

THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of October 19, 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.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY | October 26 at 1:00 PM

We look forward to a joyous celebration as 17 young people will be confirmed next Sunday, October 26 at a special 1:00 PM service. Please pray God’s blessings on our young people and their families on this blessed day!



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 20 | October 19, 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: *I Want Jesus, To Walk with Me* Men's Chorus (9:30)

OPENING HYMN: *Thy Strong Word* LSB #578

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Invocation/Confession Screen

Feast of Victory p.155

Prayer of the Day

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 32:22-30

Anthem: *O Bless the Lord, My Soul* (8:00/9:30) Men's Chorus

Father, I Adore You; Go Now in Peace (11:00) Grades 2-3

Epistle Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Alleluia and Verse p.156

Holy Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-14

THE NICENE CREED Screen

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Today Your Mercy Calls Us* LSB #915

MESSAGE Pastor Marc Schwichtenberg

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT LSB p.160-166

ANTHEM: *I Want Jesus, To Walk with Me* Men's Chorus (8:00)

Hymn: *Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness* LSB #563

Hymn: *I Lay My Sins on Jesus* LSB #606

Thank the Lord

POST COMMUNION PRAYER/BENEDICTION

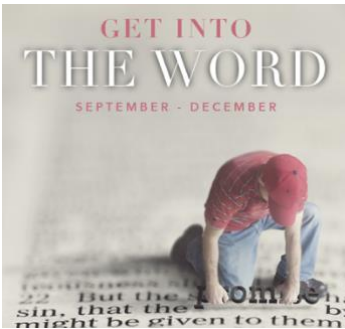
CLOSING HYMN: *Almighty Father, Bless the Word* LSB #923

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!

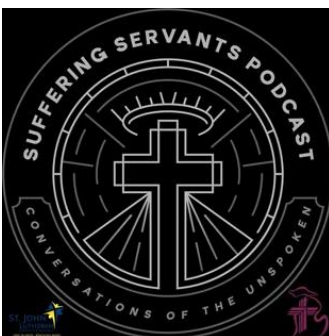
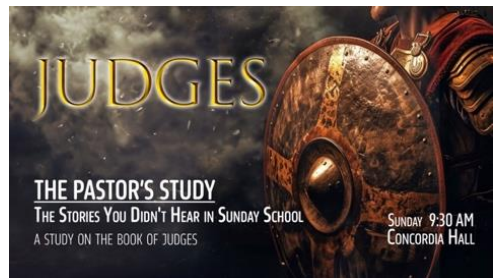


STORIES YOU DIDN'T HEAR IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:

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>

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 | Leader Dogs Tour | Friday, October 24 at 1:00 PM

The OWLS-sponsored tour of the Leader Dogs for the Blind campus is scheduled for this Friday, October 24, beginning at 1:00 PM. It includes meeting volunteers with their "retired guide dogs", viewing puppy raisers with their "dogs in training", and participating in a blindfold walk (if interested) that helps you understand what it's like to have guide dogs assist clients. Our host, Kathie Davis, promises cider and donuts!

All are welcome! If you are interested in joining the tour, please contact Roger Guetzkow at 248-622-1606 or email rjguetzkow@comcast.net by **Wednesday, October 22**. Leader Dogs for the Blind is located at 1039 S. Rochester Rd. (Southeast corner of Rochester and Avon Road).



MISSION PARTNER: ST. PAUL LUTHERAN HARVEST PARTY & TRUNK OR TREAT October 29 at 5:00 PM

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!



FALL FEEDBACK FORUM | Monday, November 10

These are great days for our church and school and we have so much to give thanks for and celebrate. At the same time we want to be open to ways we can keep honing our approach to growing closer to Jesus and one another, as well as mobilizing for our mission together as a church and school. How are we doing? We want to know! Please come and join together with our pastors, principal, and other church and school leaders for

a time of sharing at our Fall Feedback Forum on **Monday, November 10 at 7:00 PM in Luther Hall.**

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Thank you to all the “trunk” hosts, volunteers, candy donors, and to the nearly 500 guests who attended Trunk or Treat last Sunday. What a blessing to Shine God's Light!



Thanks to our 7th graders for providing the chapel message this week! They shared how we are all given talents from God and can use those to His glory. Our Middle School Chapel Band shared their talents as musicians by leading the worship music!

PRESCHOOL - 2ND GRADE OPEN HOUSE | November 18 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM

Save the Date for Tuesday, November 18 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.





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. **This week the group will be meeting offsite.** For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

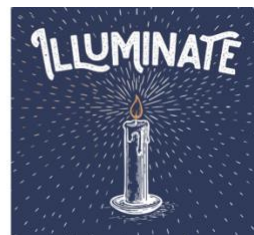


HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 6:00 - 8:00 PM

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



BARNESVILLE
MINNESOTA



2026 WORKCAMP MISSION TRIP | Barnesville, MN | July 18-25

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.



THIS IS THE FINAL WEEK TO REGISTER! 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

- Please join us for our **CRUSADER OPEN HOUSE** on **Wednesday, October 22!** Visit www.LutheranNorthwest.com/events for more information.
- LHNW is now accepting online applications for the 2026-2027 school year! If you have an 8th grader and have decided that Lutheran Northwest is the right fit for your family, please visit www.lutherannorthwest.com/apply.
- 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 worshiping 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: Ruth Saddler - auto accident resulting in broken sternum / Mary Becker / David Gill (relative of Marie Schwartz) - Leukemia / June Scott - hospice / Ryder Finkel - 9y old in hospice / Rose Chila

Bereavement: For the family of Mary McColeman

Strength & Guidance: Principal & Director of Youth & Family - call process

Gospel Impact: Upcoming Women's Event

Thanksgiving: Birth of Ian Alexander Legler to Lisa (Rafdal) and Adam (grandparents Mark & Cheryl Rafdal)

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

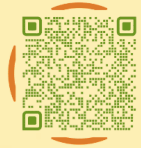
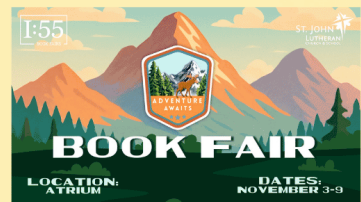
Thank you for the yarn donations! With your generous support, no additional yarn is currently needed. Looms are still needed if you have any available. Scan the QR code to see the type of loom requested. If you have any questions please contact Cassie Benter at cbenter@stjohnrochester.org.



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



VOLUNTEER



DONATE PRIZES

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.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: OCTOBER 20-26

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

MON

9:00 AM The Christ Key - McCallum (Church Library)
6:00 PM Foundation (Church Library)
7:00 PM The ONE Class (Concordia Hall)
7:00 PM Vestry (Luther Hall)

TUE

8:45 AM Women of Prayer (Church Library)
1:00 PM ESL (Mary Martha)
6:00 PM Essenmacher 242 Group (Off-site)
6:30 PM AHG Meeting (Concordia)
7:00 PM When you Pray - Women's Bible Study (Media Center)

WED

8:45 AM Chapel (Sanctuary)
8:30 AM Mom's Morning Prayer (Nursery)
1:00 PM Ladies Bible Study (Concordia)
6:00 PM Adult Bible Study (Concordia)
7:00 PM Women of Faith & Friendship (Luther Hall)

THR

8:30 AM MomCo (Concordia)
1:00 PM International Bible Study (Mary Martha)
7:00 PM Torgler 242 Group (Off-site)

FRI

ATTENTION HALF DAY OF SCHOOL

9:30 AM ESL (Mary Martha)
1:00 PM OWLS Leader Dog Tour (Off-site)
7:00 PM Drummelsmith 242 Group (Luther Hall)

SAT

8:00 AM Bibles & Basketball (Gym)
10:00 AM Griefshare (Church Library)

SUN

9:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study (Concordia Hall)
1:00 PM Confirmation (Sanctuary)
2:30 PM Confirmation Reception (Luther Hall)





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)

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