



Cornerstone

850 ARMSTRONG STREET
PORTAGE, WI 53901
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

January 2022

WWW.STJOHNSPORTAGE.COM

Worship and Weekly Events

Sundays:

8:00 a.m. **Service of Word and Sacrament**
9:15 a.m. **Christian Ed Hour**, Christian Life Center
9:15 a.m. **Sunday School**, School Cafeteria
9:15 a.m. **Praise Band**, Sanctuary
10:30 a.m. **Service of Word and Sacrament**

Tuesdays:

6:30 a.m. **Men's Bible Class**, Portage Airport
9:15 a.m. **Tuesday Morning Bible Study**,
Christian Life Center
6:30 p.m. **Sisters in Christ Bible Study**,
All Purpose Room starting January 25

Wednesdays:

10:00 a.m. **Chapel**, Sanctuary
12:00 p.m. **Weekly Announcements Deadline**
churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com
5:00 p.m. **Handbell Choir**, Balcony starting January 26
6:30 p.m. **Youth Group**, School Gym
6:30 p.m. **Adult Choir**, Balcony
6:30 p.m. **Confirmation Class**,
Christian Life Center & All Purpose Room

Thursdays:

8:00 a.m. **Esther Bible Study**, Christian Life Center
5:30 p.m. **Thirsty Souls Bible Study**,
Christian Life Center

Saturdays:

5:30 p.m. **Service of Word and Sacrament**

Resource Links

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod:

<http://www.lcms.org/>

South Wisconsin District of LCMS:

<http://swd.lcms.org/>

South Wisconsin District of LWML:

<http://www.swd-lwml.org/>

Lutheran Hour Ministries:

<http://www.lhm.org/>

Concordia University – Wisconsin:

<http://www.cuw.edu/>

Lutheran Counseling and Family Services:

<http://www.lcfswi.org>

Lutherans For Life:

<http://www.lutheransforlife.org/>

Camp LuWiSoMo:

<http://www.luwisomo.org/>

Concordia Publishing House:

<http://www.cph.org/>

Northwestern Publishing House:

<http://www.nph.org/>

Sanctity of Life Weekend: God Chose You.

St. John's will be celebrating Sanctity of Life Weekend January 15–16. The theme this year is *God Chose You*. Lutherans For Life is again sponsoring the Pregnancy Resource Center baby bottle fundraiser to honor this special ministry. Baby bottles will be available for pick up in the narthex and, as you are led, you may fill the bottles with a check or coins. Your donation will help the resource center meet financial needs and increase its awareness in the community. The bottles are to be returned by February 5–6. There is also a need for diapers, baby wipes, baby wash, baby lotion, and diaper ointment.

Please stop by the display table to pick up baby bottles, brochures, information, precious feet, and bookmarks. Lutherans For Life (LFL) membership forms are also available. Membership includes receiving information on life issues and the publication *Life Date*. Your membership donation helps sustain the heart-changing, life-saving ministry of LFL on national, state, and local levels.

Thank you for joining in this work for God's precious children of all ages, born and unborn.

LFL will be sponsoring a speaker from *Eyewitness for Life* on Sunday, January 30, during the Sunday Bible class hour, 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 am. Connie Hanson will share the mission of *Eyewitness for Life* and how they minister to pregnant women.

God Chose You ...
and that changes
everything!



lutheransforlife.org

Commandment 8 — Speak Up for Others

It all began with a lie. “You shall not die, but you will be like God...” (Genesis 3:4-5) Since then, falsehood has been the go-to sin — the way we try to wiggle out of tough spots. Sometimes it works — for awhile. The trouble with lies is that they multiply like rabbits and it is hard to keep them all straight. A variety of this strategy is to try to build yourself up by tearing others down. It is why it is the staple of garden variety gossip — and political campaigns. It is also when someone is in competition with us that we assume the worst of others — and spread it. The problem is, of course, such lies destroy reputations and lives. It is why God forbids lying about others. But you know all that. It is the common theme of preachers when they take up this commandment.

Martin Luther sees something more in this commandment. It is God's call to speak up for others — especially those who cannot speak for themselves.

So, when the opportunity comes, we should speak well of others. We should praise people publicly when they do well, help others to see their good side and when we hear someone criticized, defend them. This is especially true if they are weak, defenseless, not present to defend themselves or are in danger. This can be challenging when the person is a friend or loved one, but difficult if they are opposed to us or even an enemy. We may discover that they are not as bad as we think.

Every day we fail to do this. Yet there is forgiveness for us. Jesus suffered the insults and lies of others — even his friends. These lies resulted in his crucifixion. He knew this would happen, yet he willingly suffered that we might be saved. Because he died and rose again, God now sees only the best in us — that we do good because we love him and that we are holy for Jesus' sake. He now gives us the ability to see the good in others, to pray for them and defend them.



in all
things

COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

National Lutheran

Schools Week

January 23 - 29, 2022

“In All Things” is the theme for the 2022 National Lutheran Schools Week celebration. National Lutheran Schools Week provides our network of more than 1,800 LCMS preschools, elementary schools and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God’s work among us in Lutheran schools.

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.

Open House

St. John’s Lutheran Ministries will be hosting
an Open House during National Lutheran Schools Week.

Tuesday, January 25th

4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

All families are invited. We provide care and education for children ages 6 weeks to 14 years.
Everyone is welcome to come and take a tour of St. John’s Lutheran Ministries
Child Development Center & School this evening.

At St. John's Child Development Center (CDC), we believe that children are unique individuals. During the early years, children need a stimulating and loving environment that will provide them with experiences that will aid them in development of their full potential. St. John's CDC aids parents by providing a structured, Christian environment for learning and growing. Our CDC was named a 5 Star YoungStar provider by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families.

Students at St. John’s School are taught by dedicated, Christian, and State-Certified teachers. We participate in a variety of academic assessments in all subject areas to ensure the continued development and progress of every single child. Our school is fully accredited with the National Lutheran Schools Accreditation (NLSA) program and participates in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program.

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.

BRAND NEW!

St. John's Lutheran Ministries

Junior Youth Group

Meets the first Wednesday of the month

Starting January 5, 2022

3:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Grades 4 through 6

St. John's Lutheran School Gym

This Youth Group will start with the expectation of getting 10 or more friends together from January until May 2022.

Invite your friends for fellowship and Bible study.

St. John's Lutheran Ministries

Youth Group

Meets Wednesdays

6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Grades 7 and up.

St. John's Lutheran School Gym

Enjoy fellowship and Bible study in an environment where you can be who God intended you to be.

A Walk through the Liturgy: The Nunc Dimittis



During the time of Distribution the congregation will more than likely sing hymns and spend time contemplating the tangible grace of their Lord Jesus Christ that they just received or will receive in the near future. Once the members of the congregation receive the Body and Blood of Christ, the pastor likely will consume whatever remains of the Sacrament. At that time, the congregation will rise to sing the beautiful song known as the *Nunc Dimittis* or the *Song of Simeon*.

St. Simeon originally sang these words when he saw the Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple forty days after his birth. The event is recorded for us by St. Luke and is the final canticle of the Divine Service.

We should not miss the richness of the event when Simeon first uttered these words which we now sing after receiving the Sacrament. Simeon had been promised he would see the Lord's Christ before he would die. We don't know how long he had to wait for this to happen, but if was anything like the Old Testament, Simeon had been expecting Jesus for a good long while. And finally, he finds Jesus right where He ought to be found, in His

Father's House! And it is with joy that Simeon sings, "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And with what joy you also can sing the same words! For you (in the congregation) have been waiting for this moment. In the Service of the Sacrament we are preparing for the coming of the Lord's anointed. We sing of his coming in the *Santus*. "Blessed is He who comes!" We sing of seeing him at the altar, In His Father's House, doing His Father's Work, as the Lamb of God, in the *Agnus Dei*. And now we rejoice for we have not only seen Him and the salvation He brings for all people, but we have received and we are ready to depart in peace.

Luther does a masterful job in his hymn based off the Nunc Dimittis (938 In Peace and Joy I Now Depart). The Sacrament prepares us to die well. For in the Sacrament we have been granted forgiveness of our sins, which leads us to have confidence in Christ. "Serene and confident my heart; Stillness fills it. For the Lord has promised me That death is but a slumber." There is also the tradition of singing this hymn at the deathbed, and if the saint dies, the verbs are then said in the past tense. Let us sing the Nunc Dimittis with confidence and joy upon receiving the Body and Blood of Christ as well as all our lives in Christ, for our salvation has been hand delivered by Christ Himself! Depart in peace!

Luther's Large Catechism

In this edition of the Cornerstone, we continue to publish portions of Luther's Large Catechism for your continued growth in God's Word. The text for this series is taken from the Triglotta, a public domain version of The Book of Concord. For a more up-to-date reading, consider purchasing Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions at cph.org.



The Fourth Commandment

Thou shalt honor thy father and thy mother.

Thus far we have learned the first three commandments, which relate to God. First, that with our whole heart we trust in Him, and fear and love Him throughout all our life. Secondly, that we do not misuse His holy name in the support of falsehood or any bad work, but employ it to the praise of God and the profit and salvation of our neighbor and ourselves. Thirdly, that on holidays and when at rest we diligently treat and urge God's Word, so that all our actions and our entire life be ordered according to it. Now follow the other seven, which relate to our neighbor, among which the first and greatest is:

Thou shalt honor thy father and thy mother.

To this estate of fatherhood and motherhood God has given the special distinction above all estates that are beneath it that He not simply commands us to love our parents, but to honor them. For with respect to brothers,

sisters, and our neighbors in general He commands nothing higher than that we love them, so that He separates and distinguishes father and mother above all other persons upon earth, and places them at His side. For it is a far higher thing to honor than to love one, inasmuch as it comprehends not only love, but also modesty, humility, and deference as to a majesty there hidden, and requires not only that they be addressed kindly and with reverence, but, most of all, that both in heart and with the body we so act as to show that we esteem them very highly, and that, next to God, we regard them as the very highest. For one whom we are to honor from the heart we must truly regard as high and great.

We must, therefore, impress it upon the young that they should regard their parents as in God's stead, and remember that however lowly, poor, frail, and queer they may be, nevertheless they are father and mother given them by God. They are not to be deprived of their honor because of their conduct or their failings. Therefore we are not to regard their persons, how they may be, but the will of God who has thus created and ordained. In other respects we are, indeed, all alike in the eyes of God; but among us there must necessarily be such inequality and ordered difference, and therefore God commands it to be observed, that you obey me as your father, and that I have the supremacy.

Learn, therefore, first, what is the honor towards parents required by this commandment, to wit, that they be held in distinction and esteem above all things, as the most precious treasure on earth. Furthermore, that also in our words we observe modesty toward them, do not accost them roughly, haughtily, and defiantly, but yield to them and be silent, even though they go too far. Thirdly, that we show them such honor also by works, that is, with our body and possessions, that we serve them, help them, and provide for them when they are old, sick, infirm, or poor, and all that not only gladly, but with humility and reverence, as doing it before God. For he who knows how to regard them in his heart will not allow them to suffer want or hunger, but will place them above him and at his side, and will share with them whatever he has and possesses.

Secondly, notice how great, good, and holy a work is here assigned children, which is, alas! utterly neglected and disregarded, and no one perceives that God has commanded it, or that it is a holy, divine Word and doctrine. For if it had been regarded as such, every one could have inferred that they must be holy men who live according to these words. Thus there would have been no need of inventing monasticism nor spiritual orders, but every child would have abided by this commandment, and could have directed his conscience to God and said:

Continued on page 8.

Crusader Calendar — January

Join us for Chapel

10:00 a.m. Wednesdays in the church sanctuary.

*January 19 chapel will be in the school gym.

F 21 End of the Second quarter

Su 23 – Sa 29 National Lutherans Schools Week

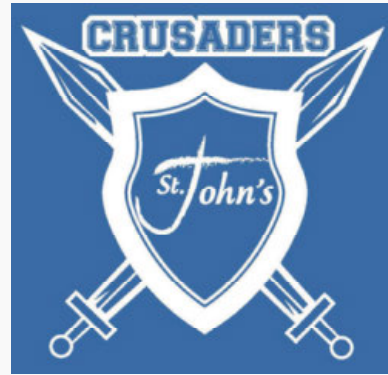
M 24 No School — Teacher Inservice



Congratulations, Katze for winning this year's Spelling Bee! In February, Katze will represent St. John's at the Regional Spelling Bee.



Congratulations, Michael! Michael is our runner-up winner.



Great job to all the students who participated on the December 8th St. John's Lutheran School Spelling Bee!



Happy Birthday

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|----|--|----|--|
| 1 | Thomas Daugherty
Jean Gavinski
Cory Thompson | 6 | Hazel Gudgeon
Linda Koch | 20 | Nicole Brockway
Timothy Burrow |
| 2 | Catharine Daily
Tracey Kuhn
Rachel Manthey
Coltan Myers
Sadie Nummerdor | 7 | William Haase
Deanna Isakson
Wyatt Tomaszewski | 21 | Ryan Schroeder
Gretchen Willis |
| 3 | Maralyn Coffman
Steven Dittman
Carol Gisiner
Brooklynn Krebs
Dolores Milton
Theresa Smith | 8 | Emberlyn Krueger | 22 | Donna Johnson |
| 4 | James Sohl | 9 | Linda Loomans
Jodi Steele | 23 | Rick Crawford
Gary Herwig
Kenneth Hutler
Susan Schesny |
| 5 | Henry Schroeder | 11 | Thomas Paiser | 24 | Geraldine Kerl |
| | | 13 | Hallie Schoppenhorst
George Snyder | 25 | Annabelle Snyder |
| | | 14 | Allison Mittlesteadt
Katherine Pietrantonio | 26 | Amanda Kohn |
| | | 16 | Kyle Bernander
Teagan Olson
Hunter Witt | 27 | Elizabeth Mootz |
| | | 17 | Gracelynn Chvojicek | 28 | Gary Zastrow |
| | | 18 | Jennifer Chvojicek
Anthony Willis | 29 | Randall Anderson
David J. Fritz
Sara Kassner
Dale Megown
Alex Swanson
Mark Witt |
| | | 19 | Sassha Coullard
James Reick
Sabryna Schumann | 30 | Robert Griepentrog
Shanon Smith |
| | | | | 31 | Connor Hunkel |

Happy Anniversary

- January 1**
John & Sue
Hamel
- January 8**
Timothy & Linda
Loomans
- January 9**
James & Judy
Mountford
- January 10**
Bryan & Mary
Schumann



- January 14**
Kevin & Lauren
Jonas
- January 18**
Gregory & Phyllis
Zimmerman
- January 29**
Eugene & Heidi
Thompson

“If I am to do good and holy works, I know of none better than to render all honor and obedience to my parents, because God has Himself commanded it. For what God commands must be much and far nobler than everything that we may devise ourselves; and since there is no higher or better teacher to be found than God, there can be no better doctrine, indeed, than He gives forth. Now, He teaches fully what we should do if we wish to perform truly good works; and by commanding them, He shows that they please Him. If, then, it is God who commands this, and who knows not how to appoint anything better, I will never improve upon it.”

Behold, in this manner we would have had a godly child properly taught, reared in true blessedness, and kept at home in obedience to his parents and in their service, so that men should have had blessing and joy from the spectacle. However, God’s commandment was not permitted to be thus [with such care and diligence] commended, but had to be neglected and trampled under foot, so that a child could not lay it to heart, and meanwhile gaped [like a panting wolf] at the devices which we set up, without once [consulting or] giving reverence to God.

Sometimes Ya Brew the Coffee Twice



But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:21–23 ESV

Pastor Teeple told a story about when his choices resulted in an unfortunate experience for him—until his big brother stepped in. In his youth, his chore was to pick up all the doggy doo-doo outside. Unfortunately, one time he neglected his work because he wanted to play football or soccer with his older brother. Pastor ended up almost winning, but then he slid and fell on the doggy doo-doo. Big brother could have taken advantage of his circumstances, but instead he held out a hand to his younger brother and said, “Do over. Make the play again.”

Sometimes our lives are like the game that got spoiled by doggy doo-doo. We fail at times in our efforts or perhaps just remembering to give thanks for our many blessings. Yet our triune God will never run out of second chances for each of us—giving us, as Pastor Teeple’s older brother did, a daily “do over.”

I was recently going through my morning ritual of breakfast, coffee, the ordinary everyday routine of life. As I was about to pour my coffee, I noticed it sure wasn’t very coffee colored! I neglected to add the tasty grounds to the coffee maker! So, of course, I brewed the coffee twice.

When we make a more conscious effort of changing what is not quite right, we can focus on our repentance and be thankful for Jesus, our eternal Savior.

Prayer:

Holy Spirit, I ask that you bless us with an ever-increasing faith and a more conscious awareness of our sinfulness, so that we turn in repentance to you, Lord Jesus, and that we accept and believe in the forgiveness of our sins. Help our regret turn into rejoicing every time we need to “brew the coffee twice.”

Blessings as we start this New Year,
Connie Streich

'Tis More Blessed to Give Than to Receive

“In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ”

Acts 20:35

And indeed, it is. Does this not strike a chord that resonates in us all? Which of us can't recall the look of surprise and thanks for the Christmas gifts that we labored to give to those whom we love? And the joy written on their face when that gift is received with thanksgiving means more than all the gifts we have received. It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Our Lord knew this because He practiced it. He gave of Himself – sparing not even His life in death – in order to give us back to our Father in heaven. He knew that in giving you get more because joy is multiplied in giving. The one who receives and the one who gives both rejoice in what is given and received. And, what is more, the one who receives only wants to give back to the one who gave so generously in thanksgiving.

So it is with our tithes and offerings in church. We want to give because we have received from God all that we are and all that we have. Our giving does not originate in what we must do to earn God's favor. We have God's favor because of His gift of His Son, given through Word and Sacrament. Thus, we are made free from the compulsion of giving so that our tithes and offering are freely given in thanksgiving for what God has so generously given to us.

Why then does the church struggle to make budgets?

Why does the church always seem stretched so thin when it is the place where God continually gives us His forgiveness of sins? Why does the church struggle when God, out of love for us, generously pours out His grace and mercy?

It is because we are sinners. Our fallen nature makes us selfish and miserly. It leads us to believe that we can have our cake and eat it, too. Because of sin, we want God's grace and mercy; we want His blessings of body and soul. But we don't want to share it with those around us. We want to remain comfortable in our own self-contained, neat, and tidy lives – without the headaches of loving those around us by helping them in their time of need.

“Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ” Remember that God has placed you in a church, not only to receive His grace and mercy, but to press His eternal and temporal blessings into service to your neighbor.

Your tithes and offerings ensure that those around you have a pastor to preach the life-saving and life-giving Word of God. They ensure that the lights, heat, and air-conditioning are working. They ensure there is water for Holy Baptism as well as bread and wine for Holy Communion. They even ensure that your pastor has food and clothing and presents for his own family. The gifts of God are immeasurable. They multiply and redound to everyone's good as the fish and loaves in the feeding of the five thousand.

So, remember the words of the Lord Jesus: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” And remember the joy that attended the gifts you gave at Christmas. This same joy attends your gifts to the church.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

Youth Group Fundraisers:

Babysitting for Valentines—2/16/2022 from 4:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at School Gym.

Lent Dinner—3/2/2022

Mystery Murder Dinner—3/25/2022

Our Youth Group is currently raising money for the National Youth Gathering being hosted in Houston, Tx. this July 9–13. 30,000 plus teenagers come together from all around the world at this gathering to worship and praise the Lord! This gathering is a blessing.

We have 10 Youth Group members/adults attending; Justin, Brett, Michael, Gracie, Mekah, Bailey, Lillianna, Amanda, Tom, and Rebecca.

Our goal is to raise \$6000 before next July.
Thank you for your help in getting us there!

St. John's Lutheran Youth Group



Grades 7 and up.
with Concordia University Wisconsin

Friday, 2/11/2022 starting at 7:00 p.m.
through 7:00 a.m. Saturday, 2/12/2022

@ St. John's Lutheran School

#

January

- Sa 01 Happy New Year!**
- M 03 GriefShare**
4:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
- Th 06 Heritage House Monthly Worship**
11:00 a.m., Heritage House
- M 10 Tivoli Monthly Worship**
10:00 a.m., Tivoli
Altar Guild
1:30 p.m., Christian Life Center
GriefShare
4:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
New Member Class
6:30 p.m., Christian Life Center
- Tu 11 Executive Committee**
6:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
- F 14 Cornerstone Submission Deadline**
12:00 p.m., churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com
Submission Guidelines can be found on our website, stjohnsportage.com/resources/the-cornerstone-submission-guidelines
- M 17 GriefShare**
4:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
New Member Class
6:30 p.m., Christian Life Center
- Tu 18 Women's Guild**
1:30 p.m., Christian Life Center
Board of Christian Education
6:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML)
6:30 p.m., All Purpose Room
- Th 20 SWD Circuit Meeting,**
9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
Columbia County Healthcare Monthly Worship
11:00 a.m. Columbia County Healthcare
Board of Trustees
6:00 p.m., All Purpose Room
- Sa 22 Private Baby Shower**
9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
- M 24 GriefShare**
4:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
New Member Class
6:30 p.m., Christian Life Center
- Tu 25 St. John's Child Development Center and School Open House**
4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., CDC and School
Board of Elders
6:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
- M 31 GriefShare**
4:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
New Member Class
6:30 p.m., Christian Life Center

February (proposed)

- Th 03 Heritage House Monthly Worship**
11:00 a.m., Heritage House
- M 07 GriefShare**
4:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
New Member Class
6:30 p.m., Christian Life Center
- Tu 08 Executive Committee**
6:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
- F 11 Youth Group Lock-in,**
Time: TBD, School Gym
Cornerstone Submission Deadline
12:00 p.m., churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com
Submission Guidelines can be found on our website, stjohnsportage.com/resources/the-cornerstone-submission-guidelines
- Sa 12 Youth Group Lock-in,**
Time: TBD, School Gym
- M 14 Tivoli Monthly Worship**
10:00 a.m., Tivoli
GriefShare
4:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
New Member Class
6:30 p.m., Christian Life Center
- Tu 15 Board of Christian Education**
6:00 p.m., Christian Life Center
- W 16 Youth Group babysitting,**
4:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m., School Gym
- Th 17 Columbia County Healthcare Monthly Worship**
11:00 a.m. Columbia County Healthcare
Board of Trustees
6:00 p.m., All Purpose Room
- M 21 Ministries offices closed**
- Tu 22 Board of Elders**
6:00 p.m., Christian Life Center

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.

New Member and Refresher Gathering
for Saint John's

Basic Bible Teachings – An Introduction to the Lutheran Faith

Monday evenings January 10 to February 14.
6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Are you interested in officially joining St. John's as a congregation member? Have you been a member of St. John's a while but never paid attention in confirmation classes in eighth grade? Maybe you paid attention but need a little refresher on what our church believes? Then this time together is for you!

In Basic Bible Teachings — An Introduction to the Lutheran Faith, you will learn such things as: What is grace? What do we know about heaven? How can I trust in God more than anything? How can I think about others more than myself? What is the law?

What's the gospel? Why should I go to church? Are Baptism and Communion really that important? And more.

Please consider joining us. In this short time together, you'll understand what Lutherans believe about our heavenly Father's love; our Savior's presence with us in the past, present, and future; and the Holy Spirit's power for daily living.

We ask that you register before classes begin. To register, please contact the church office at churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com or call (608) 742-9000 and press 4.

November Memorials and Offerings

Women's guild
\$20.00
In memory of
Marina Voight



Unified Fund	\$53,248.38	School Tuition Relief	\$355.00
Capital Improvements	\$1,355.00	Pennies for Preachers	\$0.00
Missions	\$135.00	Organ	\$0.00
Almoners Fund	\$70.00	Total Contributions	\$55,163.38
Orphanages	\$0.00		

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
850 Armstrong Street
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608) 742-9000
fax 742-7154
Rev. Greg Hovland,
Senior Pastor
(c) 608-571-3360
ghovland@stjohnsportage.com
Rev. Rod Armon,
Pastoral Care
rarmon@stjohnsportage.com
Jenni See,
Business Manager
jsee@stjohnsportage.com
Catharine Daily,
Ministries Coordinator—Church
cdaily@stjohnsportage.com

St. John's Lutheran School
A Nationally Accredited School
430 West Emmett
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608)742-9000
Jim Krupski,
Principal
jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com
Amanda Kohn,
Ministries Coordinator —School
akohn@stjohnsportage.com

School Hours:
M—F 7:30a–3:15p

St. John's Child Development Center
A Five-Star Rated Center
426 West Emmett
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608)742-9000
Debra Drew,
Director
ddrew@stjohnsportage.com
cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com
Center Office Hours: M—F / 7:00a–5:00p

St. John's Elder Directory
The elders listed below are available to talk and pray with you. Feel free to contact us wherever you are, with whatever you may be going through. We CARE and are here for you:
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Gene Thompson 697-4786
Mark Witt 697-0224
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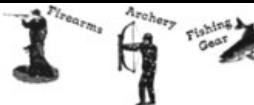
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