

THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of November 2, 202

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



ALL SAINTS' WEEKEND

God's Word is clear that anyone who is a child of God through faith in Jesus is in fact by definition "a saint" through the righteousness of Jesus. What an amazing thought! As saints we have the promise of eternal life in Christ even in the face of death. As part of the special focus of All Saint's Day weekend, we will be specifically remembering the following individuals from our St. John family who passed away in the last year, along with those families with whom our pastors had an official opportunity to share hope through Christ. We will also collectively remember all those who have lost family members this year by lighting one additional candle in their memory.

Richard Morgan
Juanita Deavey
Clarence Strand
Shelly Morales
Jill Morgan
Aaron Bennett
Kenneth Strube
Peter Gremel
Earl Shanburn

Mitzie Garnett
Patti O'Callaghan
Rev. Warren Arndt
Dorothy Sproviero
Margo Javelov
Dora Wiley
Shirley Bentley
Judy Nelson
Dorothy Wilson

Heinz Buschmann
Frances Schuessler
Audrey McFarland
Mark Papenberg
Marlene Vehoski
Tom Hupp
Steve Krystoff
John Kampsen
Kathy Wilusz

Sandra Mars
Alice Brunmeier Lee
Daniel Albertson
Jeanette Mixon
Theresa Beels
Mary McColeman



Our worship series Kingdom Perspectives will continue next week. If you've missed any of the messages, you can find them on 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/>



CONFIRMATION

Praise the Lord for our 17 young people who last Sunday, on Reformation, confirmed the gift of their Baptismal faith in Jesus at a special afternoon family worship celebration! Beyond receiving a special blessing from our pastors, each of them also shared their chosen confirmation verse along with how the Lord has used it to impact their lives in bold witness for Him. May our Savior continue to bless them all as they walk by grace alone, through faith alone, in Jesus alone, based in God's Word alone, to His glory alone!

Hunter Edward Thomson VI
Makenna Brown
Mackenzie Helene King
William Anthony
VanLandeghem

Melanie Anne Spresney
Cloe Aguirre Sandoval
Kari Clarissa Jankens
Quinn Leona Malvasi
Holly Anne Connors

Ellie Hudson Mobley
Kirsten Grace Kelley
Kylee Delaney
Margaret Lynn Spresney
Philip James Mantay

Lilian Marie Wallace
Brady Anthony LaRosa
Lucas Henry Tate

TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

All Saints | November 2, 2025

PRELUDE: *How Can I Keep From Singing (8:00/9:30)*
All Creatures of Our God and King (11:00)

Choraliers
Jubilate Bells

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Opening Hymn: *For All the Saints*

LSB #677 | (See Screen)

Invocation

LSB p. 151

Confession

Hymn of Praise: *Feast of Victory*

LSB #155

All Saint's Remembrance

New Testament Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

Anthem: Shepherd Psalm (8:00/9:30); Cantabile (11:00)

Choraliers | Jubilate Bells

New testament Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

Alleluia

LSB #156

Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

THE NICENE CREED

Screen

HYMN OF THE DAY: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

LSB #411

MESSAGE

Pastor Steve Grafe

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

LSB p.160-166

Anthem: *Keep Your Lamps (8:00); Cantabile (9:30)*

Chamber Choir | Jubilate Bells

Hymn: *Behold a Host, Arrayed in White*

LSB #676

Thank the Lord

POST COMMUNION PRAYER/BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *Sing with All the Saints in Glory*

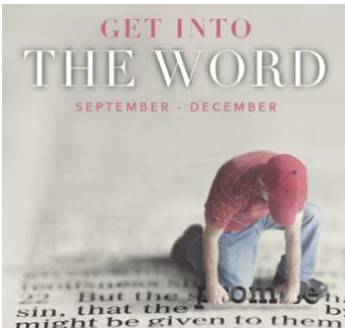
LSB #671 | Tune: Hyfrydol

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

Be sure to make the most of growing in your faith walk with Jesus through His Word this Fall! 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.

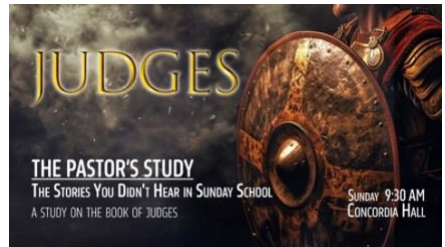


STORIES YOU DIDN'T HEAR IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:

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 | This week “The Tension of Grief”

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>

THE TRUTH PROJECT | Wednesdays at 6:00 PM | Concordia Hall

The Wednesday night Adult Bible Study is hosting 12-week series called “The Truth Project.” The series features video presentations by Dr. Del Tackett, as he takes you through lessons on the relevance and importance of living the Biblical worldview in daily life. Topics include: ethics, science, history, sociology, law, the American experiment, labor & more.



242 LIFEgroups Large Group Meeting | Wednesday, November 5 at 6:30 PM | Luther Hall

On the first Wednesday of each month all of the 242 groups meet together in a large group gathering for planning and a time of fellowship. All are welcome to join!

SANCTUARY ELEVATOR OUT OF SERVICE

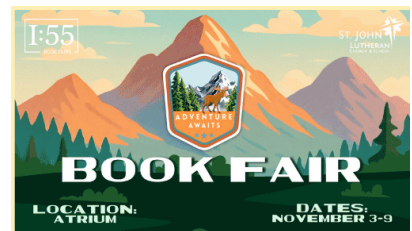
The elevator outside of the Sanctuary remains out of service. We are working diligently with vendors to get the issue corrected as soon as possible, and will provide updates when they are available. **Our friends with mobility concerns are encouraged to use the atrium doors (#1 and #12) and use the ramp near the pastor's office to access the Church Library, Luther Hall, Chapel, Nursery, and Sanctuary.** We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.



Group Leaders: If your group meets in one of the lower level rooms, and you have participants with mobility concerns, please reach out to Erin Morgante at emorgante@stjohnrochester.org for possible room changes. Lower level rooms include: Concordia, Mary Martha, Room 128, and the Youth Room.

I:55 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. Everyone is invited to visit and shop the Book Fair! Book Fair items make great Christmas gifts! St. John partners with the I:55 Book Fair program, a Christian organization that screens their books through the filter of faith. Learn more at <https://i55bookfairs.com/>.



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.**

WEATHER RELATED SCHOOL/CAMPUS CLOSING PROCEDURES

With colder weather approaching, the possibility of inclement weather and school closings approaches as well. As a reminder, if Rochester Community Schools closes due to inclement weather conditions, St. John Lutheran Church & School will also be closed. This means that **all** classes, programs and activities scheduled for the day will be cancelled. This includes Preschool – 8th grade, athletic events, Bible studies, small groups, and all other facility events.

Weather related closures are communicated in the following ways:

- Texted and emailed through FACTS to school families
- Updated on our St. John website, stjohnrochester.org
- Shared on our St. John Facebook page, [@StJohnLutheranRochester](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnLutheranRochester)
- Posted to local 'school-closing' media lists, such as clickondetroit.com



LESSONS & CAROLS | Join the Festival Chorus

This year, our annual Lessons & Carols services are scheduled for Dec. 14 at 2:00 PM and 4:30 PM. Once again, we will be putting together a Festival Chorus for this event. The Festival Chorus is open to anyone in the congregation who is interested in singing in conjunction with our Mixed Choir, Men's Chorus, and Middle School Choralier ensembles. No experience is required. Festival Chorus rehearsals will be held in the choir loft. Music and folders will be provided at the first rehearsal. If you are interested in joining us this year, please contact Director of Music, Nick Kwapis at nkwapis@stjohnrochester.org.

REHEARSALS

Thursday, 11/13: 8:00 - 9:00 PM

Thursday, 11/20: 8:00 - 9:00 PM

Thursday, 12/4: 7:30 - 9:00 PM

Sunday, 12/7: 12:30 - 2:30 PM (With Orchestra)

Saturday, 12/13: 9:30 - 11:30 AM (Final Rehearsal)

PERFORMANCES

December 14 at 2:00 PM & 4:30 PM



OWLS Thanksgiving Luncheon | Friday, November 14, at 12:00 PM

OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans in Service) will meet Friday, November 14, beginning at Noon in Concordia Hall (downstairs). The OWLS Ministry Team will provide turkey, potatoes, dressing, and beverages! Attendees, if able, are requested to bring the following potluck items: Last Name A-H (side dishes), and Last Name J-Z (desserts). To assist with planning, please pre-register with Roger Guetzkow at 248-622-1606 or rjguetzkow@comcast.net by Tuesday, November 11.

November's guest speaker is Rev. Gil McDonald, who will be giving a special presentation on the "Unholy Trinity." **All are welcome to attend the luncheon and stay for the guest speaker.** Folks wishing to only attend the presentation should arrive by 12:45 PM. We will try to arrange a ride for anyone requiring transportation.

A Christmas Carol | December 6, at 2:00 PM

Thanks to sponsorship from the St. John Foundation, there are a limited number of half priced tickets for the OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans in Service) to see a performance of "A Christmas Carol" at Meadowbrook Theatre on Saturday, December 6, at 2:00 PM. **Tickets must be reserved by Wednesday, November 4.** The discounted tickets are \$25 each and can be reserved by contacting Roger Guetzkow at 248-622-1606 or via email at rjguetzkow@comcast.net. Please join us for this Christmas classic!



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



Our Preschool students and their families had a great time at Preschool Family Nights last week! Children decorated a cardboard box car with their parents, and then enjoyed a car parade on our Preschool hallway. Mrs. Neumeyer shared a devotion of how Jesus keeps us on the right path! We are so thankful for the more than 400 people who attended Preschool Family Nights!



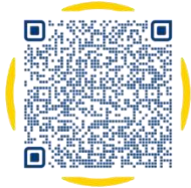
Congratulations to our St. John Cross Country Team on an impressive finish to their season at the National Meet this past Saturday. Coen took 1st place overall for the boys! He competed in a field of 253 runners, and set a new St. John school record. In addition, Isaac took 5th in the boys, Addy was in 6th place, the girls team was 7th place, and the boys team took 12th overall. Our team worked hard all season, training in heat, rain, cold, and everything in between. Way to go Eagles!



This week in Chapel the 2nd and 3rd grade choir filled the Sanctuary with joyous songs. We also heard a message from 3rd grade on the ABCs of Reformation.

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.



REGISTER FOR THE OPEN HOUSE NOW BY SCANNING THE QR CODE

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

Children ages 4 years to 6th grade are welcome and encouraged to join us every Sunday in the school wing for Sunday School! There are no attendance requirements! If you have any questions regarding Sunday School, please contact the Pastoral Office at church@stjohnrochester.org. **Register for our Sunday School email list to get updates! Sign up at the Sunday School kiosk or on**

our website at stjohnrochester.org/groups/childrens-sunday-school

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

Middle School Youth meets most Sundays at 12:30 PM in the Youth Room. 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.

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.



GIVE NOW

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: Jerry Best - knee surgery / Linda Gerhart's mother - continuing complications while hospitalized / Ginny Siewert / Frank Morse (father of Dawn Siewert) - neck surgery / Gloria Tripp - cancer / Steven Divitri (friend of Pastor Steve) - hospice / Rose Chilla - ongoing cancer battle / Phil Warburton - surgery to remove brain tumor / Jim Keller - heart valve repair recovery

Bereavement: For the families of Mary Louise Myers (mother of Jason) / Kimberly Oakes (mother of Kylee Watts)

Strength & Guidance: Call processes for Principal and for Director of Youth & Family

Gospel Impact: Neighbor to Neighbor Food Drive

Thanksgiving: Birth of baby girl to Erika & Kevin Essenmacher

Long-Term Healing & Recovery: Fariba Hartfiel - rehab from spinal surgery / Layla Loveres 6y - autoimmune disease / Sue Neumeyer (SIL of Joel & Karen) - multiple health issues and hospitalizations this summer / Diane Ringwelski (friend of Vicki Wright) - glioblastoma and undergoing treatment / Jim Genova (in-law of Pastor Steve & Sarah) - Parkinson's & leukemia / Jolie Knudsen - cancer / Haley Longworth - spiritual warfare / Gerald Walters (brother of Pam Peck) - long term care for kidney failure / Ginny Schmidt - recovering from broken ankle / Lauren Gonser (brother of Terry) - cancer / Gary Kwapis - cancer / Lori Kulczycki / Nancy Egloff - continuing eyesight treatments / Rosemarie Chilla - cancer / Lorri Heins - cancer / Brian Thornberry (father of staff member Erin Morgante) - cancer / Brent Zoellner / Crystal Mischley - cancer / Leanne Stevens / Allison - Huntington's disease / Rebecca / Kristie Knudsen - ALS / Pastor Michael Standfest

Church-Work Students: Ethan Dodson / James Wilson / Nicolas Stevens

Pregnancy: Natalie / Sarah (DIL of Chuck & Candy Bartley) / Monica Kuiper / Ashley Pavka (Wright) / Shay Spaniola-Henning

Those in Military Service: Mark Anderson / Aaron Byers / Devin Deck / Troy Glover / Alex Holzke / Earle IV Leighton / Alex Lindsay / Erich Mammen / David Metcalf / Matthew Neumeyer / John Paulson / Michael Pesamoska / Christian Petty / Jon Taykowski / Brad Ziegler / Kayla Pfund / Tim Pfund / Bryan Mullins / Tyler Wetzel / Jack Sinko / Stephen Rusanchin / Courtney Sharbaugh / Paul Batt / Victor Martin / Gabe Couturier / David Lyons / Austin Taylor / Tyler Doeblor / Drew McBrien / Zachary Browne / Cameron Dork / Jon Rubin / Brendan Standfest / Luke Standfest

Home Bound or Nursing Home Residents: Jerry & Mary Bantin / Kathy Bentley / Karen & Richard Brooks / Frank & Lorraine Hayes / Bob & Sally Hobson / Helga Olson / Ruth Parish / Rob Plewa / Ray Rau / Jerry Ruff / Chuck Schroeder / June Scott / Gloria Trudeau / Connie Ulrich / Lillian Von Rusten / Iris Wawrzyniak / Karen Wright / John Zimmerman

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

As the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons draw near we are reminded that "...God loves a cheerful giver." Here are several opportunities to participate in 

GIVE BACK NOVEMBER

GARMENT HANGERS AND ROLLING RACK DONATIONS

The St. John Athletic Department is in need of hangers and a few rolling racks! If you have any shirt and/or pant hangers or rolling racks that are taking up too much space at home - our SJR Athletics would love to put them to good use! Please drop off items to the main office. If you have any questions please contact our Athletic Director, Sara Jung, at sjung@stjohnrochester.org Thank you and Go Eagles!

Neighbor-2-Neighbor Food Drive

NOVEMBER 1 - NOVEMBER 30, 2025

As you grocery shop for your family help us restock our local Mission Partner Pantries with non-perishable items.

TO HELP WHILE SHOPPING, LISTS OF ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE ATRIUM AND SOUTH CHURCH LOBBY.

Donations can be dropped off at the designated areas in the Atrium and Church Lobby during school and worship hours. Even one extra item purchased helps a family in need!



GIFTS FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

November 15 – November 30

Beginning November 15 families are able to sponsor a child for Christmas. Angel tags with the information and needs of these children will be available in the Atrium and Church areas on our Giving Trees. Gifts will need to be returned to St. John on Sunday, November 30. Students will bring gifts to chapel on December 3. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

Neighbor-2-Neighbor Food Drive

NOVEMBER 1 - NOVEMBER 30
2025



As you grocery shop for your family help us restock our local Mission Partner Pantries with **non-perishable items**.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CEREAL | <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED CHICKEN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PASTA | <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED TUNA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OATMEAL (INSTANT & ORIGINAL) | <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED TOMATO PRODUCTS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BROWN RICE (1 LB. BAGS) | <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED FRUIT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE RICE (1 LB. BAGS) | <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED VEGETABLES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FLOUR | <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED BEANS (KIDNEY) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE SUGAR | <input type="checkbox"/> SOUP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BROWN SUGAR | <input type="checkbox"/> PASTA SAUCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APPLESAUCE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PEANUT BUTTER | <input type="checkbox"/> BIRTHDAY CAKE MIX |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JELLY | <input type="checkbox"/> FROSTING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COFFEE | <input type="checkbox"/> CANDLES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INSTANT HOT COCOA | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> TOOTHPASTE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRANOLA BARS | <input type="checkbox"/> SHAMPOO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SNACK PACKS | <input type="checkbox"/> CONDITIONER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FRUIT SNACKS | <input type="checkbox"/> BAR SOAP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CRACKERS (SALTINE, RITZ ETC...) | <input type="checkbox"/> FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> DEODORANT |

Donations can be dropped off at the designated areas in the Atrium and Church Lobby during school and worship hours.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: NOVEMBER 3-9

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

MON

9:00 AM The Christ Key Men's Bible Study (Church Library)
6:30 PM ONE Class Dinner & Final Class (Concordia)
7:00 PM Healing Hearts (Mary Martha)
7:00 PM Elders Meeting (Luther Hall)

TUE

8:45 AM Women of Prayer (Chapel)
1:00 PM ESL (Mary Martha)
5:30 PM AHG Kindergarten Meeting (Luther Hall)
6:30 PM AHG 1st-5th Grade Meeting (Concordia Hall)

WED

8:30 AM Mom's Morning Prayer (Nursery)
8:45 AM Chapel (Sanctuary)
9:45 AM Social Devotional for School Parents (Luther Hall)
1:00 PM Ladies Bible Study (Youth Room)
6:00 PM Adult Bible Study (Concordia)
6:30 PM 242 Large Group Meeting (Luther Hall)

THR

10:00 AM The Lutheran Witness Men's Bible Study (Church Library)
1:00 PM International Bible Study (Mary Martha)
PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES AFTER SCHOOL

FRI

9:30 AM ESL (Mary Martha)
SCHOOL HALF DAY FOR PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

SAT

8:00 AM Bibles and Basketball Men's Group (Gymnasium)
9:00 AM Confirmation Class (Luther Hall)
10:00 AM GriefShare (Church Library)

SUN

9:30 AM Pastor's Bible Study (Concordia Hall)
12:30 PM Middle School Youth (Youth Room/Gym)
6:00 PM High School Youth (Youth Room)

I:55 Book Fair Open During School and Worship Hours



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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