SONSHINE COMMUNITY PARK~ CELEBRATING FAMILIES FENCE

Our beautiful community park continues to develop and enhance our campus as the initial installation of personalized pickets on our Celebrating Families Fence began last Friday. Picket order forms are available at the park, through the church or school office or may be downloaded at www.sonshinecommunitypark.org. Pickets may be personalized with a family member’s name or a Bible reference for $50.00. Pickets will be engraved in lots of 50 from this point forward and proceeds from the sale of pickets will fund future enhancements to the park. Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

ST. JOHN’S FALL FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT LAC LAWRAN~ OCTOBER 1

Last spring we entered a drawing for the Fall Family Fun Night at Lac Lawran and our schools (ECC, Elementary & Middle) were selected for this event. Working in conjunction with our PPO a fantastic family evening of fun and exploration is planned for Thursday, October 1 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates:</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>Labor Day NO SCHOOL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Discipleship Hour Begins 9:25 a.m.</td>
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<td>Sept. 14</td>
<td>PPO Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. in the computer lab</td>
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<td>Sept. 18-19</td>
<td>Rummage Sale Fundraiser for Trip to Washington D.C. In Gym</td>
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<td>Sept 22</td>
<td>School Pictures Elem/Middle</td>
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<td>Sept 26</td>
<td>Faith Haven Family Bonfire 5:00-8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 27</td>
<td>Grades 4/5 sing at 8:00 worship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
<td>Lac Lawran Family Fun Night 6:00-8:00 p.m.</td>
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Our Communication Tools . . .

Elementary and Middle School   262-334-3077

email:  school@stjohnswestbend.org

School website:  www.stjohnsschoolwestbend.org

Our website contains a wealth of information for the community and our families. Families should focus on these tabs:

School News and Events:  detailed information on the latest news and events.

Student Information:  calendars, the monthly newsletter, needed forms and documents, the hot lunch program, scrip, athletic information and game schedules.

Parent Organization:  PPO events, Spirit Wear orders, and volunteer opportunities

Fast Direct, our internal communication system  http://www.fastdir.com/stjohnswestbend/

The home page of this site allows you to view the school calendar, hot lunch menu, athletic calendar, and music calendar without logging in.

Once logged in, you may view the bulletin boards of your child’s teacher. Middle School teachers place homework and assignments on their bulletin boards by Friday of each week. Later in the quarter, grades for students in grades 3-8 will be visible as well. Important school wide dates and events are placed on Mrs. O’s bulletin board. Children in grade K-5 will receive weekly communication from their teachers, either in digital or print form.

FD mail is the school email system within Fast Direct and it should be checked regularly. These emails can be set to be received as text messages or can be forwarded to another email. If you need assistance with this, please call the school office at 262-334-3077.

Parents- PLEASE check and update your information on Fast Direct TODAY. This database alerts us to health concerns and contact information, so it must be updated EACH YEAR.

Early Childhood Center   262-429-1061   ecc@stjohnswestbend.org

St. John's Early Childhood Center provides communication through the following tools:

1. **Each classroom Lead Teacher provides a monthly newsletter detailing the following:**
   * monthly theme  
   * curriculum  
   * Jesus Time Stories  
   * highlights from the classroom  
   * calendaring of special activities at the center and family events offered through St. John's Ministries

2. Daily sheets are sent home detailing your child's day
3. Communication on an as needed basis is provided via a phone call or personal e-mail
4. Website - Currently under construction - Forms and calendars are available at the ECC office

Contact Cheryl Rudolf, Director of Children’s Ministries at crudolf@stjohnswestbend.org or (262)429-1061 with any questions.
You are invited to join those who want to be energized in their life of discipleship as we gather together on Sunday mornings for Discipleship Hour. Children, youth, and adults - there is something for everyone! Fall Discipleship Hour begins September 13, 2015 with a large group welcome and continues September 20 - October 25 with the choice of breakout sessions listed below.

**What to Expect**

**Fellowship**
Join us for coffee, juice, and desserts from 9:00 AM - 9:25 AM in the gymnasium.

**Opening**
An adult opening will begin at 9:25 AM in the gym; a children/youth (ages 3-7th grade) opening will begin at 9:25 AM in the Early Childhood Center Activity Room on the second floor. Parents with children, make sure you take them to the activity room in time to be back in the gym for the adult opening (9:25 AM).

**Topics**
- Children 3 years old - 3rd grade will participate in a VBS style learning experience with crafts, activities, and lessons.
- Youth in grades 4 - 7 will meet for age appropriate discipleship training with Alan Lull.
- Youth in grades 8 - 12 will meet with Bekah Karolus for discipleship training in the School Library.

**Closing**
There will be no large group closing as in past years. Each group will close in their respective locations.

**Description of Breakout Sessions**

**Reframe**
Led by Jake & Hannah Pehl, Lay Teachers & Ahren Reiter, Seminarian.
In this timely and highly engaging video based series participants will engage in discussions on how their Christian faith reframes their everyday lives. If you have a hard time connecting the dots between faith and life, this breakout is for you.

**Living within the Three Truths**
Led by Jeff & Deb Corbett, Lay Teachers and Dawn Oldenettel, School Administrator.
Have you ever thought, “I know the three truths, but how do they apply to my life?” This interactive breakout session is for you. Join us in exploring how the three truths inform all of life - from the common to the extraordinary experiences of family life.

**Revelation: The Scary Stuff**
Led by Brian Brauer, teacher.
This video series produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries will lead the participants through the challenges of understanding the often scary stuff of the book of Revelation. Come and learn about one of the most misunderstood books of the bible.

**Philippians/Colossians**
Led by Rev. Ron Oldenettel, Emeritus Pastor
For those who enjoy journeying through books of the Bible this breakout is for you. Participants will learn how similar our struggles are to those in the early Christian church. But even more, you will learn how God speaks and guides us through our struggles in life.

**Death: Then What?**
Led by Tom Saleska, Concordia University Wisconsin Professor.
What will happen 2 seconds after you die? This Lutheran Hour Ministries video series will take the participants through a closer look at life beyond death. Perhaps you have had a friend or family member die recently. Come learn what God tells us really happens after death.

**Promises of Grace**
Led by Rev. Chris Bruskiewicz, Associate Pastor
This breakout which will extend for ten weeks, is designed for those who are new to St. John’s and for those who want a refresher course in the basic foundations of our faith. This class is designed to answer the questions of those wanting to know more about what we believe and who we are as a church. In addition to being offered on Sunday mornings, this class is also offered on Wednesday evenings (7:00 PM) following worship in the Church Lower Level.

**Baptism Class**
Led by one of the St. John’s Pastors
This breakout is offered on the fourth Sunday of the month. It is designed to be one avenue of support for families who are considering baptism. Attendance at one of these classes is required before a baptism can be scheduled. Following each class, further guidance will be provided to families in their discipleship planning. Parents wishing to have their child(ren) baptized are encouraged to attend the class several months before the baptismal day.
Opportunities at St. John’s and in our Community . . .

Financial Peace University
The fall class begins on Monday, September 14 in the lower level of the church from 6:30-8:30 and runs for 9 weeks. The cost for materials is only $85.00, a significant reduction funded by St. John’s. The link to online registration can be found on the school website under the School News and Events tab.

Club Invention October 12- November 4
St. John’s will host Club Invention this fall on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:15-4:15 in the computer lab. The cost is $59.00 per student and will be led by Mrs. Hannah Pehl. This national program is designed to inspire children to be confident in their natural ability to dream and build, create and problem solve. It is available for students in grades 1-6. We are also looking for one or two parent volunteers to assist in this program. A discount is available for the child of a parent volunteer. Please contact Mrs. Pehl if you are interested.

Servant Events at Cedar Bay Community
Each month students from our first through eighth grade classes visit the residents of Cedar Bay on a rotating basis. The kids interact with the residents and share the love of Christ through smiles, conversations, and games. In September grades 5 and 8 will travel to Cedar Bay.

St. John’s Fall Sports Teams:
Girls Volleyball 5th&6th and 7th&8th grade
Co-ed Soccer, grades 5-8
Co-ed Cross Country, grades 5-8

Check the Athletic Calendar on Fast direct for scheduled games and meets. Support your school!