

The EAGLE CONNECTION

ALL-SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK 2026!

Dear Families,

Next week, we are thrilled to join more than 1,800 Lutheran schools across the country in celebrating **National Lutheran Schools Week** (NLSW)—a cherished tradition that unites students, families, teachers, and congregations in joyful thanksgiving for the gift of Lutheran education. Each year, this celebration gives us the opportunity to pause, reflect, and rejoice in the mission we share: forming young hearts and minds in Christ.

This year's theme, drawn from Psalm 98:4, calls us to **“make a joyful noise to the LORD”** as we remember the marvelous things He has done. What a beautiful reminder that our learning, our relationships, and our daily routines are centered in something far greater than academics alone. At St. John's, our foundation is—and always will be—Christ. Every lesson taught, every song sung, every act of service completed, and every prayer spoken rests on the unshakable truth of the Gospel. What a blessing it is to be a Lutheran school where Jesus is present in every classroom, guiding our students in truth and love!

Throughout the week, our students will explore how we make this “joyful noise” in many ways—through praise, worship, service, community, and the certainty we have in Christ alone. See the next page to check out all the wonderful activites and special events we have planned for next week, including **singing in the Divine Service THIS Sunday**, a K-8th grade field trip to Concordia Academy, daily dress up days, an escape room (parents, PTL needs volunteers - sign up to help!), a pancake breakfast (you're ALL invited), and much , much more!

As we step into this joyful week, may we do so with grateful hearts—thankful for our school, our teachers, our community, and most of all, for Jesus, who holds all things together. National Lutheran Schools Week reminds us that our mission is eternal, our hope is certain, and our joy is rooted in Christ alone.

Forever grateful to be His,

Tori Kuehne



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Psalm 98:4

Let's Make a JOYFUL Noise

National Lutheran School's Week

Throughout the Week

~Cross Donations

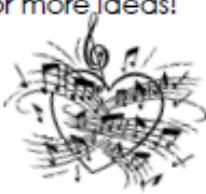
Bring in non-perishable food, personal hygiene items, and more! Check the list for more ideas!

~All School Devotions

~Daily Snacks

~Door Decorating Contest

Check out classroom doors on Friday!



Tuesday, Jan. 27th

Theme: Joyful Noise in Worship

Dress Up: Monochrome Day

*Dress in ONE color.

Activity:

SJC Eagle Hunt



Thursday, Jan. 29th

Theme: Joyful Noise in Community

Dress Up: Character Day

*Dress as a favorite character from a movie, tv show, book, etc!



Activity:



~Rock, Paper, Scissors Championships
~Inflatables Day (Thank you PTL!)

Monday, Jan. 26th

Theme: Joyful Noise in Praise

Dress Up: School Spirit

*Wear your RED St. John's shirt!



Activity: NLSW Kick-Off Event at Concordia Academy for K-8 Students



Wednesday, Jan. 28th

Theme: Joyful Noise in Service

Dress Up: Jersey Day

*Wear your favorite athletic jersey.



Activity:

Rock, Paper, Scissors Classroom Tournament

Friday, Jan. 30th

Theme: Joyful Noise in Christ Alone

Dress Up: Pajama Day!

*Wear your comfy pajamas!



Activity:

~Pancake Breakfast 7:00-8:00 a.m.
ALL family members are invited!
~Escape Room Family Group Activity



Sunday, Feb. 1st: PreK - 8th Sing in Church 8:00 or 10:30am

You
Choose!

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the service. K-8 Meet in Music Room, PreK Meet in Mrs. K's classroom!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST INVITE

The PTL is excited to invite you and your family to our Pancake Breakfast on Friday, January 30th! All family members are welcome to join in the fun and enjoy a tasty breakfast together.

Breakfast will be served from 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM, so come hungry and ready for a great start to your morning. And don't worry about getting dressed—it's pajama day! Feel free to come in your favorite comfy pajamas and relax with your loved ones.

We look forward to seeing you there for good food, great company, and plenty of smiles!

THANK YOU!

We are beyond grateful to everyone who joined us at Ninjas United! Your energy and enthusiasm made the event unforgettable—we loved seeing all those incredible ninja moves! Thanks to your amazing support, we **raised over \$600**, which will help fund even more fun and engaging events for our students.

Thank you for being part of the adventure! Until next time... keep those ninja skills sharp!

~The STJ PTL

PRESCHOOL OPEN GYM THIS SATURDAY

Our amazing PTL is sponsoring a preschool open gym on Saturday, January 24th from 9-10:30am.

ESCAPE ROOM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NEXT FRIDAY

We need your help during National Lutheran Schools Week! On Friday, January 30th from 1-3pm, STJ student family groups will wrap up the week with an Escape Room. Each room requires an adult helper to give the groups clues, if needed and to let them know if they have solved the puzzle.

Volunteers should arrive at 1pm; the escape room will run from 1:35-3:00pm. [Sign up here to volunteer.](#) Thank you!

LET'S FILL THE BOXES FOR CROSS

Our collection boxes have been delivered, and we're ready to start collecting! Let's fill all three giant boxes with items to help our neighbors. See the included flyer to learn what the most needed items are.

ADDITIONAL ADULT CATECHISM CLASS SCHEDULED

Pastor Moss will be offering an additional Adult Catechism Class **beginning Monday, February 2nd from 5:15-6:45pm**. If you or someone you know are interested in participating, please contact him directly at pastor.moss@stjlutheran.org.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

A Scholastic Book Fair will be held from Feb. 17-22. Not only will this event be open during the Science Fair, but each class will have an opportunity to visit, and students will be able to create wish lists to share with their families. Stay tuned for more info!

INTENT TO WITHDRAWAL NOTIFICATION DEADLINE

Per our Parent/Student Handbook (pg. 12), “Families have until January 31st to notify the front office that their child will not be returning. Failure to notify St. John’s by this deadline will result in automatic enrollment and all applicable enrollment fees being assessed in February.” **Parents of children in preschool**, please notify Mrs. Kuehne at tori.kuehne@stjlutheran.org if you do not plan to continue in preschool or have your child advance to Kindergarten at St. John’s.

MORNING DROP OFF PROCEDURE REMINDER!!

Parents, it’s been brought to our attention (both by observation and parent feedback) that many of you are stopping in front of the doors to drop off your child in the morning. **Please don’t do this**, as it obstructs other vehicles from pulling forward. Per our Parent/Student Handbook (pg. 32), “Parents dropping off children should enter the parking lot from Mystique Dr. and continue forward to the front curb. **Pull forward as far as possible to allow the maximum number of cars to unload.** Students should quickly exit the car and come inside the school. Students should not get out of the car until parked at the curb. “

PS CHOIR SINGING IN CHAPEL

Our preschoolers will be singing in chapel on Friday, February 13th. Preschool families, we hope you are able to join us this morning to hear their beautiful voices join together in praise to our Lord!

SAVE THE DATE FOR FUNDAY!

Get ready, St. John’s family—it’s almost time for one of the brightest and most joy-filled days of the year! Our Annual Eagle Family FUNDay is soaring back this April, and we can’t wait to celebrate together.

This special event brings our entire St. John’s community—students, families, teachers, and staff—together for a day of fun, connection, and purpose. It’s a chance to enjoy games, activities, food, and laughter... all while supporting an important cause.

Date: April 25, 2026

Where: St. John’s School

Why: To have fun while funding a meaningful and lasting improvement for our school.

More details are coming soon—but for now, go ahead and circle the date, highlight it, tack it to your fridge, or set that phone reminder. Let’s make this the best Eagle Family FUNDay yet!

We can’t wait to celebrate with you!

ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES

Join us Wednesday, February 18 at 1pm and/or 7pm for Ash Wednesday service. Lenten midweek services begin the following week on Wednesday, February 25th at 7pm and continuing each week through Wednesday, March 25th.

NOMINATE AN STJ SCHOOL CHAMPION TODAY!

Do you know someone who makes a remarkable difference in our school community? Is there a rockstar volunteer who lends a helping hand for every event? Is there someone behind the scenes working hard each and everyday? Now is the time to honor them!

Nominations are officially open for the **Private and Independent Education Awards**, and we invite you to recognize the individuals and programs that inspire, lead, and serve with excellence.

Nominees may include **a dedicated teacher, a tireless volunteer, a generous donor, an innovative leader, or a program that transforms student learning**. If they've made a meaningful impact, MINNDependent wants to celebrate them.

Learn more and submit your nominations [HERE](#).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!!

St. John's is hosting a Scholastic book fair February 17-22. We are in need of a volunteer to take charge of this event for us, which includes helping create displays and more. We are also in need of volunteers to help while students, faculty, and families shop. Contact Dr. Skura at Kristen.Skura@stjlutheran.org or see the included flyer for more information.

TAX INFO FROM FACTS

To find a summary of tuition and other fees paid in 2025, please follow the steps below.

- Log into your FACTS Family portal.
- Click "Financial" on the left-hand side.
- Click "Financial Home".
- Click "View Details".
- Click "View Payment Summary" to view end of year payment summaries.
- Summaries show the total paid for each account for each student.

SCIENCE FAIR INFORMATION

Join us for our **Science Fair on Thursday, February 19 from 4-6pm!** This open-house-style event is a celebration of our students' creativity, curiosity, and hard work. Each student will have already presented their projects earlier in the day, and families are invited to explore the displays at their own pace in the evening. Students may take their projects home either at the end of the night or the following day.

The Scholastic Book Fair will also be open during this event—stop by to browse and support our school!

NO SCHOOL/NO ESP

There will be no school or ESP on Monday, February 16 in observance of Presidents' Day. School and ESP will resume as usual on Tuesday, February 17.

7TH & 8TH GRADE WASHINGTON D.C. PARENT MEETINGS

two informational meetings will be held for families on Thursday, Feb. 26th regarding the upcoming (and future) Washington, D.C. trips:

- **6:00 pm – Class of 2026 (current 8th graders):** This final meeting will review travel details and answer any remaining questions.
- **6:45 pm – Class of 2027 (current 7th graders):** Families will learn about the trip plans, ask questions, **and receive a discount on their child's trip for attending.**

We look forward to connecting with you and helping ensure a smooth and exciting experience for all our travelers!

JOIN US AT OMNI BREWING!

Join us on Monday, February 23rd anytime from open to close at Omni Brewing in Maple Grove (9462 Deerwood Ln N.), and Omni will generously donate \$1 for every beverage and pizza sold—a simple (and delicious!) way to give back to our St. John's community. Omni offers handcrafted beer, wine, pizza, coffee, and more, so let's pack the taproom and show our support! Bring your friends, family, and anyone who loves good food and a good cause. Be sure to tell them you're with St. John's! See the included flyer for more info!



THIS WEEK'S EAGLE BOOST

Active Play for Growing Bodies (Let them move!)

Children are created to move, explore, and play. During the winter months, when outdoor time can be limited, it becomes especially important to seek out spaces where kids can use their energy in healthy and joyful ways. Purposeful play supports physical development, emotional regulation, and connection with others.

Ideas for active play this week:

- If you have preschool children, attend the PTL preschool open gym this Saturday (January 24), a fun opportunity for kids to run, jump, and play.
- Visit an indoor playground, or climbing space in the Maple Grove area.
- Look for family open swim or open gym times at local facilities.
- Allow kids to lead the play while adults encourage and participate.
- End the outing with gratitude for strong bodies and shared laughter.

“Children are a heritage from the Lord.” — Psalm 127:3

May your family experience joy, energy, and connection through active play.

— The Wellness Committee

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Friday, January 23

- **SCHOOL CANCELED**
- All basketball games/practice have been canceled

Saturday, January 24

- 9:00am PS open gym
- 10:30am 1st & 2nd grade basketball

Monday, January 26

- 8:45am K-8 field trip for NLSW
- 3:30pm Girls A/B basketball practice
- 5:30pm Girls C vs. Good Shepherd
- 6:30pm Boys C vs. Good Shepherd

Tuesday, January 27

- Band
- 3:30pm A & B boys bball practice

Wednesday, January 28

- Library
- 3:30pm A/B/C girls bball practice

Thursday, January 29

- 3:30pm Boys A & B bball practice

Friday, January 30

- 7:00am Pancake breakfast
- 3:30pm C boys bball practice
- 4:30pm A girls at Free Lutheran
- 5:30pm A boys at Free Lutheran
- 5:30pm B boys vs. Salem, Stillwater

Saturday, January 31

- Intent to withdraw notification deadline
- 9:00am B tournament at West Lutheran
- 10:00am 1st & 2nd grade basketball

Sunday, February 1

- 7:45am PS meets in Mrs. Koosman's room; K-8 meet in music room
- 8:00am PS-8th singing in Divine Service
- 10:15am PS meets in Mrs. Koosman's room; K-8 meet in music room
- 10:30am PS-8th singing in Divine Service

COMING SOON

Mark your calendars now with these important dates.



- **Feb. 4:** Student Council meeting: PS field trip
- **Feb. 5:** Wellness Committee meeting
- **Feb. 13:** PS singing in chapel; Ski Club to Powder Ridge
- **Feb. 16:** No school/No ESP
- **Feb. 17:** Science Fair projects due at school
- **Feb. 18:** Student Council meeting; Ash Wed. Services
- **Feb. 19:** Science Fair
- **Feb. 20:** End of Term 2
- **Feb. 23:** Omni Brewing fundraiser
- **Feb. 25:** PTL K-8 bowling event
- **Feb. 26:** 7th & 8th grade D.C. parent meetings
- **Feb. 27:** K-4th grade singing in chapel

Mrs. Anderson says...

Stay warm,
Eagles!! It's gonna
be a cold one!!





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)

The St. John's PTL invites you to a

Pancake BREAKFAST

Friday, January 30th
Breakfast is served from 7am-8am
All family members are invited!!



VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED



No need to get ready for the day!!

★ It is also Pajama Day!! ★

National Lutheran Schools Week



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



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.



Donate today to
GIVE HOPE



Coming soon: **Best. Week. Ever.**

Volunteers wanted!

Dear Families:

We're excited to announce that St. John's will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair, which takes place from **February 17-22, 2026!**

It's one of the most anticipated events of the school year for students—but we need volunteers to make it happen. Your help is crucial in making the Fair a truly unforgettable experience for our children. We hope you'll consider offering your time and talents to get it running!

If you're available to lend a hand at this upcoming event, please contact Dr. Skura (Kristen.skura@stjlutheran.org) and share which Fair activities best suit you. Opportunities to assist include:

- Fair set up
- Assisting shoppers
- Checkout
- Fair pack up

We look forward to hearing from you.

Gratefully,

St. John's Lutheran School
Book Fair host

Let's Make a JOYFUL Noise

National Lutheran School's Week

Throughout the Week

~Cross Donations

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~Daily Snacks

~Door Decorating Contest

Check out classroom doors on Friday!



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~Rock, Paper, Scissors Championships

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Activity:



~Pancake Breakfast 7:00-8:00 a.m.

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~Escape Room Family Group Activity

SAVE THE DATE



SATURDAY
APRIL 25, 2026

Chapel Project Updates

1/22/26

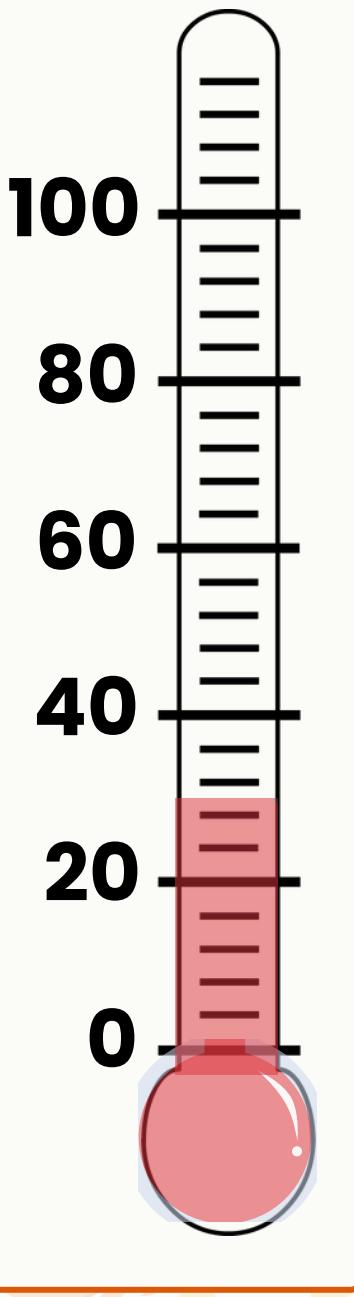
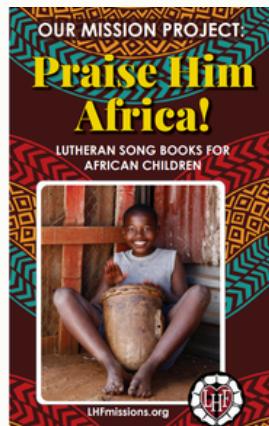
What's New

The 7/8th graders are teaming up with the kindergarteners to make more tie blankets/sleeping bag liners for the unhoused. We did a tie blanket project last year, and were given a donation of fabric to make an even bigger impact. We work with Jim at The New Freedom Store who works directly with the homeless population in Minneapolis.



Here are the updated numbers for our Chapel Project for Term 2:

Total Raised So Far: \$125.03
Books: 25



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

LEARN. PRAY. GROW.

The Final Week after Epiphany: Jan 25 - Jan 31, 2026



LEARN-BY-HEART

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

Classic Bible Memory for Primary Grades

K.+ **1 Corinthians 6:11b-** You were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

3rd gr+ *What is Baptism?*

Baptism is not just plain water,
but it is the water included in God's command
and combined with God's word

1st gr+ *Which is that word of God?*

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew:

K+ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them
in the name of the Father and the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)

Catechism Bible Verse

3rd gr+ **Acts 2:38-39-** "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself."



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 & dying

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



SCRIPTURE LESSONS

STUDY TO HEAR NEXT SUNDAY

Sun. Feb. 1 - Septuagesima (70 Days till Easter)

Exodus 17:1-7 - Water from the Rock

1 Corinthians 9:24–10:5 - Warning against Idolatry

Matthew 20:1-16 - The Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard



HYMNS

Church Hymn of the Day for Septuagesima- "Salvation unto Us Has Come" (LSB 555)

School Hymn of the Month (January): "God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It" (LSB 594)

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