SAVE THE DATE...

Cooler by the Lake Art en Fleurs 2024

A Garden Club of America (GCA) Major Flower Show

Presented by the Garden Clubs of SE Wisconsin September 9 – 11



Saint John's is honored to be selected as the Garden Club of America's Art en Fleurs 2024 "Cooler by the Lake" host site. "Art en Fleurs" is a nationally known botanical show that takes place only once every three years in Milwaukee. The show will blossom for the first time at Saint John's On The Lake, September 9 through 11.

Four Wisconsin Member Clubs of the Garden Club of America (Green Tree Garden Club, Kettle Moraine Garden Club, Lake Geneva Garden Club, Town and Country Garden Club) and Member Clubs of The Garden Club of America have joined to stage the prestigious GCA event featuring entries in floral design, horticulture, photography, botanical arts and education.

Visitors — thousands typically attend major GCA events — will take time to smell the roses, not to mention the warm scent of potting soil that will fill the "Art en Fleurs" air.

The event design "Cooler by the Lake" was inspired by The People's Flag of Milwaukee, "Sunrise over the Lake" created by Robert Lenz.

"Art en Fleurs" will be open to the public, free of charge:
Tuesday, September 10: 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Wednesday, September 11: 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

For more information on the Garden Clubs of America visit: www.GCAmerica.org

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A Better View On Life

## Community Impact

### 2024 SYMPOSIUM FOCUSED ON AGING AND THE HABITS OF THE HEART

On March 7-8, more than 300 attendees participated in lectures, practicums and cultural experiences at Saint John's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium On Aging. The signature event, led by nationally recognized faculty and published authors, offered an opportunity to share ideas, research outcomes and lessons learned to strengthen resilience and celebrate aging.

The Symposium was underwritten by the Foundation's **Community Impact Fund**, corporate sponsors and individual donors, and was offered at no-charge to all attendees. It was a full house!

# Aging and the Habits of the Heart











"I am so grateful for the tools provided to allow us to be thoughtful, intentional and empowered as we age." ~ Kayla Steinke, Milwaukee County Aging & Disabilities Services

## Aging and the Habits of the Heart













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We Look Forward to the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium On Aging in 2025!





### Leaving a Legacy



Gerry and Elaine Mainman

### PLANNED GIFTS CREATE YOUR PERSONAL LEGACY

We welcome our newest Legacy Society Members, Gerry and Elaine Mainman. The Mainmans have a long history with Saint John's dating back to when Saint John's was located on Cass Street.



Both have volunteered at Saint John's. Elaine served as a volunteer in the Occupational Therapy department and Gerry served on the Communities' Board of Directors and was instrumental in building the original Prospect Avenue campus. We thank them for their commitment to leaving a legacy and for enriching lives for years to come. This future gift will support the work of the Foundation; a tangible expression of confidence in our commitment to aging well and lifelong learning.

Legacy donors are people who believe in the extraordinary impact that a planned gift makes on Saint John's ability to be an unrivaled leader of retirement living. Members of our Legacy Society know the importance of planning with intention to make a difference in Saint John's future. As a legacy donor, you have the satisfaction and joy of giving now, while feeling no financial effect during your lifetime.

Please consider naming Saint John's as a beneficiary in your estate plans. Once the gift is committed, you are welcomed into the Legacy Society. If you have made prior plans, please inform us so we can thank you personally.

It is exciting to report that Saint John's combined legacy gifts total \$1.8 million!

#### **REPORT ON 2023 GIVING**

A combined total of \$911,506 was contributed to the Foundation's Endowed Funds and to Saint John's Communities' operations. The 2023 Annual Reports published in early May will give a full accounting on these accomplishments. At year-end, Saint John's Foundation reported net assets of \$9.8 Million – demonstrating the significant results realized from gifts both large and small. A record \$345,492 was raised through the Employee Holiday Fund Campaign – illustrating the deep gratitude and appreciation from residents, families and board members for "Service Excellence" from staff.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- May 6 Annual Meeting of the Saint John's Communities' Board and Residents of Saint John's On the Lake followed by a reception.
- May 15 Saint John's Communities Foundation Annual Campaign Kick-Off inviting your charitable giving to Saint John's in ways that are important to you. The Campaign is open all year to receive your joyful contribution. We look forward to inquiries about charitable giving opportunities or membership in our Legacy Society.

## Spotlight on Generosity

#### **SHARING THE LOVE!**

 Our appreciation to a generous donor, who wishes anonymity at this time, for their support and arrangement of Sr. Helen Prejean's visit to Saint John's on Saturday, April 20. Attendance is limited to Saint John's residents



and special invitees due to seating capacity.

Sister Helen Prejean will converse about her ministry, working against the death penalty, counseling individual death row prisoners and working with murder victims' family members. It has been 31 years since her book, now known as Dead Man Walking: The Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States That Sparked a National Debate, was published. Sister Prejean's book was made into an Oscar-winning movie and, most recently, an opera. She continues to educate the public, advocate for ending the death penalty and counsel both prisoners' and victims' families.

- Our thanks to Paul & Gloria Halverson for sponsoring the January performance of Stephanie Seefeldt as an appreciation for the extra care they received at Saint John's in 2023.
- Tony & Kathy Asmuth and Anne Hazelwood are sharing their love of music with the campus supporting two performances of Early Music Now. EMN is dedicated to the creation of lively connections with the past through historically informed presentations of music composed before 1800.
- The Chapel Council's Lenten Project
   is raising donations for A.B.L.E.
   (Audio & Braille Literacy Enhancement).
   Working with trained volunteers,
   A.B.L.E. transcribes print materials into
   braille, audio and tactile formats to
   enhance literacy, dignity, productivity
   and independence for individuals who
   are blind, visually-impaired or print
   disabled.



### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024 SPRING SEMESTER EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS



Julia Pfankuch Nursing Marquette University

> Auburn Von Kaenel Nursing Milwaukee School of Engineering



Employee Scholarship Awards are presented on a semester basis. Spring and Fall recipients will be recognized at the Annual Education Awards Program on August 7.

With appreciation to all of the supporters of the Foundation's Educational Funds and the Scholarship Committee:

Sara Aster Virginia Chappell Sandy Duffy Mary McAndrews Cathy Carr Keshia Exum-Pryor Paulina Ruiz-Maki

## A Culture of Philanthropy



Thanks to all who contributed to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. diaper drive to benefit the **Milwaukee Diaper Mission**. The in-kind donations were joyously received along with a check for \$7,200, the collective



gift of the 2023 Chapel Advent Collection. These donations will reach hundreds of clients of the Milwaukee Diaper Mission's partner organizations.

EARTH DAY is a national recognition of the need to care for this planet. Residents, Saint John's employees, family and friends are invited to join us Monday, April 22 from 1–3 p.m. for an Eastside neighborhood clean-up. Volunteer teams will be assigned an area to pick up litter in close proximity to Saint John's. Register on Touchtown or contact Paulina Ruiz-Maki at 414.831.7865 or PRuizMaki@SaintJohnsMilw.org to sign-up by April 16.





Save a Life! Versati Blood Center of Wisconsin will be at Saint John's for a campus-wide blood drive Thursday, May 16 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Contact Keshia Exum-Pryor, Chief People Officer, at KexumPryor@SaintJohnsMilw.org by May 1.

All are welcome!



#### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

Tuesday 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Thursday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

1st Saturday of the Month 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
(non-holiday weekends)

Donations accepted during hours of operation.

All proceeds from Surprising Findings go towards
Saint John's Community Impact Initiatives.
Thank you for shopping and for making a
difference in the lives of others through your
generous donations. Interested in volunteering
with Surprising Findings?
Contact Paulina Ruiz-Maki to learn more.



Saint John's Community Impact t-shirts are available for sale at Surprising Findings \$20 each (\$25 for 2XL / 3XL)

Proceeds support Saint John's Community Impact.

Special thanks to artist Jean Wells at www.JeansClayStudio.com

## Our Humble Beginnings

#### CELEBRATING SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL HERITAGE



Saint John's was founded in 1868 by a group of philanthropic women of the Episcopal Church to provide shelter for deserving parishioners. From those humble beginnings, Saint John's growth has not only

included the size of the campus but also the steadfast commitment to our mission of enriching the lives of older adults through gracious retirement living, spiritual growth, cultural and educational opportunities and health care services. Though we've continued to break new ground, year after year, we remain grounded in our Episcopal Heritage.

The Chapel of Saint John the Evangelist was constructed in 2004 on the present-day Prospect Avenue location, and in 2016, a capital campaign was successfully completed to assure that there shall be appropriate music at Episcopal services and that there shall, at all times, be a full-time Episcopal Chaplain on staff.

We are grateful to the supporters of Saint John's Chapel campaign whose generosity built this beautiful sanctuary to welcome and serve individuals of all faiths.



After 20 years of operation, the Chapel was due for an "extreme makeover." In 2023, the Chapel underwent a significant refresh including a fresh coat of paint on all walls and trim, woodwork repair and refinishing, and deep cleaning of all surfaces.

As a way to remember our history, give thanks to God for our present, and hold in prayer our future, we invite you to join us for special events to celebrate our Chapel's 20th Anniversary.

#### 20th Anniversary Events

May 5 at 5 p.m. Choral and Strings Evensong

Service and Reception

May 7, 8, 9 at 1 p.m. Lectures on the Chapel History

and our Chapel Icons

May 11 at 11 a.m. Organ Recital by

Charles Q. Sullivan

#### VINTAGE CHAPEL WINDOWS

These four stained-glass windows were originally installed in Saint John the Evangelist Chapel at the Cass Street site. The pieces were designed by local artisans from the Arnold Gavin Glass Studio. They remained there until 1979, when they became part of the chapel on the Prospect Avenue campus.

When the current chapel was designed, there was no plan to incorporate the stained-glass windows. Upon demolition, the windows were removed, and we were instructed to "get rid of them". Efforts to sell and donate were unsuccessful. Ultimately, we lost track of the beautiful windows.

In 2014, Chapel Council was planning a celebration of the 10-year anniversary of the consecration. Our then Engineering Services Manager, Tom DuPree, came forward with a surprising offer. He had saved the windows from the salvage

yard and stored them on his Eastside porch for the last 10 years! Former resident Alice Nelson graciously offered to underwrite the expense of installing the windows in the Chapel narthex. Alice made the gift in memory of her husband, James W. Nelson, Jr.

The stained-glass windows are now permanently displayed in a design which enhances the architectural details of the Chapel. The windows are backlit to showcase the colored glass for the enjoyment of all.









## Happenings at Saint John's



MOWA On The Lake, the satellite site of the Museum of Wisconsin Art, is located in Saint John's Museum Gallery and is open to the public daily from 10 a.m.–7 p.m.









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Follow us on Facebook to see Saint John's happenings and meet some of our incredible residents and team members.



Questions? Call Us: 414-831-6900.



Musings On Dairy Farms Pastels by Judith M. Friebert April 11 – June 23

For many years, Judith Friebert has focused on depicting family-owned dairy farms. As a child, she accompanied her parents – the Milwaukee artists



Joseph and Betsy Ritz Friebert – on sketching trips in the countryside. They were often drawn to Wisconsin's legendary dairy farms. The farmers were friendly, pleased to have their land admired in this way. Years later, living in Massachusetts, Friebert began to explore this subject again. Moving to her native state five years ago, she found similar pastoral subjects to portray, although not nearly as many as before: In the current era of corporate dairy farming, small farms struggle to survive.

Friebert tries to give back the best she can through her work and in advocating for them. She thanks her farmer friends for allowing her to make her art on their beautiful farms.

Visit MOWA On The Lake this summer as we welcome artist, Xiaohong Zhang for an exhibit running June 27-September 8.

### Enrich the Present, Enhance the Future

Enriching Lives is a publication of Saint John's Office of Philanthropy which represents Saint John's Communities and Saint John's Communities Foundation.

Visit our website at www.SaintJohnsMilw.org.

We encourage you to enjoy the gift of giving. Our office accepts cash, check, credit card or appreciated stock. All financial gifts to Saint John's Communities and Saint John's Communities Foundation qualify under Section 170(f)(8) as eligible for tax deduction. Credit card gifting is available through our office or through our website.

For information about any form of giving, contact: Cathy Carr, Director of Philanthropy at 414.831.6905 or CCarr@SaintJohnsMilw.org





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