

# THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of September 28, 2025

## WORSHIP CELEBRATION



September 13/14 – Kingdom for the Lost

September 20/21 – Kingdom Economics

September 27/28 – Kingdom of No Regret

October 4/5 – Kingdom Responsibility

October 11/12 – Kingdom Gratitude

October 18/19 – Kingdom Prayer

### KINGDOM PERSPECTIVES SERIES

At a time when perspectives of political power and influence have increasingly been confused to be synonymous with spiritual power, our God and Savior declares, “My kingdom is not of this world!” This same God is the one who brings a different reality into being among us through His Word and welcomes us to live in a different kind of kingdom with eternal perspectives as his people - perspectives that truly are not of this world. Join us in worship this fall as we explore some of these surprising perspectives and the impact they can have on our lives today.



If you miss any of the Kingdom Perspectives Series messages, they will be uploaded weekly to our Online Resources webpage. Scan the QR code or visit the website below to watch any of the previously aired sermons.

<https://www.stjohnrochester.org/worship/church-online/>

### HOLY BAPTISM

This Sunday, September 28 after the 11:00 AM service we celebrate the baptism of Everleigh Kate Russ, daughter of Sean and Alexis Russ. May God richly bless Everleigh and her family.



# TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

Pentecost 17 | September 28, 2025

Service elements are taken from the Divine Service, Setting One, Pew Hymnal pg. 151.

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

**PRELUDE:** Earl of Oxford's March (8:00/9:30)

Brass Ensemble

**BELLS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN:** *O God, My Faithful God*

LSB #696 | stz. 1, 2, 5, 6

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

Invocation/Confession

Screen

Gloria

LSB #947

Prayer of the Day

Old Testament Reading: Amos 6:1-7

Anthem: When In Our Music God is Glorified

Mixed Choir (8:00/9:30)

New Testament Reading: 1 Timothy 3:1-13

Alleluia

LSB 952

Holy Gospel Reading: Luke 16:19-31

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

Screen

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Praise the Almighty*

LSB 797 | Choir sings stz. 2 & 4 (8:00/9:30)

**MESSAGE**

Pastor Tyler Cronkright

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN:** *I'm But a Stranger Here*

LSB #748

## 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. **During regular worship weekends, the Lord's Supper is celebrated in Traditional Praise on the first and third weekends of the month; and in Modern Praise on the second and fourth weekends of the month. On months with a fifth Sunday, Communion will be served at both Traditional and Modern Praise services.**

## BIBLICAL DISCOVERY



### GET INTO THE WORD | Fall Bible Studies and LIFEgroups

Our Fall Bible studies and LIFEgroups have begun! Check out the full listing of classes and events by scanning the QR Code or visiting our website. A printed copy of the *Get Into The Word* guide can also be found in the narthex and atrium. Whether you are looking for a small class or large group, there is something for everyone - no matter your age, schedule, or life circumstances! Be sure to make the most of growing in your faith walk with Jesus through His Word this Fall!



### STORIES YOU DIDN'T HEAR IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:

**A study on the Book of Judges**

**Sundays at 9:30 AM | Concordia Hall**

Join our Pastors on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in Concordia Hall, as we study one of the most interesting, exciting, and perhaps even grisly books of the Bible. Judges often gets overlooked on Sunday mornings. Not only is it difficult to discover Christ in it, there are also some stories that you may have been “protected” from as a kid. Together, we are looking at all of the stories and talking about how Christ is at work and what God is teaching Israel and us in them. We can't wait to see you! If you have questions or want more information, contact Pastor Tyler at [pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org).



### MONTHLY MISSION PARTNER FOCUS | Today at 9:30 AM | Concordia

Join us for Pastor's Bible Class today as we will have our first monthly Mission Partner Focus of the year with our friends from South Africa and Christian Outreach For Africa! We will be going live via video livestream to spend time with children at the Amajuba Orphanage in Mhluzi and learn the many ways the Lord is making an impact for His kingdom!

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY | Wednesdays at 6:00 PM | Concordia Hall

The Bible in a Year study will continue as an adult Bible study on Wednesday evenings. The group is currently studying the *Book of Luke* in the Chad Bird 1517 series. When this six week study concludes, the group plans to continue with *The Truth Project*.

## CONFIRMATION UPDATE

Please note that there are NO Sunday Confirmation classes this year. Students enrolled at St. John Lutheran School will receive curriculum through school religion class.

Students not enrolled in St. John Lutheran School will be required to attend three Saturday classes along with a parent. These sessions will cover the Six Chief Parts of the Catechism, as well as thoughtful discussion with the pastor who is leading. The dates for these Saturday classes are November 8 (Pastor Steve), February 7 (Pastor Marc), and April 11 (Pastor Tyler) from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM (with a break in the middle). If you have questions regarding Confirmation, or would like to register your student, please contact Pastor Tyler at [pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org).

## SHARED LIFE

### THE ONE CLASS | Began September 15

Are you ready to make St. John Lutheran Church & School your home? Have you or someone you know been looking for an opportunity to learn or rediscover what real faith in Jesus is all about? Join us in a relaxed and welcoming environment where your questions can be answered.

This is a great class for anyone new to St. John or returning after being away for some time, or for those who have been worshiping with us as a guest and feel led to make St. John their 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 to enroll!



Come join Pastors Marc, Steve, and Tyler on this engaging and interactive eight-week journey through God's Word! This is an opportunity to discover the Christian Lutheran faith and understand how our church and school mission and vision are rooted in its teachings. This is also a great opportunity to meet new friends and share your faith journey with others!

This class meets Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. **The last day to register for this class is September 29.** Childcare is available for those who need it! Upon completion of the class, participants are welcomed to prayerfully consider official membership as part of the St. John family.

To register for this class scan the QR code or visit: <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/one-class>  
If you have any questions, please contact our Ministry Engagement Coordinator, Deana Stevens at 248-402-8004 or [dstevens@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:dstevens@stjohnrochester.org).



## 242 LIFEGROUPS - Large Group Gathering | Wednesday, October 1 at 6:00 PM | Luther Hall

Eager to get connected to a small group? Want to discuss the sermons even further? Unsure where to start? Join us on Wednesday this week in Luther Hall at 6:00 PM where we will engage in discussion about Sunday's sermon as well as determine where other small groups will be meeting in October! It's never too late to join! If you have questions about Wednesday, please contact Pastor Tyler at [pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org)



### GRIEF SHARE | Begins October 11

Grief Share is a special weekly support group offering comfort, answers, and hope. It is designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one and is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the days ahead. This group meets Saturdays at 10:00

AM in the Church Library, starting October 11, 2025 and running through January 10, 2026. For more information, please contact Terry Priestly at [tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org).

### WOMEN'S FAITH & FELLOWSHIP ONE-DAY EVENT | November 1 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Ladies of St. John, join us on Saturday, November 1 to be encouraged in your faith walk with Jesus! We will gather to watch curated selections of Beth Moore's most recent simulcast, engage in praise and prayer, and have meaningful fellowship with each other. This event is intended to bring women together and build relationships for a stronger community.

Whatever walk of life you are in, this event is for you! Beth Moore is known for her engaging and insightful approach to faith and scripture and speaks to the



heart of women. Space is limited, so invite your friends and register early! Light breakfast items, coffee, water, and lunch will be provided. The cost is \$30 per person, and includes all refreshments and lunch. Scan the QR code or visit [https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/womens\\_event/](https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/womens_event/) to register now!



### OWLS SEPTEMBER MEETING RECAP

63 Older Wiser Lutherans in Service met last Friday for lunch, fellowship, and Rev. Paul Arndt's presentation featuring the Lutheran School of Theology located in Nairobi, Kenya, that trains African Lutherans to be teachers of the faith. Rev. Paul Arndt is one of the Instructors who assists Rev. James May, LST Executive Director, in training candidates for various church vocations and leadership in the Lutheran Churches of Africa. Join us for our next OWLS Luncheon scheduled for October 17.





## GALA & AUCTION IMPACT

Six months ago, the St. John Gala & Auction brought our community together for a night of generosity which has created major impacts that will resonate throughout the year. Many of our sports teams have received **new athletic uniforms**. Massive technology upgrades include several **new smartboards** as well as new **Chromebook laptops for EVERY middle school student**. Classrooms have also been outfitted with all the supplies necessary to enrich the children's learning experience. Additional support was given to the **St. John Lutheran School Tuition Assistance Fund**, helping families in need provide their children with a St. John education!

As we reflect on the impact, we share about one of the unique live auction items: the **"D is for Dog!" Night**, donated by our very own Preschool Director, Mrs. Neumeyer. This fantastic package gave parents a worry-free night out while the children stayed home for an evening of fun with Mrs. Neumeyer, to enjoy crafts, snacks, and a special devotion.

Praise be to God for these tremendous blessings! Thank you for your continued support and for making our school a place where students can thrive.

*(If you were a live auction winner and would like to share photos of your experience, please email [school@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:school@stjohnrochester.org).)*



## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

### DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY CALL PROCESS BEGINS

The St. John Vestry, in alignment with our policy, has formed a Director of Child, Youth, and Family Ministry call committee. You can help the call process by prayerfully submitting names of potential candidates to the main office. Qualified candidates include those rostered in the LCMS as callable with a DCE (Director of Christian Education) or Family Life degree, and background and experience serving in a church and school context. The deadline to submit names is September 29.

### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL CALL PROCESS CONTINUES

After taking a brief pause for the summer, our school principal call process will begin again this Fall. As it does, we are once again asking for name recommendations of potential school principal candidates. Qualified candidates include those rostered in the LCMS as callable with a background and experience in elementary education and/or leadership with a Master's degree or higher. Submit by September 29.

**Candidate submittal forms are available at both the main and church offices and can be submitted until Monday, September 29 for both of these positions.** Please keep both of these important call processes in your ongoing prayers. May the Lord lead us forward through this important time as He also prepares the heart of those whom He has in mind to serve into the future of our church and school.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



### ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Thank you to Officer Joe Dusovic from the Rochester Police Department Honor Guard, for teaching our American Heritage Girls about the American flag and how to properly care for and fold the flag. AHG is a Christ centered character and leadership development program and our troop is open to our church, school and community for girls in 1st to 6th grade.

The Cross-Country team had another great outing at The Fox and Hounds Meet at Orion Oaks Park on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> with most of the runners hitting personal best times! Coen Lorenzen lowered the school record with a new time of 11:13.89.

### ST. JOHN MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT PRO-LIFE GROUP

We are excited to announce the beginning of a brand-new chapter at St. John Lutheran Church & School—a student-led Pro-Life group just for middle school students! This group is being formed by students who feel called to stand up for life, share God's love, and encourage one another to boldly live out their faith.



### ST. JOHN TRUNK OR TREAT - Indoors! | Sunday, October 12

Join us for the annual St. John Trunk or Treat event to be held on Sunday, October 12, from 2:30 - 4:00 PM. Hosted by our ministry leadership team, this INDOOR, family-friendly event will take place in the gymnasium. Enjoy some light refreshments, a candy stroll, and if the weather is nice, the playground will be available, too! **This event is open to our church, school, and the community, so feel free to invite your neighbors and friends!** Registration to attend is not

required. (The Lions are playing at 8:00 PM that night so there will be plenty of time to get home for the game!)





### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL | Sundays at 9:30 AM

Join us on Sundays at 9:30 AM in the south school wing! Children ages 4 years to 6th grade are welcome and encouraged to join us. There are no attendance requirements! If you have any questions regarding Sunday School, please contact the Church Office at [church@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:church@stjohnrochester.org).

### MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 12:30 - 2:30 PM

Middle School Youth meets every Sunday at 12:30 PM in the Youth Room. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at [mhammett@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:mhammett@stjohnrochester.org).



### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 6:00 - 8:00 PM

High School Youth meet every Sunday at 6:00 PM. Check your weekly emails for meeting locations and details. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at [mhammett@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:mhammett@stjohnrochester.org).

### WORKCAMP 2026 MISSION TRIP LOCATION ANNOUNCEMENT | October 5 | Luther Hall

Save the date! We are having a short reveal and presentation in Luther Hall following the 10:45 AM and 11:00 AM worship services. We will announce the location of next summer's mission trip where we will be serving a community in need, all in the mighty name of JESUS! The first 100 people get a prize! Please join us and learn what we do for one week in the summer as the hands and feet of our Creator. We are looking for students (6th - 12th grade) and adults to join the fun, laughter, and love! The total cost is \$360.00 per person for the trip. A \$60.00 nonrefundable deposit is due by October 12. Registration details will be available at the reveal!



### LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHWEST NEWS

Save the date for important events at Lutheran High Northwest:

- **Open House** is Wednesday, October 22, with guided hour-long tours beginning every 10 minutes from 6:30-7:30 PM. You'll have the opportunity to speak with administrators, teachers, and current students during this in-depth look at Lutheran Northwest, so bring your questions!

For more information visit [www.lutherannorthwest.com](http://www.lutherannorthwest.com).



## SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

### YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE

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 worshipping onsite, offerings can be placed in the designated areas outside the sanctuary. You can also scan the provided QR Code to give online or visit our website <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/give/>. If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Operations, Steve Gauss, at [sgauss@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:sgauss@stjohnrochester.org).



## CONSTANT PRAYER

### LET US PRAY FOR WHATEVER IS ON YOUR HEART

To submit a prayer request, please email [prayer@stjohnrochester.org](mailto: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:** Josiah Crowe 7y (Ryan & Kelly's nephew) - ongoing illness / Joan Becker / Brenda (friend of Toni Kampsen) - recurrence of cancer / Lisa Hill - recovering from hand surgery / Billie Martin – stroke (grandmother of Erin Morgante) / Katie Viohl – hospitalized / Tom Majerowicz – healing after surgery / Fariba Hartfiel's 3-day Spinal Surgery / Layla Loveres - 6yr old with autoimmune disease / Lee Getner – open heart surgery / Rose Chila – successful cancer surgery, further tests and chemo treatments

**Strength & Guidance:** Brianna

**Gospel Impact:** Getting into the Word / One Class / Trunk or Treat

**Thanksgiving:** Winnie and Jerry Best's 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary / Baptism of Everleigh Kate Russ / Cheryl Rafdal - successful knee replacement surgery/recovery / Ann Neilson – safe return from travel abroad / Dawn Siewert – successful heart procedure / Jessica (Grothaus) Albers – safe return from Africa

**Community/Nation/World:** School and political shootings / Foreign Christian brothers and sisters under persecution.

# COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

The faith family of St. John is tremendously blessed with amazing volunteers! These areas are in urgent need of assistance. Please take a moment to pray and reflect on how your time and gifts might be used to bless others. We would love to have you join us in these meaningful ministry opportunities!

## YARN OR LOOM DONATIONS

Do you have any leftover yarn or looms? Our newly formed, student-led Crochet Club welcomes any donations of these items. Donations may be brought to the Main Office marked 'Crochet Club' donation.



## JOIN TEAM SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Seeking a way to serve with a team of other members? Helping out with Sunday School is a great opportunity! Responsibilities include helping with room setup before Sunday School begins, managing family check-in/check-out, providing a support presence for the teachers, and cleaning up. Weekly or monthly rotations are possible according to a schedule put together by the team, and you can expect to serve for 2-3 hours on your turn. Please email Terry Priestley at [tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org) and/or Beth Grillo at [bethmgrillo@gmail.com](mailto:bethmgrillo@gmail.com) if you'd like to be a part of this team!

## FAMILY OF GOD | October 5

The first Sunday of each month our St. John family provides a meal to Family of God Church in Detroit. Our next serve event is October 5. There are several ways you can help:



- 1. Donate Food:** Sign up to donate specific items by visiting the link below. Donations can be dropped off to the St. John church kitchen (downstairs).
- 2. Meal Prep Team:** Help prepare food (at St. John) after worship on October 5.
- 3. Greet & Serve:** Travel to Family of God (carpool leaves St. John at 2:00 PM) to greet and serve the meal.

**SIGN UP NOW AT:** [stjohnrochester.org/FOG2025](https://stjohnrochester.org/FOG2025)  
or scan the QR code!

For more information, please contact our Director of Missions & Outreach, Jennie Eller, at [jeller@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:jeller@stjohnrochester.org).



## ST. JOHN TRUNK OR TREAT - Indoors! | Sunday, October 12

Hosts for trunks (tables) are welcome and needed! We are looking for **10 more** decorated host tables. We will provide the tables. We can also provide a theme and even some decor. Just let us know what you need. Please visit <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/trunk-or-treat/> to sign up to host a table.

Donations of individually wrapped candy including non-chocolate and no-nut are appreciated, as well as donations of non-candy trinkets. Donations may be brought to the bins in the Main Atrium.



## WEEK AT A GLANCE: SEPT. 29 - OCT. 5

Here is a highlight of activities happening on campus this week.

MON

8:30 AM MomCo Tea (Mary Martha)  
7:00 PM ONE Class (Concordia Hall)  
7:00 PM Call Committee (Media Center)

TUE

8:45 AM Women of Prayer (Chapel)  
1:00 PM ESL (Mary Martha)  
5:00 PM AHG Kinder Meeting (Luther Hall)  
6:00 PM Youth Engagement Committee (Church Library)  
7:00 PM When you Pray - Women's Bible Study (Media Center)

WED

8:45 AM Chapel (Sanctuary)  
8:45 AM Mom's Morning Prayer (Nursery)  
1:00 PM Ladies Bible Study (Concordia)  
6:00 PM Adult Bible Study (Concordia)

THR

8:30 AM MomCo Tea (Mary Martha)  
10:00 AM The Lutheran Witness (Church Library)  
1:00 PM International Bible Study (Mary Martha)  
7:00 PM Safe in the Shepherd's Arms - Adult Bible Study (Luther Hall)

FRI

8:30 AM MomCo Tea (Mary Martha)  
9:30 AM ESL (Mary Martha)

SAT

8:00 AM Bibles & Basketball (Gym)

SUN

9:30 AM Sunday School (South School Wing)  
9:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study (Concordia Hall)  
12:00 PM Youth Work Camp Reveal (Luther Hall)  
12:30 PM Middle School Youth (Youth Room)  
6:00 PM High School Youth (Youth Room)





#### Worship Schedule

**Traditional Praise:** Sundays at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM (also online), and 11:00 AM

**Modern Praise:** Saturdays at 5:00 PM | Sundays at 10:45 AM (also online)

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