

# St. John Ministry Plan

God has placed our congregation in this place at this time for a reason. We trust that His Spirit is guiding us as we seek to live out His mission each day. As people redeemed by Jesus, we believe that the following guiding statement describes who God is calling us to be here at St. John:

We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**, welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

## Guiding Biblical Verses:

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” Hebrews 10: 24-25

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace . . . in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 4:10-11

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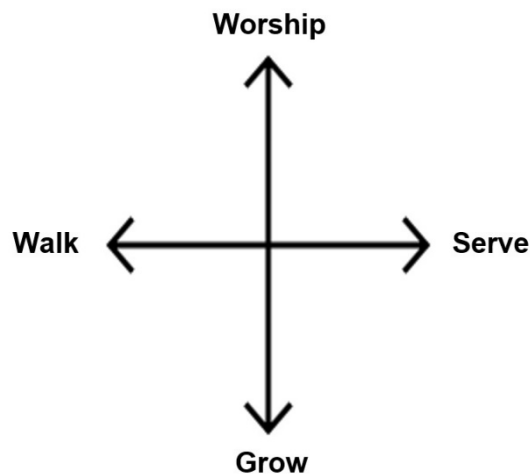
## Our Four Pillars

**Worship** - Worship is integral to our ministry where people *gather* to receive the gifts of God in Word and Sacraments and respond out of gratitude for all God has given.

**Serve Others** - The love of Christ compels us to *care for others* by serving and using our resources to meet the needs of our members and community.

**Walk Together** - Seeking ways in which we intentionally and transparently are *unified in purpose and ministry* of both church and school at St. John.

**Grow Spiritually** - Being a disciple of Jesus (believer, follower) is a life-long journey of *learning and practicing* as we grow into maturity through the power of the Holy Spirit.



**Worship** - Worship is integral to our ministry where people *gather* to receive the gifts of God in Word and Sacraments and respond out of gratitude for all God has given.

**Target:** To reach maximum capacity for worship in our sanctuary in 6 years (approximately 300 in one service on a regular basis). This is a 25% increase in average worship attendance each year (example: from 75 to 95 by December 2023, from 95 to 120 by December 2024, etc).

**Goal:** Intentional and continuous target non-active members and non-members inviting to worship and special services. Spring 2023

**Tasks:**

1. Create seasonal invitation cards for attendees to use to invite friends.
2. Schedule invite-a-friend Sundays quarterly
3. Advertise worship services on social media or in local print media.
4. Post a large, winsome invite sign near the main intersection
5. Post more signs (yard signs) around town (where you have contacts) to build awareness of St. John.
6. Schedule quarterly events at worship that make it easy for attendees to invite friends to (Trunk or Treat after church, etc...)

**Goal:** Increase worship volunteers by 50% by the end of 2023 by recruiting volunteers and creating 2-3 new opportunities to serve

**Tasks:**

1. Identify areas people can be involved in both existing and new.
  - a. Expand existing positions acolytes, ushers, and readers and altar care. Timeline: now through 2023
  - b. Create new positions for Audio Visual helpers, Greeters and church "cleaning" crew. Timeline: begin in 2023 and establish by end of 2023.
  - c. Work with Doreen Sutherland on ways to expand music volunteers - 2023
2. Create job descriptions of each position
3. Invite/recruit people to participate.
4. Consider Training and create consistent scheduling.

**Goal:** Provide a time of fellowship after Sunday worship encouraging shared responsibility of providing refreshments. Fall 2022

**Tasks:**

1. Recruit 1 fellowship coordinator.
2. With coordinator, write setup, serving, cleanup procedures
3. Identify food/coffee quality and quantity.
4. Determine if food/coffee will be purchased or donated.
5. Recruit volunteers through worship announcements, etc...
6. Evaluate fellowship offerings through surveys available on the 1st Sunday of each month.
7. Use people participating and satisfaction scores on surveys to determine progress

**Serve Others** - The love of Christ compels us to *care for others* by serving and using our resources to meet the needs of our members and community.

**Target:** Identify member and community needs and create or renew ministries to help meet those needs.

**Goal:** To re-start GriefShare support group by Spring 2023.

**Tasks:** Focus on GriefShare first since this was successful in the past. Find a new leader and gather the materials needed. Decide on a timeline for when a new group will start. PR the group to St. John and the community.

**Goal:** To more consistently (or in new ways) connect with members to appropriately support and promote healthy spiritual growth. (Future goal maybe to expand this groups caring contact ministry to school families in 2023)

**Tasks:** Establish a calling team by early 2023 who will contact inactive members. Personal invitations to current members who are not actively attending. Periodically send out thank you notes to volunteers.

**Goal:** To investigate the possibility of a Parish Nurse (or similar ministry) to provide (oversee) effective physical and emotional care for Church members, School students and families, and community outreach. 2024-2025

**Tasks:** Investigate what it takes to have a Parish Nurse (cost, policy and job description, timeline, etc) This may be a longer range goal (3-5 years)

**Walk Together** - Ways in which we intentionally and transparently are *unified in purpose and ministry* of church and school at St. John.

**Target:** To intentionally improve, and make visible, the interactions between church members and school students and families to foster deeper relationships and growth.

**Goal:** To have church members interact on a regular basis with each of the classes in school.  
Fall 2022

**Tasks:** Church members – adopt a school class. A church member(s) would interact monthly with a school classroom to increase interactions between church and school. Already underway with Katie Gundell's leading

**Goal:** Intentionally include church members in school activities and school families in church activities to foster relational connections between church members and school families.  
Winter 2022-2023

**Tasks:** Find 1-2 people who will help coordinate communication between Church and School activities and find ways to encourage more participation.

**Goal:** To reach out to school families who identify themselves as having no church home and create meaningful interactions to connect them with St. John Church. Spring 2023

**Tasks:** Create a group of 2-3 people who will oversee “connecting” activities targeting school families who have no church home early 2023. Using the data we have from school registrations we can specifically learn what these families need spiritually and invite them to participate in various church activities.

**Grow Spiritually** - Being a disciple of Jesus (believer, follower) is a life-long journey of *learning* and *practicing* as we grow into maturity through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Target:** To create an environment at St. John that helps people learn what it means to be a disciple and how God has wired them and put into practice the ideas and skills they are learning.

**Goal:** Help people discover the gifts and abilities they have been given by God to be used as part of the ministry of St. John. Formal program either Spring 2023 or Fall 2023

**Tasks:** Start a Gifts discovery process to help members and school families discover and use their God-given abilities (hopefully increase involvement at St. John.) Possibly use "Gifted for More" from Barna and LHM. Also start "priming the pump" about this topic possibly through sermons, bible study and articles.

**Goal:** Expand our Sunday School/Bible Study ministry on Sunday mornings. Spring 2023

**Goal:** Create opportunities for "affinity" groups – (Singles, Married, Men, Women, Retired, Parents, etc.) by Fall 2023

**Tasks:** Discover what types of "affinity" groups are possible for St. John, find materials and leaders for these groups and invite and begin groups meeting regularly.

- Start an "older adult" Bible study group to meet weekly during the day by Lent 2023.
- Find space for Bible study groups to meet during the day.
- Start a Parent's group for School and Church families by Fall 2023

**Goal:** Provide opportunities for youth (post-confirmation) to grow spiritually and be more involved in the ministry of St. John. Spring 2024

**Tasks:** Create a group of 2-3 people who will begin identifying ways to involve youth (8th grade through high school) by Fall 2023