Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod 198 Westridge Ave. / Burlington, WI 53105 / 262-763-8229 / www.stjohnsburlington.org

St. John's Lutheran Church exists to Build Up the Body of Christ so that we might know Christ and make Him known.

## THE GUIDE

Weekly Announcements and News from St. John's for

# December 14, 2025 Third Sunday in Advent

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<u>Midweek Advent Service</u>: Please join us in worship at our final midweek Advent service on Wednesday, December 17 at 3:30 & 6:30 pm.

<u>Children's Christmas Service:</u> This year's Christmas service, presented by our St. John's school children, is entitled "Hope, Love, Peace, Joy." It will be held on Sunday, December 14 at 4:00 pm.

<u>Poinsettias:</u> The blue poinsettias that beautify our church this Christmas season are placed there to the glory of Christ our Savior and given by the Baker family in memory of Eva & Slade Baker and Paul & Tracy Warick in memory of Anita Wolski & Gary Warick.

<u>Guest Preacher:</u> On December 14 & 15, Robert Johannes will be our guest preacher.

Adult Bible Class Schedule: Adult Bible Study will meet on December 14 & 21 in order to have adequate time to finish our Nicene Creed discussions. Please join us if you are able!

Women's Ministries Thank You!: Thank you to all who donated in the month of November to St. John's Women's Ministries for Lighthouse Youth Ministry. Donations were taken to them on December 12 and your gifts are very much appreciated!

Offering Envelopes: Offering envelopes for 2026 are now available for pick up in the church entryway. Please contact the church office if you are having difficulty locating your envelopes. Please note that some envelopes in the 2025 and 2026 boxes have the incorrect Advent worship dates on them.

<u>Christmas Cards for Sale:</u> St. John's Women's Ministries is once again selling Christmas cards. A box of 12 is \$6 and a box of 20 is \$8. Visit the table in the church entryway to view the selection of cards available or to make a purchase. Jesus is the reason for the season! Spread the Word with your Christmas cards!

**St. John's Blankets Available for Sale:** SPICE is selling plush 60"X70" blankets with the St. John's logo on them for \$35. These are sure to make a great Christmas gift! Purchases can be made through the school office or during home basketball games.

Special Voters/Call Meeting: The Church Council has scheduled a special Voters' Meeting for Tuesday, December 16 at 6:00 pm to extend a call for two teachers

Christmas Giving Tree: It's that wonderful time of year—our Christmas Giving Tree us up! This year's tags include gift cards for recipients to use for groceries, gas, clothing, and Christmas gifts, plus "action tags" for those who want to give through simple acts of kindness. If you fee inspiried to help, stop by the tree in the church entryway and grab a tag (or two!). Your generosity—whether through giving, serving, or praying—will brighten someone's life in a meaningful way. If you or someone you know needs assistance this season, please reach out to one of our pastors. If you have any questions, contact Cathy Borchardt (cmborchardt@wi.rr.com) or the church office.

.New Year's Eve Service: Did you know that during our New Year's Eve service, we remember and thank God for (and actually speak the names of) everyone who was baptized, confirmed, married, and who died in the Lord at St. John's throughout the year? What a wonderful way to conclude your calendar year: with your fellow believers, in God's house. We hope you can join us for worship on New Year's Eve at 4:30 pm.

Shoreland Expansion Project Matching Gift: A member of the congregation has offered to match donations for the Shoreland Expansion Project, up to \$5,000, from now through December 31, 2025. If you would like to contribute to this project, there are special envelopes available in the narthex, use your regular giving envelopes and write in "SLHS Expansion Project" or, an on-line giving icon has been added to the church website's online giving page. As a reminder—the congregation previously approved supporting this project with \$20,000 per year from 2025-2029. This support is outside of the normal church budget.

Men's Bible Study: Gentlemen, please come, grow in faith, and enjoy the fellowship of your church brothers. Classes are held on Mondays, from 5:30—6:25 pm in the church meeting room. Note there will be no classes on December 22 & 29 and January 5.

Save the Date! The Shoreland Dinner Auction has been scheduled for Saturday, April 11. Gather for an evening of fun, fellowship, and fundraising—all in support of our Shoreland students! Stay tuned for more details coming soon.

Wednesday Morning Bible Class: The Wednesday Morning Bible Class is studying the Old Testament book of Ezekiel. This is the perfect opportunity to enjoy a Bible study with your fellow sisters and brothers in Christ. We meet Wednesdays, 9:45-11:00am, in the church meeting room or in a school classroom.

Women's Bible Study: We meet on Wednesdays from

WELSSA Teams: St. John's is beginning its WELSSA (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod School principal or visit this link.

Monday, December 15: Counting Team 2

December 17, Advent Service: Usher Teams I & C

Sunday, December 21: Usher Teams—C & H, Stream Team—Scott & Joel December Altar Guild: Paula Nolte (661-6128) & Rachel Peterson (492-3591)

Please call one of the women listed if you will be placing a plant in the church in memory of a loved one or to honor an event. Please contact the church office if you would like the event listed in the Guide. Due to floral allergies, we would ask that you either choose a plant or artificial flowers to put in church.

information.

2:00-3:00 pm in the church meeting room to read *In* God's Orchard, Cultivating the Fruit of a Spirit-filled Life, a study of Galatians 5:22-23, written especially for women. Each lesson emphasizes the truth that roots sunk deeply into God's Word will yield a harvest. Please note that Bible class will not meet from now through December 31. Class will resume on January

Accreditation) self-study process, which helps our school evaluate our ministry and strive for continuous improvement in all areas of education and faith development. We are looking for people who are willing to serve on a WELSSA team to help review and analyze specific standards such as curriculum, communication, facilities, and school mission. Your input and perspective is valuable as we reflect on what we do well and where we can grow. If you are interested in serving on a team or learning more about the process, please contact the

St. John's Sunday School & Bible Studies			
	Sunday School (Starts in the gym then moves to the classrooms)	Adult Bible Class (Led by Pastor Rodrigue in the Meeting Room)	Membership Class (Led by Pastor Lahmann in the School STEM Room)
Dec. 7	Christmas Party	The Council of Nicaea and Its Creed	New Life in Christ
Dec. 14	No Class — Christmas Break	The Council of Nicaea and Its Creed	New Life in Christ

#### **Budget Update For Week 23** December 7, 2025 Weekly Weekly Surplus YTD YTD YTD Surplus Annual Actual Budget (Shortfall) Actual Budget (Shortfall) Budget 308,992 17,563 14,950 2,613 305,250 3,742 728,000 General Offerings **SLHS** Expansion 5,550 9,835 Capital Projects 498 17,217 Unspent Funds for 105,361 Capital Projects

## **Give Online!**

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Christmas Day Worship Service with Holy Communion** 

New Year's Eve Worship Service with Holy Communion

**Employment Opportunities:** Kingdom Workers is

currently seeking candidates for several open positions based at our headquarters in Waukesha.

Please visit this <u>link</u> to the careers page for more

Cookoff & Silent Auction at KLA: Kenosha Lutheran

Academy (5038-19th Ave., Kenosha) is hosting a

Crockpot Cookoff & Silent Auction on Sunday,

January 18 from 11:00am-2:00 pm to benefit

Christians Forward-Southeast Asia. CFSA leads

volunteers on mission trips to Thailand on an annual

basis to provide manual labor assistance, food,

clothing and household goods and to spread the

good news of the Gospel to people living in remote

rural areas of Thailand. All funds raised will go to

help defray expenses for these trips. See For more

information about CFSA, visit christiansforward.org.

Children's Christmas Service

**Midweek Advent Service** 

Sunday, December 14 at 4:00 PM

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services** Wednesday, December 24 at 4:30 & 6:30 PM

Thursday, December 25 at 9:30 AM

Wednesday, December 31 at 4:30 PM

Wednesday, December 17 at 3:30 & 6:30 PM

Use the link "Online Giving" at our website or try the free mobile app Vanco Mobile.

### **How to Contact Your Staff**

Pastor Kirk Lahmann / 262-210-2018 / pastorlahmann@stjohnsburlington.org Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue / 608-354-5370 / pastorrodrigue@stjohnsburlington.org Principal Tim Schubkegel / 608-842-0423 / principal@stjohnsburlington.org Church Office / 262-763-8229 / office@stjohnsburlington.org

School Office / 262-763-2377 / school@stjohnsburlington.org

Mondays at 6:30 pm Summer: Sundays at 8:00 and 9:30 am Mondays at 6:30 pm Live Streaming on YouTube (SJB Videos)

Worship Schedule Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 am

every Sunday at 8:00 am