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Mission & Vision

Mission Statement

*Connecting, Caring, and Sharing
in Christ*

God's work is real and relevant. It's relational too! In the success and challenges of life, through our vocations and callings, together we can experience the joy of "Connecting, Caring, and Sharing in Christ.

Vision Statement

*Discipleship in as many places
as possible*

We believe disciples are called by and follow Christ. We also know God intends for discipleship to happen everywhere: in homes, at work, in the classroom, at the park, and at all times. The family of St. John's have adopted five expressions to give more weight to our vision of "Discipleship in as many places as possible."



Discipleship Expressions

Heart of the City: West Bend residents and her visitors will find resources and treasures for life through the ministries of St. John's, located in the heart of the city. Additionally, St. John's family, having received the Lord's gift in worship, shall serve in neighborhoods and community groups in the Lord's name.

As Christ Stations: Those baptized will bring the transforming presence of Christ into the lives of others with whom they interact each day at home, work, and play.

Havens of Recreation: St. John's family and our guests shall receive refreshment and re-creation through fun activities among those who are called by and follow Christ.

Renewal and Recovery: Those wounded by life's trials and circumstances may find hope as they gather with fellow Christians who listen and lean upon the Lord's mercy and consolation.

New Generation: Infants and children, youth and college-aged to young adults shall experience God's love through real life people who are involved in educational ministries, fellowship opportunities, as well as worship, mission, and service ministries.

Eight Promises of Grace & Three Truths

God's family, here at St. John's, lives out the vision and mission by seeking relationships through a life of discipleship and following eight promises of grace, knowing that following these promises can only happen because of the strength God gives us through His Word and Sacrament, trusting in His hope and forgiveness when we fall short.

1. Joyfully celebrate the gifts of forgiveness of sins and eternal life, which God gave us in our baptism,
2. Openly proclaim to others our God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as expressed in the words of the Apostles' Creed,
3. Be steadfast in prayer,
4. Daily oppose the devil and all sinful influences around us and from within us,
5. Be loyal to our church family and her teachings,
6. Declare the Scriptures to be the inerrant, inspired Word of God,
7. Ongoing spiritual growth through regular/faithful worship, reception of Holy Communion, and Bible Study,
8. Serve our Lord with the time, talents, and resources He gives us within our church family and within His church at large.

We celebrate our identity within the Holy Christian Church as Lutheran Christians. As a partner congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we support and benefit from a network of churches and ministries around the world to include: 10 universities and colleges, 2 seminaries, and 100's of ministries within the US and beyond. We are guided by three basic truths: ***It's all His, He saves, and His Will is What's Best.***

Three Truths 

  

It's All His **He Saves** **His Will**
Is What's Best

Congregational Leaders

Leadership within St. John's family can be a blessed opportunity to experience discipleship growth as the Lord's leadership is experienced within St. John's structure. All St. John's ministry leaders receive direct support from St. John's staff, as well as opportunities for protection and encouragement through the St. John's covenantal system.

Have you considered joining a St. John's ministry? This ministry booklet will introduce you to the many ministries of St. John's and the godly leaders who are Connecting, Caring, and Sharing in Christ. The following groups are those whose leadership is by election or appointment.



St. John's Leadership Board—Serves as trustee on behalf of St. John's, ensuring the successful creation and implementation of God's mission and vision. The nine members are elected by the congregation for three year terms; officers elected by Leadership Board members.

Mike Bryan
St. John's Leadership Board, President
(262) 346-1868



St. John's West Bend Foundation Board—Serves as leader for the St. John's West Bend Foundation whose mission is to "support and advance the mission and vision of St. John's for today's and tomorrow's generations." Board Directors are appointed by St. John's Leadership Board.

Dave Schmidt
St. John's West Bend Foundation Board, Chairman
(262) 644-1732



Spiritual Health Ministry Team—Serves as an extension of St. John's pastoral office, reaching out to members who are in crisis or are missing out on the Lord's word and gifts in worship. Members are appointed by the Leadership Board.

Dale Wunder
St. John's Spiritual Health Ministry Team, Team Leader
(414) 213-8409

Pastoral Leaders



Jeff Hesse
Pastor—Share/Administration
Office: (262) 334-4901 ext. 319
Cell: (262) 389-0119



David Nieman
Pastor—Care
Office: (262) 334-4901 ext. 304
Cell: (575) 499-8016



Stephen Reynolds
Pastor—Connections
Office: (262) 334-4901 ext. 303
Cell: (954) 330-8551



Chris Bruskiwicz
Assoc. Pastor
Cell: (262) 719-3754

Administrative Ministries

St. John's Administrative Ministries play an important role in the life of the Church by supporting the needs of all ministries in many ways "behind the scenes" yet critical to the needs of God's people. Our administrative team is intentional about supporting St. John's mission and vision in ways most people take for granted (accounting, printing, facilities reservations, maintenance, repairs, campus upkeep, cleaning, HR, security, etc.). If you are willing to volunteer your time and talents, please contact us and we would love to include you in this important work.

Business Office Volunteer Opportunities:

Counters
Mailing Team
Weekly Info Guide prep
Data Entry /Attendance



Lori Yogerst—Business Manager
(262) 334-4901 (ext. 310)



Sarah Hikade—
Assistant Accounting Manager
(262) 334-4901 (ext. 309)

Campus Care Volunteer Opportunities:

Garden Maintenance
Event set up/tear down
General maintenance



Janet Hatland—Director of Campus Care
(262) 334-4901 (ext. 316)

Bible Study Ministries

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

- Matthew 18:20

Sunday: 9:25-10:30 AM Discipleship Hour (Winter, Spring, Fall Sessions)

Monday: 6:30-8:00 PM Sister-to-Sister Women’s Bible Study in a host’s home

Wednesday: 8:00-9:30 AM Sister-to-Sister Women's Bible study in the church gathering space

Wednesday: 9:30-10:30 AM Adult Bible study in the church's lower level fellowship hall

Thursday: 7:00-8:00 AM Adult Bible study in the lower level fellowship hall

Saturday: 7:30–8:30 AM Men's Bible study in the church gathering space

Please check our St. John’s APP for the most up-to-date information detailing dates for the above study opportunities!



Care Ministries

Card Ministry: Our card ministry meets on the second Saturday of the month from 9:00-11:00 AM in the nursery room. Each year they make several hundred handmade cards for members of St. John's who are sick, hospitalized, celebrating anniversaries and baptisms, in military service, or shut-in. If you have an artistic flare and would like to join the card ministry, contact Pam Muther at (262) 338-9435.

Care & Share: Our care and share ministry provides assistance to members and non-members throughout our community who are in need of assistance. The assistance we are able to provide varies according to need and the availability of resources. You can support this ministry by bringing non-perishable food items to the church to help restock our food pantry or by providing financial assistance. If you would like to support this ministry or are in need of assistance, please contact Pastor David at (262) 334-4901 ext. 304.

Counseling: St. John's helps provide support for those who are in need of professional counsel through the services of Deb Graf, a licensed professional counselor and member of St. John's. While we do not provide for on-going counseling, we will assist people in locating professional care. For more information contact Pastor David at (262) 334-4901 ext.304.

Hospital Visitation: St. John's provides regular visits to our members who are hospitalized. Our team of pastors and lay leaders are scheduled to provide daily visits to those at St. Joe's in West Bend. Our team also schedules visits for those who are hospitalized elsewhere. If you anticipate a hospitalization, please contact the church office at (262) 334-4901, as we have no other way of knowing who among us is hospitalized. For more information on how you might serve as a hospital visitor, please contact Pastor David at (262) 334-4901 ext. 304.

Ladies Aid: The Ladies Aid actively serves by providing meals for families following funeral services. This service group meets on the first Thursday of each month from 11:00 AM–2:00 PM in the lower level fellowship hall for a time of food, fellowship, devotional time, and a variety of activities. For more information, contact Pam Muther at (262) 338-9435.

LWML: St. John's has an active Lutheran Women's Missionary League group that meets on the second Monday of the month in the church's lower level fellowship hall. Check out the e-letter or APP for the most up-to-date information **detailing the time** of the monthly meeting. The LWML is a registered service organization of the LCMS. They meet for fellowship, Bible study, mission efforts, and information on Zone 5 activities on the district and national levels, and service projects. For more information contact Pam Muther at (262) 338-9435.



Meal Ministry: Our meal ministry provides meals to families within our congregation who are in need of extra, short term care. For instance, meals are frequently provided by our meal ministry for people returning home from a hospitalization, or after a death or birth in the family. Meals are usually prepared on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Anyone interested in serving in this ministry should contact Barb Laubenstein at (262) 677-1041. If you are in need of meals, please contact Pastor David at (262) 334-4901 ext. 304.

Care Ministries

Memory Care: If you or a loved one are experiencing memory loss, or if you have any questions about what to look for and available resources, please visit one of the links below for helpful, local information regarding the journey of memory loss for individuals and their families.

<https://www.memorycare.com/memory-care-in-wisconsin/>
<https://www.memorycare.com/what-is-a-memory-care-facility/>
<https://www.memorycare.com/when-to-consider-memory-care/>
<https://www.memorycare.com/what-to-expect-in-memory-care/>

Quilters: Our team of quilters meet each Monday at 9:00 AM in the lower fellowship hall to make quilts that are sent out to people in need around the world. For more information on the Quilters Ministry, contact Cathy Berndt at (262) 338-3264.



Shut-in Visitation: Situations in life sometimes make it impossible for people to attend worship. The aging process, sickness, disabilities, and other challenges can prevent one from receiving God's gifts of Word and Sacrament. To help our members stay connected to the Lord and the Church, our pastors and lay leaders provide monthly visits in which they bring God's Word, prayer, the Lord's Supper, and fellowship. If you are unable to attend worship due to a life challenge, please contact Pastor David at (262) 334-4901 ext. 304 to receive regular visits.

St. John's Guild: The St. John's Guild provides fellowship opportunities for the women of our congregation, meeting regularly on the second Thursday of the month from 1:30-4:00 PM. Their meetings are usually held in the lower level fellowship hall. Throughout the year they schedule field trips to a variety of businesses in West Bend. For more information contact Marilyn Holmquist at (262) 334-7352.



Stephen Ministry: Stephen Ministry at St. John's reaches out with God's love to people going through times of change or uncertainty: it can be the birth of a baby, the loss of a loved one, hospitalization, divorce or separation, a career change, incarceration, aging, illness, relocation, or other new life circumstances. Our trained Stephen Ministers commit to making weekly, prayerful contact with their care receivers as they face the challenges of life in the midst of God's love. Stephen Ministry is available to member and non-members alike. To request a Stephen Minister, please contact Chris Reinke (414) 801-6403.

Transportation Ministry: Our Transportation Ministry provides assistance for members in need of transportation to church or Bible class on a regular or occasional basis within a reasonable distance. If you have a transportation need or would like to serve as a driver, please call the church office at (262) 334-4901 with your name and information.

Children's Ministries

St. John's Children's Ministry partners with parents to support their children's growth in faith and life. We offer fun, supervised events and activities, which are centered around Christ, are age-appropriate, and support children's learning on how to do life together. Our greatest concern for our children should be that they grow to **love God above all else**.

Discipleship Hour—Sunday mornings 9:25-10:30 am: While parents dig deeper and learn during Discipleship Hour, child care is provided for children ages infant—2 years old. Children ages 3-7th grade are able to connect and learn through age appropriate lessons with fantastic teachers! During our Fall session, we walk through different Old Testament stories making sure our children see God's love and forgiveness throughout the Bible. In the Spring, we discover the New Testament and learn how we can live our lives like Jesus.

Trunk 'N Treat: Are you looking for a safe and fun way for your children to dress up in costumes and receive candy during the Halloween season? Come join us at Trunk N' Treat in St. John's parking lot! In addition to fun costumes, people also decorate their car trunks. Prizes are given for the best child and adult costume AND the best decorated trunk. We begin with an outdoor fellowship time and a kid friendly devotion remembering it is by God's grace that we are able to love and have fun in this way.

Easter Egg Hunt—Saturday BEFORE Palm Sunday: Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is a wonderful opportunity for families and friends to gather at St. John's for a morning filled with fun, fellowship, and of course, hundreds of Easter Eggs full of candy. Children ages 1-10 years are welcome to participate. Watch for more info to come as we move into the Spring.

Vacation Bible School (VBS): VBS is always the greatest week of summer for Children's Ministry at St. John's. We (children and volunteers) have so much fun exploring God's saving message of love through different stations. Whether we are singing, dancing, praying, crafting, playing games, or eating snacks, God's love abounds! In summer of 2022, we will go off-road for a "monumental" adventure and celebrate God's greatness!



Desiree Titus—Children's Ministries
(262) 429-1061 (ext. 508)

Connections Ministry

Connections Task Force: St. John's is a large church community with many connection opportunities for **ALL** ages. ***Our Connections Task Force*** is here to assist you in getting connected within one of our Service, Social, Sports, or Study Life Groups. Let us help you get connected in a Life Group that fits your gifts, meets your family dynamics, engages with your social interests, or provides opportunities to dig deeper in His word.

Friends in Christ: St. John's ***Friends in Christ*** project is a Connections initiative that's structured to help connect experienced members of St. John's with newcomers to our congregation. Your first initial contact is to meet your Friend in Christ at our New Member Orientation. After that, we ask our Friends in Christ to commit to a 6 month period of checking in with their new member connection, at least once a month, to be an encouraging voice and a friend in a big church. Friends in Christ will have a great impact on how new members get to know the rest of St. John's, just by being someone who knows them and cares.

Recreational Ministry Opportunities:

Basketball: Adult men looking for Christian fellowship and recreation are invited to come to our school gymnasium on Saturday mornings from 7:30-10:00 AM for pick-up games of basketball. For more information contact Pastor Stephen at (262) 334-4901 ext. 303.

Futsal (Adult Soccer): Our indoor soccer ministry, Futsal, provides Christian fellowship and recreation for adults who love to play soccer. If you love soccer and are free on Thursday nights from 8:00-10:00 PM join us in the school gymnasium. For more information contact Peter Rudolf at (262) 335-6710.

Golf: St. John's participates in a summer men's golf league with local churches at West Bend Lakes Golf Club. League play usually begins on the 2nd or 3rd Tuesday in April, weather dependent, and continues through the Tuesday after Labor Day. Golfers normally tee off at 5:15 PM. Adult men and women looking to participate are encouraged to contact Jim Kell at (262) 338-6959.

Softball: Our adult Softball Ministry is an excellent opportunity for families to connect with other families within our faith community. Each spring and summer St. John's fields a variety of teams which participate in local leagues. For more information on softball opportunities contact Pastor Stephen at (262) 334-4901 ext. 303.

Trap Shooting: For those marksmen among us, St. John's has men's and women's trap teams. The season begins in the middle of August and competitions are held at the West Bend Barton Sportsman Club. For more information contact Jim Vorpagel at (262) 675-0469.



Stephen Reynolds
Pastor—Connections
(262) 334-4901 ext. 303



Alan Lull—Lay Minister
Connections, Youth, and Missions
(262) 707-9198



Cheryl Rudolf
Connections Coordinator
(262) 334-4901 ext. 308

Education Ministries—Early Childhood Center

St. John's has been providing quality, Christian care to families with young children within our community since 2003. In partnership with our parents, we strive to nurture faithful disciples, inspire academic excellence, and equip Christian leaders by helping you develop your child's God-given talents. Our devoted staff is committed to the growth and development of young children and seeks to provide an environment that promotes Christian values and spiritual growth. Serving alongside parents, together we are raising the children of our future. We entered into the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program for our K4 programs in 2019 and are accredited by National Lutheran School Accreditation. We hope that you will visit us and see all we have to offer. Our staff looks forward to meeting you and having the opportunity and privilege to care for your child.

Infants & Toddlers: An environment that provides loving and individualized care that includes physical, emotional, social, and fine motor skills development. Infants and toddlers will also engage in gross-motor and outdoor activities.

Pre K3 & Pre K4: Scheduled programming including Jesus time, group activities and projects, letter and number recognition, development of writing skills, gym time (physical development), and creative free time. Classroom extras include Sign language, Spanish, Superkids reading program, school library time, off site field trips, and partnerships with St. John's middle school students.

Before/After School Program (K5-5th Grade): A program that encourages homework time or reading and provides the opportunity to socialize with friends through activities like games, puzzles, art, and outside play.

Summer School Age Camp/ June, July, & August (K5-5th Grade): A themed environment where children will learn fun facts, create art projects, make delicious snacks, participate in fun-filled field trips, and enjoy plenty of outdoor fun!

Education Partnerships: Together our Early Childhood Center and Elementary & Middle School strive to provide family opportunities throughout the year to *Connect, Care, and Share in Christ*.

Family Academic Night
Race for Education
Camp Invention
Summer Camp

Academic & Arts Fair
National Lutheran Schools Week
Faith Haven Family Bonfire
Summer Sports Camps



Nicole Janisse, ECC Administrator
(262) 429-1061 (ext. 502)



Sheri Averill, ECC Asst. Administrator
(262) 429-1061 (ext. 503)

Education Ministries—Elementary & Middle School

For 150 years our school has combined academic excellence and a faith-filled community to partner with the home in raising responsible Christian youth. Today our school remains a family where Christian values and Biblical truth are foundational; honesty and integrity matter; joy and hard work are equally important values; and character is as important as one's grade point average. To this end, St. John's is a participant in the Christian Character Formation Project, equipping Households of Faith for discipleship in as many places as possible.

Central to our efforts to maintain an excellent discipleship focused school is our dedicated faculty. Devoted and committed to the success of their students, the faculty takes the lead in our partnership between school and home. They serve as teacher, coach, and Christian mentor. In every area of school life, the faculty seeks to challenge and inspire students to reach new levels of inquiry and understanding. Our K-8 setting creates a family atmosphere where middle school students interact and develop relationships with younger students providing a safe and nurturing atmosphere for all.

We meet and exceed State of Wisconsin educational guidelines and are accredited by National Lutheran Schools Accreditation. Our academic test scores surpass national averages. We entered into the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program in 2018 in order to share the love of Jesus with those desiring a Christ Centered education for their children. Most importantly, our students hear daily that they are unique children of God, created, redeemed and strengthened daily by Him.

We hope that you will visit us to fully experience the climate, culture and love of Jesus that is freely expressed at St. John's. Our faculty and students look forward to showing you our school.

Performance & Athletic Activities

Interschool Athletics, grades 5-8
Basketball & Volleyball, grades 3-4
Spring School Musical K-5
Lambs Choir
Hallelujah Singers Choir
Beginning and Advanced Band
On-site FREE Music Lessons
After School Club Invention

Academic Field Trips & Competitions

Biennial Creation Museum trip
7th Grade Outdoor Education
Academic & Arts Fair
Multiple and varied field trips
Spelling Bee
Knowledge Bowl
Math & STEAM Competitions
Delta Kappa Gamma Writing Contest
Middle School Forensics

School Wide Celebrations

Back to School Social
Cedar Community Service Events
Grandparents' Day
Christmas Programs
Math and Literacy Family Night
School Wide Service Day
National Lutheran Schools Week
Parent Education Programs
Faith Haven Family Bonfire
Race for Education



Jim Van Dellen, School Administrator
(262) 334-3077 (ext. 403)

Life Groups

A Life Group is any group at St. John's that meets within the structure of St. John's. The life of Christ is brought into these groups who depend on and share His presence through prayer and sharing of discipleship stories.

Within every Life Group is a leader committed to the relationship and leadership covenants of St. John's. Leaders of certain Life Groups (e.g. Stephen Ministry and Study Groups) also receive additional support and training, and have expectations to guide them in ministry.

The ministries of St. John's fall under one of the five following Life Group categories:



Service: The primary function of a Service Life Group is to engage in a service to benefit others. There are many ways to engage at St. John's using the gifts our Lord has provided to you. Consider these Service Life Group opportunities: Leadership Board, St. John's West Bend Foundation Board, Spiritual Health Ministry Team, counters, mailing team, weekly info guide prep team, data entry for attendance, garden maintenance, event set up/tear down, general facility & grounds maintenance, Ladies Aid, Ladies Guild, LWML, quilters, counseling ministry, homebound ministry, meal ministry, drivers, parish nurses, prayer chain, prison ministry, recovery ministry, shut-in visitation, Stephen ministry, food pantry, local and global missions, choirs, lay reader, ushers, Altar Guild, tech support, graphic design, video editing & production, St. John's Auction, PPO, and Vacation Bible School, and many more.

Social: Our Social Life Groups offer social gatherings for every age group where you can build relationships and experience growing friendships through events held on one of our four campuses, off site throughout our community and beyond, or in a home environment. Experience the joy of connecting through one of these Social Life Groups: Women's, Men's, and Couples' Retreats, St. John's Auction, Ladies Aid, St. John's Guild, LWML, quilters, card ministry, Trunk 'N Treat, Easter Egg Hunt, Vacation Bible School, Parents Night Out, On the Verge, Axios!, TAG, BASH, Drama Team, Grandparents' Day, Father-Daughter Dance, Family Academic Night, Academic & Arts Fair, Camp Invention, Summer Camp, Summer Sports Camps, the Faith Haven Bonfire, and many more.

Sports: Whether you want to try a new sport, strengthen your skills, or have a competitive nature, join one of our Sports Life Groups: men's basketball, softball, soccer, golf, or trap shooting.

Study: Do you have a desire to dig deeper into His word? We offer Study Life Groups for ALL ages. Consider connecting with one of our in-home study groups or join us throughout the week on a day and time that works with your schedule. If you are interested in joining an in-home Study Life Group, contact the church office. If you are interested in a weekly Study Life Group, see page 7 for a detailed list.

Staff: The St. John's staff meet regularly to support and pray for each other, committing to the accomplishment of our St. John's mission, *Connecting, Caring, and Sharing in Christ*. Through our weekly and monthly meetings, we experience both one-on-one and group conversations taking seriously His call of discipleship to accomplish His mission work in and through our lives.

Life together is Real, Relevant, and Relational . . . connect today while building relationships that matter, make you stronger, give you purpose, and help you grow.

Mission Ministries—Local & Global

We have many different opportunities to join Jesus in His work of bringing the Gospel message of forgiveness and salvation to people in the community and across the world. Join us in *Discipleship in as many places as possible* by serving our brothers and sisters in Christ, supporting missions with the gifts God has provided with time, talents, and treasures, and remaining in prayer.

LOCAL MISSIONS:



Youth and Family Projects: Our connection with Youth and Family Projects allows us to share the love of Christ during the Christmas season by donating and providing gifts to families in need throughout Washington County.

Milwaukee Rescue Mission:

Throughout the year, St. John's brings food, prepares, and serves lunch for over 100 homeless people at the Milwaukee Rescue Mission. It is pure joy for us to connect with people created and loved by God, yet are homeless for many different reasons.

Milwaukee Rescue Mission



African-American (Congo) Ministry at Zion Lutheran Church

St. John's supports Pastor Gui and our brothers and sisters in Christ who minister to the immigrants that come from the Congo. Worship takes place on the north side of Milwaukee at Benediction Church, but the 3:00 PM service has its own congregational name, Zion, with over 150 members.



Soles for Jesus: Shoe soles help human souls by spreading the love of Jesus! Partner with St. John's as we support Soles for Jesus throughout the year. Donate new or gently used shoes, donate money to help send shoes to Africa, serve through sorting shoes at the Soles for Jesus facility, and pray for the lost. You can make a radical difference in the life of a child or adult in Africa!



GLOBAL MISSIONS:



Alan Lull— Lay Minister
Connections, Youth, and Missions
(262) 707-9198

Lutheran Hour Ministries: St. John's partnership with Lutheran Hour Ministries includes worship and discipleship materials, missionary sponsorship, and other educational tools.

India—Bethania Kids: Bethania operates orphanages in five cities in India. St. John's has partnered with them for many years, reaching out with the love of Jesus and helping with English skills, water purifiers, and financial support to orphans accepted to universities so they can grow and impact their communities as Christian leaders.

Alaska Mission for Christ (AMC): Summer of 2023

Kentucky: June, 2022—Serving the poor; sharing God's love.

Retreat Ministries

Women's Retreat



St. John's Women's Retreat is a weekend-getaway for all women (high school and up) in late September at The Green Lake Conference Center. This provides women the opportunity to get away for a time of fellowship together around God's Word in speaker-led sessions, worship, and free-time activities. This is not just a weekend-long Bible Study, but a topic-led time for women to grow and connect together in Christ. It's truly an experience you won't find anywhere else! For more information contact Rachel Morton (262) 334-4901 (ext. 327)

Men's Retreat

St. John's Men's Retreat is a can't miss event for men of multiple generations to relax, connect, laugh, and grow in faith. Our retreat usually lands on the third weekend in May and is hosted at Camp Luther in Three Lakes, WI. Camp gives us a beautiful setting to enjoy all kinds of outdoor recreation like golf, trap shooting, hiking, and great fishing, while also staying in comfortable lake side cottages or accommodating retreat center rooms. Guest speakers help us to engage in God's word and discussion together, while the free time and fellowship help us to connect in life and discipleship. You will have fun, you will laugh, and you will grow in faith at the St. John's Men's Retreat. For more information contact Doug Raddemann (262) 334-4901 (Ext. 321)



Couples' Retreat

Marriage is the Lord's building block of the family from the beginning (Matt. 19:4-6), and St. John's is committed to investing in marriages through the Couples' Retreat Ministry. Each year, usually around Valentine's Day, married couples are invited to a fine resort for a weekend of social events/fellowship with other couples, to escape the business of life and re-connect as a couple, and to learn and grow together in God's word in a relaxed, relational, and real way. This retreat fits most budgets (grants are available to those in need) and is really fun. The Couples' Retreat is led by a dedicated committee who loves to serve in this important retreat ministry. Join us and be blessed by God through His word and His people while exploring God's creation, fine shops, and amazing restaurants. For more information contact Pastor Jeff Hesse—(262) 334-4901 (ext. 319)



St. John's Leadership Board Ministry

The Leadership Board, acting as trustee of the congregation, has the responsibility to link with the baptized membership of St. John's Lutheran Church. We write the governing policies for organizational decisions and situations (governance, linkage, executive limitations, and ends) and assure Pastoral performance. Our purpose is to see that St. John's Lutheran Church achieve appropriate results for the appropriate people at an appropriate cost, and to avoid unacceptable actions and situations.

The board commits itself and its members to ethical, businesslike, and lawful conduct, including proper use of authority, and appropriate Christian decorum, and behavior. Board members must have loyalty to the congregational membership, un-conflicted by loyalties to staff, other organizations, and any personal interest. We commit to meeting together once a month for 2-3 hours. In addition to the regular meeting, some additional work hours are required for special projects, liaison meetings, and congregational linkage.



Mike Bryan—President

St. John's Leadership Board Members

Mike Bryan—President: (262) 346-1868

Dan Rudolf—Vice President: (262) 305-2670

Lisa St. Peter—Secretary: (262) 447-1041

Peggy Bruce—Treasurer: (262) 649-6612

Stan Dobler—Board Member: (815) 980-3261

Jim Gunville—Board Member: (262) 357-4494

Jill Krell—Board Member: (414) 573-1995

Arnie Mengel—Board Member: (360) 320-0457

John Steger—Board Member: (262) 339-0609

St. John's Spiritual Health Ministry Team

The Spiritual Health Ministry Team is an extension of the pastoral office at St. John's. It is known as a combination Connections and Care Ministry. The mission of the team is to connect to those who have fallen away or are falling away from the church. This is triggered by lack of attendance in worship. St. John's is a large congregation and therefore it is a complex task to keep track of the over 1600 members. Many work hard on keeping track of attendance and when it is noticed that someone is not attending anymore, or not as often, a Spiritual Health Ministry team member will try and reach out to the member, in love, to see if there is anything wrong, something has changed in their life, or they just need to be reminded of the importance of regular worship and the hearing of God's word and receiving His body and blood. Their faith is very important to us and this world can be messy, so we are here to help. Our goal is to bring them back into regular worship—either here at St. John's or wherever the Lord leads them.

We seek men, who are strong in faith and have love in their heart for those that are struggling with their faith; Men who are willing to be humbled by the difficulties they have gone through in their life to help bring comfort, understanding, God's love and God's word to those who need to hear it. These men need to understand and support the mission of *Connecting, Caring, and Sharing in Christ* and the vision of *Discipleship in as many places as possible*. We are never short on work in this ministry and we are always looking for additional men of all ages.



Dale Wunder—Team Leader

St. John's Spiritual Health Ministry Team

Dale Wunder—(414) 213-8409

Tom Bruce—(262) 297-2587

Carl Hively—(262) 334-0389

Kip Reinhardt—(414) 559-6584

Mike Voss—(262) 323-1381

Peggy Bruce—Leadership Board Liaison: (262) 649-6612

Pastor David Nieman—Pastoral Liaison: 262)334-4901

St. John's West Bend Foundation Ministry

The mission statement of the St. John's West Bend Foundation is to, "advance and support the mission and vision of St. John's for today's and tomorrow's generation."

The role of the Foundation is one of connections. These connections set the groundwork for not only our current St. John's mission of *Connecting, Caring, and Sharing in Christ* but also Connecting the future of St. John's.

The Foundation will do this by assisting in creating a real, relevant, and relational focused community in which discipleship is celebrated and stewardship training is provided and shared. Part of this will be to educate and walk alongside families to develop a Lifetime Stewardship Plan, which includes establishing: Budgets, Wills, Living Trusts, Guardianship for Minors, Powers of Attorney, Protecting Assets to Bless both Family and Ministry at Large.

As the Foundation was established to advance the mission and ministry of St. John's above and beyond the normal general budget of the congregation, the Foundation will seek gifts, contributions, donations, and bequests. Contributions to the Foundation can be directed to (5) areas of ministry: Missions, Christian Education and Discipleship, Campus Care, Partners in Ministry, and Board Designated.

At all times the Foundation acts as a trusted fiduciary in managing gifts and assets to accomplish the donor's intent and congregational objectives.

If you are thinking about your family legacy or just have some general questions regarding St. John's West Bend Foundation, you are encouraged to speak with Pastor Jeff Hesse..



David Schmidt—Chairman

St. John's Foundation Board Officers

David Schmidt—Chairman/President: (262) 644-1419

Tim Prasch—Vice Chairman: (262) 338-8480

Jeff Hesse—Pastoral Liaison/Treasurer: (262) 334-4901

Brian Herbolsheimer—Secretary: (414) 915-0091

Dan Rudolf—Leadership Board Liason: (262) 305-2670

Board Members: Marilyn Holmquist, Steve Kaphingst, Steve Muther, Debbie Prasch, Karen Schmidt, and Mike Senkbeil

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry – *Christ-Centered Care for God's People*

Stephen Ministry is a nation-wide care ministry that has been in place at St. John's for over twenty years as another way to live out our mission of *Connecting, Caring, and Sharing in Christ*, with an emphasis on person-to-person care for those in need.

Throughout the Bible, the importance of sharing faith and life together is an oft-repeated thread. God's people are called to share one another's burdens (Gal 6:2), and to gather together in Christ (Matt 18:20). Care Ministry at St. John's is founded on Christ's call to love and serve one another, and Stephen Ministry aids our church in that mission.

What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is a lay-led, service life group that works under the oversight of Care Ministry. It trains Stephen Ministers, who are paired with care receivers after receiving fifty hours of training. A Stephen Minister might spend anywhere from two months to two years meeting weekly with you after you've moved, changed careers, welcomed a new baby into the family, said goodbye to a love one, or experienced another big life change – all depending on your need. It's for the young man feeling lost after graduating high school; it's for the woman who's been coming to church for the last seventy years of her life and is wondering if she still has a place, and it's for many more, besides.

Looking for Care?

If you feel as though you could benefit from Stephen Ministry and would like to make a request for a caregiver, please call the church office to make a request for a Stephen Minister.

Desiring to serve?

If you desire to commit to training and serving as a Stephen Minister, please reach out to the church office to make an appointment for an interview.

Want to know more?

If you'd like to hear more about Stephen Ministry, reach out to Chris Reinke, *Stephen Ministry Lead*, at 414-801-6403, Pastor David Nieman, *Care Pastor*, at 575-499-8017, or any of our Stephen Leaders and Ministers, who you'll see around the church and in the community.

You can also take a look at the official website to hear powerful testimonies of lives that have been blessed and changed by God's work through Stephen Ministry:

David Nieman
Pastor—Care
Office: (262) 334-4901 ext. 304
Cell: (575) 499-8016



Stewardship Ministry

The LCMS defines stewardship as, “the free and joyous activity of the child of God, and God’s family, the church, in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purpose.” At St. John’s, we take stewardship seriously. Stewardship is more than just turning in an offering envelope when we attend worship. As we live out our lives as disciples, who are called by and follow Christ, our actions and thoughts are in line with stewardship. Stewardship is Discipleship and Discipleship is Stewardship. You cannot have one without the other.

However, it is hard to “manage all of life and life’s resources for God’s purpose.” In fact, some may ask, what does this even mean? Are we living within our means or spending constantly with no budget to keep you in check? Have we created a will for our self, spouse, and family, or is that something we are going to let the legal system decide? What about when we are experiencing a financial crisis. . . Who do you turn to? How do you navigate the road ahead? These are great questions to wrestle with because this begins to help us understand how large this stewardship conversation really is. **Contact Pastor Jeff Hesse or Craig Toerpe to answer any questions you may have or for support as you manage all of life and life’s resources for God’s purpose.**

Estate Planning/Partnership with St. John’s Foundation: The Stewardship Office works to educate and walk alongside families to develop a Lifetime Stewardship Plan. We engage in conversations to help plan and establish a budget, a Christian Will/Trust, legal guardians, power of attorney, Family Blessing/Preamble, and provide counsel to protect and bless family and ministry with assets. These conversations help to prepare you when you sit down and meet with an attorney and/or your financial advisor. If you would like more information or just have some general questions regarding Stewardship, you are encouraged to speak with Pastor Jeff Hesse.

Financial Crisis Intervention:

Trained staff and volunteers at St. John’s work with families to evaluate current financial situations and identify practical ways to manage God’s resources, establish a budget, connect to other St. John’s ministries, refer to community resources, etc. We also have a confidential “Care and Share” fund which has been established to help members with emergency needs. All conversations are confidential.

Financial Education through Financial Peace University:

Trained staff and volunteers hold individual meetings and host educational opportunities through Financial Peace University, to assist in managing God’s resources.



Jeff Hesse
Pastor—Share/Administration
(262) 389-0119



Craig Toerpe
Gift Planning Counselor—LCMS Foundation
(262) 707-3005

Women's Ministries



St. John's Women's Ministry reaches out to women of all ages and generations. We have many different opportunities for you to connect with other women who share your interests, hobbies, and passions. Whether it's gathering around God's Word in a small group or Bible study, tying quilts to send across the world, or making cards to give to others, we are blessed to be able to connect to, care for, and share with each other . . . in Christ!

Women's Retreat: A weekend-getaway for all women (high school and up) in mid-Fall at resorts around south-eastern Wisconsin. This provides women the opportunity to get away for a time of fellowship together around God's Word in speaker-led sessions, worship, and free-time activities.

Contact—Rachel Morton: (262) 334-4901 (ext. 327)

Sister to Sister: A women's Bible study for women 18 and older designed around a study book for each session. Ladies have the option of meeting on Monday nights from 6:30-8:00PM in a host's home or Wednesday mornings from 8:00-9:30AM in the church gathering space.

Contact—Denise Seibel: (262) 412-0941

Mom Café: St. John's has a moms group for you! Join us for a time to meet friends, enjoy food and fellowship, and strengthen your faith. We also offer FREE childcare! We gather in Fall (Sept—Nov) and Winter/Spring (Jan—May). **Contact—Molly Groth: (507) 382-5309**

Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML): As the official women's auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for over 75 years, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions. See page 8 for additional information or **Contact—Pam Muther: (262) 338-9435**

Ladies Aid: The aim of the Ladies Aid is the advancement in Christian knowledge, the growth of the Christian spirit of harmony, and the promotion of Christian charity both within and outside of St. John's Church. St. John's Ladies Aid meets on a monthly basis and helps care for our members in practical ways, such as helping serve meals after funerals. **Contact—Pam Muther: (262) 338-9435**

Quilting Group: The quilters meet Monday mornings and hand-craft quilts that are distributed across the world through the Orphan Grain Train. **Contact—Cathy Berndt: (262) 338-3264**

Card Ministry: The card ministry group hand-crafts and distributes cards that celebrate and care for those who need the Lord's encouragement and blessing. **Contact—Pam Muther: (262) 338-9435**

Special Events: At different points throughout the year, we gather around certain themes such as: game nights, potlucks, and "How-to" learning activities. These fellowship events will be announced within our Information Guide, on the screens at church, on the website calendar, on our APP, and via our Connections E-Letter. Please keep a watch for new and upcoming fellowship events for women throughout the year!

Worship Ministries

As participants in worship ministry, each of us is called to serve, to lead, and to worship in His Service. All of our worship services utilize a common order and liturgy and other thematic elements. Services are held on Saturdays at 6:00 PM (traditional), Sundays at 8:00 AM (traditional), 9:30 AM (blended), and 11:00 AM (contemporary). Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th weekends of the month. As the Lord leads you, consider the opportunity to serve in one of the areas of worship ministry. Please contact Doug Raddemann or Rachel Morton to get involved in any of these ministries.

St. John's Choir

Thursday night rehearsals September-May; leading worship once a month.

Handbell Choir

Thursday night rehearsals; seasonal leading up to Christmas and Easter.

Contemporary Worship Team

Thursday night rehearsals for instrumentalists and vocalists serving on rotating teams year-round.

Lay Reader Program

Rotating schedule of men, women, and youth reading the Old and New Testament lessons in worship.

Usher Teams

Rotating schedule of men, women, and youth greeting members before and after services and assisting with the worship services.

Altar Guild

Rotating schedule of men and women setting up for and cleaning up after communion, and maintaining the altar area and candles.

Technical Support (Computer & Projection)

Rotating schedule of men, women, and youth running the service programs and screens for worship.

Technical Support (Sound Mixing)

Rotating schedule of men, women, and youth running the soundboard and mixing sound for worship (especially helpful at 9:30AM and 11:00AM services).

Graphic Design

Members who design and create imagery for worship service backgrounds, as well as special promotional material (i.e. VBS, Retreats, Auctions, etc.).

Video Production and Livestream

Members who help run the livestream and video equipment for worship services. Those serving in this ministry have also helped with other video projects and promotional materials.



Doug Raddemann– Director of Worship
(262) 334-4901 (ext. 321)



Rachel Morton– Asst. Director of Worship
(262) 334-4901 (ext. 327)

Youth / Sr. High / 20-30s Ministries

Matthew 16:16-18: “Who do you say that I am? You (Jesus) are the Christ, son of the living God . . . On this ROCK, I will build my church.”

BASH (4th-7th grade): Are you looking for an afternoon filled with **WILD ADVENTURE**? Laugh, sing, and have fun while integrating Jesus Christ and His love into the lives of young people. Make no mistake about it, at BASH you will have a blast growing in your faith. Adventures may include potato and water balloon launchers, turkey bowling, mall scavenger hunt, pool parties, and MORE! Join Alan in the church gathering space each month on Friday night from 3:00-5:30 pm. **Contact Alan for specific dates!**



THE ROCK (8th-12th grade): St. John’s aims to equip our young people for discipleship now and for the rest of life, while connecting them with great peers and people. Our hope is to partner with our parents and young people to accomplish the aim of *Connecting, Caring, and Sharing in Christ*. As life becomes increasingly fast-paced – at times frantic – we fully rely on THE ROCK, Christ, as the center of all we are and all we do. If you **LOVE TO LAUGH and have EXTREME FUN**, join Alan Lull at his home Saturday night from 6:30-8:30 PM. **Contact Alan for specific dates!**

National Youth Gathering

Every three years, the LCMS hosts the National Youth Gathering, gathering youth leaders and volunteers together for worship, prayer, service, and a lot of fun! Teens can attend as participants or young adult volunteers. Parents and adult leaders can serve as leaders and participate in a life-changing experience with our young people. Join us for a truly unique experience of spiritual growth and connection. Contact Alan Lull for more information!



Alan Lull– Lay Minister
Connections, Youth, and Missions
(262) 707-9198

Church Campus



St. John's Lutheran Church

809 S. 6th Avenue, West Bend, WI 53095



St. John's Main Church Offices:

818 S. 6th Ave., West Bend, WI 53095

Education Campus



St. John's Early Childhood Center: Infants–Pre K4
899 S. 6th Avenue, West Bend, WI 53095



St. John's Elementary & Middle School: K5-8th
899 S. 6th Avenue, West Bend, WI 53095

Faith Haven Campus



St. John's Faith Haven

7622 Townline Road, West Bend, WI 53090

Faith Haven is located only 9 miles from our 6th Avenue campus. Parking is located at the North entrance near the garage and a map can be found in the kiosk.

Notes