From the Principal's Pen...

We have all watched geese in the Fall as they begin to fly south for the winter. We stand there in awe as they form the V shaped patterns in the sky. This pattern, which is instinctive, helps the entire flock make the long and arduous journey more effectively. The front bird absorbs the brunt of the air resistance and creates the air flow pattern which lessens as one moves back farther in the flock. As the front bird tires, it falls back, and another bird moves forward to take on the strain. They work together which make the entire flight possible.



We as a Christian school are much like this flock of geese. In Hebrews 11, the writer goes through an entire listing of the many famous Biblical people who "by faith" set the path before. After this extensive listing, the writer says, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us"

(Hebrews 12:1) .This cloud does not only include the faithful who have died, but it is the entire flock of Christians who are with us now.

Unlike the flock of geese, there is only one leader who is always in the forefront. Our Lord Jesus stepped into history and took our place on the cross for our sins. Once and for all, He took our sins and replaced them with His righteousness. He is always leading us and always carrying us. The writer continues, "looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2). He has traveled the path before us, and now we are called to surround each other with Christian compassion and care.

He has called each and every one of us through our baptism to be part of the great flock. We are to reach out to each other in love and kindness. We are to carry one another's burdens. We are to reach out to those who are struggling. As a Christ-centered community, we have many opportunities to do this both internally and externally. We have an opportunity to care for others, the Holy Spirit can use us to witness to the joyful hope that we have as part of God's family.



National Lutheran Schools Week Connected to Christ











National Lutheran Schools Week provides more than 1,800 preschools, elementary schools and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God's work among us in schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children we serve. We are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love with children and their families.

National Lutheran Schools Week gives us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within the communities we serve.

Our schools are amazing incubators for faithful witness of God's love for us through Christ by teachers and students alike.

St. John's Lutheran School would like to celebrate our school this week. Join us this week as we are connected to Christ.

Sunday – 5th through 8th Grade School Choir Sings at 10:30 a.m. worship service. Join us praising God.

St.

Monday - Connected to Jesus

Dress as a plant.

Make flip book.

Color in 2024 crosses.

Tuesday – Connected to Creation

Dress as an animal.

Clean-up our classroom and school.

Wednesday – Connected to Holy Spirit

Dress as a food.

Make a Fruit of the Spirit bulletin board.

Thursday – Connected to the World

Dress in the colors of the flag from a different country.

Draw the flag and write what country it is from.













The Parent Teacher League would like to help you write Valentines to our church members. They have bought stamps and envelopes for each student to send a Valentine. Come to the school office or contact the school office to pick out an already addressed envelope to send out a special note this February. Help us shine the light and love of Jesus Christ!

As we prepare for the February 24th School Dance the Parent Teacher League has a wish list to make the event spectacular. If you wanted to help but had no time, this is the perfect way to help out. Check out their wish list at https://shorturl.at/eHOW8 or scan this QR code.

Thank you for helping!



THE CRUSADER CARD IS BACK!

Tiffany Buds and Beans

S Main St, Wostlield 608.296.7044 1 Time Free Bakery item

with another purchase in store.

Offer is good from 12/1/23 to 12/31/24

Portage, WI 53901

Amish Market 17 N Pioneer R Westfield, WI

1 Free 12oz. Black Coffee with Cream / Sugar

discounted drink per isit Limit 3 uses

er is good from 23 to 12/31/24 The Crooked Branch

Coffeehouse 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

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 wired 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

ohn's Lutheran School of Portage Equipping Nurturing - Training \$15

Make sure to turn money into school office & pick up more cards to sell!

"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!





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



Kindergarten takes the lead again with 253.
4th grade has 40.
2nd grade has 37.

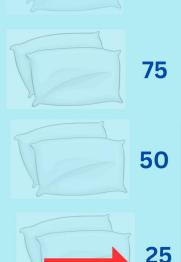
Watch for the BOX TOPS deals on the app. Right now you get 20 BOX TOPS for just buying 2 qualifying items at Walmart and Piggly Wiggly.

PILLOW DRIVE



GOAL! 100

Help us meet
our goal of
100 pillows.
When residents arrive at
River Haven they are given
a new pillow to use and
take with them.



WHAT WE NEED:
New standard size pillows

3rd Quarter Chapel Offering! St. John's Lutheran School wants to help them. Students may bring pillows or money for Chapel Offering.

Pillow Cases are also needed!

REGIONAL SPELLING BEE DATE CHANGE Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:30 p.m. @ Portage High School 5T. JOHN'S CRUSADERS



There is a Crusader hidden at St. John's Lutheran School again, find it, and share the secret message found by it with Mrs. Kohn from Monday until lunch recess on 1/18/24 for a special sticker.

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