



## Standard Worship Times

- ✠ Saturdays 5:30 p.m. — *Abbreviated service*
- ✠ Sundays 8:00 a.m. — *Communion at the rail*
- ✠ Sundays 10:30 a.m. — *Abbreviated service*

**Livestreaming** of the 8:00 a.m. service continues to be available at [stjohnsportage.com/live](http://stjohnsportage.com/live).

Standard Worship Times may change due to Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Please see Weekly Events for changes.

## Weekly Events

### Sunday (21)

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Fellowship, and Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School, School Cafeteria
- 9:15 a.m. Praise Band Practice, Church Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church APR

### Monday (22)

- 9:00 a.m. Strong Bodies, Church Narthex
- 11:00 a.m. Church Office Closed, 11:00-12:30
- 4:30 p.m. Board of Finance, Church CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Financial Peace University, School Cafeteria Classroom

### Tuesday (23)

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport
- 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Board of Elders, Church CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Board of Stewards, Church Narthex
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawls, Church APR

### Wednesday (24)

- 9:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, meet at St. John's Chapel, Church Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline, Email: [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)
- 12:00 p.m. Jr. Youth Group grades 4-7, School Gym
- 4:30 p.m. Handbells, Church Balcony
- 5:00 p.m. Adult Choir, Church Balcony
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, Church CLC and APR
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. Youth Group grades 8-12, School Gym

### Thursday (25)

- Church office closed**
- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Study, Church CLC
- 9:00 a.m. Strong Bodies, Church Narthex
- 10:15 a.m. Rachel Bible Study, Church CLC
- 5:00 p.m. Informative Wisconsin Choice Parental Meeting, School Cafeteria

### Friday (26)

- Church office closed**
- No School**

### Sunday (28)

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Fellowship, and Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School, School Cafeteria
- 9:15 a.m. Praise Band Practice, Church Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church APR

Calendar events are subject to change. For the most up-to-date calendar information, please visit our website, <http://www.stjohnsportage.com/st-johns-calendar>. To schedule your group activity, please contact the church office at 608-742-9000 or email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).

**As God serves us today in Word and Sacrament, may we rejoice in His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation.**

- 1) Please complete either a Guest (blue) or Member (white) card found in the hymnal rack of the pews. You may place this card in the offering plate located in the Narthex.
- 2) To parents of small children, we love the sound of children in worship. Thank you for bringing your child to worship; they belong here! If your child is actively crying, we have a cry room with service audio near the restrooms.
- 3) Regarding the Lord's Supper today: **If you are not a confirmed member of St. John's congregation or a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, please speak to the pastor before communing.** Pastor is readily available in the narthex before worship for this conversation. For those with medical need, the center section of the individual cup trays is filled with cups of grape juice (darker color). For those who have a gluten intolerance, gluten-free wafers are available. Share your need as you come forward to the altar.
- 4) Children are invited to come forward to the altar while the Lord's Supper is distributed; encourage them to bow their heads and fold their hands. While there, they will receive a Baptismal blessing from the Pastor.
- 5) We ask that if you have a mobile device, please silence it during the worship service.
- 6) Our elders and ushers are here to help with any of your worship needs today.

**Thanks for worshipping with us!**

## Sermon Reflections

**Three things from today's sermon I want to remember:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## Please Pray

*Please notify the church office when one of our church family members is in the hospital, so that a pastoral visit may be made or arranged.*

### Thanksgiving

(birth, birthdays, baptisms, weddings, anniversaries, recovery):

The Baptism of Jannah Mae Whirry

### (Medical)

Dorothy Neitzel, Darlene Krueger, Leona Brockopp,  
Richard Thompson (brother of Gene Thompson)

### Long-term Illness/Treatment:

Stacie Wheeler, Tom Waddell,  
Lani Kohrt (daughter-in-law of Don and Carol Kohrt)  
Lisa Priske (daughter of Betty Mootz)  
Gary Tennyson (son of Jim and Nola Tennyson)

### Mourning:

The family of Jane Kaiser  
The family of Ray Konkel (husband of Bonnie Konkel)  
The family of Donna Chvojicek (mother of Ken Chvojicek)

### **How Do I Get Someone on the Prayer List?**

If you, or someone you know, would like to have a name added to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Prayer requests for Thanksgiving, Medical, and Mourning will remain on the list for two weeks. Prayer requests for Long-term Illness/Treatment will remain for one month unless the church office is notified with an update on the individual. Please be sure that you have the permission of the individual before contacting the church office to add them to the public prayer list.

## Want to be a part of St. John's family?

### **Interested in joining St. John's?**

Basic Bible Teachings – An Introduction to the Lutheran Faith  
New Member and Refresher Gathering  
Six Monday evenings: 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18  
6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Christian Life Center

To register online, please use the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/m37j7L3k64> or the QR code below. To register by phone, call (608) 742-9000 and press 4. Please register before February 7.

New Member / Refresher  
Membership Class - Winter 2024



## Contribution Statements

Your 2023 contribution statements are at the Welcome Center in the Narthex.

## St. John's School and Child Development Center



**All families are invited to tour our  
St. John's Lutheran School and  
Child Development Center!**

Thursday, February 1  
3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Come and meet our teachers, tour the facilities, ask questions, and enroll your students for the 24-25 school year!

- The number one thing setting St. John's Lutheran School apart from all other schools is our Christ-Centered education.
- We offer monthly payments and tuition assistance.

Check out our website, [stjohnsportage.com/school](http://stjohnsportage.com/school) or contact the school, 608-742-9000 opt. 3.

Help us grow the kingdom of God.

## Attention Parents!

### **Let us entertain your children!**

St. John's Youth Group is hosting annual babysitting night.

When:  
Wednesday, January 31  
4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Where:  
St. John's Lutheran School Gym  
(Gym Door F located on Armstrong Street)

A free will donation is accepted.  
(\$5.00 child/hour suggested)

Supper will be provided.

RSVP via text to 608-697-2649, or email  
[youth@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:youth@stjohnsportage.com).

## Every One His Witness

### **Every One His Witness**

Are you uncertain about how to witness Jesus to others? Every One His Witness gives you the tools and the confidence to talk about Jesus.

Join us for a one day class on Saturday, February 10 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center. The Board of Evangelism will provide lunch. A minimum of 6 people must sign-up by Wednesday, February 7. To sign up for Every One His Witness, contact Jim Atkinson at 608-697-7052, email [jim@atkinsonrealtor.com](mailto:jim@atkinsonrealtor.com), or sign up at the Welcome Center.

## School Choice Open Enrollment!

Wisconsin Private School Choice Program is a tuition assistance program for private and religious schools.

Who is eligible?

Incoming kindergarten

All new & current 1st graders

All new students to St. John's

Students already in the Wisconsin School Choice Program

**Enrollment begins February 1.**

For information on the Wisconsin School Choice Program, visit <https://dpi.wi.gov/parental-education-options/choice-programs>.

## School Calendar

**Sunday, January 21**

10:30 a.m. Upper Grades School Choir Sings

**National Lutheran Schools Week!**

January 21, 2023 – January 27, 2024

**No School**

January 26

**Tuesday, January 30**

100th Day of School!

## Crusader Cards

**Crusader Cards are here!** Watch for St. John's Lutheran School students selling Crusader Cards. They are full of great deals! Cost: \$15.00

**Portage:**

- Red Apple Restaurant
- Canape Sandwiches
- Edgewater Green House
- Portage Country Club
- The Ball Room
- Craig's Popcorn Corner
- J&J Fireball Lanes
- Dairy Queen
- Dino's
- Pizza Ranch
- La Tolteca

**Westfield:**

- It's Poppin, Westfield
- Thal Acres Golf
- Tiffany's Buds and Beans
- Amish Market

**Pardeeville:**

- Johnny B's Rolling Smoke
- The Crooked Branch Coffeehouse

**Montello:**

- Oyster Cracker

## Youth Ministries

**All youth are invited to join us for fun and fellowship.**

**Sunday School (ages 3–3rd grade)** meets Sundays from 9:15 a.m.–10:15 a.m. in St. John's School Cafeteria. Lessons are based on the weekly readings. There will be games, Bible lessons, and snacks.

**Jr. Youth Group (grades 4–7)** meets on Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m. in St. John's School. The focus of Jr. Youth Group is Luther's Small Catechism to help prepare for confirmation. There will be pizza and games to help us learn God's Word.

**Senior Youth Group (grades 8–12)** meets on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. in St. John's School Gym. The focus of Senior Youth Group is being equipped with God's armor.

## Church Office

The church office will be closed on **Thursday, January 25** and **Monday, January 29.**

## Thank You

**Thank you to the Konkell and Kaiser families** for the beautiful flowers left in the sanctuary.

## Reminder

**Please be considerate of our disabled worshipers'** parking needs. If the driver is not disabled, it would be best if he or she would drop an individual at the door and use a regular parking stall when possible. Then, we will be sure we have enough handicap parking for our disabled drivers. We appreciate our caregivers and drivers.

**For the protection of the church facility,** the only door unlocked during church office hours is the side entrance on Armstrong Street (near Franklin Street). Feel free to park on Armstrong Street near the entrance, if you plan on stopping by.

## Volunteer Opportunities!

**We still need people willing to assist with the operation of the projector at each of our services.**

If you are interested in helping, please email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).

**St. John's is using Church Music Solutions for music during church services when an organist is not available.**

We are looking for volunteers to attend training and run the Church Music Solutions program as needed. Any volunteers please contact Bob Fairfield, Elder. Thank you.

## Community Events

**One Heart Women's Seminar**

What is the One Heart Seminar? This annual inter-denominational seminar speaks to a woman's heart as together we prayerfully search for a more meaningful relationship with God. The biblical truths reveal the love that Jesus promises.

**When:**

Saturday, February 24  
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Location:**

Wintergreen Resort  
60 Gasser Rd  
Wisconsin Dells, WI

Brochures and registration forms are located on the wall by the Welcome Center. For more information email [oneheartwomensconf@gmail.com](mailto:oneheartwomensconf@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.oneheartssiminar.com](http://www.oneheartssiminar.com)

## Support our Ministries

### Support St. John's while you shop!

Shop for gift cards with RaiseRight. You can place your order on Tuesday and pick up on Thursday. Or, stop in the church office and pick up a card from our stock.

Visit: [raiserright.com](http://raiserright.com)

Click: **Sign Up**

Enrollment Code: **Please call the church office, 608-742-9000 for the enrollment code.**

Festival	\$25 & \$50
Kwik Trip	\$25, \$50, & \$100
Pizza Ranch	\$25
Walgreens	\$25
Walmart	\$25
Culvers	\$25
Portage Movie Theater	\$10

### BoxTop\$ for Education is a great way to support St. John's School!

All you have to do is download the Box Tops for Education app and scan your receipt. It's that simple!



## Daily Lectionary

This week's readings comes from the Daily Lectionary found in the Lutheran Service Book page 299.

<b>Sunday,</b> Joel 1:1-20 & Rom. 10:1-21	<b>Tuesday,</b> Joel 2:18-32 & Rom. 11:25-12:13	<b>Friday,</b> Zech. 2:1-3:10 & Rom. 15:1-13
<b>Monday,</b> Joel 2:1-17 & Rom. 11:1-24	<b>Wednesday,</b> Joel 3:1-21 & Rom. 12:14-13:14	<b>Saturday,</b> Zech. 4:1-5:11 & Rom. 15:14-33
	<b>Thursday,</b> Zech. 1:1-21 & Rom. 14:1-23	

## Weekly Offerings

### January 14

In-person Attendance: 209

Unrestricted Unified Received: \$7,170.85

Restricted Contributions Received: \$355.00

TOTAL: \$7,525.85

**Weekly Unrestricted Unified Needed: \$12,885.00**

YTD Unrestricted Unified Giving: \$369,927.34

**YTD Budgeted Unrestricted Unified Need: \$373,665.00**  
(week 29)

## Life Thoughts

**January 21 – Epiphany III** – The size of a people (as in the case of Nineveh, Jonah 3:3-4) makes no difference to their worth. Nor does the height of an individual's status (so says the Psalmist, Psalm 62:9) affect his or her sanctity. The life-giving grace of God measures according to His abundance rather than our scarcities of age, appearance, or ability. May we likewise direct gazes beyond abortion's and assisted suicide's shortsightedness (1 Corinthians 7:30-31).

## Stewardship Thoughts

**Mark 1:14-15** – “Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.’” To repent means to turn away from sins and our former way of thinking and turn toward belief in God and His Gospel of grace and mercy. The whole Christian life is one of repentance and faith. Where is God calling you to repent today? How is He calling you to deeper faith?

## LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.*

1 Timothy 2:5-6

## Coffee Hour

**Adopt a Sunday! It's a fun and easy way to get to know your church family.** We encourage families and groups to “Adopt a Sunday” by hosting coffee hour on Sunday mornings. Hosting coffee hour involves providing a simple snack, making coffee, and enjoying fellowship time with our church families. Sign up in the Christian Life Center or email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

**January 21:**

Open

**January 28:**

Tracy F.

## Contact us: 608-742-9000

**Church:**  
option 4  
Office Hours:  
M—Th 8:00a–3:30p  
[churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

Rev. Greg Hovland,  
Senior Pastor  
(c) 608-571-3360  
[ghovland@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ghovland@stjohnsportage.com)

**Child Development Center:**  
option 2  
Office Hours:  
M—F 7:00a–5:00p  
[cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

Debra Drew,  
Director  
[ddrew@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ddrew@stjohnsportage.com)

**School:**  
option 3  
Office Hours:  
M—F 7:30a–3:15p  
[schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com)

Jim Krupski,  
Principal  
[jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com)

**St. John's Elder Directory:**  
Bob Fairfield 296-4012, Chairman

Roger Baerwolf 617-6088  
Ken Chvojicek 697-2102  
Bill Hageman 279-0272  
David Hall 493-2125  
Patrick Kirchenwitz 575-3959  
Ron Mueller 369-1845  
Pete Smith 697-3807  
Gene Thompson 697-4786  
Mark Witt 697-0224

To schedule your group activity or add a loved one to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 608-742-9000 option 4 or email [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).