

The EAGLE CONNECTION

ALL-SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WARMTH & CONNECTION



As the days grow shorter and the air turns crisp, we begin to crave warmth — not just the kind that comes from blankets and hot cocoa, but the deeper kind that fills our hearts. The Danish word *hygge* (pronounced “hoo-gah”) describes this feeling perfectly. It’s the cozy contentment that comes from being together, slowing down, and finding joy in the simple, peaceful moments of life.

At St. John’s, *hygge* can be found all around. It’s in the warmth of a classroom where students gather close for story time, in the laughter of friends sharing lunch, or in the soft hum of learning that fills the halls. It’s the smell of coffee drifting from the front lobby, the cheerful chaos of winter gear being zipped and buttoned, and the sense of belonging that comes from being part of a caring community. These everyday, simple moments create a kind of warmth

that goes deeper than the temperature outside — they remind us that comfort doesn’t come from perfection or busy schedules, but from connection.

As Christians, we understand that this longing for warmth and connection points us to something much bigger than ourselves - it points us to the perfect peace that we find in our relationship with our God. Because of His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, we are invited to draw near to Him, to rest in His presence, and to find our true comfort and peace in Him.

This season, may your homes — and our school — be places of warmth and peace, where light shines through the darker days and hearts are wrapped in God’s comfort. Whether it’s through a simple act of kindness, a shared laugh, or a quiet prayer, may we all experience the gentle joy of *hygge* and the unshakable peace of knowing that our God is near - always - and that His love is the truest warmth of all.

Here’s to cozy days, warm hearts, and the joy of sharing God’s love together at St. John’s!

In Christ,

Mrs. Kuchner



IT'S GALA WEEK!

The big day is almost here, and we couldn't be more excited! Thank you to everyone who has registered – we can't wait to celebrate with you tomorrow at the Gala.

The Silent Auction is now LIVE and ready for bidding! From your ticket confirmation email, simply click the button that says "Set Up Bidding." Download the Givi app, enter your details, and start bidding – it's that easy!

Silent Auction items are numbered 1–59, and bidding is open through tomorrow night at 7:45 p.m. You'll find a wide selection of incredible items – perfect for gifts, nights out, nights in, and everything in between.

Live Auction items start at 101. These are visible now, but bidding will take place on Gala night. Take a look and see what inspires you!

Can't make it on Friday? No problem – you can still take part and bid right from your phone through the Givi app.

[Click here to set up your account as a Virtual Bidder!](#)

We look forward to celebrating together and raising support for our students, helping provide tuition assistance and enriching opportunities for all.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT!!

PTL is excited to announce our December fundraiser – **Parents Night Out: Christmas Movie Night in the Gym!**

This drop-off event is open to students in Kindergarten through 5th grade on Friday, December 5, 2025, from 5:00–8:00 PM. Children will enjoy ball games, Christmas crafts, and a Christmas movie, along with cheese pizza, lemonade, popcorn and hot cocoa.

Parents, enjoy an evening to yourselves while helping support PTL's tuition assistance and educational enrichment programs.

Cost per family:

- \$25 for the first child
- \$10 for the second child
- \$5 for each additional child

Please reserve your spot by Sunday, November 30, by clicking [Here](#).

Payment (cash, check, Venmo, or Zelle) will be accepted at time of drop-off.

Please contact Britta Orr with any questions at (612)876-7696 BrittaBesanson@gmail.com or see the included flyer for more info.

GRANDPARENTS DAY!

Grandparents Day is **TOMORROW!!** See the included flyer for the schedule and more information.



MONDAY IS PJ DAY!

Monday, November 17th is all-school pajama day! Feel free to come dressed in your favorite PJs, but remember that you must still be able to fully participate in school and abide by the dress code (that means no shorts).

CROSS FOOD DRIVE

St. John's is currently taking donations for CROSS food shelf. Please see the included flyer with more info and a list a much needed items. Donations may be left in the front lobby.

THE SPIRIT STORE IS OPEN!

Our STJ online Spirit Store is open now through November 16th! Place your orders now and receive your items by Christmas break. Our STJ gear make perfect Christmas gifts for your entire family!!

SAVE THE DATE

Our next restaurant fundraiser will be Tuesday, December 2nd from 4-8pm at Panera Bread in Maple Grove.

WEAR YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT GEAR & WIN THE SPIRIT STICK!!

Students, we're having an all-school assembly on Tuesday, November 25th! Be sure to show your school pride by wearing your red and black and school spirit gear that day. The class with the most spirit will win the SPIRIT STICK!!!

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Student Council meeting will be **THIS** Wednesday, November 19th at 7:15am.

THANKSGIVING BREAK

There will be no school or ESP from Wednesday, November 26 - Friday, November 28 for Thanksgiving break. School and ESP will resume as normal on Monday, December 1.

LIBRARY REMINDER

The end of the first term is tomorrow! Books checked out before Nov. 5 must be returned or renewed by tomorrow to avoid a lost book fee on your Dec. 1 FACTS invoice. If your student has received a reminder slip, please check for missing books right away. Once fees are assessed, they're non-refundable — but you may keep or donate the book. Questions? Contact library@stjlutheran.org.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEER LINK

The link to volunteer in the school library may now be found on the last page of the newsletter under "Quick Reference."

ESP NEEDS A NEW (TO US) COUCH!

Parents, ESP is in need of a new (to us) sectional couch for the ESP room (our current one won't last much longer). If you have a gently used sectional that you'd like to donate, please contact Tori Kuehne at Tori.Kuehne@stjlutheran.org. Thank you!



PARENTS, TAKE A MOMENT TO REVIEW THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

SCHOOL ILLNESS POLICY

Per our handbook:

- Children should be kept home if they are ill or exhibit any of the following symptoms: a temperature over 100 degrees, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Any student who is feeling ill or displays any of the above symptoms while at school will be isolated from his or her classroom and a parent will be notified to pick up the child.
- Parents are expected to pick up a sick child from school within 1 hour of notification.
- Students must be symptom-free without the aid of medication for a period of 24-hours before returning to school.

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

Per our handbook: In case of bad weather, refer to local TV stations, email, school website, text messages, and school social media for notification of school closings or delays.

- When District #279 schools close due to snow, St. John's Lutheran School will also close. Cold weather days may be different, as we can adjust our bus route, etc.
- ESP will also remain closed if St. John's is closed due to inclement weather or if school closes early during the day.

PROPER CAR LINE PROCEDURES

To ensure safety and efficiency during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up, please remember that **the curb is for drop-off and pick-up only. If you need to get out of your vehicle for any reason (helping with seatbelts, getting items from trunk, giving hugs, etc., you must park in a designated parking space and walk your child in to at least the curb.** Additionally, be sure to always pull forward as far as possible to allow the maximum number of cars to unload.

We have also noticed an increase in parents parking and then walking inside to pick up their child. If you choose to do this, please follow staff directions and wait for permission before crossing the traffic line.

Your cooperation is essential in keeping all students, staff, and families safe. Thank you for doing your part to follow our procedures and keep carline running smoothly.

24-HOUR ADVANCE NOTICE REQUIRED

Parents, if you plan to pick up your child early or drop him/her off late, please be sure to **notify Mrs. Anderson and your child's teacher a minimum of 24 hours in advance** via email at attendance@stjlutheralschool.org.



THIS WEEK'S EAGLE BOOST...

Kindness & Connection

Acts of kindness not only brighten someone's day—they also improve the giver's mental and physical well-being. Kindness releases "feel good" chemicals that reduce stress and support healthy relationships. Try encouraging your family to:

- Say hello or smile at three people each day
- Help a classmate or sibling with a task
- Donate toys, food, or warm clothes to those in need
- Offer to pray for someone going through a hard time

Healthy families are connected families—and kindness strengthens those bonds.

Wishing you connection and compassion,

The Wellness Committee

NOMINATE AN OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR!

It's time to nominate a Lutheran Educator, Parish Professional or School Shepherd to be recognized as an outstanding servant in their area.

There are six categories:

- **School Leader (Principal or Preschool Director)**
- **Early Childhood Teacher**
- **Elementary Teacher**
- **Parish Professional (Music Director)**
- **School Shepherd (Pastor)**

Any educator may be nominated who did not receive the award last year. (Don't nominate Mrs. Maria Koosman - she won last year!)

All nominations must be submitted on or before Sunday, December 7, 2025. Submit your nomination(s) [HERE](#).



NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Friday, November 14

- End of term 1
- Missing library books due
- Grandparents Day!
- 8:15am Chapel
- 12:30pm Dismissal (no ESP)
- 5:00pm 12th Annual Gala!

Saturday, November 15

- 10:00am B boys at Heritage Lutheran
- 11:00am A girls at Heritage Lutheran
- 12:00pm B boys at Heritage Lutheran

Monday, November 17

- **ALL-SCHOOL PAJAMA DAY!**
- 3:30pm Girls A/B basketball practice

Tuesday, November 18

- Band
- 3:30pm Boys A/B basketball practice
- 7:00pm BOE meeting

Wednesday, November 19

- Library
- 7:15am Student Council meeting
- 2:00pm Preschool Pilgrim Program
- 3:30pm Girls A /B basketball practice

Thursday, November 20

- 7:00am Wellness Committee meeting
- 9:30am 7th grade field trip
- 3:30pm Boys A/B basketball practice

Friday, November 21

- 8:15am Chapel
- 7:00pm Youth Group event

COMING SOON

Mark your calendars now with these important dates.



- **Nov. 24:** K-2 field trip to Sidekick Theatre
- **Nov. 25:** Report cards issued; School Spirit Day!



- **Nov. 26-28:** Thanksgiving break; no school/ESP

- **Dec. 2:** Panera Bread PTL fundraiser

- **Dec. 3:** Student Council meeting

- **Dec. 4:** Wellness Committee meeting

- **Dec. 5:** PTL-sponsored Parent Night Out



- **Dec. 6:** PS-8th grade open house

- **Dec. 7:** 6th-8th grade choir & handbell choir singing/playing in church

- **Dec. 18:** Christmas Concert (afternoon and evening performances)

Mrs. Anderson says...

Don't forget -
Monday is PJ Day
for everyone!!





STJL BOARD OF EDUCATION

The St. John's Lutheran School Board of Education consists of the the following:

- Chairperson: Bonnie Radintz
- Deacon & Vice Chair: Grant Birznieks
- Deacon: Gary Volberding
- Deacon: Stu Glock
- Secretary: Brenna Koehler
- Candace Fisher
- Davey Kulberg
- Jim Peterson
- Jamie Radintz
- Ex officio: Kristen Skura
- Ex officio: Tori Kuehne

Board meetings are typically held the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

BOE agendas and approved minutes are available in FACTS.

WHERE DO I FIND...?

- [FACTS family portal](#) (Use code SJL-MN)
- [School calendars](#)
- [Hot lunch menu](#)
- [ESP sign up](#)
- [Continuous Connection survey](#)
- [St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church](#)

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Join us for worship each Sunday at St. John's Lutheran Church!

- Divine Service 8:00 & 10:30am
- Adult Bible study 9:30am
- Sunday school 9:30am

QUICK REFERENCE

- Report absences, early dismissals, and late arrivals to attendance@stjlutheranschool.org
- Share your STJ pictures for use in the yearbook and social media to pictures@stjlutheranschool.org
- Request library book holds, ask our librarians questions, or request a new book to library@stjlutheran.org
- Volunteer to help in the library by clicking [HERE](#).

BE SURE TO FOLLOW US!



OUR MISSION

The mission of St. John's Lutheran School & Preschool is to nurture young people through God's Word, sound Lutheran doctrine and worship, and a strong academic foundation. Our goal is to equip students to lead their lives as God's baptized children in this world and to carry out Christ's command to "make disciples of all nations."

(Matthew 28:19)

Chapel Project Updates

11/13/2025

What's New

We have completed our bowls, mugs, plates, creations for Grandparents Day! All the students worked so hard and impressed us with their clay skills. These items will be "sold" to raise money for local food charities.

Here's what you (and grandparents!) need to know:

1. The projects will be in the classrooms for sale.
2. There will be an opportunity for a freewill donation as grandparents/guests take the projects.

We look forward to sharing how successful this Term 1 Service Project was next week!

Questions?

Contact Anna Fuhrman or Kari Preus!

- anna.fuhrman@stjlutheranschool.org
- kari.preus@stjlutheranschool.org

ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL

GRANDPARENT'S DAY

PARENTS, PLEASE RSVP
YOUR SPECIAL GUESTS
HERE:



Friday, November 14th, 2025

7:30-8:15 Check In/Coffee

8:30 Chapel

9:15-11:30 Activities

11:30-12:30 Lunch

(Pulled pork sandwich, vegetables, chips, and cookie)

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

9141 County Road 101 Corcoran, MN 55340



RAISE SOME DOUGH

Help support us!

30% of sales will benefit

ST JOHNS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ST

JOHNS LUTH SCHOOL

December 2, 2025

4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

7778 Main Street N

Maple Grove, MN

In Cafe • Drive-Thru • Pick-Up • Delivery

Enter promo code **FUND4U** at online checkout.

Panera
FUNDRAISING



JOIN US FOR A

Christmas

MOVIE

NIGHT

STJL PTL IS PROUD TO PRESENT

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

THIS EVENT IS FOR STUDENTS IN KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE.

CHEESE PIZZA, LEMONADE, POPCORN, HOT CHOCOLATE AND
CHRISTMAS CRAFTS WILL BE PROVIDED.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 5TH
5:00 - 8:00 PM

PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN
UP BY SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30TH

NORTH POLE

COST: \$25 FOR THE FIRST
CHILD, \$10 FOR THE
SECOND CHILD, AND \$5
FOR EACH ADDITIONAL
CHILD PER FAMILY.



you matter here.

ANNUAL IMPACT



20,318

Family Visits to
CROSS Services



557

Families Assisted
Financially



1,931,615

Pounds of food
given to families.

MOST NEEDED GROCERIES

**Help CROSS Services give hope
to local neighbors in need.**

Spaghetti Noodles & Pasta Sauce
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Canned or Dried Beans
Canned or Boxed Meals
Canned Fruit & Vegetables
Canned Meats
Mac & Cheese
Condiments
Cereal
Rice
Flour
Sugar
Oil



**Donate today to
GIVE HOPE**

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

LEARN. PRAY. GROW.

The Twenty-second Week after Trinity: Nov 16 - Nov 22, 2025

The Last Week of the Church Year: Nov 23 - Nov 29, 2025



LEARN-BY-HEART

MEMORIZE TOGETHER AS A FAMILY
SCHOOL STUDENTS EXPECTED TO RECITE ON FRIDAY

Classic Bible Memory for Primary Grades

K.+ **Romans 10:17**- So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Luke 7:50- [Jesus said,] "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

The Third Article of The Apostles' Creed (Part 1 of 2)

PreK+ I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Christian church, the communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

1st gr+ 1. I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength
Believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him;
But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel,
Enlightened me with His gifts,
Sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

2. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth,
And keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

Catechism Bible Verse

3rd gr + **John 6:63**- [Jesus said,] "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing.
The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life."



PRAYERS

MANY CHRISTIANS STRUGGLE TO PRAY BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW WHO OR WHAT TO
PRAY FOR. USE THIS GUIDE TO PRAY FOR DIFFERENT NEIGHBORS IN THEIR VARIOUS NEEDS.
LET US PRAY...

Sun ...for all who attend the Divine Service today, that they may be fed with His Word and Sacrament
...for all who do not know the joy of the Resurrection, that they hear and believe the Gospel

Mon ...for all who begin a new week of work, for the unemployed, for our government, & for our teachers &
students who begin a new week of school

Tues ...for rescue from temptation and sin, for repentance for those who have fallen away, for the guilty to be
comforted with the Gospel

Wed ...for all husbands & wives, parents & children, that all families may live in peace according to God's Word

Thu ...for our Church, our pastors, our teachers, our missionaries, all who serve and volunteer at St. John's

Fri ...for all who preach Christ crucified this weekend, for Christians who are persecuted, for all who are sick and
dying

Sat ... for the Holy Spirit to preserve our faith to the End, for our hearts to be ready to hear God's Word tomorrow



SCRIPTURE LESSONS

STUDY TO HEAR NEXT SUNDAY

Sun. Nov. 23 - The Last Sunday of the Church Year

Isaiah 65:17-25 - The New Heavens and Earth

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 - The Coming Day of the Lord

Matthew 25:1-13 - The Parable of the Ten Virgins

Sun. Nov. 30 - The First Sunday in Advent

Jeremiah 23:5-8 - The Righteous Branch

Romans 13:8-14 - Fulfilling the Law through Love

Matthew 21:1-11 - Jesus' Triumphal Entry



HYMNS

Church Hymn of the Day for the Last Sunday- "Wake! Awake! For Night Is Flying" (*LSB* 516)

Church Hymn of the Day for Advent I- "Savior of the Nations, Come" (*LSB* 332)

School Hymn of the Month (Nov.): "Now Thank We All Our God" (*LSB* 895)

School Year Theme Hymn: "With High Delight Let Us Unite" (*LSB* 483)



FAMILY DEVOTION

Here is a short order you may follow for family devotions around the dinner table or in the living room.

Invocation - In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit - **Amen.**

Recite - the Apostles' Creed and the Learn-by-Heart Bible Verse & Catechism

Read and Discuss - one of the Scripture readings from this past Sunday, from school, or the coming Sunday

Pray - the Lord's Prayer, Luther's morning or evening prayers, and the topical prayers for the day of the week

Sing a hymn - use one of the hymns from the past Sunday, the coming Sunday, or the school year

Benediction

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

Luther's Morning & Evening Prayers

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, That the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen	I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen
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