

THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of January 14, 2024

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



How do you sum up more than four decades of faithful ministry to the Lord? Perhaps the Apostle Paul said it best, *"I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace."* (Acts 20:24 NIV) On this special weekend of worship and celebration we give thanks for 43 years of pastoral ministry of Pastor Jon Trinklein as he officially shifts into retirement! To help us celebrate we welcome Rev. Ken Wise, dear friend of Pastor Jon and former senior pastor of Trinity Lutheran in Clinton Township. He will remind us all "It ain't over 'til it's over!" May the Lord inspire all of us to greater zeal for the gospel no matter what our calling in life!

BAPTISM

This weekend we celebrate the baptism of Rosa Danielle Verzeroli, daughter of Lori (Danielson) and Davide, at the 11:00 AM Traditional Praise service. May God richly bless Rosa and her family!



IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER

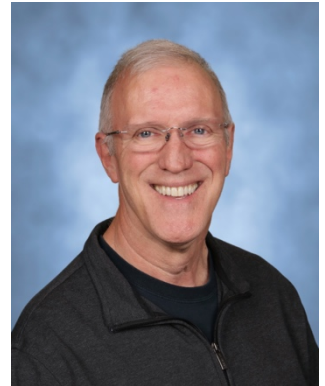
The Bible teaches that along with the bread and wine of Holy Communion we also receive the true body and blood of our Savior. Jesus' own words, "this is my body" and "this is my blood for the forgiveness of sins" reveal His Real Presence in the sacrament (Luke 22, 1 Cor. 10:15-16). The Bible also teaches (1 Cor. 11:23-32) the Lord's Supper, properly received brings great blessings, but improperly received without understanding can actually incur God's judgment. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the Biblical teaching of communion, please feel free to commune today. If you have any questions, please first speak to a pastor.

As you come forward, gluten free wafers are available by request, as well as individual cup choice of wine or lighter colored non-alcoholic grape juice (located in the center of the trays). Common cup is also offered during Traditional Praise services at the altar only. The Lord's Supper is celebrated in Traditional Praise on the first, third, and fifth weekends of the month; and in Modern Praise on the second and fourth weekends of the month.

Biography and Personal Word Pastor Jon Trinklein

Pastor Jon's life-long passion has been and will continue to be in his retirement the making of as many disciple-making disciples possible!

He is a graduate of Concordia Universities, Ann Arbor, Michigan (1975) and Chicago, Illinois (1977) and Concordia Seminary (1981), St. Louis, Missouri. He has served as an inner city pastor in Inglewood, California, a church planter in Little Rock, Arkansas, the vice president of the Mid-South District of the LCMS, Discipleship/Executive/Missions Pastor of King of Kings, Omaha, Nebraska, served on a City Transformation Roundtable of Omaha/Council Bluffs (a city-wide leadership constellation of church, business, government, education and media leaders), Lead Pastor at Shepherd's Gate Lutheran Church, Shelby Township, Michigan and as a mission leader taking teams to Russia, Africa, Israel and China. He participated in the development of Lutheran High Schools in Inglewood and Little Rock. He mentored and helped launch a Sudanese Lutheran Church in Omaha and ordained two pastors at Shepherd's Gate.



He served as the chairman of the northern Macomb County National Day of Prayer Gathering and as Coordinator of Macomb Transformed for Christ which is a coalition of about thirty churches in Macomb County, Michigan. Together, Pastor Jon and his wife Sue led prayer seminars in over 50 churches across our nation as well as England and China. And for the last five years he has had the joy of serving in his home church here at St. John Lutheran Church and School, Rochester, Michigan as a part time Pastor of Mission Mobilization and most recently Pastor of Discipleship.

Pastor Jon and Sue have been married 46 years and have two grown, married children: Jordan and his wife Melissa, and Tessa and her husband, Leon. They are delighted to be Papa and Nana to their beautiful grandchildren, Natalie, Jacqueline and Emily Richards and Dylan and Quinn Trinklein.

The following is a message from Pastor Jon:

"To my family, know how much I love you and thank God for you. I pray you will always know the grace and love of our Savior Jesus. I am deeply thankful for the loving support Sue has given to me for all the years of marriage and ministry. Truly life's journey with all the joy and blessings as well as challenges and trials is made sweeter and richer through the gift of God to me; my wife Sue. I cherish how we have been partners together in teaching, leading, and encouraging others both here at home and around the world. God has always been so good to us."

"And I can't think of a better place to cross the finish line of pastoral ministry than here at St. John Lutheran Church, Rochester, Michigan. I am so thankful for my brother pastors Marc and Steve and all the church and school staff and with our dear St. John family. In all things, glory be to God for his grace and goodness!"

Pastor Jon Trinklein

CELEBRATION RECEPTION

Today as we give thanks for these 43 years of God's faithfulness through Pastor Jon's ministry, be sure to also join us after each worship service for a cake reception where Pastor Jon and Sue will be present for us to share our appreciation and love in Luther Hall across the lobby from the sanctuary.

TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

Epiphany 2 | January 14, 2024

Service Elements taken from the Divine Service, Setting Four, Pew Hymnal (LSB) p. 203.

All hymns will also be found in the pew hymnal and on the screen.

PRELUDE: Brighter than the Sun (8:00/9:30)

Men's Chorus

OPENING HYMN: *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

LSB #395 | stz. 1-4

SERVICE OF THE WORD

LSB p.203

Invocation

Confession

Hymn of Praise: *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*

LSB #395 | stz. 5-6

Prayer of the Day

Anthem: *I Love to Tell the Story* (8:00/9:30)

Men's Chorus

Epistle Reading: Colossians 1:24-29

Worship Bible p.983

Alleluia

LSB #952

Holy Gospel Reading: John 15:1-9

Worship Bible p.901

APOSTLES' CREED

Screen

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

LSB #685

MESSAGE

Pastor Ken Wise

PRAYERS/LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

LSB #922

BIBLICAL DISCOVERY



GET INTO THE WORD THIS WINTER | Classes starting now

The New Year is here and with it comes many new opportunities at St. John to grow in your faith through God's Word! Check out the latest Get Into the Word Bible brochure for class and group listings - it's available in print, outside of the entry to worship, and on our [website](#).

ROMANS LIFELIGHT STUDY | Class Postponed

The Wednesday morning Romans Lifelight class, scheduled to begin in January, has been postponed until Fall 2024. If you already picked up a copy of the study guide, please hold onto it until the fall class starts. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact class leader Carol Kahler at carol5666@att.net.

MARTHA'S DAUGHTERS | Wednesday, January 17 at 7:00 PM

This is an informal gathering for ladies to connect with each other for great conversation and a glass of wine (or beverage of your choice.) Led by Erin Morgante and Julie Schmidt, meet at the Red Ox Tavern, Auburn Hills, on Wednesday, January 17 at 7:00 PM. Take time for fellowship with other women as we share our lives, laughter, and the love of Jesus. Please call or text Erin Morgante if you plan to attend at 248-252-1354.



READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Wednesdays at 6:00 PM

Studying God's Word is undoubtedly one of the best ways to grow your faith. Have you ever thought about reading the Bible - from start to finish - in one year? By setting aside time each week to learn about God's character, you can build your foundation of trust in the Lord and better understand His purpose in your life.

A reading schedule has been posted in the special St. John group within the Bible App. If you would like a paper copy, please contact Steve Wilson at swilson@stjohnrochester.org. Participants meet on Wednesdays in Luther Hall to discuss the assigned reading. Meeting participation is optional. Scan the QR code to download the Bible App or visit our [website](#) for more information!



SHARED LIFE



DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE | February 2 at 6:00 PM

Save the date for this year's Daddy Daughter Dance to be held on Friday, February 2 at 6:00 PM. Hosted by St. John Child & Family Ministry and the Parent Network, this event will be open to Preschool 4's to 8th grade from both our church and school. The cost is \$30 per family. Registration is required and is now open at: www.stjohnrochester.org/event/daddydaughter2024/



ARE YOU READY TO MAKE ST. JOHN YOUR HOME? | Class starts February 26

Have you or someone you know been searching for an opportunity to learn or rediscover what real faith in Jesus is all about in a non-threatening environment where your real questions can be answered? Maybe you're new to St. John School or maybe you have been worshiping as a guest and finally feel led to make St. John your official church home. Whether transferring from another church or brand new to the Christian faith, The ONE Class is for you...and now is the time! Come join Pastors Marc, Steve, and Jon on an 8-week, action-packed journey through God's Word as they help you discover what Christian Lutheran faith is all about! You will also learn more about our St. John mission and vision!

Classes meet on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. (Free childcare is available upon request.) After completion of the series participants are welcomed to prayerfully consider official membership as part of the St. John family. For more please contact church@stjohnrochester.org or call the Pastoral Office at 248-402-8020. We hope you can join us! **Register now by scanning the QR Code or visiting:** <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/one-class-membership-class/>



ONE Class
Registration

TEACHING CANDIDATES FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

St. John is seeking candidates for three (3) preschool teachers as well as a 6th grade teacher with a math and science background for the 2024-2025 school year. The congregation is invited to submit candidate recommendations via email to Todd Pehlke at tpehlke@stjohnrochester.org. St. John will also receive recommendations from our LCMS Michigan District and the Concordia University System. Qualified candidates for this position must have a bachelor's degree, a love for Jesus our Savior, and a love for children and their families. A job description is available at the Main Office. All recommendations must be received by January 26, 2024.

PRESCHOOL AIDE POSITIONS FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

St. John is now accepting applications for the position(s) of Preschool Teacher Aide starting with the 2024-2025 school year. The hours of this position will be 8:00-3:45 for school days only and applicants can apply for full-time or part-time (please include your preference in your letter of application). Interested candidates are invited to submit a letter of application as well as a resume to the St. John Main Office, attention Todd Pehlke, Principal, by Friday, February 9, 2024.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL | Sundays at 9:30 AM

Weekly Sunday School meets at 9:30 AM in the school classrooms of our building (September – May). All children ages 3 (if potty trained) through 6th grade are welcome.



LIGHTHOUSE MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY | January 21

Lighthouse will meet in the gym from 6:00 – 8:00 PM on January 21. For more information, please contact our Director of Child and Family Ministry, Steve Wilson at 248-402-8006 or swilson@stjohnrochester.org.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY | January 21

High School Youth will meet in the youth room from 6:00 – 8:00 PM on January 21. Check your emails for upcoming trips and registration. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year is approaching! Save the Date for upcoming events:

- **Preschool & Young 5's Preview** - January 18, 6:00 - 7:00 PM. Meet our Preschool and Young 5's teachers, get an overview of the session goals and objectives, and visit the Preschool classrooms. This evening is for parents only.
- **School Open House** - January 21, 12:00 - 1:30 PM. Meet the teachers, visit the classrooms, and learn all about our Preschool to 8th grade. *This event is for the whole family!*

St. John congregation early enrollment/current student re-enrollment is January 16 - 26, and Community Open Enrollment starts February 1. For more information, or to schedule a personal campus tour, visit stjohnrochester.org/school, or contact Beth Dameron, Director of Admissions at 248-402-8012 or bdameron@stjohnrochester.org. We welcome your visit!

SKI CLUB | January 16

The St. John Ski & Snowboard Club is back this year, and the group is meeting at Mt. Holly. The first night was delayed due to rain so the group plans to kick off for this year on Tuesday, January 16. This club is open to the church and school as well as friends and family. If you have not signed up yet and are interested, you can do so until February 1. For more information, please contact Mrs. Cassie Benter, cbentner@stjohnrochester.org



LUTHERAN NORTHWEST NEWS

Interested in enrolling at Lutheran Northwest for the 2024-2025 school year? Here are some important dates and deadlines:

1. The High School Placement Test is Saturday, January 20, from 9:00 AM to Noon. This free test is strongly encouraged for all students considering Lutheran Northwest. Please pre-register for the test by emailing lutherannorthwest@lhsa.com.
2. 8th grade *Intro Night* is Wednesday, January 24, at 7:00 PM. This fun evening provides an official welcome to 8th graders already registered or considering Lutheran Northwest for next year. It will also provide helpful information to parents about the LHNW curriculum and scheduling options for 9th grade. Students who have taken our High School Placement Test will receive their test scores at this time. No pre-registration is required. Dessert is included as we celebrate with the newest members of our Crusader family!
3. If you haven't yet applied and are ready to take that step, now is the perfect time to apply for admission for 2024! The application fee is currently \$150, but it will increase to \$200 on February 1. The application can be completed online at www.lutherannorthwest.com/apply.

If you have any questions or would like to arrange a family visit and/or student shadow day, please call Admissions Director, Mary Gutenkunst, at 248-852-6677, or email mgutenkunst@lhsa.com.

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE | St. John's fiscal year is 7/1/23 through 6/30/24

"We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing!" 2 Thessalonians 1:3

Your continued financial support and partnership in the ministry and mission of St. John Lutheran Church & School is so important and is making a huge difference in changing lives for eternity in Jesus' name! If you are worshiping onsite, offerings will be taken touch-free at the door. You can also scan the provided QR Code to give online, or many have switched to faithful ongoing giving electronically either through their own bank (as a recurring automatic transaction) or through our website giving portal at <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/give/>. If you have any questions, please reach out to Steve Gauss at sgauss@stjohnrochester.org.



GIVE ONLINE

YTD Mission & Ministry Offerings (July 1 – January 7)

Budget	\$ 1,534,121
Actual	\$ 1,518,798
Variance	(\$15,323)

ELECTRONIC GIVING CHANGES | Effective January 10

On January 10, 2024, we transitioned to our e-Giving platform to Breeze. Breeze is completely integrated with our new church membership management program creating significant cost savings, minimizing opportunities for data errors, and simplified access for giving statements. If you previously used Kindrid or Vanco, you will need to sign up through Breeze to continue ongoing electronic giving. If you need assistance with making this switch, please reach out to Steve Gauss, sgauss@stjohnrochester.org, or Pam McKeon pmckeon@stjohnrochester.org.

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

SERVE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

The Financial Count Team is looking for additional members. The count teams are responsible for tabulating weekly offering donations and typically serve once a month for 1-2 hours. If you have a desire to serve in this important role, please contact Pat Krystoff at pkrystoff@yahoo.com.

CONSTANT PRAYER

WE WOULD LOVE TO PRAY FOR WHATEVER IS ON YOUR HEART

To submit a prayer request, please email prayer@stjohnrochester.org at any time or visit our website and click on the prayer link toward the bottom of the homepage. These requests are received by our pastors and are passed along (or kept confidential when requested) to our prayer warriors and are also included in our weekend worship.



Healing & Peace: Laney Paton / Ruth Sadler – recovering from emergency surgery / John Kampsen

Bereavement: *For the family & friends of:* Janet Guetzkow / Skip Harrington / Ambrosio family (both parents of 6 young children killed in auto accident)

Strength & Guidance: The Schmidt and Hoffman families as they travel abroad

All2Jesus: Thanksgiving for everything moving forward – floors being poured – roof being erected! Thank you for continued generous financial support and prayers – especially prayers for the workers!

Gospel Impact: Pastor Call Process

Thanksgiving: Baptism of Rosa Danielle Verzeroli , daughter of Lori (Danielson) and Davide / For Pastor Jon's 43 years of ministry

Community – Nation – World: Iowa School Shooting

Persecuted Church: Nigeria – over 200 people from Christian villages were attacked and killed on Christmas Eve night by Muslim fundamentalist militia. The search for loved ones continues as the number continues to rise.



Worship Celebration Schedule

Traditional Praise: Sundays at 8:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 11:00 AM (Online at 8:00 AM)

Modern Praise: Saturdays at 5:00 PM | Sundays at 10:45 AM (Online at 10:45 AM)

1011 W. University Drive | Rochester, MI 48307 | 248.402.8000 | stjohnrochester.org