

Associate Pastor's Report
January council report
Submitted: February 6pm

January started off with our High school faith formation event with the synod, Winterfest, with the theme of "The Way". We had 200 youth and adults from all across the synod. St. John's brought 3 adults and 6 youth and adopted 3 youth who did not have a congregation. Grace managed nicely with our group while I was off on stage leading and running the event. Jay and I are assistant directors for the event and manage a lot of people and changes. During the weekend we have LT's, who are our youth who are growing as leaders, and they help us do many different tasks throughout the weekend. Nick, Jonah and Cole were LT's this year and extremely helpful. This event is fun, faith filled, and all about growing together.

I've been finding time to meet with prospective members over the last few weeks to get to know them more and help connect them to various activities as they learn more about St. John's.

During my time off i've been volunteering at the Christian Church's United Women & Nonbianary shelter. It shelters around 29 people from 7pm-7am at Grace United Methodist church from December to March. It has been a very humbling experience to hear the stories from our unhoused neighbors. St. John's is a member church of the nonprofit Christian Church's united. (www.ccuhbq.org).

The Special congregational meeting about the renovation was held on January 21st. There was lots of preparation before the meeting and I believe it paid off. I think the congregation was as informed as they could be on next steps and had fruitful discussion about th renovation. There is excitement around planning for the future and i'm excited to see what will come of this renovation.

January was spent really planning out Lent and Holy Week. There will be a lenten mailer to go out and see if we can invite more guests to join us this season.

I spent some vacation time for my birthday to go to New york and see the musical hamilton! And then I ended January as a juror on a week long criminal case. The holy spirit must have been calling me to serve in this civic capacity especially since we began a 6 week long Social Statement in Adult sunday school on Civic Life and Faith.

Funeral: Chuck Miraglia 1/11/24 , Fred Bottini 1/23/24,