



St. John's Lutheran CHURCH & SCHOOL

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

January 18, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Call Returned:

*Dear Members of the Congregation of St. John's, Burlington,
Grace and peace to you in Christ.*

I write to you with gratitude and respect regarding the divine call you extended to me to serve as your fifth-grade teacher. After much prayer and reflection, I have decided to decline the call.

I am deeply thankful for your confidence in me and for the time and prayer you invested throughout the call process. It is humbling to be considered for service in your school and ministry, and I am grateful for the opportunity to learn more about your congregation and its commitment to Christian education.

I trust that the Lord will continue to guide you and will provide the right person to serve your students and families. I pray that God blesses your congregation, your school, and especially the children entrusted to your care.

In Christ's service, Jared Witkowiak

Call Returned:

To the members of St. John's Burlington Church and School,

Greetings in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ! I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for extending a divine call for me to serve as your 6th Grade Teacher. Over the past several weeks, I have earnestly sought the Lord's guidance through prayer and counsel regarding this opportunity. The privilege of being called to teach God's children is never taken lightly, and I'm humbled that you would consider me worthy of such a trust.

During my deliberation, I was blessed with being able to visit your school. Your love for Christ and commitment to His Word and your students are evident, and any teacher would be blessed to serve among you.

After much prayer and careful consideration, I have decided to return the call to St. John's and continue to serve at Shoreland next year. The Lord has opened doors for me to work with freshmen students at a crucial time in their lives, and I sense He is leading me to continue the work that I have started this year. While this decision was not made easily, I trust that God in His wisdom knows where each of His servants can best be used for the advancement of His kingdom.

I am confident that our gracious Lord will provide St. John's with a faithful teacher who will serve you well and be a blessing to your congregation and school. Please know that I will continue to keep St. John's in my prayers as you continue your calling process. If there is anything I can do to support your teachers or professional development that you might need, please reach out.

Thanks again for the honor of your call and the prayers offered on my behalf. I pray that God's richest blessings, His grace, and His peace be upon you all.

In Christ, Dee Bergene

Member Death: St. John's member, Lucille Fiegel, went home to heaven on December 25. Her funeral will be held at St. John's on Saturday, January 24 at 3:00 pm with visitation beginning at 2:00 pm.

Wedding: On Saturday, January 17, Garrett Reed & Kayla Wise, both members of St. John's, were united at St. John's in Christian marriage. May our Lord bless this holy union.

Voters / Call Meeting: Please watch future Guides for announcements about upcoming Voters / Call meetings.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Pastor Lahmann will lead the Adult Bible Class on the Gospel of John for the month of January (and into February), with the intention of doing so again in future Januaries (thus the name, John-uary). Sunday School and New Life In Christ will continue. We encourage you to make it your new year's goal to attend worship and Bible study with great regularity in 2026, certain that blessings from the Lord will abound when you do.

Romans—Wednesday Morning Bible Class: Beginning on January 28, the Wednesday Morning Bible Class will begin studying Paul's letter to the Romans. If you have been interested in coming to this class but haven't been able to, this is your perfect opportunity to begin. We meet Wednesdays, 9:45-11:00am, in the church meeting room or in the school STEM room. I hope you will come; reach out to Pastor Lahmann with any questions. **Please note there will be no class on January 21.**

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

2026-2027 School Enrollment: Enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year at St. John's is now open. If you know of any prospects who might be interested in our school, they can visit this [link](#) for more information.

Jesus Cares: Thursday, January 22 will be the next meeting time for the Jesus Cares Ministry, our outreach ministry for members of our church & community with developmental disabilities. They meet on the second and/or fourth Thursdays of the month, from 6:00—7:00 pm in the meeting room.

Men's Bible Study: Gentlemen, please come, grow in faith, and enjoy the fellowship of your church brothers. Classes are held Monday evenings from 5:30—6:25 pm in the church meeting room.

St. John's Women's Ministries: The next meeting for the St. John's Women's Ministries group will be on Tuesday, January 20 at 6:30 pm. All women of the congregation are invited to attend.

Women's Bible Study: We meet on Wednesdays from 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.

Preschool Power Hour: The next session of Preschool Power Hour is Wednesday, January 21 at 9:30 am in the church’s meeting room. This is a fun-packed program designed for parents and children ages 18 months—4 years old. You’ll enjoy a Bible lesson, music time and gym fun with other parents and tots. The cost is \$15 per family for the semester. Register in person or online at stjohnsburlington.org.

Shoreland Expansion Update and Groundbreaking Ceremony: Thanks to member generosity, we have exceeded our 2025 commitment to the Shoreland Lutheran High School Expansion Project. Total amount received for the calendar year was \$23,513 vs. our annual commitment of \$20,000. To Ged be the glory! Our commitment for 2026 remains at \$20,000. As many of you may have noticed—a box has been added to this year’s offering envelopes for this project. Specific expansion project envelopes in the narthex and an on-line giving icon on the church website remain the same for 2026, if you prefer one of these options. A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, January 21 at SLHS from 3:30-4:30 pm for the new classroom building addition. To keep updated on their new expansion project, please visit and bookmark [this link](#) or use the QR code to keep up to date on their latest progress!



Registration for Shoreland Lutheran High School: Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is now open. If you are interested in your child attending Shoreland, please visit slhs.us (admissions tab) for an application.

SLHS Dinner Auction Donations & Volunteer: Volunteers are needed for games/raffles, kitchen help, set up / clean up, donation & silent auction items and dessert auction for our annual dinner auction at SLHS on April 11. If you can volunteer or donate an auction item, please contact Amber Wasurick (262-859-2595; wasuricka@slhs.us).

WELS Retreats: Both men & women have the opportunity to attend upcoming WELS retreats:

MEN: “Men of His Word” Christian Conference on February 21 at the Oshkosh Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center. Visit menofhisword.org for details & registration.

WOMEN: Women of the congregation are invited to attend the 2026 WELS Pathways to Christ Retreat on March 6-8, 2026 at Cobblestone Suites in Oshkosh. More information can be found at pathwaystochrist.org.

Shoreland Open House: Shoreland will host an Open House on Wednesday, January 28 from 5:00-7:00 pm. Incoming and prospective students and families are encouraged to attend to take a guided tour and learn more about Shoreland’s curriculum, STEM Academy, activities and meet teachers, coaches and staff. Please register at this [link](#).

Laudamus Lutheran Chorale: If you like singing in the choir and would enjoy a little more challenging music, then you’re invited to join the Laudamus Lutheran Chorale. Practices are Sunday evenings from 5:30-7:00 pm at Shoreland Lutheran High School. The Spring concert will be held on Sunday, April 19. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Tom Bauer at bauert@slhs.us.

Shoreland “President’s Pen”: Check out the latest monthly newsletter from Shoreland Lutheran High School. Copies can be found on the table in the church entryway or you can view the [electronic version here](#).

Monday, January 19 : Counting Team 3
January 25: Usher Teams C & G; Stream Team—Nigel

January Altar Guild: Kim Friedel (763-2510)
Please call Kim 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.

St. John's Sunday School & Bible Studies			
	Sunday School (Starts in the gym then moves to the classrooms)	Adult Bible Class (Led by Pastor Lahmann in the Meeting Room)	Membership Class (Led by Pastor Rodrigue in the School STEM Room)
Jan. 18	A Mighty Wonder-Creation	John-uary: The Gospel of John	New Life in Christ
Jan. 25	The Fall and a Promise	John-uary: The Gospel of John	New Life in Christ

Budget Update For Week 28 January 11, 2026							
	Weekly Actual	Weekly Budget	Surplus (Shortfall)	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Surplus (Shortfall)	Annual Budget
General Offerings	11,360	12,000	(640)	415,777	402,300	13,477	728,000
SLHS Expansion	200			18,215			
Capital Projects	1,376			27,919			
Unspent Funds for Capital Projects				116,053			

Give Online!
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

Worship Schedule
Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 am
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) every Sunday at 8:00 am