



The

# Voice

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

VOLUME 64, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2024

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### ***Palm Sunday, March 24***

Procession with Palms and Holy Communion  
8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

### ***Maundy Thursday, March 28***

Holy Communion  
12 noon and 6:30 p.m.  
(6:30 p.m. service will be livestreamed)  
and broadcast on KYMN 1080AM / 95.1 FM)

### ***Good Friday, March 29***

Liturgy of Good Friday  
12 noon and 6:30 p.m.  
(6:30 p.m. service will be livestreamed)  
and broadcast on KYMN 1080AM / 95.1 FM)

### ***Celebration of the Resurrection***

### ***Easter Sunday, March 31***

Holy Communion  
8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
(8:30 a.m. service will be livestreamed)  
and broadcast on KYMN 1080AM / 95.1 FM)  
Easter Breakfast from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

#### WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

#### LIVESTREAM

8:30 a.m.

[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org)

#### RADIO BROADCASTS

8:30 a.m. Sundays

KYMN Radio 1080AM/95.1FM

[kymnradio.net](http://kymnradio.net)

#### TV BROADCASTS

NTV Channel 187

7:30 p.m. Mon. / 7:00 p.m. Fri.

12:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. Tuesdays

2:00 p.m. Wednesdays

## Join Us for Worship!

### Worship Services

8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m., Sundays

### Livestream

8:30 a.m. Sundays  
[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org)



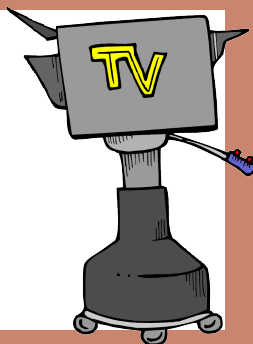
### Radio Broadcasts

8:30-9:30 a.m. Sundays  
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[kymnradio.net](http://kymnradio.net)



### TV Broadcasts

7:30 p.m. Mondays  
12:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. Tuesdays  
2:00 p.m. Wednesdays  
7:00 p.m. Fridays  
NTV Channel 187



[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### WELCOME STATEMENT

*St. John's Lutheran Church is a community grounded in the promise of God's grace and called to extend Christ's welcome to all people. Every day, Christ meets us all just as we are, extending love to people of every age, race or ethnicity, physical appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, marital or relationship status, economic circumstance, educational achievement, political affiliation, or religious background.*

*While we do not always agree, we choose to walk and grow in faith together, believing that God creates diversity, and loves and welcomes us.*

*We warmly welcome you here.*

### Blessing Box at St. John's

*"Take something if in need; leave something when blessed."*



The congregation of St. John's continues to support the "Blessing Box", a mission that started in the fall of 2017. It is similar to the Little Libraries found around town except the Blessing box is filled with donated non-perishable food and personal hygiene products. The idea is that anyone who may be struggling can use the goods to make ends meet. The community is welcome to donate to the box being mindful of Minnesota's temperature changes. Donation Ideas (please check expiration dates): canned goods, pasta, flour, sugar, coffee, crackers, soap, mittens, toothbrush, baby items, such as diapers and pacifiers. The box is located in the drive-up on the north side of St. John's.

## From Our Pastors

Dear friends in Christ,

The traditional disciplines of Lent – prayer, almsgiving and fasting – each have had their challenges in modern times. Fasting is especially out of fashion, at least as a spiritual practice. In a culture where individual achievement is prized over practicing our faith in community, fasting can become a sort of easy way to feel pious without the challenge of thinking about how our actions impact other people. And in a culture where our approach to food is swayed by distorted images of the perfect body, the call to fast can too easily lead people into an unhealthy relationship to food.

Of course, fasting is not necessarily about food. One can fast from all kinds of habits and attitudes. Many people assume that Lent is all about “giving up” something. The question is, does giving something up lead to growth and care for others, or to focus even more on yourself?

Personally, I’ve tried a variety of Lenten disciplines over the years. For the most part, disciplines focused on food have left me feeling more turned inward – and when the season is over I don’t feel any lasting change; instead, in recent years I’ve tried to find a practice for Lent that turns my attention to God and to others.

This Ash Wednesday I decided to try something new – I turned my phone screen to grayscale. This simple change serves a couple purposes: 1) Since I look at my phone many times during the day for practical reasons, I have a constant reminder that we are in Lent; and 2) the living color of the world is far more attractive than staring at my screen. (And, now that I’m sharing this with you, I am more likely to keep it up until Easter).

The makers of our smartphones and their applications know how my brain works, and there are powerful forces that want me to keep scrolling. By turning off the color, I have a little reminder that my attention is worth something, and that if I want to turn towards God and God’s purposes during this season, I might need to direct my attention differently.

As the commercials say, your mileage may vary. There probably isn’t one practice that helps everyone equally. But just for now, for these six weeks, I hope you’ll consider trying something new that will remind you of God’s incredible gift of love in Jesus Christ, who became human “for us, and for our salvation.”

Peace,  
*Pastor Pam*

## From Our Pastors



**Pastor Pam Fickenscher**



**Pastor Jonathan Davis**

## Prayer and Care Ministry

### Prayer Chain:

Prayer requests are welcome for any concern or thanksgiving. Requests are kept confidential and not included in Sunday morning prayers unless specifically requested. Contact Mary Cisar with a prayer request or to become a prayer chain volunteer: [macisar@gmail.com](mailto:macisar@gmail.com) or 507-663-1097.

### Grief Care Resource:

Care Notes are one of the grief support resources at St. John's. Stop by the Commons to pick one up for yourself or for a loved one.

### Grief Booklets:

"Journeying through Grief" is a resource for those grieving the loss of loved ones. Contact one of the pastors if you would like a copy or if you would like to give a copy to a friend or family member.



*The following St. John's members died in these months last year. We list them so that we can remember these loved ones and their families in prayer "with reverence and affection."*

March 3, 2023  
Gerhard Knutson

## Upcoming Grief Support Group Called "Facing the Mourning"

This is an interactive support group for friends and family - addressing all types of death and lengths of grieving. The group is designed to help with the grieving process by using visual and thought-provoking tools and examples. You will have weekly assignments to support the concepts introduced in each session and will receive a *Facing the Mourning* Participant Manual. The cost is \$20 for 4 weeks and includes the manual.

The group will be held at the Northfield Allina Health Clinic (1400 Jefferson Road) for four Mondays, beginning on March 18, from 4:00-5:30 p.m., in the Lower Level Education Room.

Registrations by March 11 to: Brenda Jirik at [Brenda.Jirik@Allina.com](mailto:Brenda.Jirik@Allina.com) or 507-977-2856.

## New Writing Group: "Inspired Pens"

Meets:

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Last Tuesday of the Month, September-May

Where:

St. John's Library

Participants:

Anyone interested in doing more writing as part of their faith journey.

Leadership:

Chris Engstrom and Barb Kuhlman

What to expect:

Quote of the Day to Set the Theme

A Short Reading to Discuss

Free Writing Exercise based on the reading followed by a writing exercise.

Sharing your writing experience as you desire, with respectful feedback.

St. John's Stephen Ministers have been trained to walk with those who are facing a challenge in life, whether it be of mind, body, or spirit.

If you know of someone who could benefit from a Stephen Minister, call one of the pastors (507-645-4429) or Jo Franklin (720-281-5107).



## Message from Pastor Pam

THANK YOU, people of St. John's for your gracious and generous recognition of my 10 year anniversary as your pastor in January. The prayers, the gifts, and the applause all made it a memorable morning. Will and I already enjoyed one of the gifts as we celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary that same week! I was filled up with gratitude and a sense of how blessed I am to serve this wonderful community of people.

Thank you,  
Pastor Pam

## St. John's Forum in March 9:45-10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

### March 17

#### *Ruth's House - Transitional Housing for Women and Families*



Ruth's House provides help and hope for women and families in crisis. Located in Faribault, Ruth's House has helped clients facing domestic violence, poverty, substance abuse disorder, health challenges or other issues. Join us as Susan Stout, Ruth's House Outreach Coordinator, tells us more about this ministry.

## Save the Date for a Special Forum Event *Finding Our Way: Jews and Christians Thinking through Scripture*

If you've ever left a Sunday forum wanting to learn more, mark your calendar and plan to attend this special event on Sunday, April 14. In the Sunday morning forum, Jonathan Zasloff and Anthony Bateza will explore virtue ethics through the lens of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and an early Jewish interpretation of the Torah called *Pirke Avot* (Sayings of the Fathers). What do these distinctive Christian and Jewish texts have in common? How do they differ? And what light does each shed on the moral life? After the 10:45 a.m. service, we'll continue our exploration over lunch and an extended afternoon session. Jonathan Zasloff is professor of law at the UCLA School of Law, and Anthony Bateza is associate professor of religion and department chair of race, ethnic, gender and sexuality studies at St. Olaf College. More details to follow.

## Life and Growth

### Radio Broadcasts in February

#### February 4, 2024

Given by friends of St. John's.

#### February 11, 2024

Given in memory of Karen Swenson  
by her family.

#### February 18, 2024

Given in memory of Rev. John Quam  
by David and Martha Brown.

#### February 25, 2024

Given by Rose Berthelsen  
in memory of Pastor Art Berthelsen.

If you would like to  
sponsor a broadcast (\$160),  
please contact the church office  
by phone at 507-645-4429 or email at  
[office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

## Children and Youth

### Important Dates for Children and Youth to Remember

#### Sunday School Schedule

March 3, 10 & 17

March 10: Toddler Time

No Sunday School March 24 & 31 - Spring Break

#### Wednesday After School Schedule

March 6, 13 & 20

No programming on March 27 - Spring Break

#### Kid's Night Out! Grades K-5

Friday, March 15

5:30-8:30 p.m.

(See Article)

#### Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30

9:30 a.m.

#### Prayer Buddy Get-Together

Wednesday, April 3

5:35 p.m., Fireside Room



### Toddler Time

Each month, children who are 2 years old (by 9/1/23) and our preschool Sunday school class, along with their parents, are invited to attend Toddler time.

Jenny Nystrom leads the children in song, games, crafts and story time. Toddler Time meets at 9:45 a.m. in Room 14.

Here is the schedule for the year:

March 10 and April 14

## It's Kids' Night Out at St. John's!

Games, pizza, along with more games, crafts, and a movie!

**When:** Friday, March 15

**Who:** K-5<sup>th</sup> graders

**Time:** 5:30-8:30 p.m.

**Where:** St. John's Church

**Admission:** A snack to share with the group.

**Friends are welcome!**

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Commons or across from the Nursery by Sunday, March 10. Email Julie if you have questions: [Children@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:Children@StJohnsNorthfield.org).



### Prayer Buddies Get-Together

Our after Easter Get-Together happens Wednesday, April 3, in the Fireside Room starting at 5:35 p.m. Dinner will be provided along with great conversations with your buddies! If you are unable to attend, please let Julie Brehmer at [Children@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:Children@StJohnsNorthfield.org) or 507-645-4429. Thank you!

#### Participating this year:

Madelynn Bennett with Prayer Buddy, Debra Ehret Miller  
Lauren Blumhoefer with Prayer Buddy, Arielle Loy  
Hayden Briskie with Prayer Buddy, Ted Peterson  
Jacob Brownlee with Prayer Buddy, Erik Holleque  
Charlotte Cox with Prayer Buddy, Jaida Gehring  
Frances Jackman with Prayer Buddy, Jennifer Welbaum  
Iris Pellinen with Prayer Buddy, Jennifer Paulson  
Madelynn Rudser with Prayer Buddy, Kristy Harms  
Hadassah Smith with Prayer Buddy, Kristin Partlo

### Coming This Summer! Camp Firelight! (VBS)

**When:** June 10-13, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

**Who:** Kids entering Kindergarten - Grade 3 (2024-2025 school year)

**Where:** St. John's Lutheran Church

**Cost:** \$15/Child, Max of \$30/Family

Watch for registration in April!



***Why do we do this?***  
***"To care for each other as we learn to  
live Christian lives together"***  
**Wednesday Night Programming**  
**Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m.**

**March**

**Middle School Confirmation and High School Youth Group**

(Grades 6-12)

Throughout Lent, like in the season of Advent, the middle school and high school youth will attend the Holden vespers services together and then gather again downstairs. Middle school will meet in the Fellowship Hall and high school will meet in the youth room to learn and share together and in small groups.

- March 6 6:10-7:30 p.m., meet in Fellowship Hall, attend Lenten Vespers, meet again downstairs.
- March 13 6:10-7:30 p.m., meet in Fellowship Hall, attend Lenten Vespers, meet again downstairs.
- March 20 6:10-7:30 p.m., meet in Fellowship Hall, attend Lenten Vespers, meet again downstairs.
- March 27 No programming (Holy Week and spring break)

**Sunday Morning Youth Group**  
**(Grades 6-12)**  
**9:45-10:30 a.m., Youth Room**

On Sunday mornings during the school year, all youth are invited to meet in the Youth Room at 9:45 a.m. for treats, highs and lows, and interactive faith discussion. Each week we get a little practice using our Bibles and practice telling our shared story as a community of God's children.

March 3, 10, 17 & 24 (No Youth Group on Easter Sunday, March 31)

**Mentor & Mentee Meetings**

Working one-on-one with youth is a meaningful experience that we take seriously. The first Sunday of each month is designated as a Mentor/Mentee Sunday. If necessary, mentoring pairs can make arrangements that fit their schedule.

**Mentor** **Mentee**

Service Project Events are also meant to put our faith into action and to enhance the Mentor/Mentee relationship. Opportunities for community events will be in the E-Voice, The Voice, and on the St. John's website.

Mentor/Mentee Sundays Coming Up: March 3 and April 7

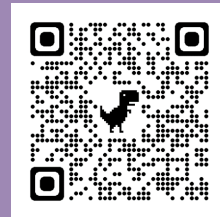
**Children and Youth**

**Summer Trip  
Registration**

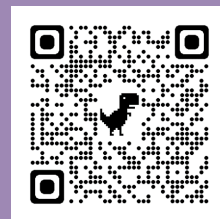
This summer's trip will be canoeing and camping at Amnicon. Four groups of eight youth and two chaperones will adventure up north July 7-12. Registration is now open!

Sign up and learn more about the trips at the following locations:

Middle School (and older) Flambeau River Ramble <https://amnicon.org/24JPFNFLAM/>



High School Whitewater Canoeing on the Brule <https://amnicon.org/24JPFNBRULE/>



**Northfield Week  
at Good Earth Village  
along with Bethel and  
St. Peter's Churches  
June 23-28**

Good Earth Village offers camps for grades 2-7 with 2 or 5 night options (depending on grade).

Use code NORTHFIELD24 for an additional \$100 off a full week or \$50 off a half week as a "campership" from St. John's.

Visit

<https://goodearthvillage.org/northfield>  
for details or contact Julie or Kristin with questions.



# the WOMEN'S page



## March Gatherings

### Baby Boomers

Saturday, Mar. 2, 4:30-6:00pm  
Pam G-G's home  
2112 Taylor Ct., Northfield

### Women's Breakfast Group

Saturday, Mar. 9, 9:00am  
St. John's Fireside Rm

### Elizabeth Circle

Thursday, Mar. 7, 1:30pm  
St. John's Library

### Lydia & Paul Circle

Wednesday, Mar. 13, 9:00am  
Coffee and Conversation  
10:00 Bible Study  
St John's Library

### Mary Circle

Friday, Mar. 8, 1:00pm  
St. John's Fireside Room

### Wellspring

(for 30-50 somethings)

Monday Mar. 11, 6:30-8:00pm  
St. John's Library

### Knitters (Prayer Shawls)

2nd & 4th Thursday  
10:00am St. John's Library

### Knitters (World Vision)

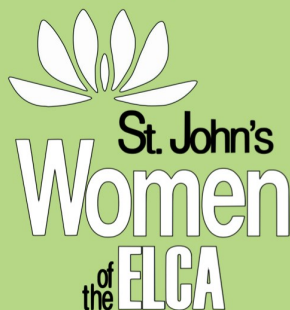
1st & 3rd Wednesday, 10am  
Kathy Vang's home  
414 Waterwheel Dr. Dundas

### Night Knitters!

1st & 3rd Wednesday  
6:00pm, St. John's Library

### Quilters & Bandage Rollers

Thursdays, 9:00am - noon,  
Fellowship Hall



## COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

March 7, 2024 7:00pm St. John's Hall

*Dive into the transformative story of Dr. Artika R. Tyner as she fights America's literacy crisis, one book at a time. Discover the passion and dedication that drives her mission to combat the literacy crisis in America through the power of literature. Join us in celebrating the impact of Dr. Tyner's work, where every page turned becomes a step toward a brighter, more literate future for all.*

*Dr. Tyner is a passionate educator, author, sought after speaker, and advocate for justice. At the University of St. Thomas, Dr. Tyner serves as the Associate Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion. She is committed to training students to serve as social engineers who create new inroads to justice and freedom.*

## COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

April 4, 7:00pm  
From Trauma to  
Triumph: Hope and  
Resilience - A Lakota  
Perspective



*Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy, of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and first Native woman to earn a Ph.D. in theology in the ELCA.*



**Thank you** to those who have saved hotel soaps, hair products, and other items to donate to Ruth's House in past years. We will no longer be accepting these items because the women and children who benefit from this wonderful organization are in need of other items. If you wish to continue to donate, please check Ruth's House website <https://RuthsHouseMN.org/> for the most current list of needs.



### St. John's Women of the ELCA



**Like us & Friend us on Facebook:** "Women of St. Johns"  
@ Kvinner St. Johns (Kvinner: Norwegian for "Women" 🇳🇴)

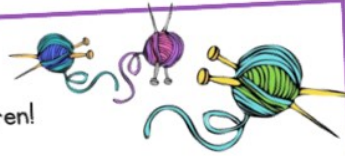
**Correspondence:** [women.stjohns500@gmail.com](mailto:women.stjohns500@gmail.com)

**Visit our web pages:** [www.stjohnsnorthfield.org/women](http://www.stjohnsnorthfield.org/women)



## A Message —

From: Stephanie Nestor <[snestor@worldvision.org](mailto:snestor@worldvision.org)>  
 Date: Wed, Jan 17, 2024 at 2:07 PM  
 Subject: Thank you for the items we received for the children!



Hello Knit for Kids Friend,

Thank you for the beautiful handmade items you have made for children in our country and around the world. We received your wonderful gift and appreciate all the love and effort that went in to making it.

Your items were received and entered into our database in December, 2023.

Since January, we have shipped your handmade items to Afghanistan, Burundi, Chicago Storehouse, Dallas Storehouse, Democratic Republic of Congo, Hartford Storehouse, Lesotho, Niger, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Swaziland and Zambia.



Thank you for supporting the Knit for Kids program! Blessings to you,  
 Knit for Kids c/o WORLD VISION

## World Vision® KNITforKIDS®

Knit for Kids has informed us they are currently in need of sweaters, scarves, hats, gloves/mittens and school-aged children's blankets knit, crochet or fleece (size 36 in. by 42 in.). Patterns and information may be found here: <https://www.knitforkids.org/>

**April 20, 2024,  
 9:00-Noon**

Help build kits and quilts for Lutheran World Relief, World Vision, and Global Health Mission.

The following items are needed for packing kits. Please donate prior to April 14th.

### COMBS:

wide toothed or pick only

### YARD GOODS:

cotton, cotton blends, flannel

### SHEETS & PILLOWCASES:

cotton, cotton blend, flannel,  
 no microfiber

### WHITE SHEETS:

No microfiber

### THREAD: (all colors)

### BABY SLEEPERS/GOWNS:

(no footies, can be two piece pajamas) 6-24 month

### T-SHIRTS:

6-24 month

### SWEATERS:

6-24 month

### FLANNEL RECEIVING BLANKETS



### HAND TOWELS

### WASH CLOTHS:

new

### PETROLEUM JELLY (Vaseline):

approx. 4 ounces

### KITCHEN GLOVES:

Heavy-duty kitchen gloves,  
 medium

### BATH TOWELS:

dark colors, about 52"

### TOOTHBRUSHES:

adult, individually wrapped in  
 original packaging

### SOAPS:

4-5 oz. Ivory, or Dove  
 unscented for sensitive skin,  
 in original packaging

### NAIL CLIPPERS: large, metal

### BAND AIDS



## SAVE THE DATE & REGISTER NOW!

Dr. Jacqueline Bussie is an award-winning author, professor, theologian, public speaker, and student of life in all its messy beauty. She is a much sought after speaker and workshop facilitator. Her most recent book *Love Without Limits* won three major international awards. Her previous book *Outlaw Christian* won the 2017 Gold Medal Illumination Award for Christian Living and received a coveted starred review from *Publishers Weekly*.

**May 11, 2024**

## WELCA'S CANNON RIVER SPRING CONFERENCE

Here at St. John's

9:00-Noon

Lunch included

Registration Fee \$15

## REGISTER TODAY!

forms are at the Women's bulletin board in the Commons



Thank you  
 Quilters!  
 Quilt Sunday  
 February 11, 2024





## News and Updates

### St. John's Lenten Soup Suppers

Let's get together for Dinner -  
Come, share a meal!

All are welcome, it's a fantastic time for  
fellowship for ALL ages!

Supper is served from 5:15-6:15 p.m.  
in St. John's Hall.

Free will offering appreciated!

**Wednesday, February 28**

White Chicken Chili  
Black Bean Soup

**Wednesday, March 6**

Sausage Bean Chowder  
Baked Potato Soup

**Wednesday, March 13**

Creamy Turkey Wild Rice Soup  
Rosemary Garlic White Bean Soup

**Wednesday, March 20**

Chicken Tortilla Soup  
Vegetable Barley Soup

**Wednesday, March 27**

No Meal - Spring Break



## Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 30

St. John's Annual Easter Egg Hunt is on Saturday, March 30, starting at 9:30 a.m. at St. John's. Families with kids 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger are welcome to hunt. Invite friends and neighbors too!

Can you help? We need individually wrapped candy to fill the eggs. A donation basket will be in the upper and lower Commons starting Wednesday, February 21. Thanks so much!



## Easter Breakfast Easter Sunday, March 31 9:00-11:00 a.m. in St. John's Hall

Please join us for the Youth fundraiser Easter breakfast. Youth will be serving a breakfast of veggie, meat, gluten-free egg bakes, muffins, and fruit, orange juice, milk, and coffee.

The proceeds from this breakfast will help decrease the cost of this year's summer trips

The suggested donation is \$5/Individual and \$25/family.



The Easter Breakfast is one way we celebrate Easter together as a congregation and welcome those who visit St. John's on Easter.



## LENTEN WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: IMAGES OF GOD

"Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.' " —Genesis 1:26

In the creation story, we hear what some have called the *original blessing* - that we are made in the image of God. But what does it mean to be made in the image of God, especially when the Bible has so many different images of God? In the back of our purple hymnal *All Creation Sings* there is robust list of one hundred different images of God found in scripture.

Among these many images used in Scripture to describe God - parent, lawgiver, dove, monster-slayer, midwife, vine-grower, bear - which ones most help you know that you are God's beloved, created in God's image, in *imago Dei*? How might different images of God help others know that they, too, are included in this love?

This year, five St. John's members (both new and long-time members) have been invited to pick an image of God from scripture to reflect on and connect to their story of faith.

Lenten Vespers—taken from the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy - will take place each Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. through March 20.

- March 6: Green Bouzard120
- March 13: Dan Dimick
- March 20: Maggie Odell

## Gathering of Thanksgiving and Blessing for Benson & Langehough Funeral Home

Since 1955, the building known to most of us as *Benson & Langehough Funeral Home* has been a place of deep care for those who have died and their families who grieve. With the recent transition to *Bierman, Benson, & Langehough Funeral Home*, this building has been sold and will be used for a different purpose in the Northfield community. In light of this, the Northfield community is invited to gather on Thursday, March 14, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. to give thanks for the place of care this building has been for so many. A short program will begin at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome.

## News and Updates

### Easter Garden Orders for 2024

If you would like to order an Easter lily in memory or honor of a loved one or in celebration of Easter, please contact Leah Garlie at [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

The cost is \$25 and please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church.

The flowers may be taken home after the last service Easter morning.



### Coffee Sales

Fair trade sales of coffee and more during will be on the following Sunday:  
March 3

If you need items other times during the month please contact Dawn Tommerdahl at [dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com](mailto:dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com) or 701-238-5038.





# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY EVENTS



## Sunday School Valentine's Party!



## Bowling Fun for Grades 2-5!





## Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign

The Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC) Minnesota FoodShare Campaign gets underway on February 26 and continues through April 6. The FoodShare began its work in 1982 with a campaign advanced by congregations to restock food shelves in the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area. Because the effort was so successful and the need so great, the March campaign became a state-wide program and now is in its 43<sup>rd</sup> year.



As the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign brings together various faith communities, businesses and community organizations, to help stock nearly 300 food shelves across the state.

Minnesota FoodShare envisions a future where all Minnesotans have access to healthy food and no one struggles with food insecurity. The campaign directly addresses these issues. You are invited to join its efforts and advocate for long-term solutions to food insecurity. You may use the St. John's special offering envelope for the CAC Food Shelf. Please write your check to St. John's and indicate CAC Food Shelf on the memo line. You can also give online through the St. John's website at <https://StJohnsNorthfield.org/>

Thank you for being God's hands to reach out to our neighbors in need.

### Reminder of Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements:

Wednesday by 2:00 p.m.

The Voice (April 2024 Edition):

March 15

Please send submissions electronically via email to Leah Garlie at [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org) or the [Announcement Request Form](#) found on our website.

## News and Updates

### It's Easy! Direct a Gift to St. John's!

If you are an eligible member of Thrivent Financial, don't forget to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars.®

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program is directed to our ministry among youth and to the Women of St. John's Lutheran Church.

**Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until March 31, 2024, to direct any remaining 2023 Choice Dollars.**

But St. John's Lutheran Church needs your support now - this year.

Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Don't let Choice Dollars expire.

(Note: Eligibility is based upon premiums and contract values - not all members of Thrivent are eligible).



**THRIVENT  
FINANCIAL®**

*Connecting faith & finances for good.*

## News and Updates

### Pub Theology in March

What is Pub Theology?

It is weekly conversation around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. No fancy theological or biblical knowledge needed in order to participate. Just bring your questions, thoughts, and experiences.

We will meet on Monday,  
March 18  
from 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
at The Contented Cow.

The topics vary and will be published ahead of time on Facebook, in the E-Voice, and an email list.

Contact Pastor Jonathan  
([jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org))  
to add your name to the email list.



## Conference on Worship, Theology, and the Arts at St. Olaf College

The Lutheran Center for Faith, Values & Community and the Nourishing Vocation Projects at St. Olaf College would like to invite you to this year's Conference on Worship, Theology, and the Arts from Monday, July 29 through Wednesday, July 31, St. Olaf College.

This year the conference will combine signature CWTA musical experiences with innovative and imaginative work being done by both the Nourishing Vocation Project and Nourishing Vocation with Children, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Char Rachuy Cox.

What to expect:

- Inspiring worship ~ A pick-up choir under the direction of Dr. Anton Armstrong.
- Networking
- Music Reading Sessions
- Arts Encounters
- Daily plenaries
- Theology-in practice through child-attentive, arts-enriched, user-ready ministry ideas for you to take home and implement.
- Nourishing conversations

You can look forward to all this and so much more! St. Olaf College looks forward to welcoming all participants to The Hill and hopes you will mark your calendar for CWTA 2024. Registration can be found at our website, <https://wp.stolaf.edu/cwta/>, starting January 16.

### Sunday Hospitality

Who doesn't enjoy having a treat while visiting with friends, fellow church members, and guests?

If you can share a dozen or so treats, or would like to help with the serving or clean-up on any particular Sunday, you can either sign-up in CCB (a direct sign-up link can be found in the weekly E-Voice) or contact Angie Gehring at [sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

It's a fun way to help foster connections among people and provide a welcoming atmosphere!



# J-TERM 2024 FUN



St. John's Youth have been working on creating a community covenant to clarify how we care for each other as we learn to live Christian lives together.



## News and Updates

### Senior Pastor

Pam Fickenscher

[pfickenscher@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:pfickenscher@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### Associate Pastor

Jonathan Davis

[jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### Director of Children's Ministry

Julie Brehmer

[children@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:children@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### Director of Ministry with Youth & Families

Kristin Partlo

[youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### Facility Manager

Steve Harner

[facility@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:facility@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### Music Ministry

Nathan Proctor

[music@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:music@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### Music Staff

Green Bouzard - Jubilate Choir

[jubilatechoir@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:jubilatechoir@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

Arielle Loy - Children's Music Director and Early Childhood Specialist

[arielleloy@gmail.com](mailto:arielleloy@gmail.com)

David Sims and Will Fecko - Directors of Rejoice Ringers

### Office Manager / Finance Manager

Leah H. Garlie

[office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### Parish Nurse

Sally Lindell

[parishnurse@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:parishnurse@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### Shared Ministry Coordinator

Angie Gehring

[sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

### Congregation President

Dan Franklin

[d47franklin@gmail.com](mailto:d47franklin@gmail.com)





**St. John's**  
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[office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

**WEBSITE**

[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org)

**OFFICE HOURS**

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-Th

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Fri

# **Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

## **Saturday, March 30, 9:30 a.m.**

### **St. John's Lutheran Church**



For children grade 5 and  
younger and  
accompanied by a parent.  
Bring your Easter basket.  
Donations of candy is  
appreciated!