

# The **EAGLE CONNECTION**

ALL-SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## **ENCORE ENSEMBLE'S ANNUAL BAND FESTIVAL COMES AGAIN TO ST. JOHN'S!**

Dear Families,

We are excited to share that Encore Ensemble's annual Band Festival will once again be held right here at St. John's next week! This special all-day event gathers band students not only from our school, but from across the area to experience a truly unique and inspiring musical opportunity.

The Festival brings young musicians together to form a full band for one day of collaboration, learning, and joyful music-making. Students begin the morning by sightreading the concert music for the very first time, working closely with directors and one another to bring each piece to life. In the afternoon, these same pieces are performed in a culminating concert presented to family, friends, and our entire student body—an impressive accomplishment after just one day of preparation! We are excited to also offer the ability to view the concert through a livestream on our [Facebook page](#).

Events like this highlight the incredible value of music education in the lives of students. Music strengthens discipline, confidence, creativity, and teamwork—skills that extend far beyond the stage. More importantly, making music gives students an outlet to express joy, gratitude, and the gifts God has given them.

At St. John's, we delight in supporting students as they explore and grow their God-given talents. Whether through band, choir, classroom activities, or performances throughout the year, our mission is to nurture the whole child—academically, spiritually, and artistically. Hosting the Band Festival is a meaningful way for us to celebrate these gifts and connect with other young musicians from many area schools.

We look forward to filling our halls with music, energy, and celebration next week. What a blessing to witness students discover their abilities and use them for God's glory!

God's blessings to you all!





## **PANCAKE BREAKFAST TOMORROW!**

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!

## **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!

## **PS CHOIR SINGING IN CHAPEL**

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

## **INTENT TO WITHDRAWAL NOTIFICATION DEADLINE THIS SATURDAY**

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](mailto:tori.kuehne@stjlutheran.org) if you do not plan to continue in preschool or have your child advance to Kindergarten at St. John's.

## **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 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and continuing each week through Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **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.



## 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!

## 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. "

## 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.



## 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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

**Discovering Nature  
in Winter  
(Parks, Trails, and Wonder)**

Winter reveals a quieter, more reflective side of God's creation. Exploring nature together during this season invites us to slow down, notice details we might otherwise miss, and remain active in meaningful ways. Time outdoors, even in colder weather, helps refresh our spirits and build resilience.

Ways to explore locally this week:

- Visit Eastman Nature Center to walk the storybook trail, blending movement with reading.
- Try snowshoeing on designated trails, rentals and beginner options are available.
- Participate in family programs and seasonal events offered throughout the month.
- Look for animal tracks, winter birds, and signs of life along the trail.
- Thank God for creation and the gift of exploring it together.

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it." — Psalm 24:1

May your winter days be filled with curiosity, movement, and wonder.

— The Wellness Committee



## NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade basketball

### Sunday, February 1

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

### Monday, February 2

- 3:30pm Girls A/B bball practice
- 6pm C girls vs. King of Grace
- 6:15pm C boys at Bloomington GRN

### Tuesday, February 3

- Band
- 3:30pm A & B boys bball practice
- 3:30pm A/B boys outing to watch West  
Lutheran basketball games

### Wednesday, February 4

- Library
- 7:15am Student Council meeting
- 11:30am Preschool field trip
- 3:30pm A/B/C girls bball practice

### Thursday, February 5

- 7am Wellness Committee meeting
- 3:30pm A boys bball practice
- 5:30pm B girls at Cambridge
- 6:30pm B boys at Cambridge

### Friday, February 6

- Band Festival!
- 8:15am Chapel

## COMING SOON

Mark your calendars now with  
these important dates.



- **Feb. 7:** PS open gym/1st/2<sup>nd</sup> grade  
basketball
- **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:** 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade D.C. parent  
meetings
- **Feb. 27:** K-4<sup>th</sup> grade singing in chapel

*Mrs. Anderson says...*

I LOVE MY  
LUTHERAN  
SCHOOL!!







## 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@stjlutheralschool.org](mailto:attendance@stjlutheralschool.org)
- Share your STJ pictures for use in the yearbook and social media to [pictures@stjlutheralschool.org](mailto:pictures@stjlutheralschool.org)
- Request library book holds, ask our librarians questions, or request a new book to [library@stjlutheran.org](mailto: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 School's Week*





**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**





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](mailto: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



**Monday, February 23**

**WELCOME**



**HANDCRAFTED: BEER • WINE • PIZZA • COFFEE**



We are grateful to be a part of such a wonderful community and proud to help support the organizations in it. Come on out Monday, February 23, to support St. John's Lutheran School! OMNI will be donating \$1 for every beverage and pizza sold to St. John's Lutheran School.

**HOURS**

Mon - Thu: 7 - 10

Fri - Sat: 7 - 11

Sun: 7 - 9

9462 Deerwood Ln N, Maple Grove, MN 55369



# ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

LEARN. PRAY. GROW.

The Week of Septuagesima (70 Days till Easter): Feb. 1 - Feb. 07, 2026



## LEARN-BY-HEART

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

### Classic Bible Memory for Primary Grades

K.+ **Ephesians 2:8-9** - For by grace you have been saved through faith.  
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,  
Not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

**Acts 22:16** - Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

### Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

3rd gr+ *What benefits does Baptism give?*  
It works forgiveness of sins,  
rescues from death and the devil,  
and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this,  
as the words and promises of God declare.

2nd gr. + *Which are these words and promises of God?*  
Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark:  
Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved,  
But whoever does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:16)

### Catechism Bible Verse

3rd gr. + **1 Corinthians 12:13a** - For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.



## 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. 2- The Feast of the Purification of Mary and Presentation of Our Lord; also called “Candlemas”

1 Samuel 1:21-28 - Hannah Presents Samuel to the LORD

Hebrews 2:14-18 - Jesus the Faithful High Priest to God

Luke 2:22-32 - Simeon Sees Jesus and Sings the *Nunc Dimittis*



## HYMNS

Church Hymn of the Day for Candlemas- “In Peace and Joy I Now Depart” (*LSB* 938)

School Hymn of the Month (Jan.): “The Only Son from Heaven” (*LSB* 402)

School Hymn of the Month (Feb.): “Fight the Good Fight” (*LSB* 664)

School Year Theme Hymn: “Fight the Good Fight” (*LSB* 664)



## 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

<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
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