

January 2025 Newsletter

Pastor's Message:

Dear Church,

It's a New Year! The old one wasn't so great. What will 2025 bring? There are so many 'unknowns' in the nation and world right now; and in our lives too! Ecclesiastes 3 offers that great poem to end and to begin a year: *For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven...*

Instead of focusing on what we cannot control (like politics, climate, war in Gaza and Ukraine), let's focus on what we can do something about! We can: ground our hearts and attitudes in the Word—who is Jesus! We can center ourselves in regular times for worship and study and prayer. We can serve! (And we want to find some new ways to serve in our community!) We can be people who display the 'fruits of the spirit' (Galatians 5) such as: *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, generosity, and self-control*. And we can be people who speak the truth, in love!

A new year is always a time to ask: *What could we be doing differently or better as a church?* In 2024 a "Fitness and Fellowship Group" took off, and meets every Wednesday morning! A "Caregivers' Support" group began meeting monthly. And our "Grief Support Group" started gathering twice a month! We have some folks interested in a new 'small group' Bible Study. We're seeking to reinvigorate our Youth Ministry. We have the technology to do Zoom and in-person studies. What kind of learning conversations would you like to try?

And let me start the New Year with a word of thanks: for all our staff and volunteers; for you who faithfully bring your kids to Sunday School and worship; for all those who send cards and make calls to our shut-ins; and for those of you who may not be actively involved right now, but who still hold this congregation and pastor in your prayers! Asante sana (Swahili for Thank you very much!) as we enter into the Year of our Lord 2025

-Pastor Paul

The Annual Meeting of St. John's happens in two parts: On January 19 at 10:10 am we'll go over reports and nominations. On January 26 at 10:10 am we'll take care of voting items (budget, elections, other new business.) Thank you for participating! Remember all 'confirmed' members are voting members, so your 15 year olds are included in that. *One item of business we'll vote on is an updated Constitution and Bylaws (that conforms to the updates in our ELCA 'Model' Constitution for Congregations.) We'll spell out the details on the 19th. We may also talk about finishing the church basement, and the possibility of purchasing a little extra land for future needs.*

Our Nominating Committee (Scott Novotny, Linda Grosser, Susan Heidtke) is reaching out to some of you to serve on Council, Audit Committee, and Mission Endowment Committee. Thank you for saying "yes!" *Plus, there are other ways to serve, for example: Altar Guild, Property Team, Education Team, Outreach Team, and perhaps a brand new "Fellowship Team!"*

What's Going on At St. John's

Thank you to the Outreach Committee! The group delivered gifts to Family Promise, dropped off hats and gloves at Jackson Elementary, and is working on an upcoming Bingo Night with prizes. Their next meeting will be on January 6th at 10:00.

Our Outreach Committee has planned a fundraiser at Culver's in Jackson on Wednesday January 22 from 5pm - 8pm. Proceeds will go to the Full Shelf Food Pantry in West Bend. We'll also will need some teens/families/adults to wait tables that evening and represent St. John's! Contact Leanne at lpbelieve85@icloud.com to volunteer at Culver's on the 22nd.

"Fitness and Fellowship" continues to meet through the winter at 9am on Wednesdays in the gathering space. Everyone is welcome to join them any Wednesday, and friends are welcome too!

Monday Study at 9am meets with Pastor in the Upper Room. The next study will be January 6th. We could include you at home via Zoom as well, if you'd like to participate that way! Let Pastor know.

January Grief Support meetings will at 2:00pm on January 6th and January 20th.

Quilters will continue meeting 2 times each month to work on their 2025 quilt project. January meetings will be at 10:00 on Monday January 6th and 20th.

Our wonderful "getting to know you" page has taken a little break. (And in its place we have some brief bios on our newer members!) Thanks to Amy Reid for enlisting and editing those informative pages! Contact Amy if you would like to be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

A special thank you to everyone on the Family Promise Cook's Team. Despite the busy holidays volunteers willingly stepped up to help provide a full week of hot evening meals, extra breakfast and lunch foods for school break days, and even some New Year's treats for the homeless families staying at Family Promise.

Registration is open for Crossways Camping Ministries! Young students can try a 'short week' at camp (2 night stay), older students can attend for a full week. Confirmation students will attend the week of July 6-11 (and we'll email you parents exact signup details!) There's also Grandparent/Grandkids' weeks, and Family Camp weekends! And, it would be great to have a 'work crew' up at camp for a day or a weekend this spring. www.crosswayscamps.org

Year to Date as of November

+YTD General Fund

Receipts: \$ 195,355

Expenses: \$ 211,914

**Thank You for Your Generous December Giving!
We'll finish 2024 in the "Black"!**

+YTD Building & Grounds Fund:

Receipts: \$ 22,959

Expenses: \$ 13,087

+YTD Missionary Sponsorship:

Receipts: \$ 9,406

Goal for 2024 \$8,000

+YTD ELCA Benevolence:

Receipts: \$ 15,507

Goal for 2024 \$ 18,000

+YTD Good Samaritan

Receipts \$ 11,658

Goal for 2024 \$ 8,000

Meet Our Newest Members!

Dave & Gail Weaver have lived in Jackson for 2 years. Gail retired from Port Washington School District where she served as a paraprofessional. Dave is a plant manager for DSB in Janesville. They have 4 adult kids, 5 grandkids, and they like to travel! They come to us from Our Savior's Lutheran/West Bend. Gail is active with our Fitness & Fellowship group!

Bonnie Moerke lives just down the street on Western Ave. She's a retired Social Worker who worked with clients with chronic health issues. She enjoys the theatre and symphony, traveling and reading, and spending time with grandchildren!

Krista & Eric Johnson, Eli, Jase, Stella, Ayla live next door to Krista's mom, Bonnie Moerke. Krista is an RN with Milwaukee Nephrology. Eli is in 8th grade, Jase is in 4th, Stella is in 1st, and Ayla is 2!

Chad Livingston grew up at St. John's, and lives in Port with his wife of 25 years, Jennifer (and dog: Myka). Chad is the Foreman for Public Works in the Village of Fox Point. He enjoys reading, hiking, hockey, music, gardening, and history. And, he's a cousin to Jess Eisenhauer!

Brian & Cherie Dowman Zahn came from Hartford to St. John's because they appreciate a Saturday evening service! Cherie is a retired music teacher who writes and performs songs, and just did a recording gig in Nashville six weeks ago! Brian is an artist who especially enjoys making jewelry and cutting, polishing and shaping rocks. He is "loved to the moon and back" by Cherie! They also enjoy travel, supporting their community, and caring for nature!

Andrea & Tracy Thom got married here at St. John's on October 13 (and then posed for that beautiful photo under the double rainbow!) They live in West Bend, where Andrea is a special education teacher. Tracy is a lieutenant with the Plymouth Police Department. They have 5 kids between them, and Zona-a big, loving English bulldog!

Carl & Diane Holter are still 'newlyweds' (married in October of '22). They enjoy living at Cedar Community in West Bend. Carl and his late wife were neighbors to Sue Heidtke and the Kornelis before he moved to Cedar Community where he and Diane met. Carl comes to us from Divine Shepherd Lutheran/Milwaukee, and Diane has been a member at St. John's Lutheran/Newburg.

Ron & Lynn Phillips moved back to WI 3 years ago after spending some years in Washington state. Lynn was an Army brat, born in Alaska; Ron is from Seattle. They have 3 grown children and 3 grandchildren: Landon, Tanner, and Easton. They also have five 4-legged kids: four miniature dachshunds and a border collie! Ron has been a software engineer and attorney. Lynn has owned a cleaning service, and now sells antiques. They live in the Town of Cedarburg!

Jude Teicher grew up in Naperville, married a WI boy, and moved to Madison for grad school, and stayed for 40 years! She worked as a special needs teacher for birth-five year olds. They lived in AZ and Door County for a time. Jude moved to Jackson after her husband died. She helps lead our Grief Support Group, manages the Giving Tree (where we help Family Promise folks), and always has her Westie, Oz, in tow!

Denise & Brian Lundquist learned of St. John's when neighbor, Jude, met Denise out walking their dog! They have a son in the Twin Cities who is a church musician. Denise is caregiver for Brian, and they appreciate your prayers!

January Anniversaries

Congratulations!

January 2, 2004 Ken & Linda Wills 21 years
 January 4, 1969 David & Barbara Pueringer 56 years
 January 20, 1996 Greg & Jennifer Holt 29 years
 January 20, 2018 Jamie & Kevin Reidy 7 years

A special thank you to everyone that volunteered to serve at church services in 2024. Your help is very much appreciated!

Those Who Serve January 2025

		Jan. 5	Jan. 12	Jan. 19	Jan. 26
Reader	9:00	Laura Bartelt	Reuben Heidtke	Laura Hahn	Lee Anne Runnells
Communion Assistants	9:00	Sarah Stoecker	Peter Uhlig	Brennan Family	Staci Bohling
		Staci Benz	George Liberatore	Brennan Family	Eileen Mack
Ushers	9:00	Skip Bartelt	Jayce Liberatore	Joel Heidtke	Bukovics
		Joel Wolf	Joe Liberatore	Keith Heidtke	Bukovics
Greeters	9:00	Darleen Wanta	Nancy Kinter	Brennan Family	Klayton Bohling
Power Point	9:00	Ed/Sam	Scott DeChant	Wendy Heidtke	Ed/Sam
Facebook	9:00	Ed/Sam	Scott Kinter	Jenny	Ed/Sam

January Birthdays

Happy Birthday!

January 3 Marlene Duchow
Wes Rauen
 January 4 Jamie Reidy
Jenny Trick
 January 5 Laylah Baeber
Jaxson Braun
Barb Hanke
Weston Hauser
Julie Ostranger
Jason Pickart
Austin Skenandore
Peter Ziegelbauer
 January 6 Kristin Dhein
Sally Honeck
Sharon Kreis
Louis Lloyd
 January 7 Elijah Ziemer
 January 10 Tom Spencer
 January 11 David Pueringer
Marlene Waugus
 January 12 Carrie Schoner
Jack Ziegelbauer
 January 13 Sue Callum
Nancy Kinter
Mary Moschea
 January 16 Kyle Binversie
Ben Brandt
Nick Singer
 January 17 Christopher
DeChant
 January 18 Zachary Meyers
Jacob Schwefel
 January 19 Jackson Liberatore
 January 22 Jason Boesch
Oliver Stern
 January 23 Julie Ayers
 January 24 Matt Hauser
Kai Henrichs
 January 25 Harriet Bouchard
Leah Lemberger
 January 26 Adelynn Guslick
Jennifer Holt
Mike Kraus
Sophie Williams
Shad Young
 January 28 Jane Christianson
Rick Honeck
 January 30 Roy Glocke
Rachel Olafsson
Benny Ziegelbauer
 January 31 Donna Dahly



Happy NEW YEAR

*You crown the year with Your goodness,
And Your paths drip with abundance.*

PSALM 65:11



St. John's Lutheran Church
2881 Division Road
Jackson, WI 53037



At St. John's we're privileged and challenged to *Welcome, Worship, and Witness* in Christ's name. Thank you for being part of this faith community and for the serving you do to the glory of God!

Visit us at www.stjohnsjackson.net

Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson

Pastor Paul Mittermaier – pastorcarguy@gmail.com

Office hours: M-F 9:00am-1:00pm 262-677-3176

officestjohnsjackson@gmail.com

Worship Services: Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am with Holy Communion

Facebook Live at 9:00 am on Sunday

