



2024 CRUSADER CHRONICLE

01/05/2024

Connected to Christ

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

Happy New Year

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- * Basketball Uniforms are due to the school office as soon as possible. Please have them washed, folded, and ready to store.
- * Friday, January 5th, is movie day in the school gym. Students may bring blankets, pillows, and stuffies.
- * Monday, January 8th is LEGO CLUB. The following Monday is Puzzle Club and then Chess Club.
- * End of 2nd quarter is Friday, January 12th. Be sure to have all homework completed and turned in before this date.
- * **COUNT DAY! This is a super important day, FRIDAY, JANUARY 12th, to be in school. Please make every effort to be here.**
- * National Lutheran Schools Week is January 21st through the 27th. Pray for all Lutheran Schools.
- * The 5th—8th grade choir sing at church on Sunday, January 21st at 10:30 a.m.
- * No School on Friday, January 26th.
- * Tuesday, January 30th is the Regional Spelling Bee at 12:30 p.m. in the Portage High School Auditorium. Help us cheer on and pray for our Crusaders, Nora & Emma, as they compete!
- * 100th Day of School is coming up last week of January!
- * Open House for the 2024-2025 School Year is on Thursday, February 1st.
- * Choice Enrollment and re-enrollment begins on Thursday, February 1st.

From the Principal's Pen...

Another New Year's Day has passed. With each new year people across the world view this time as time of making new beginnings. They make all types of resolutions to themselves and others as they hope to make effective and meaningful changes. This might be to lose weight, spend more time with family, or even make changes in lifestyle. As we are already 5 days into the new year, many of these goals and promises have already been set aside.

Living in the north, it is sometimes exceedingly difficult to see the dark, cold, and bleakness of January as a time of new life. If it is not snow on the ground and the cold, it is the shortness of the day, the return to realities of life after the holidays. By this time, the Christmas lights are down, the trees discarded, and some of the presents received are either broken or discarded.

In our spiritual life, we can also feel this need to recharge. The festival services of Christmas are over, and joy of the season is seeming to fade. We forget that our Lord doesn't disappear like Santa only to return next year. He is with us.



This coming weekend churches throughout the world will celebrate the baptism of Jesus. St. John's as a school will also remember the blessing that we have through baptism throughout the coming month as we live on our theme *Connected to Christ Through His New Life in Baptism*. Through Baptism, we are born anew. St. Paul writes of this when he says, "We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

This death of which St. Paul speaks is not something to feel depressed about, but he says that we are baptized so that we might too walk in newness in life. Through Baptism we are connected to our Loving Savior and the grace and forgiveness. Baptism is not just a ceremonial water. We read, "Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:2). Through Baptism we are made children of God and heirs of His kingdom. As children of God, we are given a glorious gift that we can celebrate every day of our life. There is no need to bemoan our sadness but we can say with St. Paul, "But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57).





THE CRUSADER CARD IS BACK!

The Parent Teacher League is proud to introduce 18 new and returning businesses for the NEW 2023-2024 Crusader Card. These businesses agreed to help support us and raise money for new and exciting opportunities like "Dinos at School," an all day assembly in February 2024. Help the PTL raise money! If every family sold 10 cards, St. John's Lutheran School will raise

over \$6000 for special assemblies, educational events, field trips, and more family fun events for our St. John's Families.

The top two selling families will win photo sessions with two talented photographers, Sassha Coullard and Emily Eicher.

- The top seller will be provided a one hour family photo session with Sassha Coullard.
- The runner up will be provided a 1/2 hour family photo session with Emily Eicher.

Top Selling Families will be determined by March 1st.

Get your selling shoes ready! These cards will sell fast!

Tiffany Buds
and Beans
109 S Main St, Westfield, WI
608.296.7044

1 Time Free
Bakery item
with another
purchase in store.
Offer is good from
12/1/23 to 12/31/24

430 West Emmett Street
Portage, WI 53901

Amish Market
217 N Pioneer Rd
Westfield, WI

1 Free 12oz.
Black Coffee
with Cream /
Sugar
discounted drink per
visit. Limit 3 uses
Offer is good from
12/1/23 to 12/31/24

The Crooked
Branch
Coffeehouse
134 N Main St
Pardeeville, WI
608.429.8282

\$1 OFF
any drink

1 Offer per Visit.
Limit 5 Uses
Offer is good from
12/1/23 to 12/31/24

Johnny B's
Rolling
Smoke
214 N Main St
Pardeeville, WI
608.429.8020

10% off
Purchase

Excludes Alcohol.
Limit 3 uses
Offer is good from
12/1/23 to 12/31/24

Red Apple Restaurant
10% off Purchase

The Ball Room
10% off Purchase
Excluding Alcohol

It's Poppin
10% off Purchase

Canape Sandwiches
15% off Purchase

Craig's Popcorn Corner
10% off Purchase

Dino's
10% off Parties 10 or Less
Excludes Alcohol and Holidays

Edgewater Green House
10% off Purchase
Excludes wine orders and Sales Items

J&J Fireball Lanes
Buy 1 Get One Game
of Bowling

Pizza Ranch
10% off Purchase

Portage Country Club
1 Round of Golf with
Cart for \$35.
Weekdays Only

Dairy Queen
25% off
Purchase

Thal Acres Golf- Westfield
2 for 1 on 9 holes of Golf

Oyster Cracker
Buy 1 Sandwich and Soup and Get
50% off Second Sandwich and Soup
Limit 1 offer per visit

La Tolteca
10% off Purchase
Excludes Alcohol

Not Valid with other Specials or discounts. Offer subject to change. 1 use per visit per day. St. John's is not responsible for closure of any business on card. Local stores only unless specified. EXPIRES DECEMBER 2024



GO CRUSADERS!

Current Money Raised = \$420.00

"Our family has no one to sell to." Let us provide you an opportunity to help your school by selling cards at church! The Ministry has provided 15 minute time slots to sell before and after every worship service starting this weekend through February 10th. If more are needed, we will add more slots. There will be a table available in the main entrance coat area with a large card to help you sell. The schedule of signed up sellers will be posted on the main entrance board for church members to be ready. Here is your chance to help your school and chance to win a photo session. Use this QR to sign up or go to: <https://rb.gy/6is23o>.

Sign Up
Here to
Sell
Crusader
Cards at
Church!





Congratulations 4th grade!
You won the December BOX TOPS Competition!

Your class got baby Jesus to the manager!

**St. John's Lutheran School received a \$118.00 from
BOX TOPS in December. Thank You! Keep it Up.**



The January Competition is well underway and we have some serious contenders! GO, Crusaders!



FIND THE CRUSADER!

There is a Crusader hidden at St. John's Lutheran School, find it, and the treasure will be yours. Come to school office to share location and receive treasure by 1/11.

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