



The Voice

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

VOLUME 66, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2026

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Habitat for Humanity House Tour - June 14

St. John's is invited to tour the Habitat for Humanity home at 315 Poplar St. S. at 11:00 a.m., following worship and coffee hour. This home is located just 1 block from the church. We'll walk over as a group! Jodi Wagner, the Rice County Community Engagement Coordinator, will lead us through the property and answer any questions.

St. John's committed \$20,000 from the Sustaining Grace Appeal to this project and the St. John's Foundation has generously gifted a total of \$50,000. Other members of our church have donated their time by helping on a few occasions with painting, providing lunch for the volunteers, and mowing the lawn. Habitat has now found a family who can move in when it is finished!

Plans for the outside of the house include a new roof, new siding, new garage door, a newly paved driveway and walkway to front door, and new landscaping.

And, coming in July: St. John's Habitat for Humanity Build Saturday! This date is still to be determined, but watch for updates and details in future E-Voices, Sunday bulletins, and the July Voice.

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sundays
9:30 a.m.

RADIO BROADCASTS
9:30 a.m. *Sundays*
KYMN Radio 1080AM/95.1FM
kymnradio.net

LIVESTREAM
Sundays
9:30 a.m.
www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Join Us for Worship!

Summer Worship Services

9:30 a.m. Sundays

Livestream

9:30 a.m. Sundays
www.StJohnsNorthfield.org



Radio Broadcasts

9:30 a.m. Sunday
KYMN Radio 1080 AM / 95.1 FM
kymnradio.net



Video

St. John's YouTube Channel
www.youtube.com/@StJohnsNorthfield



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 only constant is change – so it has been said.

I have been thinking a lot about change this season as a number of things will be changing at St. John's this summer. There are the simple and little things that will change: we move to one worship service at 9:30 a.m., the St. John's Chorale and Rejoice Ringers take a break for the summer making room for new combinations of music and musicians, and our regular rhythms of the program year slow down and take a pause.

And then there are the bigger changes. Kristin Partlo, our Director of Ministry with Youth & Families, will be leaving at the end of July as she prepares for pastoral internship in Red Wing. She has been such a wonderful addition to our staff these past three years. We are so excited for this next step for her and know that we will miss her ministry around here. Then Pastor Pam goes on sabbatical from late July until mid-October – which is an amazing opportunity and well-deserved! In addition to this, we will be welcoming Pastor Katie Fick to help fill in during Pastor Pam's absence, and we will be welcoming in a new staff person as our next Director of Ministry with Youth & Families.

That is a lot of change in a short amount of time, which will certainly come with joys and sorrows, excitement for what is ahead, and gratitude for what has been.

Is there wanted or un-wanted change happening in your life right now? Or do you long to make a change in your life? For a variety of reasons, I have been working on a number of little shifts in my day-to-day living – taking time for silence and reading each morning and making sure I spend some time unplugged and in the garden each evening. It is amazing to me what a big difference small changes can have on my mood and my connection to God and to others. It is not easy, however. There are days when I don't make the change and I am reminded of why I needed the change in the first place.

Seasons of change are what our St. John's member Bill Carlson calls an "unfrozen moment." He has taught me that these moments of change thaw us out of our rhythm and ruts, and it gives us a great opportunity to shift and alter parts of our life or our organization or our family habits before things "freeze" back into place again.

I want to invite us all into this unfrozen moment. Think about how you want to step into this season a little differently than you might normally. What is calling out in your life for a little attention? Are there ways you can make room for some small but needed changes? When I see new people at St. John's, I am mindful that I am encountering someone who is quite likely making a change in their life – either looking for a new church or exploring church for the very first time. As a congregation, how we notice and welcome and engage with new people can help and encourage those who are doing the hard work of change in their life. Be sure to keep your eyes and your heart open to new faces this summer.

Continued on page 5

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 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 or 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 last year in this month.

June 3, 2025
Jack Schwandt

June 16, 2025
Scott Quinnell

We list them so that we can remember these loved ones and their families in prayer "with reverence and affection."

What to Say (And Not Say) When Someone is Hurting

by Gracie Koester

A few weeks ago, Professor Rolf Jacobson, from Luther Seminary and former St. John's member, came to speak on his new book *God Meets Us in Our Suffering*. In his presentation, he gave us some really practical advice on how to respond when someone close to you is suffering. I, for one, really needed to be reminded of this guidance. We've all wanted to show up for someone in a hard moment and felt stuck on what to say. Rolf Jacobson came to St. John's with an honest, human take on showing up for the "tough stuff" in life.

The point isn't saying the right thing — it's showing up with caring, sensitivity, and courage. He also made the case for humor, which we often forget is allowed (and welcomed) in hard moments.

But "not knowing what to say" can slow many of us down, or make us want to avoid the situation — and the person — entirely. Sadly, avoidance can be read as "they don't care," when the whole hesitation stems from caring so much that the worry of not doing it right holds us back.

As we step into the uncomfortable alongside someone going through hardship, a quote I saw on a doula client's fridge stands out to me. This person had previously lost a baby, and the note in their kitchen read: "Asking about my baby might make me cry. Not asking will break my heart."

So...ask. Show up. Decrease the loneliness that so often compounds hard situations. And here's Rolf's guidance on what to say (and skip):

What Not to Say (because they're 1/2 true)

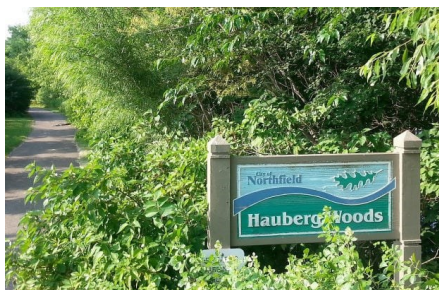
- Everything happens for a reason.
- When God closes a door, God opens a window.
- Whatever doesn't kill me makes me stronger.
- God has a plan for everything.
- Every cloud has a silver lining.

What to Say (Point to Christ; Serve Christ)

- [nothing] and just be there
- Peace be with you....
- This is awful. (This really stinks.)
- I love you.
- I brought you some Cheetos. I brought a game to play.
- Eventually: I believe God is in this somewhere.

Please Join Us on a Mindful Walk

The Faith & Health Board is pleased to invite the congregation and friends to a mindful walk at Hauberg Woods in Northfield. This gentle



walk, approximately one mile in length, will focus on being present in the moment and observing the natural world, and will provide an opportunity for quiet contemplation in the spirit of community. Comfortable clothing and sturdy footwear recommended, as this is an unpaved path.

Date: Thursday, June 4, from 7:00-8:15 p.m.

Rain date: Friday, June 5 (same time)

Please register by June 1 on CCB or on the sign-up sheet in the Commons. If you have any questions, you may contact Faith & Health Board member Debra Miller at debra.ehret@gmail.com.

This date doesn't work for you? No worries! If there is sufficient interest in this event, the Faith & Health Board will schedule another mindful walk in the late summer or fall.

St. John's Forum: ISAIAH MN Moving Forward and the OBBBA

Many St. John's members attended and were inspired by the ISAIAH Palm Sunday worship event at the Capitol. At the forum, the St. John's leadership group will give an update on ISAIAH and how Northfield congregations are working together and with other organizations to further address issues of economic justice, food insecurity, healthcare, housing needs, and climate in our community, state, and country. We will also present information about key impacts the OBBBA (One Big Beautiful Bill Act) will have on these issues now and over the next 10 years. This will be an opportunity to learn and to hear about ways to become involved in helping to create change for the betterment of all.

Join us on Sunday, June 7, in St. John's Hall after the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

From Our Pastors

Continued from page 3

Change is all around us and we are not alone in it. God – whose love and careful attention to us never changes – is with us. Know that the Holy Spirit is always at work, especially when change is in the air. Let's take a deep breath and step into this wind together, trusting in the grace and love of God that will accompany us through.

With joy and love,
Pastor Jonathan

Life and Growth

Baptisms

May 3, 2026

Erik Victor Hahn

Son of Amy and David Hahn

May 10, 2026

Russell Johnson

Son of Tara Bjorkstrand and Elliott Johnson



Radio Broadcasts

May 3, 2026

Given in memory of
Iva Dodson and Dick Kleber
by the Elizabeth Circle.

May 10, 2026

Given by Cindy Clauson.

May 17, 2026

Given by Tony Becker and Beckie Judge.

May 24, 2026

Given in memory of Duane Benson
by Marie Benson and family.

May 31, 2026

Given in honor of Vanessa Loe's
bridal shower today and upcoming wedding
by Deb and Jim Loe.

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.

Children and Youth

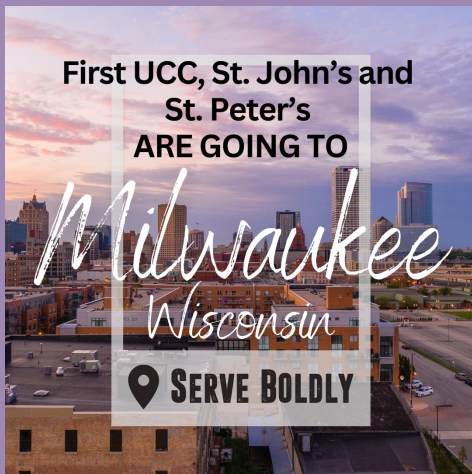
Milwaukee Service Trip

This June 21-26, twenty youth and four chaperones from St. John's, First UCC, and St. Peter's will travel to Milwaukee to volunteer with Serve Boldly, an organization that organizes service/mission trips for youth around the country.

Participants will work Monday through Thursday in various capacities with up to four different partner organizations.

Along the way, they'll worship and play together, deepen relationships, explore their faith, and learn about this culturally rich midwestern city. Economic hardship is an intense reality in Milwaukee, which ranks second in poverty among the top 50 most populous cities in the United States. Just over one quarter of the population lived in poverty in 2020. Youth and chaperones will learn about the efforts of local organizations to aid and accompany their neighbors.

Please keep these St. John's folks in your prayers as they travel:
Charlotte Cox, Elliot Davis, Frances Jackman, Hadassah Smith, Izzy Rudser, Jacob Mandsager, Jonah Brownlee, Jude Hassanally, Lucy Younger, Maddy Rudser, Marin McBroom, Micah Hassanally, Noah Mandsager, Owen Brownlee, and Rosie Cook; chaperones: Amy Randall, Chelsey Hinricksen, Jonathan Davis, and Terrence Hassanally.



Good Earth Village Brings the Fun of Summer Camp to Northfield!

When: August 3-6, 8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Who: Kids completing grades K-5

Where: Bethel Lutheran Church

Cost: \$70 / camper (scholarships available)



Want to give your kids a faith-filled camp experience – without leaving Northfield? Good Earth Village Day Camp brings the energy, joy, and spiritual impact of summer camp to us!

GEV summer staff lead a week of songs, Bible study, worship, crafts, games, and connection—all designed to help children grow in faith, friendship, and love for the church. We are teaming up with Bethel, St. Peter's, and United Methodist Churches.

Register online at: <https://goodearthvillage.org/bethel-northfield/>

Summer Camp for PreK too! Snowball Mountain Challenge! (VBS)

Who: For kids age 3 by 9/1/26 – age 5

When: August 3-6, 9:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.

Where: St. John's Lutheran Church

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

(Please let Julie know if you need help with the cost.)



Hosted by St. John's, Bethel, and St. Peter's Lutheran Churches and United Methodist Church.

- **We need volunteers Crew Leaders** – lead a small group of children to various stations
- **Station Assistants** – stations include music, crafts, games, Bible storytelling, science
- **Decorating and Prep** – prior to VBS
- **Nursery Care for VBS**

Scan to QR Code to Register



Scan Me

Youth are welcome to help too!

If you are interested, please contact

Julie Brehmer, children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Good Earth Village Summer Camp

This summer, children from St. John's are attending summer camp at Good Earth Village in Spring Valley, MN. They are Claire Gallagher, Caleb Hassanally, Anders Loy, Isaac Loy, Zemirah Smith, and Jameson Taubel. We are thankful they have the opportunity to experience the joy and adventures of summer camp along with memories that come with it. If you have not signed up and would like to attend please let me know. I'll check if there is still open spots!



Registration for 2026-2027

Registration is officially open for St. John's youth programming next year, 2026-2027. Get signed up now so you don't need to worry about it in August.



SCAN ME

Check out St. John's website at: stjohnsnorthfield.org/congregational-life/. Click on "Children" or "Youth" to find out more about the programs available. Register by using this QR code or click on "Register" on our website.

Youth Can Help at the CAC Food Shelf Tuesdays, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Summer is a great time to volunteer. Sign up for a shift or two this summer with a friend or two, a parent, or on your own. Up to three people can sign up each Tuesday. If you have never worked at the food shelf, this is a great way to learn what it's like. Those of us who have volunteered the last two years have had a lot of fun helping our Northfield neighbors in a crucial service.



Scan Me

Scan the QR Code to sign up.



It's Been a Great School Year!

Thank you, parents. We are so grateful for your support of our children's programs at St. John's and for volunteering to lend a hand. It means so much!

Thank You to Our Fantastic Sunday School Volunteers

Brian Evenson, Elizabeth Evenson,
Kristy Harms, Arielle Loy, Amy McBroom,
Will McLaughlin, Jenny Nystrom,
Jennifer Paulson, and Emily Westerback

Children and Youth

Summer Movie Night

Kids are invited to Movie Night on **Thursday, June 18.**

When:
6:30 p.m.

Where:
St. John's Theater, 2nd floor

Movie:
"How to Train Your Dragon"

Bring a treat to share per family!
Popcorn will be provided.

Parents are welcome to join us, especially if your child is PreK.



the WOMEN'S page

June 2026



Crafting Event

June 12 and June 19 5-7 pm

Pam Groves-Gaggioli's home: 2112 Taylor Ct.

Join us as we get a head start making Christmas cards and ornaments for next year. All supplies, food & drink will be provided. **RSVP required at least 5 days in advance** and seating is limited. ladylynneg@gmail.com



Global Health Ministries

ST. JOHN'S WOMEN TO TAKE PART IN GLOBAL HEALTH'S 2026-2027 GOAL

Global Health Ministries has a goal of 20,000 Newborn Kits for this coming year, up from 15,000 last year and 10,000 the year before. They have offered to buy and send supplies to St. John's if we will assemble them. We said, "YES!" Watch upcoming Women's Pages for date and details.



Web pages: www.stjohnsnorthfield.org/women

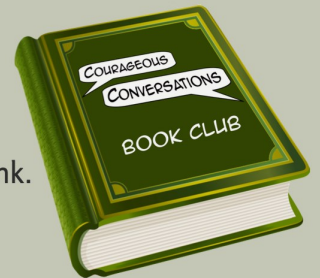
Contact: women.stjohns500@gmail.com



Like us & Friend us on Facebook:
"Women of St. Johns" @ Kvinner St. Johns

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS BOOK CLUB is reading "Nonviolent: A Memoir of Resistance, Agitation, and Love," by Reverend John Lawson, Jr., who was a leader in the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. Lawson worked alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and remained active in Civil Rights work throughout his life. It was written by Rev. James Lawson, Jr. (before he died) and Emily Yellin. The book is available at Content Bookstore.

The group meets via Zoom.
Thursdays 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Dates: June 4 & 18, July 2, 16 & 30.
Contact Dawn Tommerdahl for the link.
dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com



BESIDES MAKING THINGS...

St. John's women support ministries around the world. The following is a list of just some of the organizations to which we have donated in the past five months. Partnering with St. John's Women



pushpay

and global missions, you can be instruments of change in the world. Please consider supporting these ministries by setting up regular donations through PayPal, or St. John's PushPay.



PayPal

WELCA DONATIONS January 1 through May 4, 2026

Katie's Fund (world leadership for women)	\$ 100.00
International Student Scholarship Fund	\$ 200.00
Thankoffering - Nat'l WELCA	\$ 445.00
S.A.L.T. Nat'l WELCA missions	\$ 278.61
Bright Stars of Bethlehem	\$ 100.00
Lutheran Mideast Development	\$ 100.00
Lutheran Center UW Winona	\$ 100.00
Northfielders for Justice-Palestine/Israel	\$ 100.00
Synod contribution	\$ 317.68
Spring Conference Assembly	\$ 100.00
TOTAL	\$ 1,841.29

Women of the ELCA small groups at St. John's knit us together in faith and our love for one another. All are open to women within (and outside) our congregation. There is no limit to the number of people within a circle and no limit on the number of circles. We even consider our quilters and knitters as part of the small group system within our congregation. We welcome everyone.

Women's Breakfast Group



The Women's Breakfast Group meets from 9 - 10:30 a.m. on the 3rd Saturday of the month in the church Fireside room. We visit over coffee and light breakfast treats, and then do the Bible study for the month in the WELCA Gather magazine. We enjoy our time together as we visit and share our journey in faith.

Wellspring
Wellspring Circle is for St. John's women Gen-X and younger. We are an easy-going group of about six, and others drop-in as they are able. There is no expectation for regular participation, and no prep is needed to attend any of our meetings.

We share the leadership role, discussing a topic from the Gather magazine, Bold Cafe or similar ELCA blog each month. The schedule of our evening meetings can be found on the St. John's calendar.



Lydia & Paul Circle



Lydia and Paul Circle meets on the second Wednesday of each month at St. John's. We meet at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and fellowship and then our study, from the Gather magazine, is lead by Rev. Grant Aaseng. Several years ago Lydia Circle decided to include men at our monthly gatherings so the name was changed to Lydia and Paul Circle. We meet September through May with our December and May meeting being followed by a potluck lunch.

Mary Circle



The members of Mary Circle come together each month to read and discuss the Bible study published in the WELCA Gather magazine. As friends we share thoughts, questions, life experiences, and whatever wisdom we have gained through years of living as God's people in this world. Informal refreshments provide a time to share personal news and support one another. We meet each month from September to May, with a festive holiday gathering in December.

Boomers (Ya, so, Julie forgot to take a photo last time,



use your imagination.)

Women of the boomer generation meet on the first Saturday of the month, from 4:30 - 6:00 taking turns hosting and leading discussions of timely topics from Gather magazine and how our faith is engaged in our lives. Usually wine and hors d'oeuvres are involved.



News and Updates

St. John's Seraphs Summer Softball Team

Join the fun! Come cheer our team on!

Here is the upcoming schedule:

Sunday, June 7

7:10 p.m., Sechler 1
St. John's vs. Canvas

Sunday, June 14

8:20 p.m., Babcock
St. John's vs. Hosanna

Sunday, June 21

7:10 p.m., Sechler 1
St. John's vs. River Valley
8:20 p.m., Sechler 1
St. John's vs. Cornerstone

Sunday, June 28

8:20 p.m., Babcock
St. John's vs. St. Dominic White

Sunday, July 5

No Game

Sunday, July 12

6:00 p.m., Sechler 1
St. John's vs. Emmaus

Sunday, July 19

6:00 p.m., Babcock
St. John's vs. Life 21

Sunday, July 26

6:00 p.m., Sechler 1
St. John's vs. Northfield Community Church

Sunday, August 2

7:10 p.m., Sechler 1
St. John's vs. The River

Sunday, August 9

Make Up Week or Just for Fun Tournament
**If this is a makeup week,
the Just for Fun Tournament moves
to Sunday, August 16.

You are Invited to Sunday Fun Day July 19, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Oddfellows Park

All ages gathering for fellowship, food, and fun.

- 3:00 p.m.: Games/Activities (water balloons, frisbees, corn hole, etc.!))
- 4:00 p.m.: Song and Supper



Menu provided:

- BBQ: Hamburgers, Hot dogs, Vegetarian option
- Beverage: Lemonade, Water
- Cookies & Bars

This event is joyfully sponsored by the Adult Ministry & Education Board and the Children's Ministry & Education Board.

Hope to see you and St. John's friends of all ages there!

Summer Choir Invitation

This summer you are invited to two summer choir opportunities. Come join your friends or try out the choir for the first time. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the choir room to rehearse and then sing for the 9:30 a.m. service. Anyone is welcome to participate! You don't have to be in the St. John's Chorale to join us.



Summer Choir
Join us!

- Sunday, July 19
- Sunday, August 23

Questions? Contact Nathan Proctor at music@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Summer Ushers

Having ushers is so important to our worship at St. John's! There are many ways one can serve their church community, and this is one of those ways in which help is now needed, as a few of our ushers are absent for the summer months. Please consider if you can help usher a couple of times this summer for our 9:30 a.m. worship. You will be with others who are experienced who will guide you. It isn't difficult, and will be greatly appreciated.

What Exactly Do Ushers Do? These important, yet easy tasks: lighting and distinguishing candles in the Sanctuary, ringing the big bell 5 minutes before worship begins, passing out bulletins as people arrive, assisting those who need help finding a seat, counting people in the Sanctuary for the attendance sheet, passing the collection plate during the offering, dismissing people from the pews for communion, tidying up the pews after worship.

Contact Angie at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org if you are interested. Thank you!

Note to the Congregation about Pastor Pam's Sabbatical

Pastor Pam will be taking a well-deserved sabbatical from July 24 to October 18. St. John's Sabbatical Policy offers pastors up to 12 weeks for every five years of service. The church council approved her sabbatical plan in January of 2025. She will share her plans for the sabbatical in the "From Our Pastor's" column of the July Voice.

We will miss Pastor Pam and pray that she will have an inspiring sabbatical with opportunities to learn, grow, reflect, and rejuvenate. Pastor Katie Fick will be a part-time bridge pastor in her absence providing support in pastoral care and preaching.

Paul Beck
St. John's Council President

Pastor Katie Fick will be Serving as St. John's Bridge Pastor during Pastor Fickenscher's Sabbatical from July 25-October 18

Pastor Katie will be preaching, providing pastoral care, and offering program support as needed during these weeks, while continuing her therapy practice.



Katie Fick was ordained in the ELCA in 2010. She has served at Hayward and Trondhjem Lutheran Churches as a solo pastor, and at St. Olaf College as Associate College Pastor. She currently lives in Northfield, MN with her husband Norbert, and works as a Licensed Associate Marriage and Family Therapist while also engaging in part-time ministry work.

Katie loves worship, music, and congregational community building, and enjoys hiking, reading, traveling, and hearing people's stories.

Director of Ministry with Youth & Families Update

We are excited to share that an offer has been accepted for our new Director of Ministry with Youth & Families. Stayed tuned for an announcement in early June introducing our new staff person, who will begin at St. John's in mid-July.

Many, many thanks to our visioning and hiring team: Eden Kaiser, Peter Becker Nelson, Alysa Toov, and Suzy Taggart. Charlotte Cox, Micah Hassanally, and August Randall also helped with the search process. This was a commitment of time and energy, and we are so grateful for your support of this ministry at St. John's!

News and Updates

Pub Theology in June

What is Pub Theology?

It is a 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 meet on
Mondays, June 15 and 29,
from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
at Flaherty's Northfield Lanes.

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

If you'd like to be added to the Pub Theology email list, contact Pastor Jonathan at jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org



News and Updates

Northfield Noontime Organ Recitals

Northfield Noontime Organ Recitals opens their nineteenth season this summer.

Recitals are held during the Wednesday noon hour from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. with the following schedule:

Wednesday, June 24

Catherine Rodland
Boe Memorial Chapel, St. Olaf College

Wednesday, July 8

Nathan Proctor
St. John's Lutheran Church

Wednesday, July 15

Students of the Lutheran
Summer Music Academy
Christiansen Music Hall, Studio A.
St. Olaf College

Wednesday, July 22

Noah Klein
First United Church of Christ
300 Union St.

Wednesday, July 29

Richard Collman
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
418 E. Sumner St.

Wednesday, August 5

Megan Engel
Bethel Lutheran Church
1321 North Ave.

Wednesday, August 12

Stephen May
Skinner Memorial Chapel, Carleton College

Some recitals will include a free-will offering to defray publicity expenses.

For more information, contact Richard Collman at 507-645-1357 or email rcollman@msn.com

St. John's Music Interns for 2025-2026

The music internship program at St. John's began in 2013 with an idea to have paid singers from St. Olaf College sing with the St. John's Chorale. The hope was that these singers could contribute to the music making of the choir, but the choir itself could offer hands-on vocational training to these future music educators, church musicians, and soloists. The program has been steadily continuing each year. In the 2025-26 season we had five interns with the Chorale and one with our handbell choir, Rejoice Ringers.

While most of their work happens behind the scenes in our weekly rehearsals or in the balcony on Sunday mornings, this program has truly been life-giving to the music at St. John's. It's exciting to see these students become a part of our choir family each year. In addition to adding their voices to the Chorale, they can also experience conducting, accompanying hymns and anthems, and singing solos. Our congregation has strong ties with the music at St. Olaf (going way back to the days when F. Melius Christiansen was organist), and my hope is that this program allows us to continue that relationship.

I welcome your gifts to support this program and these students. Funding began through the Alice Hanson Education Fund, named for Dr. Alice Hanson who was a distinguished professor of music at St. Olaf as well as a devoted member of the Chorale. She embodied the connection between St. John's and St. Olaf, and her estate provided the initial funding for this ministry. More recently, Dr. John Ferguson provided funds in memory of John and Ruth Ferguson, whose vocations as church musicians at St. Olaf and St. John's enriched countless lives. I am grateful for your gifts and all the ways you support these students, both here at church and in their lives and events at St. Olaf.

Music Interns for the 2025-2026 season were:

Katie Nail, soprano
Audrey Jensen, alto
Ian Carter, tenor
Nathan Goettsch, bass
Robbie Shaw, bass
Heather Wallace, handbells

With thanksgiving,

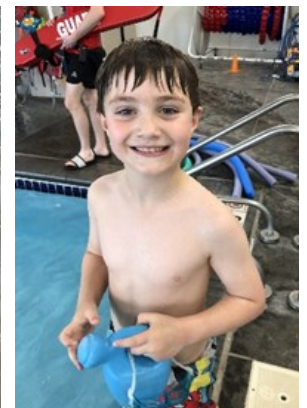
Nathan Proctor
Director of Worship, Music & Arts



News and Updates

Wednesday after school kids had a great time at the YMCA for our *End of the Year Celebration!*

Thank you to our wonderful Wednesday crew:
Pastors Pam and Jonathan, Kristin, Arielle, Nathan, David, and our middle school helpers, Jonah Brownlee, Elliot Davis, Iris Pellinen, Liv Nelson, and Charlotte Cox plus our Bus Angels, Terrence Hassanally, Jenn Paulson, Arielle Loy and Amy Tacheny.



News and Updates

Free Summer Concerts: Lutheran Summer Music Festival Season

Lutheran Summer Music is thrilled to announce its 2026 season, featuring over 40 free concerts, recitals, and worship services open to the public.

Hosted at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, from June 21 to July 19, this season offers a vibrant lineup of musical experiences, also shared online via Live from LSM—bringing this summer’s transformational work to audiences around the world.

Highlights this season include a guest appearance by [Cantus](#), a series of events dedicated to the music of J.S. Bach—including the [St. Matthew Passion](#)—and music celebrating the United States Semiquincentennial.

View all events and reserve free tickets at LSMacademy.org/calendar.



Make a Difference, Save a Life.

St. John's has hosted many American Red Cross blood drives in the past few years, just one unit of blood has the potential to save 3 lives.

There is always an ongoing need, and we invite you to consider making a difference by donating blood.

Upcoming Blood Drive

Monday, June 22, from 12:00-6:00 p.m., in St. John's Hall.

You can sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-733-2767.



Age-Friendly Northfield Lyft Transportation Project

Age-Friendly Northfield is an initiative of States and local communities throughout the US. This initiative serves as a catalyst to local leaders, encouraging them to implement changes that help make communities livable for all ages. It is a global effort of the World Health Organization and AARP.

Northfield became a member of this movement in August 2016. During the Fall of 2023 the Age-Friendly Health and Wellness Team and the City of Northfield both conducted a surveys to better understand what people need and use for transportation in and out of town for medical, leisure, and work activities. Responses to both surveys reported a need and desire for additional options that allow for:

- Increased flexibility
- Individual rides over shared rides
- On demand options
- Options that serve both the City of Northfield and surrounding communities

The Transportation Team reviewed and educated themselves about the current options in Northfield and shared that via educational sessions. We spoke to communities in which Lyft was being used and determined what we needed to establish Lyft as an option in Northfield.

We are reaching out to Faith Communities and attending other community events to reach out to individuals who would like to learn more about what it takes to become a Lyft Driver and to individuals who would like to use Lyft as a rider.

For more information, contact St. John's member Bob Tabery.



Last Day of CAT 2026



**Last Day of Confirmation and
High School Youth Group 2026**

Reminder of Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements:

Wednesday by 2:00 p.m.

The Voice (July 2026 Edition):

June 15

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

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OFFICE HOURS

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

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

*Join Us for
Summer Worship*

SUNDAYS AT 9:30 A.M.

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP
AFTER SERVICE