



2024 CRUSADER CHRONICLE

01/19/2024

Connected to Christ

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

From the Principal's Pen...

Many times, in our lives we can go for a long stretch of time with nothing but good news. People like the job we are doing, the children are doing well in school, the boss seems to be happy, and even your dog brings your paper without tearing it to shreds. Life just seems like it is rolling along with no cares in the world.

Then everything seems to change. The children begin to fight constantly over meaningless issues. The teacher calls with concern regarding the progress or behavior of one of your children. The boss suddenly seems overly demanding. The bills seem to pile up and yes, the dog doesn't seem to remember that it is to go outside before its morning break. Life is out of control. We seem to be drowning in the events of our lives.

This type of pattern is not unique to us or our generation. In Matthew chapter 8, the apostle describes a whole series of miracles that had been happening. The disciples had witnessed cleansing of leprosy, healing of the Centurions daughter, and even the casting out of demons. They listened as Jesus spoke the words of The Sermon on The Mount and described a Christian's life in the new kingdom of God. The life of the disciples seemed to be flawless.

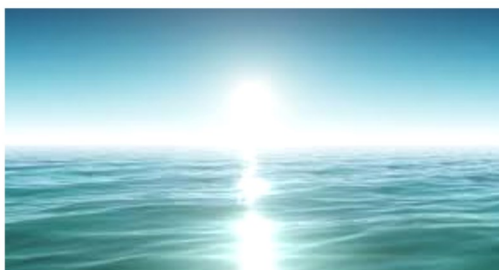
Then they stepped into the boat. For the disciples, this was as normal as getting on a bike and riding across town. They had done it many times before. This time was different. A storm seemed to come out of nowhere. The waves crashed over the side of the boat. The disciples feared they were finished. There Jesus was sleeping in the back of the boat. What must have gone through their minds as they struggled to stay afloat?



Finally, out of desperation, they went and woke him saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing." (Matt. 8:25 ESV) Jesus awoke and first rebuked them not for asking but because of their lack of faith. Then immediately he stood and rebuked the waves and the storm ended. Picture in your mind the reaction the disciples must have had. Shock, surprise, and even fear must have poured through their thoughts. The men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him? (v.27)

Do we many times try to handle our problems the way the disciples did? Do we try to bail the water out of the sinking ship of our lives only to find that we are losing the battle? Would Jesus' question to his disciples apply to you?

Jesus stands in our boat and rebukes the waves of troubles that come after us. He calms the seas with all its problems by the sheer force of His Word. The peace that ensues is beyond anything that one can



imagine. He brings solitude in the midst of our chaos. Even though the troubles may not disappear, we have peace because we know the Good Shepherd stands there at our side.

When this happens, there is only one response. It is the same response that the disciples had. "Even the winds and the waves obey him." How awesome it is to have a God who can reach into our turmoil and calm whatever it is. He does have the power! He does promise to be there! Let's praise and thank Him for it!

Informative Wisconsin Parental Choice Program Meeting

This meeting is for all our current families, and anyone interested in learning about Choice, and how it pays for your school tuition before open enrollment starts.

Come and find out:
what is Choice,
how does Choice work,
and who can apply.

Thursday, January 25, 2024

5 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran School – Cafeteria
Armstrong Street Entrance



School Choice Enrollment starts February 1st at 8 a.m.
for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program
W I S C O N S I N Your family may qualify for **free tuition** to attend St. John's.

Who is Eligible?

Incoming Kindergarten,
All New & Current 1st Graders,
All New Students to St. John's, and
Student's Already part of the
Choice Program



Enroll

<https://sms.dpi.wi.gov/ChoiceParent/>

Use above web address or your smartphone camera to
scan QR code to enroll & re-enroll your Choice Student .

St. John's Lutheran Ministry admits children of any race, color, national and ethnic origins to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to children of the Ministry. It does not discriminate based on race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, athletic, or other administered programs.



The 5th through 8th Grade School Choir Sing on January 21st at the 10:30 a.m. worship service at church.

National Lutheran Schools Week

January 21-27, 2024

Dress Up Days

Monday – Connected to Jesus

Dress as a plant.

Tuesday – Connected to Creation

Dress as an animal.

Wednesday – Connected to Holy Spirit

Dress as a food.

Thursday – Connected to the World

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

Dress Up Days Crusader Chronicle Challenge:

Dress up all 4 days and see Mrs. Kohn for a sticker on Thursday, January 25th.

NO SCHOOL

Friday, January 26, 2024

Teacher In-Service Day

100th Day of School

FEB 01 2024

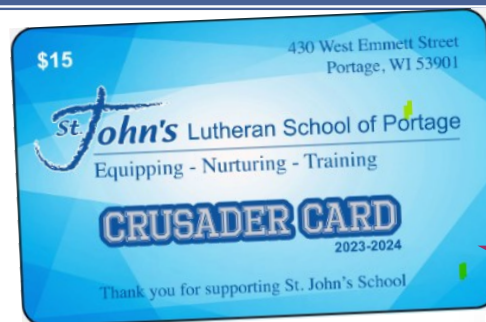
CANDY LAND SCHOOL DANCE

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!



Thank you for selling the Crusader Cards!



Sign Up Here to Sell Crusader Cards at Church!

GO CRUSADERS!

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



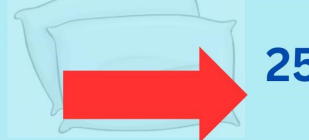
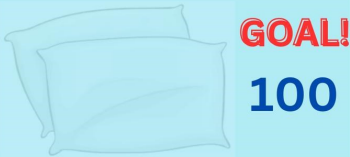


Kindergarten is in the lead, 2nd grade passed 4th grade, and 6th grade joined in the competition! Woo Hoo! GO, Crusaders!



Watch for the BOX TOPS deals on the app. Click on the Bonus Offers widget. Right now you get 8 BONUS BOX TOPS for buying 3 qualifying Nature Valley products in addition to the 20 BOX TOPS from Walmart and Piggly Wiggly with qualifying items! BOX TOPS add up fast using the app!

PILLOW DRIVE



River Haven
Homeless Shelter

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!



January Birthdays

Wyatt
Jaxson
Hazel
Macen
AnnaLee

January Baptisms

Vivian
Callen



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