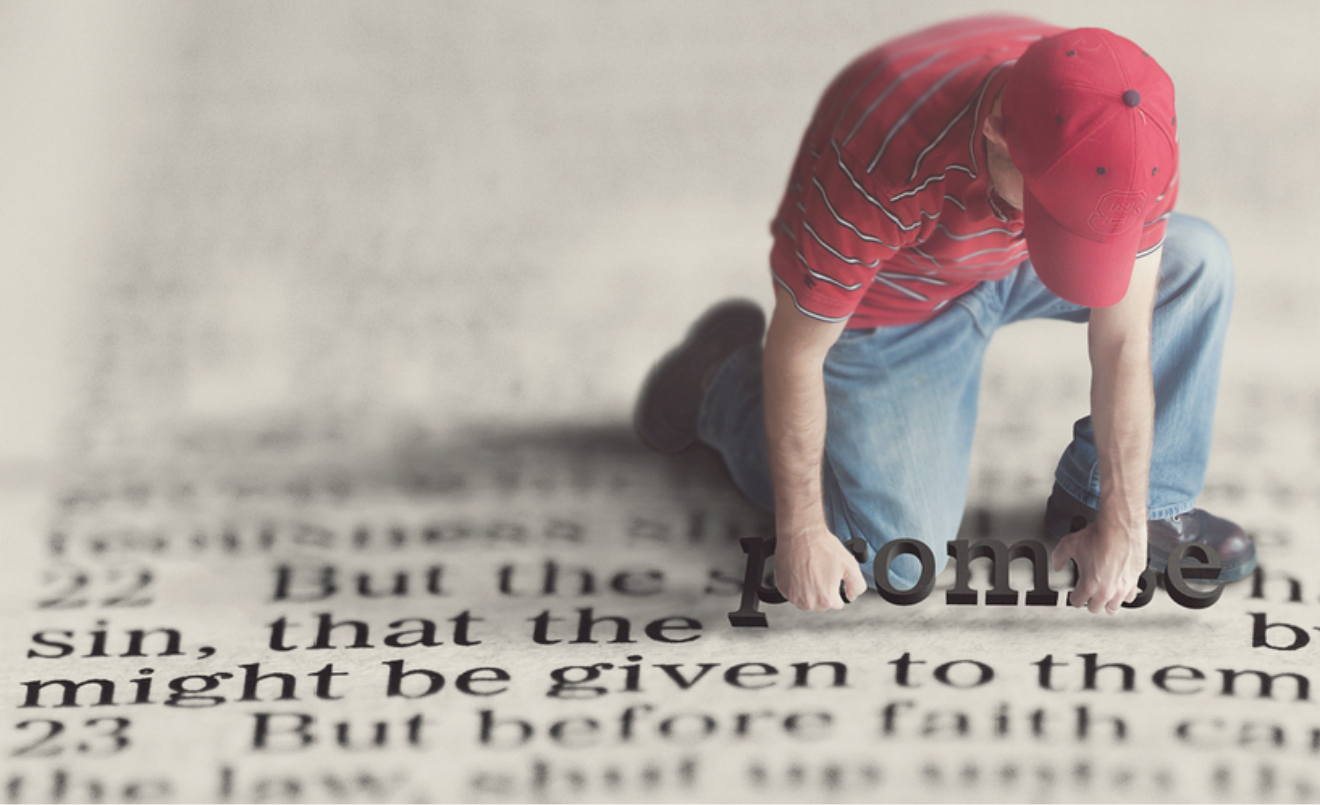


GET INTO THE WORD

JANUARY - APRIL



Get Into The Word!

Winter 2026 Schedule

As we begin a new year, it brings a natural opportunity for a restart - a refocusing on what really matters in defining who we are, and what we are becoming. What could be better than seeking the Lord through His Word for that new beginning?

You are invited to take a moment and discover what follows in this GET INTO THE WORD guide! We seek to make studying and experiencing God's life-renewing presence through His Word as accessible as possible! From children to seniors, men and women, Bible basics to more in-depth studies, large or small group, on and off campus, there truly is something for everyone no matter your age, life circumstance or schedule! Many classes and groups start in the coming days and weeks.

If you feel called to lead a class, group, or seminar, please contact Pastor Tyler Cronkright (tcronkright@stjohnrochester.org) to discuss your ideas!



ONE DAY EVENTS

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON

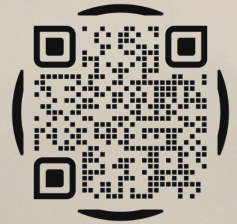
ONLINE

READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Daily | Your Bible

Chad Bird and Erick Sorensen (1517.org)

We invite you into a daily Bible reading challenge with us to read the entire Bible in 2026! Each day, there will be readings and a short video from Chad Bird (Hebrew Scholar from 1517.org) exploring different nuances and details that we might have missed in our reading. If you've done this before with 1517, you know that this is an incredible and engaging way to dive deep into the Scriptures. Visit <https://www.1517.org/oneyear> or scan the QR code to get signed up at and have the readings and videos delivered to your inbox every day! If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.



**Bible in
One Year
with 1517**

SUFFERING SERVANTS PODCAST

Weekly (almost) | Podcasting Apps

Leaders; Pastor Tyler

Did you know that Pastor Tyler, in partnership with the Michigan District, hosts a podcast? Christianity has a lot of unspoken suffering and challenges. Suffering Servants is his way of bringing these every day struggles into the modern context by reading books, articles, and conversing about the ever changing culture and the Church's response to such change. He also has conversations with other "suffering servants" about their sufferings in life and what God has revealed to them through those sufferings.

Scan the QR Code to be taken to the home page where you can listen to each episode, or subscribe on your favorite podcast app, like Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Overcast, etc.

<https://sufferingservants.buzzsprout.com/>



If there is a topic that you would like to have addressed on the show, please send Pastor Tyler an email at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.

LIFEGROUPS

242 LIFEGROUPS

1st Wednesdays/month at 6:30 PM | Various

Leaders: Matt MacLeod, Pastor Tyler

You were created for community! These are great opportunities to grow in the Word together, while building relationships with others. With the 242 LIFEgroups (based on Acts 2:42), we will be gathering to further our study and understanding of the previous week's sermon, such as other texts that may not have made it in the sermon, alternate directions, and questions (provided by the pastors). Another major goal with these groups is to grow together as brothers and sisters in Christ, so fellowship and socializing are a component of these groups as well. **We will have a large group gathering on the first Wednesday of each month**, and then throughout the rest of the month have smaller gatherings at other locations, which will be determined at the large group gathering. Childcare will be provided at the large group gatherings. See below our first few "small groups", which will gather monthly at their own location (make sure you contact them to find out where they are meeting):

MACLEOD/TORGLER 242 GROUP

Leaders: Matt and Jennie MacLeod, Brett and Vicki Torgler

An opportunity for parents of all age youth to get together and talk, build relationships and encourage each other as new or seasoned parents! If you are interested, please contact Matt at mpmacleod44@yahoo.com.

ESSENMACHER 242 GROUP

Leaders: Kevin and Erika Essenmacher

This group is intended for younger people, newly married, or new to the church, specifically coming out of the One Class. If you are interested, please contact Erika at eschleis2@gmail.com.

DRUMMELSMITH 242 GROUP

Leaders: Kevin and Kristin Drummelsmith

This group is passionate about deep life discussions, growing together in all walks of life, and engaging in life. If you are interested, please contact Kevin at kevindrummelsmith@gmail.com.

Again, for general questions or if you would like to start your own 242 LIFEgroup with a small group of people, please contact Matt MacLeod at mpmacleod44@yahoo.com or Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org. If you're curious to see how these groups operate, join us for a Large Group gathering!

MOM'S MORNING PRAYER

Wednesdays at 8:40 AM | Church Nursery

Leaders: Jennie Eller

Moms (Grandmas) are invited for a short time of prayer over our school, each class and grade, and the staff at St. John. This is a short, intentional time of prayer lifting up the school and student needs including protection. This takes place in the church nursery so you can attend with younger children in tow. Each week we will end so that parents are able to attend Wednesday's school chapel service. For more information please contact Jennie at jeller@stjohnrochester.org.

THE CHOSEN - WOMEN OF FAITH & FRIENDSHIP

2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 7:00 PM | Church Library

Leaders: Shannon Bradley

Beginning January 14, this group is for women who want to form lasting friendships, nurture growth in faith, support one another in and out of church. We meet twice a month for book club style study and discussion, exploring a mix of books, videos, or biblical topics throughout the year. This winter we will be discussing the second half of Season 1 of The Chosen (episodes 4-8). We will also participate in the planning of acts of service and activities for our group to play a small part in sharing the love of Christ with others in our little corner of the world. For more information contact Shannon at sibradley1208@gmail.com.

ROCHESTER MILLS BREWERY LIFEGROUP

2nd Wednesday/Month at 7:00 PM | Rochester Mills Brewery

Leaders: Pastor Tyler

RMB LIFEgroup is an informal gathering for men to connect for great conversation about faith, life, and following Jesus...along with a cold brew if you so desire. Take the time to be with others for helpful insights, good laughter, and an occasional outreach serve project. Before you know it God shows up in ways you didn't see coming. Bring a friend and tell the restaurant host you looking for the St John group. We are usually found in the middle at the high-top tables. For more information contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.

OWLS - OLDER WISER LUTHERANS OF SERVICE

2nd Friday/Month at 12:00 PM | Concordia Hall

Leaders: Roger Guetzkow

OWLS is a "senior group" that are committed through Christian fellowship to help the young at heart experience Christ's Love. OWLS has no age requirements and extends an invitation to all who enjoy food, fellowship, and interesting presentations. Luncheon meetings are on the second Friday of the month (September-June) at noon in Concordia Hall. Our volunteer ministry team organizes additional activities such as Detroit Institute of Arts bus trips and Meadowbrook Theatre performances. For more information contact Roger Guetzkow at 248-622-1606 or rjguetzkow@comcast.net.

SUPPORT

GRIEF SHARE

Saturdays 10:00 AM starting February 21 | Church Library

Leaders: Deaconess Terry Priestley

Grief Share is a special weekly seminary and support group offering comfort, answers, and hope. Our group 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. Our next session will begin on Saturday February 21 and end on May 16. For more information please contact Terry at tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org.

HEALING HEARTS SUPPORT GROUP

First Monday/Month at 7:00 PM | Church Library

Leaders: Suzanne Preuss

Healing Hearts is a support group for those who have or are experiencing heart break in their marriage or have gone through an unwanted divorce. This can be a lonely and isolating time, we are here to listen and encourage. God has a plan for your life and you can enjoy His plan and His blessings when you are the best version of yourself. This group is a safe place to share your hurts and disappointments, but it is also a place for encouragement to heal and grow. Healing Hearts meets the first Monday of the month, beginning January 12. For more information please contact Suzanne at suzannep1227@gmail.com.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays | 9:30 - 10:30 AM | School Classrooms

Leaders: Various

Sunday School is offered weekly and meets at 9:30 AM in the preschool classrooms of our building. All children ages 4 through 6th grade are welcome. Parents and guardians check children in at the welcome desk, located in the new school hallway. Check-in is required for safety and security purposes. After check-in, preschoolers and kindergartners go to their classrooms to hear about Jesus through song and lesson time. 1st - 6th grade students meet in the Multipurpose Room for an opening devotion, followed by grade divided classroom time for teaching, small group discussion, crafts, and other activities depending on the week. There are no attendance requirements. We look forward to seeing your children and sharing with them the love of Jesus! For more information, please contact the Pastoral Office at church@stjohnrochester.org.

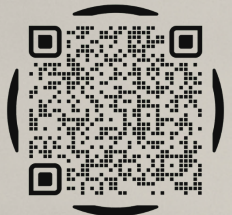
YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS

3 Saturdays | November 8, February 7, April 11 | 9:00 - 11:30 AM | Luther Hall

Leaders: Pastors Marc, Steve, and Tyler

Our 7th and 8th grade students seeking to be Confirmed are required to attend and participate with their parents in three Saturday Confirmation instruction sessions. These sessions, which include an interactive study of all six chief parts of the Catechism, are an opportunity for our pastors to get to know both the students and their parents as together we engage with God's Word. Small group discussion and specific parental involvement at home are key parts of the class. All 7th and 8th grade students and parents are welcome! For more information, please contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.

Scan or Click QR



**Registration
& Confirmation
Requirements**

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY | 6th - 8th grade

Sundays | 12:30 - 2:30 PM | Gym

Leader: Melissa Hammett

Middle School Youth is a place where students can come and feel safe and at home. It is also a place for students to bring their friends to share Jesus. Our activities are for students in 6th-8th grade, and all are welcome! This year our meetings shift to Sundays from 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM. For more information, please contact our Interim Director of Middle School Youth, Melissa Hammett at 248-402-8008 or mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY GROUP | 9th - 12th grade

Sundays | 6:00 - 8:00 PM | Youth Room

Leader: Melissa Hammett

High School is a defining part of a person's life. Students begin to really settle into their beliefs about the world, God, their purpose, etc. During this influential time, we want students to be surrounded by people who know and love Jesus. We also give them the skills and the support groups they need to make wise decisions at this critical time in their lives. All are welcome to join in the fun and fellowship! For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at 248-402-8008 or mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

ALL ADULTS

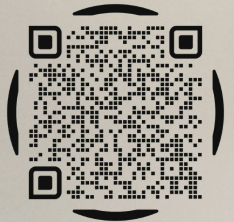
THE ONE CLASS | NEW MEMBER CLASS

Mondays beginning January 26 | 7:00 - 8:30 PM | Luther Hall

Leaders: Pastors Marc, Steve and Tyler

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.

Scan or Click QR



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, beginning on January 26. The last day to register for this class is February 2. 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.

If you have any questions, please contact the Ministry Engagement Coordinator, Deana Stevens at 248-402-8004 or dstevens@stjohnrochester.org.

THE PASTOR'S STUDY

VOICES FROM THE MARGINS:

A STUDY ON THE "MINOR" EPISTLES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Sundays | 9:30 AM | Concordia Hall

Leaders: Pastor Tyler, Pastor Marc, Pastor Steve

Join our Pastors on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in Concordia Hall, beginning on Sunday January 4. We are familiar with Romans, Philippians, 1 and 2 Corinthians, but what about the smaller Epistles? John's letters, Peter's letters, or even Philemon? We're going to cover these three, studying chapter by chapter and hear from the "margins", the lesser known letters. We can't wait to see you! If you have questions please contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.

SOCIAL DEVOTIONAL

1st Wednesday Chapel/Month | Following Chapel - 10:00 AM | Luther Hall

Leaders: Krista Nesbit, Pastor Tyler

School parents are invited to join together each month after the first Wednesday Chapel service for Social Devotional! Immediately following Chapel, we will gather in Luther Hall (right across from the Sanctuary) until 10:00 AM for a special devotional and plenty of time for coffee and conversation. We welcome you to join other St. John parents to pray together and get to know one another! This is a very casual, uplifting, monthly event focused on fellowship for St. John school parents. We hope to see you there! For more information please contact Krista Nesbit at nesbit.krista@gmail.com or 248.210.6362.

*Please note January's meeting has been moved to January 14.

THE LORD'S PRAYER STUDY

Thursdays at 7:00 PM | Luther Hall

Leaders: Melissa Auchter

Beginning January 15, this seven-week Bible study will explore The Lord's Prayer, drawing from Jesus' teachings in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:1-4, as well as insights from Martin Luther's Large and Small Catechisms. The goal is to deepen our understanding of the prayer's meaning, purpose, and role in our everyday life. Everybody is welcome and no Bible study experience is required. Martin Luther's Large and Small Catechisms book will be provided. Please contact Melissa Auchter at msauchter@gmail.com to register so we can get an accurate count of books needed.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays at 1:00 PM | Mary Martha Room

Leaders: Peter Harris

Everybody who typically attends this class is an immigrant or visitor to the United States - including the class leader Peter, however everyone is welcome. The aim of this Bible class has been, and will remain, manifold. Together we use the Bible to: expand knowledge of the English language, cover the history of Israel, how this lead to Christianity, and how Christianity became the foundation of Western civilization, especially in the United States, how the Bible shows that women are as equally important as men (this is very important to those who come from other religious and cultural backgrounds which are often male dominated), to show that the Bible is as meaningful today as it always has been, and above all, our goal is to encourage all to trust God and to take joy from the Word. For more information, please contact Peter at (248) 651-7532 or harris1964@wowway.com.

ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

Tuesdays at 1:00 PM and Fridays at 9:30 AM | Mary Martha Room

Leaders: Audrey Kiehl

Did you know that for more than 20 years, St. John has been home to an Adult ESL (English as a Second Language) group? Twice a week on Tuesdays (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM) and Fridays (9:30 AM - 11:30 AM) - people from all around the world gather for conversation, learning, and friendship. Our wonderful volunteers from St. John offer warm smiles and encouragement as the group practices their English and builds connections. These gatherings are open to everyone in the community, and no sign-up is needed—just come and join the conversation! Please share our group with any English Language Learners you know! We also love adding more volunteers to support our ESL group. We begin meeting again on January 6! If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Audrey Kiehl at 248-396-2220 or Audrey.kiehl@hotmail.com

TRUTH PROJECT - ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at 6:00 PM | Concordia Hall

Leaders: Various

Join us on Wednesdays as we continue our video series and discussions on The Truth Project. The Truth Project is a small group curriculum based on Biblical worldview, looking at life through the lens of the Holy Scriptures. The conversations are challenging as they stretch us to study what God desires from us in daily living as we seek to proclaim HIS truth. For more information contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.

WOMEN

WOMEN OF PRAYER

Tuesday's at 8:45 AM | Church Library

Leaders: Beth Helmer, Deana Stevens

All women of faith are invited to attend this gathering of faithful believers. We begin with a Psalm or another Scripture to meditate on and pray through as we pray together for the Lord's blessing, healing, and direction in a number of different areas (family, church, government, etc). Focusing on the Word of God often leads to deeper discussion, which we will welcome, but this group is designed to be intentionally prayerful, for there is mighty power in prayer! If you would like more information, please contact Deana at dstevens@stjohnrochester.org.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY - THE WAY OF WISDOM: A STUDY OF PROVERBS

Wednesdays at 2:00 PM | Concordia Hall

Leaders: Jennie Eller

Beginning January 7, we will be gathering to chat, study, and pray with each other. This women's group simply loves being together and you will be blessed to join us! Our group is typically a guided study/discussion/video series that will bring the beautiful Gospel of Jesus into our lives and enrich our relationships with Him and each other. This time, we are looking at The Way of Wisdom, looking at the book of Proverbs! Join us on Wednesday's at 2:00pm! For more details regarding purchasing study materials (scholarships available), please contact Jennie Eller at jeller@stjohnrochester.org.

ST. JOHN MOMCO

2nd and 4th Thursdays/Month at 9:00 AM | Luther Hall

Leaders: Ashley Baumann, Mady DeMiro

Are you a mom of a newborn, toddler, or preschooler and looking for a supportive group of women going through what you are? At St. John MomCo (formerly MOPS) we share Jesus with moms of young children (pregnancy-Kindergarten) and come together to support one another through our motherhood journeys. We meet at St. John on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, from January through May. Our meetings include childcare drop-off in age-based rooms with loving care-takers, videos, speakers on topics important to motherhood, activities to promote community, and a breakfast with coffee setup! We look forward to having you join us in this upcoming season! For more information, please contact Ashley or Mady at stjohnmomco@gmail.com.

MEN

DADS' BIBLE STUDY

1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 6:00 AM | Luther Hall

Leaders: Pastor Tyler

This study is intended for dads of all ages and walks of faith as we grow in God's Word together, learn what it means to lead our families well and receive encouragement in the highest calling God has for men. Beginning on January 7, join us on Wednesday mornings (even if you have to leave early) as we study together and train together as men to lead our homes and our church. Coffee and bagels/donuts will be provided, so that we don't miss out on breakfast before work! For more information, please contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.

THE FIVE BOOKS OF MOSES

1st and 3rd Mondays at 9:00 AM -10:30 AM | Church Library

Leaders: Dan McCallum, Gil McDonald

This men's group is taking a look at the Old Testament, doing deep guided study and discussion on the Torah, the first five books of the Old Testament. Join us on the first and third Mondays for discussion, laughter, prayer, and of course, snacks! For more information please contact Dan at d.mccallum@sbcglobal.net or Pastor Mac at g47mcd@hotmail.com.

THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

1st and 3rd Thursdays at 10:00 AM -11:30 AM | Church Library

Leaders: John Fedototszkin

Beginning January 15, this group takes a look at various articles from Concordia Publishing House's magazine, The Lutheran Witness. Through discussion and Biblical discovery, this group will explore how are we to interpret our ever changing world through a Christian perspective and a God who does not change. The coffee is hot and the conversation is engaging, so please join us on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month! For more information, please contact John at (248) 375-0832 or sherryjohnf@aol.com.

BIBLES AND BASKETBALL

Saturdays 8:00-10:00 AM | Gymnasium

Leaders: Eric Garland

Here is an opportunity to get into God's Word, play some basketball, and promote the ideals of Christian brotherhood. This group of men meets almost every Saturday morning beginning January 10. This is open to men young and older alike and all ability levels - the more the merrier! Whether you come regularly or occasionally, all are welcome. For more information, please contact Eric at egarlan10@gmail.com.

