



2023 CRUSADER CHRONICLE

12/01/2023

Connected to Christ

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. John 15:1

From the Principal's Pen....

When was the last time you made a promise to someone. If you are like most people, you make hundreds of promises every year. You might promise someone to get a job or chore done. You might promise not to neglect something in the future. Many times, we make these promises without even seriously thinking about them and because we make so many of them, we soon forget them or just don't follow through on them. We all become callous when someone makes a promise because we don't expect it to be completed.



As flippancy as we can be about promises, our God is not. In the Bible, God makes hundreds of promises to His people. There are over seven thousand of them. In the book of 1 Kings, we read this, "Blessed be the LORD who has given rest to his people Israel, according to all that he promised. Not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he spoke by Moses his servant" (1 Kings 8:56). The Lord followed through with all His promises to the people of Israel.

Not only did he make promises to his chosen nation but from the very beginning He made a special promise to the world right after the fall of man. "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15). This was the promise He made out of His great love for us. This first promise was made and almost four thousand years passed before He fulfilled the promise by sending Jesus into the world to die for our sins.

Throughout this time God was constantly faithful to His promise. The prophet Isaiah reminded the people of this promise, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).



The All-Embracing
Promises of God

Knowing-Jesus.com

Throughout this month, we will focus on the theme, **Connected to Christ through His Promises**. Because our Lord was faithful to His promise, we have peace with God and can also be confident of our eternal life in heaven. There is always hope because our loving Lord fulfills all His promises.

celebrations

Thank you, Senator Baldwin for visiting our 3rd/4th grade class this past week. We enjoyed your educational visit!



December Birthdays

Lucas 12/1

Jett 12/5

Andrew 12/15

Alice 12/16

Elli 12/17

Raelyn 12/21

Everec 12/29

Oliver 12/31



December Baptismal Remembrance

Hoytt 12/2

Gavin 12/3

Jesse 12/9

Kaia 12/12

Noralynn 12/12

Adalynn 12/14

Amelia 12/14

Molly 12/26



THANK YOU!

St. John's Lutheran Church's Christmas Tree is beautiful!

Thank you to all the families who helped decorate the church for Christmas!



Thank you to all the families who shined the light of Jesus at Portage's Holiday Parade for St. John's Lutheran Ministries!



CRUSADERS ATHLETICS

St. John's 2023 Invitational Tournament

850 Armstrong Street, Portage

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Doors Open at 7:30 AM

Suggested Free Will Donation for Admission is \$2/person OR \$5/family

Doors Open 7:30 a.m.

8 AM—Game 1 St. John's Portage vs. Christ Alone, Princeton

9 AM—Game 2 St. Mary's, Portage vs. St. Paul's, Wonewoc

10 AM—Game 3 St. John's Baraboo vs. Winner of Game 1

11 AM Game 4 Loser of Game 1 vs. Loser of Game 2

11:45 AM Three Point Shooting Contest

12:30 PM—Game 5 Winner of Game 2 vs. Winner of Game 3

1:30 PM—Game 6 Winner of Game 4 vs. Loser of Game 3 (Third place)

2:45 PM—Championship Game Winner of Game 5 vs. Winner of Game 6

Concessions Available in School Cafeteria

Breakfast & Lunch

Yogurt Parfaits, Donuts, Fruit, Walking Tacos, Hot Dogs, Personal Pizza, Drinks & more!

More Basketball!

Basketball Games!

Go to stjohnsportage.com/athletics for the basketball calendars.

Home Game Schedule:

Tuesday, December 12th

Thursday, December 14th

Save the Dates and Help Fill the GYM!

All Games start at 5 p.m.





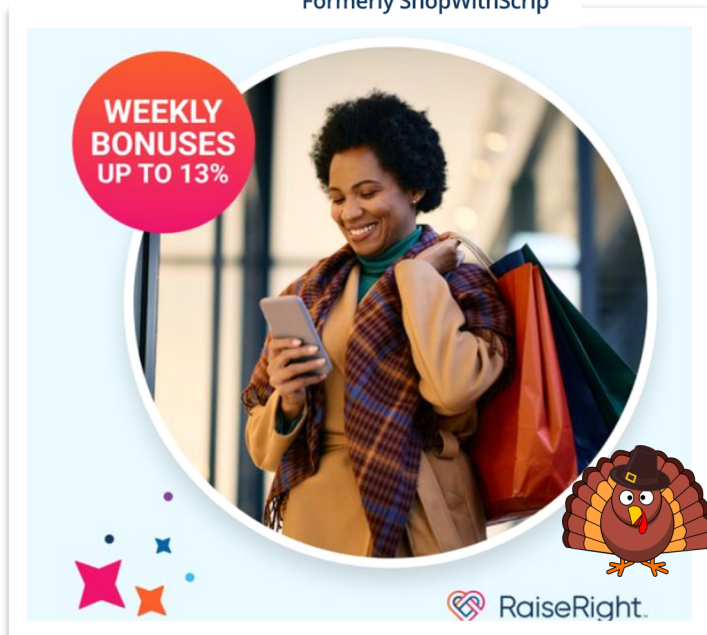
Kindergarten remains VICTORIOUS in the BOX TOPS competition BUT check out 3rd and 5th grade classes! WAY TO GO! Keep it up and you could be the next class to win!

Anyone can participate. Download the BOX TOPS for Education app to your phone now and start scanning receipts to ST JOHNS LUTHERAN SCHOOL and choose a classroom to help.



RaiseRight

Formerly ShopWithScrip



Earn money towards your school tuition using Raise Right. Earn money for school tuition when buying groceries for Thanksgiving and Christmas shopping!

Go here to find out how: stjohnsportage.com/fundraising

The 2023 Holiday Gift Guide is now available! Shop by category and use the gifting list for extra inspiration. Earn for your organization with every purchase.

Shop the Guide: <https://bit.ly/HolidayGGShare>

Tis the season to start making your list, checking it twice, and earning extra for your organization. Get perfect gifts for everyone with bonuses from Journeys, Home Chef, Yankee Candle, and more.

Shop all bonuses: <https://bit.ly/RRbonuses>

December Happenings



PARENT TEACHER
LEAGUE

12/5/23 Meeting
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
School Cafeteria

Clubs

LEGO



12/11/2023

Puzzle

12/18/2023

3 PM to 4 PM

No After School Care

12/21/2023



**No School Bus Transportation
in the afternoon**

12/21/2023

Christmas Break

12/21/2023 Noon Release

12/22/2023 to 1/2/2023—No School



St. John's
Lutheran Ministries

*What Child
Is This?*

**ADVENT 4
SCHOOL CHRISTMAS
PROGRAM**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20
10:00 A.M. AND 6:30 P.M.**



*Connected to
The Promise*

No Advent dinner.

St. John's
Lutheran Ministries

Word and Sacrament

Christian Education

Caring and Serving

stjohnsportage.com


 **What Child Is This?**

ADVENT 2 SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6
10:00 A.M. AND 6:30 P.M.




A Virgin's Great Son

Advent dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center, hosted by St. John's School Staff and featuring Chili.

 **What Child Is This?**

ADVENT 3 SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13
10:00 A.M. AND 6:30 P.M.



John's Joy

Advent dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center, hosted by St. John's CDC Staff and featuring Tomato Soup and Grilled Cheese.

 **St John's Christmas Services**

Sunday, December 24

- 9:00 a.m. Service of Word and Sacrament
- 5:00 p.m. Festival of Scripture and Carols
- 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight

Monday, December 25

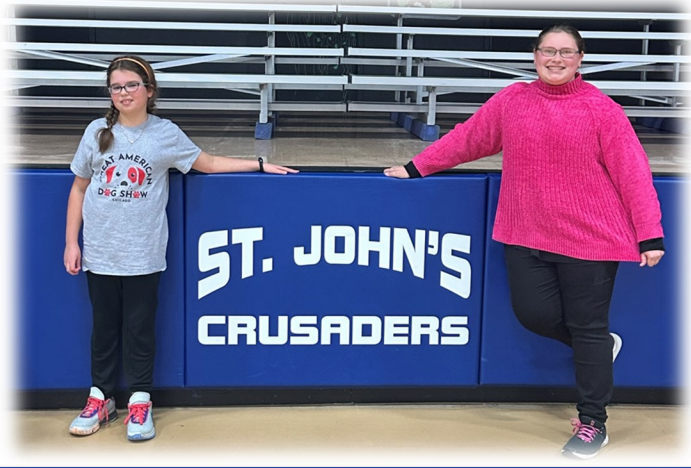
- 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service of Word and Sacrament



November Memories

2023 SPELLING BEE CHAMPIONS

Emma (2nd) & Nora (1st)



Contact us: (608) 742-9000

Church:
Option 4
Office Hours
M-Th 8:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com

Rev. Greg Hovland,
Senior Pastor
ghovland@stjohnsportage.com

Child Development Center:
Option 2
Office Hours
M-F 7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com

Debra Drew,
Director
ddrew@stjohnsportage.com

School:
Option 3
Office Hours
M-Th 7:30 a.m.—3:15 p.m.
schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com

Jim Krupski,
Principal
jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com