

May 2026 Newsletter

Pastor's Message:

Dear Representatives of our Living Lord:

I know Easter Sunday was a month ago, but we're still in the Easter season on the church calendar, and we're still in the business of celebrating new life!

Once upon a time, I pictured myself as a potential life-saver. I wasn't a strong enough swimmer to be a lifeguard (an important job to this day!). I did start donating blood as a senior in high school (an important gift still!). Beth and I did CPR training about as soon as it became widely available. (And I'm thankful we haven't had to use that yet! Though my older brother saved a guy who experienced cardiac arrest at the gym about 12 years ago!) I saved a turtle crossing the road yesterday, and braked for a squirrel and turkey! And actually, I have saved a couple of people from suicide over the years-once by just being there at the right time to call 9-1-1. I thank God I was able to do that!

Come to think of it, *aren't we all-as followers of Jesus and believers in the power of the resurrection-aren't we all called to be life-savers? And life-givers?* In a world where there is so much senseless killing and so many lonely deaths, what do we have to offer?

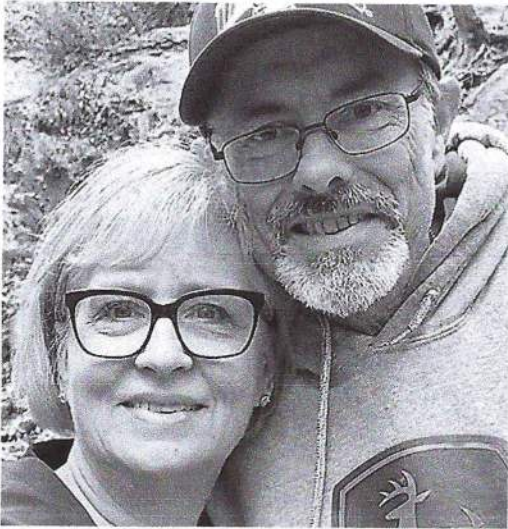
One thing we do have to offer is the compassion, and the friendship, and the Good News of Jesus! And that was a life-saving and life-giving gift 2,000 years ago when the first apostles went out into the world. And that is a life-saving and life-giving gift today! We can give it in so many ways: There's are growing protests over many conflicts in the world. But rather than pit one side against the other, can we agree to be pro-Palestian? Pro-Israeli? And, try this: Pro-Iranian? Aren't all these persons and victims created in the image of God? Isn't war always abhorrent to God's will? Can we be *for* peace and *for* justice in every situation and place?

And the 'lifelines' we get to throw to people can be as simple as a kind greeting to a stranger or newcomer; a phone call to a friend or neighbor; a visit to someone who is lonely or struggling; a meal to someone who eats alone or has too many other things on their 'plate'. *You never know when an invitation to worship, or to a study, or to youth or women's or men's group might be life-giving for someone as well, just to know they would be welcome-and might have a chance to 'belong'- is a gift in itself.*

In the Easter season's scripture readings, we see the work of the early church unfold, and it is life-giving stuff! Peter & John heal a lame man. The community shares its welcome, its food, and its possessions. The good news of a loving God and a living Lord turns people from dead-end paths. The promise that reaches from the last pages of scripture still beckons us: "*See? I am making all things new!*" Thank you for doing the life-saving and life-giving work that you do! Keep your eyes and ears and hearts open for even more opportunities! -Pastor Paul

Our Mission Endowment Committee put up a nice new display on the hallway table with some resource ideas for wills, estate planning, funeral planning and other important life choices. Also remember how easy it is to designate a Power of Attorney for Health Care. This is a loving 'nudge' to tend to some of those things that are so important, and so easy to put off!

We give thanks for young people growing in faith and life and who are marking these milestones: First Communion students: Nicholas Friess, Emma Guslick, and Jaxson Schweiger! And 8th graders Affirming their faith: Truman Ayers, Jack Frank, Kalli Gries, Addie Guslick, Emma Kneisler, Zach Reinemann, and Jack Ziegelbauer will be confirmed on May 3 and June 7 (We could not find one date that fit all eight of our busy families!)



Getting to Know You:

Eileen Mack

Are you really empty nesters if your household consists of “Me and you and a dog named Boo” (and a dog named Dixie)? Though Eileen and her husband Dan’s daughters are grown and flown, the house is still filled with enough beings, activity, and interests to keep things exciting.

Eileen graduated from Brookfield East High School before attending Luther College in Decorah, IA, where she studied English and art. After spending a few years in the Twin Cities following college, she returned to Southeastern WI and began her career at GRAEF, a Milwaukee-based engineering firm, where she met Dan. This year marks her 36th anniversary with the company, where she works as a marketing specialist and graphic designer—roles she truly enjoys. Dan has worked as a paint engineer at John Deere in Horicon for almost 30 years. With retirement nearing for both of them, they’re really starting to look forward to what’s next on the horizon, hoping it’ll involve travel to many of our nation’s beautiful National Parks to take in amazing vistas.

The couple’s oldest daughter, Michaela, lives in Milwaukee and works with adults with autism. She and Mywan are the parents of Eileen and Dan’s delightful 5-year-old granddaughter; welcoming a second granddaughter this June will bring even more excitement to their lives. Their younger daughter, Jen, is a “first-year senior” at South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD, where she’s studying health science and fully enjoying college life. If you recognize the school’s name, it’s because Green Bay Packers fan favorite Tucker Kraft is a recent alum!

While their daughters were growing up, the family was actively involved in the Washington County 4-H program, exploring everything from photography to showing dairy cows. Eileen spent 10 years as an arts and crafts leader, sharing her addiction for creating things with the next generation!

When Eileen isn’t working or spending time as a grandma, she enjoys baking (especially bread), acrylic painting, sewing, refinishing furniture, and photography. She and Dan becoming pseudo empty nesters has given her the opportunity to create a dedicated craft room and art studio at home. Who knows: Soon she may be painting gorgeous landscapes of those parks they visit!

Fun Facts:

Q: What could the Green Bay Packers and South Dakota State Jackrabbits possibly have in common besides Tucker Kraft? A: Dan and Eileen are avid fans of both football teams!

Eileen has earned “Draft Nerd” status according to Dan. She began playing fantasy football with work friends in the early 1990s, took a 13-year break while raising their daughters, and has since returned to the league—earning three championships and one runner-up finish. The first two days of the NFL Draft are practically a personal holiday for her!

Macks to the rescue! Eileen has been involved with MN-WI Collie Rescue for nearly 20 years. Dixie is Eileen and Dan’s fourth Rough Collie, while Boo is a mixed-breed pup.

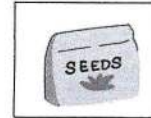
What's Going on at St. John's:



Save the date! Come to the Lower Level Open House and Dedication on Saturday May 9th at 6:00pm. Check out the basement's transformation then enjoy pizza, an ice cream social, and games for all ages. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space to help us plan for food.

The Fun & Fellowship Team and The Outreach Team will have a combined meeting on Tuesday May 5th at 6:00pm.

Saturday & Sunday, May 2 & 3 look for a seed packet to take home! The on Sunday, May 3, kids will be able to decorate small pots and take home a packet of "Surprise Seeds" to find out what grows! Another fun project compliments of Ruth Circle! Growing in Faith"... Like seeds planted in the ground, our faith will grow and abound!



Planting season is here and it's time to get your Groth's Garden certificates. Certificates are \$20 each, good for 1 year, and can be used for classes or anything Groth's sells. St. John's youth group receives a percent of the sales.



Help wanted. Consider signing up to host a Sunday coffee hour. Hosting is a great way to meet people. Help making the coffee is available. Just bring simple snacks or treats, help serve and then help clean up.

Summer is coming. Make plans now to attend Crossways Camps this summer. Information is available in the Gathering Space or online at www.crosswayscamps.org.

Most of you know that we have to bid farewell and godspeed to Marcia Earl. We plan to do that on May 31 and give thanks for helping us make a joyful noise to the Lord for these many years! We are also seeking 1 or more persons to fill our Music Ministry roles and have a Job Description available. *If you or anyone you know of is interested, please apply asap. Applications will be received until the position is filled.*

We'll resume Drive-in Worship on Saturdays at 5pm when the weather allows! You can stay in your vehicle or bring a lawn chair or blanket!

Giving and Expenses for March 2026

+ Year to Date as of March 31, 2026:

Offerings: \$20,391 Expenses: \$21,626 Balance: \$137,360

+ YTD Basement Renovation Project: Offerings \$2,725 Expenses: \$30,897 Balance: \$ 30,643

+YTD Missionary Sponsorship: Offerings: \$574 Goal for 2026: \$8,000

+YTD ELCA Benevolence:

Offerings: \$6,088 Goal for 2026: \$18,000

+YTD Good Samaritan:

Receipts: \$ 1,345 Goal for 2026: \$8,000

*May Birthdays
Happy Birthday!*

May	2	Dan Bartelt
	3	A J Beuscher
	3	Jase Johnson
May	4	Darlene Wanta
May	6	Samantha Schwefel
May	7	Christy Abt
	7	Ann Glorioso
	7	Delilah Hauser
	7	Sharon Ziemer
May	9	Darrel Counard
	9	Veda Inchaurregui
	9	Aiden Owens
	9	Laura Scheunemann
	9	Jude Teicher
	9	Kassi Wolf
May	10	Ava Moeller
	10	Doug Sharpley
May	11	Steve Ports
	12	Darick Prost
	12	Will Strnad
May	13	Allegra Groth
May	15	Laura Bartelt
	15	Kassidy Bohling
	15	Abigail Dalton
	15	Ellen Devoe
May	16	Leanne Ports
	16	Herb Sponholz
May	17	Noah Abt
May	18	Jenny Brandt
	18	Rich Uhlig
May	19	Susan Kerr
May	20	Rich Belongia
	20	Brandon Bukovic
	20	Linda Susnik
May	21	Josh Kasubaski
	21	Pam Stahl
May	22	Eric Olafsson
May	23	Scott Adams

+Born to Eternal Life+
Carl Holter
Gerald Puestow

May	23	Jake Brennan
	23	Lacey Young-Beine
May	26	Greg Grosser
	26	Olivia Shippen
	26	Theodore Shippen
May	27	Jessica Eisenhauer
May	28	Sean Brennan
	28	Ray Fischer

Happy Anniversary!

Roger & Kathy Hansen	May 6	54 years
Ed & Donna Dahly	May 7	19 years
Gerald & Darlene Wanta	May 8	27 years
Kevin & Melanie Gierach	May 20	20 years
Jesse & Dawn Seltrecht	May 20	26 years
Randy & Susan Hollister	May 21	32 years
Jonathan & Danielle Friess	May 25	13 years
Sean & Lisa Brennan	May 29	27 years
David & Jessica Frank	May 31	23 years

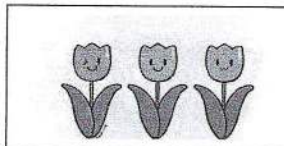
May	3-May	10-May	17-May	24-May	31-May
Reader	Joel Wolf	Reuben Heidtke	Laura Bartelt	Brennan's	Amy Reid
Commun.	Lee Anne Runnells	Joel Heidtke	Irv Brandt	Brennan's	Dianne Liberatore
Assist.	Sarah Stoecker	Peter Uhlig	Jenny Brandt	Brennan's	George Liberatore
Usher	Staci Benz	Kelly Strnad	Paul Stahl	Brennan's	Scott Novotny
Usher	Keith Heidtke	Will Strnad	Judy Henrichs	Brennan's	Tim Kiernan
Greeter	Parker Benz	Nancy Kinter	Pam Stahl	Brennan's	Nancy Kinter
Power Pt.	Wendy Wolf	Wendy Heidtke	Scott D/Chris	Staci B/Klay	Wendy Wolf
Facebook	Scott Kinter	Raj Singh	Scott D/Chris	Staci B/Klay	Scott Kinter

June	June 7	June 14	June 21	June 28
Reader	Laura Hahn	Reuben Heidtke	Brennan's	Joel Wolf
Communion	Jim Hahn	Irv Brandt	Brennan's	George Liberatore
Assistant	Darlene Wanta	Jenny Brandt	Brennan's	Dianne Liberatore
Usher	Paul Stahl	Bukovics	Brennan's	Peter Ziegelbauer
Usher	Tim Kiernan	Bukovics	Brennan's	Judy Henrichs
Greeter	Pam Stahl	Angel Bialk	Brennan's	Diane Holter
Power Pt.	Wendy Heidtke	Scott D/Chris	Staci B/Klay	Wendy Wolf
Facebook	Raj Singh	Scott D/Chris	Staci B/Klay	Scott Kinter

May 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 10:00 Chair Yoga	2 5:00 Worship & Holy Communion
3 9:00 Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 Facebook Live 9:30 Sunday School Confirmation Day	4 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Quilting 6:00 Grief Support	5 10:00 Chair Yoga 6:00 Outreach/ Fun & Fellowship 6:30 Bells 7:00 Jackson AA Meeting	6 9:00 Fellowship and Fitness	7 7:00 4H Meeting	8 10:00 Chair Yoga	9 5:00 Worship & Holy Communion 6:00 Lower Level Open House & Dedication
10 Happy Mother's Day! 9:00 Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 Facebook Live 9:30 Sunday School Lower Level Coffee Hour	11 9:00 Bible Study	12 9:00 Veterans Meeting 10:00 Chair Yoga 6:30 Bells 7:00 Jackson AA Meeting 7:00 Property Committee	13 9:00 Fellowship and Fitness	14 1:00 Ruth Circle	15 10:00 Chair Yoga	16 5:00 Worship & Holy Communion
17 9:00 Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 Facebook Live 9:30 Sunday School	18 9:00 Bible Study 10:00 Quilting 6:00 Grief Support	19 10:00 Chair Yoga 6:30 Bells 6:30 Council 7:00 Jackson AA Meeting	20 9:00 Fellowship and Fitness	21 North Conference Pastors	22 10:00 Chair Yoga	23 9:00 Burial of Baby Cremains 5:00 Worship & Holy Communion
24 9:00 Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 Facebook Live	25 Memorial Day Family Promise Week	26 10:00 Chair Yoga 6:30 Bells 7:00 Jackson AA Meeting	27 9:00 Fellowship and Fitness	28	29 10:00 Chair Yoga Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly	30 5:00 Worship & Holy Communion
31 9:00 Worship & Holy Communion 9:00 Facebook Live						

St. John's Lutheran Church
2881 Division Road
Jackson, WI 53037



At St. John's we're privileged and challenged to *Welcome, Worship, and Witness* in Christ's name. Thank you for being part of this faith community and for the serving you do to the glory of God!

Visit us at www.stjohnsjackson.net

Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson

Pastor Paul Mittermaier – pastorcarguy@gmail.com

Office hours: M-F 9:00am-1:00pm 262-677-3176

officestjohnsjackson@gmail.com

Worship Services: Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am with Holy Communion

Facebook Live at 9:00 am on Sunday

