, I have two grown children and love to travel, garden, read a good British mystery, play showtunes on my Facebook page and just enjoy life with my partner and two Schnauzers. I look forward to getting to know you all and have already felt so welcomed by staff and church member alike. If you are interested in becoming involved in our great music ministry, please do not hesitate to reach out to me and we can chat.

Poinsettia Tributes

Christmas is the perfect time to remember our loved ones. You have an opportunity to honor someone with a tribute by providing a poinsettia for the sanctuary.

Poinsettias are available in various sizes and colors. To order your poinsettia(s), scan or click the QR code below. Alternatively, go to our website and click on Sign Up Genius and select the poinsettia tab.

Orders will be accepted through Sunday, December 6.



When Can You Serve?

The next ministry schedule for Sunday mornings will cover December through February. To minimize the number of sub requests needed, please login and enter the dates you are not available to serve **by November 15**. This will include the 10:00 services on December 13 and December 27, as well as Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, and Wednesday Lenten services.

Need help logging into the Ministry Scheduler? Contact Pam.

Not currently on the schedule? See Pam with questions about being a communion server, an usher, a lector, a greeter, an AV tech, an assisting minister, or a coffee host.



Commitment Sunday

Statement of Intent cards were mailed last week along with your statement of giving for YTD 2026. Please review your statement for any errors.

We will gather the completed commitment cards **November 8** to present them as an offering during worship.



Worship and Music

Thanksgiving Eve Worship ... & Pie

The third annual Gratitude Gathering will be held on Thanksgiving Eve, **November 25**, after the 6:30 p.m. worship service. Pie will be served ~ a tasty treat!

Please sign up (in the gathering space) to bring a pie to share with those who gather to offer thanks, and share fellowship.



Advent Fest

Friday, December 4
5:45 - 7:30 p.m.

light meal - worship - music - decorating gingerbread house competition for all ages

Invite a friend!



Let Heaven and Nature Sing

We will have one service on December 13 for our annual "Music Sunday". Invite a friend!



Jubilate Chorale Concert

The Jubilate Chorale will present a concert "Wondrous Star, Lend Thy Light" at St. John's on Saturday, December 5 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available on the website or at the door.

(https://www.jubilatechorale.org)

JUBILATE CHORALE

Make Music at Advent Fest

Calling all upper elementary, middle school students, high school students and musicians of any age. Do you play an instrument? Do you love Christmas carols? Would you like to play with a small group?

You are invited to come practice playing Christmas Carols with other St. John's friends. We will meet on Sundays, November 8 and 22 from 6:00-6:30 p.m. to play some music. Some may decide to play a few Christmas carols as background music in small groups during decorating on Advent Fest. All are welcome: strings, woodwinds, brass, vocalists and aspiring bell ringers!



Children, Youth, & Families

Preschool



At the time of publishing ...
Baby Bailiff had not made her appearance.
Watch for updates!

First Communion

First Communion Service
November 22, 2026
8:30am & 10:45am

Bread Baking and First Communion Class
November 8, 2026
12:00pm

Is your child ready to take communion? Here at St. John's, we welcome children of any age to the Table when you as a family feel it is appropriate. We will be holding First Communion this year on November 22. We will have a First Communion Bread Baking Class on November 8 at 12:00.

Please RSVP to Joanna at jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org and fill out the form online.

Link to form:
https://forms.gle/Y4MF9PDMVAXUvsGT6



Children, Youth, & Families

Middle School News

Thanks to the Youth Leadership Team! Our 6th-8th Graders share their faith through volunteering as student leaders for Sunday School and within the larger congregation. This month students made sandwiches for the Hope Center and items for HAWS!

In November, we will be assembling Thrivent Cause Solar Lights and Water Filter kits. Students can drop in as they are able.



Whirley Ball

6th-8th graders!

Join us for Whirly Ball on Nov 15 from 3:30-5:30. Bring a friend!

Sign Up: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CADAA2DA0F85-middle5#

Cost $5.00 per person.



Sunday Evening Education

We are excited to offer biweekly programming for our 5th – 12th graders on Sunday evenings from 4:30-6:00pm. Paper calendars are available in the Fellowship Hall.

November 8 & 22

4:30-5:00p	Dinner
5:00-6:00p	5th- 6th grade Connect Class
	7th-8th grade Confirmation
	9th-12th grade Youth Group

Contact Joanna or Stephanie with any questions!



Contact Joanna with Toddler to 8th Grade Questions

jsalinas@stjohnsbrookfield.org



Sunday School

So much fun happens each week in Sunday School! We start all together in the Sanctuary at 9:45 and then head to small groups. New Friends are always welcome to come and visit!

At St. John's, Sunday School is for ages 2 – 5th grade. 6th graders and up can participate in our Youth Leadership Team on Sunday mornings.







Middle School Great Food Race

A HUGE thank you to our Confirmation students and their parents for an amazing Great Food Race! This is one of our favorite service projects of the year and all the food is headed to All Peoples.



Children, Youth, & Families

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Italian Dinner & Silent Auction! Whether you purchased dinner, donated an auction item, placed a bid, volunteered, or helped behind the scenes, you made the evening a huge success!

Together, we raised almost $3,000 to support our youth!

We are so grateful for the incredible generosity and support of our congregation and community. Thank you for continuing to invest in our youth and getting us one step closer to Minneapolis!

High School Youth Bonfire + Friendsgiving

Join us for a cozy night of food, friends, and fall fun!

Friday, November 13
6:00–7:30 PM

We'll gather around the bonfire, enjoy a Friendsgiving meal together, and spend the evening hanging out and having fun before the busy holiday season begins.

We need everyone's help to make our Friendsgiving feast complete! Please use the SignUp Genius to sign up to bring a goodie, side dish, dessert, drink, or other item to share.

And don't forget - friends are always welcome! Bring a friend (or two!) and come hungry.

Sign up here:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CADAA2DA0F85-67089473-high



Youth Ministry Calendar

DATE	EVENT	TIME
11/8	Youth Group	5:00p-6:00p
11/13	Bonfire + Friendsgiving	6:00p-7:30p
11/15	9th Grade Confirmation	4:30p-6:00p
11/22	Youth Group	5:00p-6:00p
12/4	Advent Fest	5:00p-6:00p

ELCA Youth Gathering Chaperones Needed

We're looking for **MALE** 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.



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

262-453-9201 or
sbroussard@stjohnsbrookfield.org

ELCA Youth Gathering

Minneapolis, here we come! The ELCA Youth Gathering is June 27–July 2, 2027, and we are excited to start getting our group registered!

Registration begins October 21 with a $100 deposit!

If you're currently in 8th - 12th grade and interested in joining us in Minneapolis, please reach out to Stephanie for more information. We would love to have you join us!

IMAGINE more

Students Make Music at Advent Fest

Calling all upper elementary, middle school students, high school students and musicians of any age.

Do you play an instrument?
Do you love Christmas carols?
Would you like to play with a small group?

Contact Linnea with questions: blogan1@wi.rr.com.



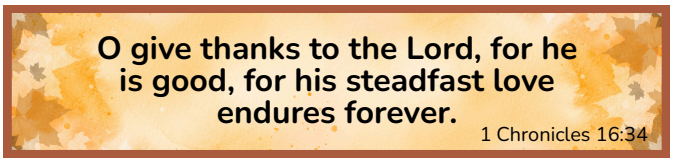
Connecting and Serving

Financial Education Opportunity

The conference is open to everyone, but it will be mostly for people who need support for planned giving. We will be covering all of the ways to ensure those 70 and older know how to handle their RMDs and any charitable trust set up. It will be open to questions and there will be donuts!

Register by scanning *or clicking* the QR code.



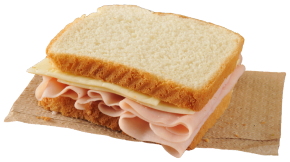


Can You Make a Sandwich?

St. John's has a dedicated group of volunteers who make and deliver sandwiches to Hope Center in Waukesha every Monday for lunch. We have been making lunch on Mondays for this important ministry for over ten years! All food purchases are paid out of a designated St. John's budget.

What is the commitment?
Once a month, shop for lunch supplies. Make the sandwiches. Deliver all food items to Hope Center by 11:30. Get reimbursed for the cost of the food.

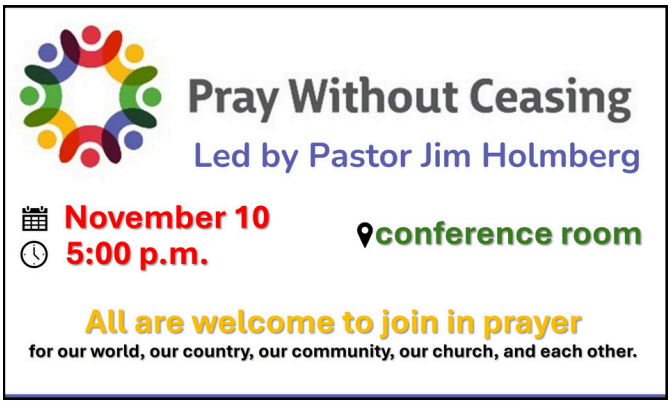
We need an additional lunch maker to help keep the ministry working well. If you are interested in assisting or just have questions about this effort, please contact Brian Cranfill at briancranfill1@gmail.com.





Join in a Time of Prayer

All are welcome to join in an hour prayer for our world, our country, our community, our church, and each other, led by Pastor Jim Holmberg. on November 10 at 5:00 p.m. Pray Without Ceasing meets the second Tuesday of each month in the conference room. All are encouraged to attend as you are able.



Check It Out

New Books to Check Out

There are several excellent NEW BOOKS in the St. John's Library. These are a few of them, and more are on display in the library, both in the library window, and face out on the book shelves.



Serving the World

Bazaar Planning

The Bazaar Team *(or is it Bizarre Team?)* is meeting on Thursday, November 12 to continue discussion and plans for next steps. Anyone interested in helping to plan a potential 2027 Holiday Bazaar is welcome to join the discussion!

Contact Ariel with questions.



November Outreach - Supplies for El Salvador

In November, our outreach offering will focus on items for El Salvador. This will include items for the new health clinic at Los Heroes and for Days for Girls kits.

How can you help?

- undies for girls, teens, and young women - dark colors preferred.
- thick washcloths
- fabric - dark flannel and cotton preferred but all fabric is used to support a local family
- soft bristle toothbrushes
- band-aids

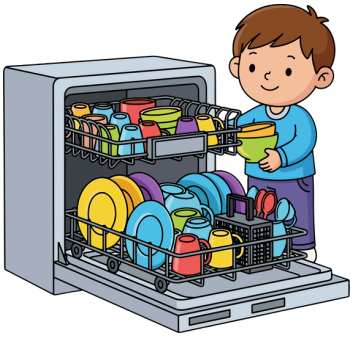




Celebrating Care for Creation

Is your dishwasher an energy drain?

Not if you wait until the dishwasher is full to run it! Full loads use the same amount of hot water and energy as smaller loads. Fewer loads save money, water, time and energy, especially if you use short cycles and air-dry the dishes.



November Birthdays





1 John Roth Jr
1 Sandra Wicklund
1 Colton Wright
2 Jordan Emmons
2 Jordan Larson
2 Sandy Paukner
2 Linda Shaffer
2 Luan Unger
4 Chase Mahoney
4 Debbie Wimmer
4 Kim Zick
5 Connie Braun
7 Hailey Harwood
7 Nancy Kraus
7 Ethan Zach
8 James LaHann
9 Angela Turner
10 Cheryl Poth
11 Brynn Fuerstenberg
13 Timmy Emmons
14 Josh Belli
14 Vivian Yourell
16 Ben Allbaugh
16 Vicki Fuerstenberg
16 Dan Hintze
18 Barbara James
18 John Rickinger
19 Cheryl Woodworth
20 Alice Beyer
20 Chris Elfers
21 Maddie Beug-Hoffman
21 Heather Cheslock
21 Gwen Templin
22 Cooper Templin
22 Curtis Templin
23 Sherry Henschel
23 Jim Koscielniak
24 Skye Bertrand-Zweig
24 Liam Turner
25 Paul Cornelius
26 Jeff Baeten
26 Kathy Davis
27 Lisa Belli-Fuchs
28 Hannah Baake
28 Jim Cheslock
28 Gregg Everts
28 Sarah Gillette
28 Klaudia Hollander
28 Bonnie Suhaysik
29 Joshua Balzer
29 Mick Scanlon

Council Communications

Greetings to St. John's Members,

The Congregation Council met on Monday, October 19, 2026. Following an opening devotion, Council approved the agenda and the September 21 meeting minutes.

Constitution Revision
Constitution revisions were sent to the Synod for review.

Staff Transitions
Brian Eggers began serving as Music Director on October 20.

Jason Hamilton submitted his resignation effective October 23, 2026. He has accepted a position in his chosen field. An Officer Manager recruitment team will begin interviews the week of 10/26/2026.

Financial Report
Council reviewed September finances. Year-to-date General Fund income was within 98% of budget and expenses were 94% of budget.

The 2027 budget process is under way. Council also reviewed the Pave the Way sign project and expected Gathering Space chair expenses.

Next Council Meeting: November 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Ministry and Old Business
The Call Committee reported that two second-round interviews were planned for the week of October 19.

Council reviewed the summer worship survey and plans to finalize it for distribution.

The organizational chart was reviewed. Additional clarification to the Music & Worship area was requested.

Property and New Business
Council reviewed proposals for church property tree pruning and removals and approved funding the tree-maintenance project through the Capital Improvement Fund.

Council approved the Property Team description, clarifying the team's role in property care and maintenance.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 16, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. The 2027 budget will be among the discussion items.

Thank you for your continued prayers, participation, and support of St. John's ministries!
Yours in Christ,

Kathy Davis
President

Winter Farmer's Market Update

On behalf of the Food Faith and Farming Network, I want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your dedicated support and partnership on our Winter Farmers Markets, a pillar program that has fostered so many wonderful connections among congregations, vendors and community members in the Southeastern Wisconsin area over the years.

After 22 wonderful years, we are discontinuing our Winter Farmers Market & Brunch program. We have achieved what we set out to accomplish: to support local farmers year-round, highlight the food-faith connection, build relationships between vendors and shoppers and build rural-urban connections. Thank you again for all that you do to nourish both our local food systems and our faith communities.

Warm regards,
Trudi Jenny, Co-Chair
Food, Faith and Farming Network

Food, Faith and Farming Network
Connecting Community, Land, and People

Electronic Sign Update

Have you noticed the activity along Barker Road?

All hurdles have been cleared with the Town of Brookfield and we have secured the proper permits to install our new electronic sign. If all goes well, the sign will be installed by Thanksgiving approximately 100 feet south of the current sign! The new location will greatly increase visibility to the large volume of north and south bound traffic.



Lost and Found

Gold Bracelet Found
In mid-October, a gold bracelet was found in the coat area. If you are missing a bracelet, contact Pam to describe it and claim it!

Wrong Coat Left Behind
In September, a blue raincoat was left behind in the coat rack. Unfortunately, it wasn't the right coat. Check your coats. If you have a blue coat that isn't yours, please bring it and exchange it!

Calendar of events for November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **8:30a worship*** 9:45a fellowship and ed **10:45a worship** 4:30p 9th gr confirmation	2 Food Pantry Pick Up 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	3 8:30a property team 10:15a staff mtg 6:00p quilters 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p scouts	4 8:30a retired men's b-fast 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	5 1:00p Faith Alive 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	6 6:15a virtual men's group 6:00p AUM Dance	7 8:30a men's group 10:00a AUM Dance 10:00a Wealth Management Event
8 **8:30a worship*** 9:45a fellowship and ed **10:45a worship** 12:00p First Communion class 4:30p youth programming	9 11:30a Hope Center meal 5:00p Al-Anon Potluck 6:30p CYF meeting 8:00p Women's AA	10 8:30a property team 10:15a staff mtg 5:00p Pray without Ceasing 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p scouts 6:30p HR Team Zoom mtg	11 9:30a Morning Circle 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	12 5:30p Bazaar Planning 6:30p Finance Team mtg 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	13 6:15a virtual men's group 9:00a book club 10:00a prayer shawl group 6:00p Tai Chi 6:00p AUM Dance	14 7:30a Scout Skill Training 8:30a men's group 9:00a GMS Meru Comm. 10:00a AUM Dance 10:00a sanctuary chair cleaning
15 **8:30a worship*** 9:45a fellowship and ed **10:45a worship** 1:00p Eagle BOR 4:30p Milana Diwali event	16 11:30a Hope Center meal 1:00p women's Bible study 6:30p Council Meeting 6:30p Al-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	17 8:30a property team 10:15a staff mtg 1:00p book club 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p scouts	18 12:00p retired men's lunch 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p choir rehearsal	19 1:00p Faith Alie 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	20 6:15a virtual men's group 11:30a Women of Faith 6:00p Tai Chi 6:00p AUM Dance	21 8:30a men's group 10:00a AUM Dance
22 **8:30a worship*** 9:45a fellowship and ed **10:45a worship** 4:30p youth programming	23 11:30a Hope Center meal 6:30p Al-Anon 8:00p Women's AA	24 8:30a property team 10:15a staff mtg 6:30p handbell rehearsal 6:30p scouts	25 5:15p Kids of the Kingdom 6:00p AA 6:00p TOPS 6:30p Thanksgiving Eve worship 7:30p Gratitude Gathering	26 Thanksgiving *office closed* 6:30p Al-Anon 7:00p AA	27 office closed 6:15a virtual men's group 6:00p Tai Chi 6:00p AUM Dance	28 8:30a men's group 10:00a AUM Dance
29 Advent 1 **8:30a worship*** 9:45a fellowship and ed **10:45a worship**	30 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 Pam with questions.

Contact Us

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

Church
phone: 262-786-6887
email: to email a staff member, please click on the link by their photo on the website under Staff.

Preschool
phone: 262-786-4298
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.

Our Core Values

- 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
Carol M
Dylan H
Gary G
Dick G
Karen W
Pauline S
Doris K
Mark A
Nancy H
Jeremy G

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

St. John's
LUTHERAN ELCA
Brookfield, Wisconsin

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 Office Manager
101 Pastor Frank Janzow, Bridge Pastor
102 Pam Klink, Communications Coordinator
104 Joanna Salinas, Children's Ministry
105 Stephanie Broussard, Youth Ministry
106 Dorothee Chen, Bookkeeper
107 Brian Eggers, Music Director
200 Teresa Bailiff, Preschool

Attention Facebook Users

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