

THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of October 12, 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/>

TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

Pentecost 19 | October 12, 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

BELLS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: *Now Thank We All Our God*

LSB #895

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Invocation/Confession

Screen

Gloria

LSB #947

Prayer of the Day

Old Testament Reading: Ruth 1:1-19a

Anthem: My God Is So Great; I am Jesus' Little Lamb

Grades K-1 (11:00)

New Testament Reading: 2 Timothy 2:1-13

Alleluia

LSB 952

Holy Gospel Reading: Luke 17:11-19

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Screen

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old*

LSB #846

MESSAGE

Pastor Steve Grafe

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

LSB #924

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

Whether you are looking for a small class or large group, there is a Bible Study, LIFEGroup, or event for you! 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. Be sure to make the most of growing in your faith walk with Jesus through His Word this Fall!

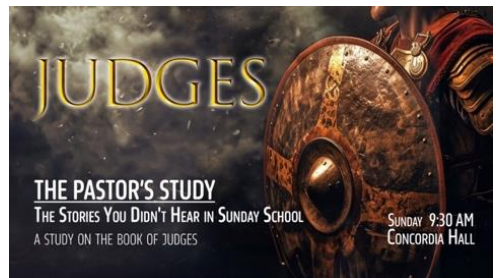


STORIES YOU DIDN'T HEAR IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:

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.



SUFFERING SERVANT PODCAST

Don't forget to check out Pastor Tyler's podcast! His show attempts to bring meaning to suffering through shorter episodes highlighting basic Biblical truths in the face of suffering, as well as longer episodes conversing with others whom God has used in the midst of their own personal suffering. The podcast is available wherever you listen to podcasts, just search “Suffering Servants” or visit <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/sufferingservants>



PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and the congregation would like to thank Pastors Marc, Steve, and Tyler on behalf of the St. John family for their unyielding service to our church and school. Each of you are a great example of living a life of faith. Thanks for all the ways you make a difference in our church and school, and for all you do to make St. John an encouraging and faith-building place! We truly appreciate you!

GRIEF SHARE | Began October 11 at 10:00 AM | Church Library

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 and runs until January 10, 2026. For more information, please contact Terry Priestly at tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org.



OWLS Luncheon/Fellowship | October 17 at 12:00 PM | Concordia Hall

Mark Tisdell, Michigan State Representative for the greater Rochester area will be presenting "What's Happening in Lansing" at the OWLS Luncheon on Friday, October 17. Lunch begins at Noon and the menu will feature lasagna and beverages provided by our volunteer ministry team. Attendees are asked (if able) to bring the following potluck items: Last Name A-H (desserts), and Last Name J-Z (salads/fruit).



Everyone is welcome! Folks wishing only to attend the presentation may join us at 12:45 PM. If anyone requires transportation, we will make arrangements to accommodate them. Please pre-register with Roger Guetzkow at 248-622-1606 or email rjguetzkow@comcast.net by Tuesday, October 14.

HARVEST PARTY & TRUNK OR TREAT | October 29 at 5:00 PM | St. Paul Community Lutheran Church



Our Mission Partner St. Paul is looking for hosts to help with their Trunk or Treat event on Wednesday, October 29, 2025. They would like to have as many decorated vehicles as possible. The event is from 5:00 to 6:00 PM with a simple dinner at 6:00 PM. There will be cider and donuts as well as pumpkin decorating for the children. The address is 1133 Joslyn Avenue, Pontiac, MI. For more information or to volunteer, please contact stpauloffice1133@gmail.com.



BIBLES & BASKETBALL | Saturdays at 8:00 AM | Gymnasium

Bibles & Basketball is an opportunity to get into God's Word, play some basketball, and promote the ideals of Christian brotherhood. This group of men meet almost every Saturday morning from 8:00 to 10:00 AM and is open to men of all ages – the more the merrier! Whether you come regularly or occasionally, all are welcome. For more information and to get on the mailing list, please contact Eric Garland at egarlan10@gmail.com.

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/ to register now!

THANK YOU

Mary Bantin would like to thank the American Heritage Girls for donating their hard work and time for her yard maintenance.



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Our Kindergarten students are working on their letters with the word 'the' as the focus this week, as they learn the foundational skills necessary for proficient reading. Learn more at our upcoming Open House.

Thanks to our 4th and 5th graders for singing in chapel on Wednesday and in worship this past Sunday. Our students sing in worship throughout the school year, sharing their praises to God. Want to learn more? Visit school.stjohnrochester.org.

PRESCHOOL - 2ND GRADE OPEN HOUSE | November 18

Save the Date for Tuesday, November 18, 5:30 - 7:00 PM, to learn more about our early education program! Visit the classrooms, meet the teachers, and learn more about our Christ-centered Preschool 3's, Preschool 4's, Young 5's, Kindergarten, 1st Grade, & 2nd Grade. Enrollment information for the 2026-2027 school year will be available. For more information visit school.stjohnrochester.org/admissions or contact Beth Dameron, Director of Admissions, at 248-402-8012 or bdameron@stjohnrochester.org.

ST. JOHN TRUNK OR TREAT | Sunday, October 12 at 2:30 PM | Gymnasium

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 is not required to attend.



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 Pastoral Office at church@stjohnrochester.org.

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

Middle School Youth meets most Sundays at 12:30 PM in the Youth Room. **MSY will not meet this Sunday, October 12, due to the St. John Trunk or Treat event.** For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

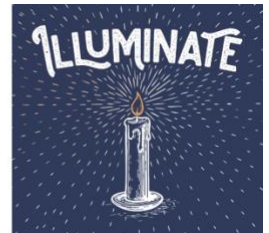


HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 6:00 - 8:00 PM

High School Youth meet most Sunday at 6:00 PM. Check your weekly emails for meeting locations and details. **HSY will not meet this Sunday, October 12, due to the St. John Trunk or Treat event.** For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.



**BARNESVILLE
MINNESOTA**



2026 WORKCAMP MISSION TRIP | Barnesville, MN | July 18-25 | **LAST DAY TO REGISTER is October 12**

The Group Mission Trip offers youth (age 12+ or 6th grade and up) an opportunity to serve in a community and provide home repair for under privileged, elderly, or disabled individuals. Hundreds of teenagers from youth groups across the country gather to repair and transform homes while deepening their faith and building new relationships with their peers and youth leaders. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

The 2026 St. John Group Mission Trip will be held in Barnesville, Minnesota on July 18-25. The total cost of the mission trip is \$360. **A \$60.00 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit is due at the time of registration.** Scan the QR Code to register and for more information.



LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHWEST NEWS

- LHNW is now accepting online applications for the 2026-2027 school year! If you have an 8th grader and have already decided that Lutheran Northwest is the right fit for your family, please visit www.lutherannorthwest.com/apply to begin the Crusader journey!
- Crusader 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! RSVP at www.lutherannorthwest.com/events.
- The 4th Annual 7th & 8th Grade Crusader Quiz Bowl will be held on Wednesday, October 29 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM! Teams must include 3-5 students. Visit the Quiz Bowl page at www.LutheranNorthwest.com/events. The deadline for signing up is Monday, October 27.

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.



CONSTANT PRAYER

LET US 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: Ryder Finkel – 9y old in hospice / Chalie Martin (grandfather of Erin Morgante) - hospitalized for brain bleed / Jim Janka (father of Lindsay Goebel) - upcoming brain surgery / Joan Dague (aunt of Dean Woodfield) - Stage 4 Ovarian Cancer (the family also just lost her husband to Alzheimer's) / Lorri Heins - recovering from cataract surgery / Debbie Woodfield - cervical fusion surgery Tuesday / Linda Raschke – continuing eye treatments / Fariba Hartfiel - recovering from extensive spinal surgery / Michael Vogel - recovering from hip replacement surgery / Anthony Smith / Debbie Evans – healing from complications from stem cell treatment

Bereavement: For the families of Kenneth Bahlman (father of Tracie Bahlman) / Theresa Beels (mother of Andrea Stocker) / Mary McColeman

Strength & Guidance: Call Processes for Principal & Director of Youth & Family

Gospel Impact: Trunk or Treat / Upcoming Women's Event

Thanksgiving: Bob & Billie Sheldon's 27th wedding anniversary / Tom & Diane Rowe's 56th wedding anniversary / Roberta Neilson's 85th birthday

Persecuted Church: Laos: Yeaun and his wife Vanhdee, followers of Jesus as a result of their 3 year old daughter receiving healing, have been rejected by their family and disowned because of their faith in Jesus. In many areas of our world family ties are everything - so to have them severed by following Christ can result in many hardships for the rest of their lives

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

The faith family of St. John is tremendously blessed with amazing volunteers! These areas are in 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!

LOOM DONATIONS

Thank you for the yarn donations! With your generous support, no additional yarn is currently needed. Looms are still needed if you have any available. Scan the QR code to see the type of loom requested. If you have any questions please contact Cassie Benter at cbenter@stjohnrochester.org.



BOOK FAIR | NOVEMBER 3-9

The St. John Book Fair will be held Monday, November 3 through Sunday, November 9, and all proceeds benefit the St. John Lutheran School Media Center. You are invited to visit the Book Fair and shop for your loved ones. Book Fair items make great Christmas gifts! St. John partners with the I55 Book Fair program. I55 is a Christian organization that screens their books through the filter of faith. Learn more at <https://i55bookfairs.com/>



For more information contact hgardner@stjohnrochester.org
SCAN THE QR CODE TO VOLUNTEER



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 and/or Beth Grillo at bethmgrillo@gmail.com if you'd like to be a part of this team!

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

WELCOME CENTER - volunteers needed

We are pleased to announce the expansion of our hospitality services to include a special new kiosk! You may have noticed the **Welcome Center** that was launched in the main atrium just outside the Modern Praise entrance, and we have plans to launch another in the south church lobby.

We are looking for greeters to work in the welcome center booths before and after all five services. You can be scheduled on a regular basis or serve here and there as desired. It's up to you, as we want this to be a blessing to you as well as the people you are welcoming! Not sure you have a gift for this? Here are a few questions to help you decide:

- Do I have a welcoming spirit?
- Am I able to make new people feel at ease?

*We're glad you're here!
How can we help?*

If you feel like this describes you and want to explore these new opportunities further, please contact **Deana Stevens, Ministry Engagement Coordinator**, at dstevens@stjohnrochester.org or **248-402-8004**.



COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE DONATIONS

You have a unique opportunity to uplift the hearts & spirits of our college students! St. John sends care packages to our college students on a regular basis as a tangible expression of God's love and our unwavering prayers, designed to offer comfort, remind them of their faith, and encourage their walk with Christ amidst academic demands.

Please prayerfully consider donating an item from our Amazon Wishlist and help us send a powerful message of faith, hope, and love directly to students' dorm rooms. Scan the QR code or visit <https://a.co/b9naiR1> to contribute and have items sent directly to St. John!



WEEK AT A GLANCE: OCTOBER 13-19

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

MON

9:00 AM Quilters Guild (Room 128)
7:00 PM The ONE Class (Concordia Hall)
7:00 PM RSO Annual Board Meeting (Church Library)
7:00 PM Call Committee (Media Center)

TUE

8:45 AM Women of Prayer (Chapel)
1:00 PM ESL (Mary Martha)
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

ATTENTION NO SCHOOL

8:30 AM MomCo (Concordia)
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

ATTENTION NO SCHOOL

9:30 AM ESL (Mary Martha)
12:00 PM OWLS Luncheon (Concordia Hall)

SAT

8:00 AM Bibles & Basketball (Gym)
10:00 AM Griefshare (Church Library)
1:00 PM Lingering In His Word (Concordia Hall)

SUN

ATTENTION NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study (Concordia Hall)
12:00 PM FOG lunch bags (Church Kitchen)
1:00 PM HSY & MSY (Stoney Creek Cider Mill)





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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