



JANUARY 2026

OUR STAFF

Pastor Bryan Lagerstam
309-236-7334
Bryan.lagerstam@gmail.com

Administrative Secretary
Laura Steig
608-244-8486
burkelutheran@att.net

Maintenance Engineer
Colin Hamrick

BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718
608-244-8486 / burkelutheran@att.net
www.burkelutheran.org

ANNUAL REPORTS - DUE JANUARY 8, 2026

Please complete your annual report and turn in to Laura no later than Thursday, January 8.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - SAVE THE DATE - **SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026.**

The Congregational Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, January 18th** following the 9:00am service. Agenda items include election of officers and board members, Board and Committee reports, the 2026 budget, election of Audit and Nominating committee members and representatives to Lutherdale, Oakwood and the Synod Assembly.

Please consider serving on one of the boards. Here is a brief summary of what each board works on:

Preach - Anything related to our worship service, selecting hymns, decorating the sanctuary, etc.

Teach - Anything related to teaching for adults or children.

Reach - Anything related to reaching out . . . this could be within our congregation or outside of it.

Property - All things related to caring for our popery/buildings. There are many willing to help with the work, but we need a board to help manage what needs to be done.

Burke Lutheran Cemetery Association Annual Meeting

Will be held immediately following the Burke Lutheran Annual Meeting on January 18, 2026.

Did you know? Christmas is both a day and a season in the church. We celebrate Christ's birth on December 25, and the Christmas season lasts for 12 days, up to the day of Epiphany on January 6.

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRYAN

Dear friends,

Merry Christmas!

As you read this, we are sometime in the 12 days of Christmas, this short but wonderful season of the year celebrating the birth of Jesus, the light of the world. We continue our Christmas celebrations through the turn of the calendar until January 6, the day of Epiphany.

I thank you all for the wonderful cards, gifts, and well-wishes through Christmas. We took some time off after Christmas to visit our family and other friends, but now it's time to get back to work.

The most important event this month is our annual meeting, coming up on January 18. There are several business matters that we will need to accomplish at that meeting. We will elect a new council president, a council secretary, several board and committee members, and representatives to our partner organization's meetings. We will approve next year's budget. And we will approve updates to our constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions. The council has been hard at work all year updating those governing documents, and we're pleased how everything turned out.

We're also planning on hosting a game night here at the church on Friday, January 30. More information about that will be coming out as we get closer.

Please also add to your calendars a couple of exciting events going on in February. We'll be joining together with our friends at Norway Grove Memorial Lutheran Church in DeForest for two joint worship services on February 1 (at NGMLC) and on February 22 (at Burke). Both of these occasions will allow us all to celebrate and learn along with our joint confirmation class. I'll tell you more about these later.

Meanwhile, I pray that you are keeping this time with your family and friends in ways that remind you of God's love and peace, and I pray that you find some ways to share the grace of God with others. I'm looking forward to seeing what blessings God's grace will pour out upon us all in the next year.

God bless,

Pr. Bryan

Church 101: The color of the paraments for Christmas is white, the same white we use for Easter and all the other festivals that celebrate the life and wonder of Jesus our Lord.

WOMEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Wednesday, January 21 at 12:00pm. They will be meeting at Olive Garden. Please join us for the monthly celebration. Happy Birthday to all who have a birthday this month.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast is Wednesday, January 14 At Gus' Diner, Hwy 19, Sun Prairie, at 9:00am. Stop in for a cup of joe, a hearty breakfast and connect with brothers in Christ.



FOOD PANTRY

January Food Pantry Focus: "Meals in a Can," such as soups, stews, chili, canned meat (tuna, chicken), canned vegetables, canned fruit, etc. Cans with pop tops are especially welcomed. Please place your non-perishable goods in the 'Donations' basket in the entryway and it will be delivered to the pantry.

BIRTHDAY BAGS FOR RIVER FOOD PANTRY.

List of contents and bags are located in the entryway.

JAM Youth Education Classes

At Norway Grove Memorial Lutheran Church

J.A.M. (Jesus And Me) is religious youth education geared towards children aged 3-years-old to 4th grade. Class time consists of a bible story, crafts, games, music and prayers. JAM meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m., September through mid-May.

PRAYER CONCERNS

During the month of October we remember the following individuals in our Sunday prayers:

Family and Friends of Mary Brantmeyer

Family and Friends of Pat Graham

Lisa Thompson

Mark Gehrke

Tim Lothe

Bill Schmidt

Diane Wendt

Paul Fritz

Carla Housner

Shannon Schlimgen

Roger Kittleson



Our Prayer List: Contact the church office with prayer concerns. Unless otherwise advised, names remain on our list for four weeks.

We apologize if we have missed anyone, it was not intentional.

Did you know? The song "The 12 Days of Christmas" is mostly just a joyous celebration of gift-giving (although anyone who would give that many birds to another person is suspicious). But it has been used as a teaching tool in the church for the basics of the faith. More on that next month!

Your Ideas are Needed!

Burke is again eligible to apply for a special grant through the Madison Community Foundation.

We are in need of volunteers to help us brainstorm ideas. The grant can support new programs or expand on an existing program that has been successful. It cannot be used for annual operating costs or capital projects. Grant is for approximately \$10,000.

If you are interested please contact Angie Lenzendorf, Mary TeWinkel or the church office. Plans are to meet after church services on Sunday, January 11th. So put on your thinking caps and come share your thoughts and ideas. Together we can come up with a great plan.

INCLEMENT WEATHER WINTER PARKING

The winter season is here, and with it, lots of ice and snow. Snow is usually easily identified but unfortunately ice often goes unseen until it is too late. Please save our handicap spaces for those most in need, and to let us know immediately if you find ice anywhere where people may be walking. To find out if church services are cancelled due to inclement weather, you can check Burke's Facebook page, Burke's website, or call the church office at 244-8486. Thank you, and God's peace be upon all that you do.



Church 101: The Day of Epiphany, January 6, is when we celebrate the visit of the wise men from the east. They usually appear in the nativity scene, but did not actually arrive until about two years after Jesus's birth.



JANUARY



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Worship, 9:00am Coffee Hour, 10:00am	5	6	7 Quilting, 9:00am OWLs, 1:30pm JAM, 6:30pm	8	9	10
11 Worship, 9:00am Coffee Hour, 10:00am Confirmation at NGMLC, 5:30pm	12	13 Open Forum, 6:15pm Council, 6:30pm	14 Quilting, 9:00am Men's Breakfast, 9:00am OWLs, 1:30pm JAM, 6:30pm	15	16	17
18 Worship, 9:00am Annual Meeting, 10:00am Cemetery Association Annual Meeting	19 Preach Board, 10:00am	20 Foundation, 7:00pm	21 Quilting, 9:00am BLCW Lunch, 12:00pm OWLs, 1:30pm JAM, 6:30pm	22	23	24 Pastor Bryan - Vacation
25 Pastor Bryan - Vacation Worship, 9:00am Potluck, 10:00am	26 Cooperative Ministry Visionary Team Meeting at Burke, 6:30pm	27	28 Quilting, 9:00am OWLs, 1:30pm JAM, 6:30pm	29	30 GAME NIGHT	31 Confirmation Lock-In at NGMLC

Save the Dates: February 1 - Joint Service at NGMLC March 1 - Have a Ball Beach Party
 February 18 - Ash Wednesday
 February 22 - Joint Service at BLC

Happy Birthday		Happy Anniversary	
January 3	Linda Peterson	January 18	Libby Brown
January 4	Julie Clark	January 19	Judy Martin
January 5	Gary Brown	January 21	Jamie Truitt
January 7	Charley Hanson	January 22	Janeen Otis
January 9	Hunter Hanson	January 24	Emory Lietz
January 12	James Ekern	January 27	Randy Showers
January 15	Miriah Lenzendorf	January 29	Robert Boettcher
January 17	Donna Showers	January 30	Jan Peterson
January 17	Kim Hanson	January 30	Mark Klang
		January 31	Roger Martin
		Darwin & Nancy Thompson January 16, 1971	

Did you know? The story of the Wise Men only appears in the Gospel of Matthew, and the story does not say how many wise men there were. We only think there were three because they gave three types of gifts. There could have been hundreds of wise men!

	January 4 9:00am Service	January 11 9:00am Service	January 18 9:00am Service	January 25 9:00am Service
Organist/Pianist	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore
Music Leader	Dave Wisner Jean Schnick	Dave Wisner Gloria Lundquist	Dave Wisner Rick Brandon	Dave Wisner
Communion Asst	Julie Clark	Sharon Hughes	David Hanson	Jean Schnick
Communion Prep	Gloria Lundquist	Jean Schnick	Jeannette Gehrke	Jean Schnick
Lay Reader	Tim Wachs	Cheryl Beckman	Julie Clark	Sharon Hughes
Ushers	Bob Lenzendorf David Hanson	Steve & Donna Frederick	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon	Karl & Shari Patzer
Coffee Hour	Donuts	Donuts	Donuts	Potluck
Counters	Gloria Lundquist Rose Haney	Gloria Lundquist Deb Brown	Sharon Hughes Jean Schnick	Sharon Hughes Jean Schnick

Church 101: The three gifts of the Wise Men were gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold symbolizes Jesus being a king. Frankincense was the incense the Jews used in the temple, so signifies Jesus's divinity. And myrrh was the balm used to anoint the dead, symbolizing Jesus's eventual death and burial.