

The **EAGLE CONNECTION**

ALL-SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

ESP PROGRAM UPDATES FOR THIS SUMMER & THE 2026/27 SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Families,

We are excited to share some important updates regarding ESP. Thank you for your patience as we worked to gather accurate information and plan for the future of this program. We know many families have been waiting for this update, and we appreciate your support as we move forward.

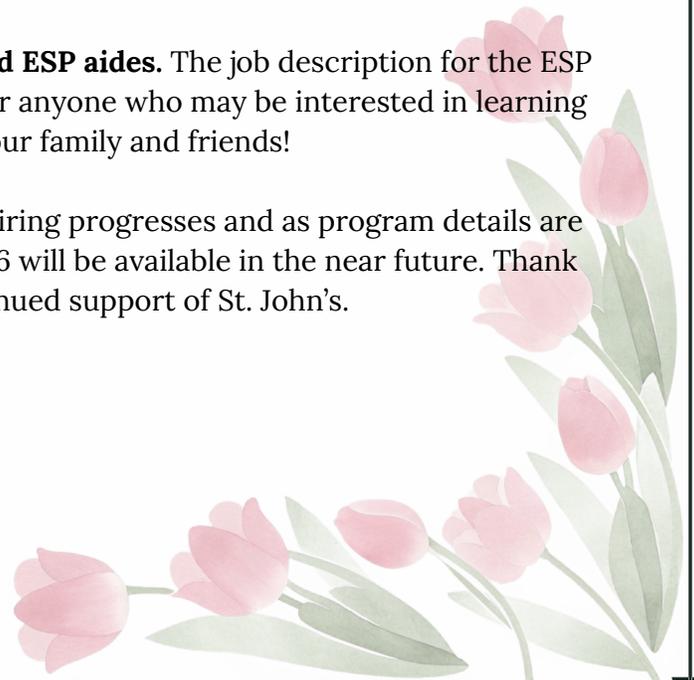
St. John's will continue to offer after-school ESP during the school year as well as Summer ESP (including Summer ESP 2026). As always, programming is dependent on having sufficient staff available to safely and effectively serve students. Final program details, including capacity and schedule specifics, will be confirmed as staffing is finalized.

For planning purposes, the rate for regular school-year ESP is expected to range from \$12-\$15 per day, depending on how your family chooses to utilize ESP. More detailed pricing and usage information, including for Summer ESP, will be shared at a later date.

As part of planning for next year, we also want to share a staffing update. **Tori Kuehne will be stepping down from her role as ESP Director effective May 21** (the last full day of school). She will continue serving St. John's by focusing more on school marketing and communications and continuing in her role as Preschool Director.

We are currently hiring for a new ESP Director and ESP aides. The job description for the ESP Director position is included with this newsletter for anyone who may be interested in learning more or applying. Please feel free to share it with your family and friends!

We will continue to provide updates to families as hiring progresses and as program details are finalized. Program specifics about Summer ESP 2026 will be available in the near future. Thank you, truly, for your patience, partnership, and continued support of St. John's.





PS CHOIR SINGING IN CHAPEL TOMORROW!

Our preschoolers will be singing in chapel **TOMORROW**, 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!

NO SCHOOL/NO ESP MONDAY

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.

ASH WEDNESDAY & 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.

SCIENCE FAIR NEXT WEEK!

We are excited to host our Science Fair **NEXT THURSDAY, FEB. 19** from 4-6pm. This special event is a culmination of months of hard work by our students, and you're sure to be amazed by all of the projects. Enjoy your time viewing the displays, learning a bit about the scientific method, and checking out our Scholastic book fair that will be happening simultaneously.

DON'T SWEAT IT - FUND IT! ORDER YOUR FUNDAY T-SHIRTS NOW!

Get ready to celebrate and support our school by helping us create safer, more comfortable, and more inspiring spaces where our kids learn, grow, play, worship, and discover new talents every day.

- Only \$12 per shirt (\$5 per shirt goes towards the fundraising total)
- 10 FUN colors to choose from
- Deadline to order: 3/20/26

Don't wait—grab your FUNDay tee and let your Eagle pride shine and help us reach our fundraising goals!! Visit the FUNDay T-SHIRT STORE today to place your order!

NOW HIRING: FACILITIES MANAGER

St. John's is seeking a dedicated facilities manager to join our team. The ideal candidate is detail-oriented, self-motivated, able to problem solve, possesses physical stamina and strength, and is a team player. This role will be responsible for maintaining the cleanliness and organization of our facility while ensuring a safe and healthy environment for staff, students, members, and guests. Interested candidates should contact our Business Manager, Stephanie Parris at stephanie.parris@stjlutheran.org.



LET'S STRINK UP SOME FUN!

St. John's PTL is sponsoring the annual student bowling event at Sundance Entertainment Center in Dayton for students in grade K-8th.

- **ALL STUDENTS (EVEN THOSE NOT GOING) must register by Feb. 18th**
 - You should have already received an email for registration.
- Cost is \$5/student
- Students depart St. John's via our school bus after lunch.
 - Feb. 25: K, 2nd, 4th, 7th, 8th
 - Mar. 4: 1st, 3rd, 5th, 6th
- Bowling shoes and a snack are provided
- Students will return to St. John's by 3pm.
- Help is needed for this event. [Learn more and register to volunteer here.](#)

BEST OF MAPLE GROVE VOTING IS OPEN!!

Voting is OPEN for the 2026 Best of Maple Grove, and we are going ALL IN to win back Best Private School and Best Preschool this year. (Yes, Maranatha...we want our titles back and we're coming for them!)

Here's how to help:

- Click [HERE](#)
- Select the "Learning" category
- Find the categories: Best Private School and click "Vote" for St. John's Lutheran School; do the same for Best Preschool
- Vote in at least 3 other categories so that your votes count (5 total required)
- Vote again tomorrow and each day in February

NEWSPAPERS NEEDED

A large number of newspapers are needed for both a preschool project and the upcoming school musical. If you are able to donate any, we would very much appreciate it. Newspapers may be turned in to the front office.

WELLNESS WEEK: IN HIS IMAGE

This year, we will be celebrating Wellness Week February 23-27 with the theme "Created in His Image." Each day will include lessons and activities focused on various ways we can keep our bodies and minds healthy and strong, the way God wants us to be!

THE ANXIOUS GENERATION PARENT NIGHT

Our Wellness Committee is hosting a Parent Information Night Tuesday, February 24th at 6pm to present and discuss **The Anxious Generation** by **Jonathan Haidt**. Join us for some light refreshments and great learning on what's going on with our kids today and what we might do about it.

UPCOMING SPRING MUSICAL

Mark your calendars now for our much anticipated performance of "Newsies, Jr.!" Performances will take place at 1pm on Thursday, March 12 and again at 6pm on Friday, March 13th. All students in grades preschool-8th grade participate in this event.



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!

END OF TERM LIBRARY UPDATE

Term 2 ends next week; please help your child check for any missing library books to avoid paying a lost book fee.

- Books checked out before Feb. 4 will be considered lost if not returned or renewed by Feb. 20.
- Lost book fees will be added to the March 1 FACTS invoice.
- If your child received a slip for a book due Feb. 11 or earlier, this is a heads-up that a book is missing.
- Once a fee is charged, it is non-refundable, even if the book is later found.

If you have questions or concerns about missing books, please contact the library before February 20 via email at library@stjlutheran.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars now: March 9, 2026; 5-8pm; Portillo's Night!! More info to come!



NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Friday, February 13

- 8:15am Chapel
 - Preschool choir singing
- 3pm 5th-8th grade Ski Club
- 3:30pm C boys bball practice
- 4pm Ski Club

Saturday, February 14

- 10am 1st/2nd grade basketball

Monday, February 16

- **NO SCHOOL/NO ESP**
- 5:30pm C girls double header home games
- 6pm C boys at King of Grace

Tuesday, February 17 - **SCIENCE FAIR** **PROJECTS DUE AT SCHOOL TODAY**

- Band
- 3:30pm A & B boys bball practice
- 4pm A girls at Chaska
- 5:30pm C boys bball practice
- 7pm Board meeting

Wednesday, February 18

- Library
- 7:15am Student Council meeting
- 1pm Ash Wednesday service
- 3:30pm A/B/C girls bball practice
- 7pm Ash Wednesday service

Thursday, February 19

- 4-6pm Science Fair!

Friday, February 20 - **End of Term 2**

- Missing library books due
- 3pm TCLAC tournament

Saturday, February 21

- 9am TCLAC tournament

COMING SOON

Mark your calendars now with these important dates.



- **Feb. 23:** Omni Brewing fundraiser
- **Feb. 23-27:** Wellness Week!
- **Feb. 24:** Parent Info Night: *The Anxious Generation*
- **Feb. 25:** PTL K-8 bowling event
- **Feb. 26:** 7th & 8th grade D.C. parent meetings
- **Feb. 27:** K-4th grade singing in chapel
- **Feb. 28:** Preschool open gym
- **Mar. 1 :** K-th singing in Divine Service
- **Mar. 4:** 1st, 3rd, 5th, 6th grade bowling
- **Mar. 5:** Wellness Committee mtg.
- **Mar. 6:** Ski Club
- **Mar. 9:** 5th-8th cross country skiing; Portillo's fundraiser
- **Mar. 12:** All-school musical
- **Mar. 13:** All-school musical

Mrs. Anderson says...

Who's excited for the Science Fair?!





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@stjluthेरanschool.org
- Share your STJ pictures for use in the yearbook and social media to pictures@stjluthेरanschool.org
- Request library book holds, ask our librarians questions, or request a new book to library@stjluthेरan.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)

Position Overview

The Extended School Program (ESP) Director provides leadership and oversight for the school's after-school care program, ensuring a safe, well-run, and Christ-centered environment for students and families. This role is responsible for daily program operations, staff leadership, family communication, and summer program coordination in alignment with the mission and values of an LCMS school. This role reports to St. John's Board of Education.

Program Leadership & Student Care Responsibilities

- Provide daily leadership and hands-on supervision for students across ESP environments, including classrooms, gym, cafeteria, and outdoor spaces
- Foster a safe, welcoming, and well-organized program using a Christ-centered, Love & Logic approach
- Organize and oversee daily routines such as snacks, play, homework time, enrichment activities, and transitions
- Attend to individual student needs and communicate proactively with families and school leadership regarding behavior, care, and program updates
- Ensure consistent adherence to school policies, attendance requirements, safety standards, and staff-to-student ratios

Program Management & Staff Leadership

- Develop and maintain daily and weekly schedules, routines, classroom rosters, and staffing plans
- Hire, train, mentor, and support ESP staff, fostering a positive, collaborative, and dependable team culture
- Lead and coordinate the summer ESP program, including themes, schedules, field trips, transportation, staffing, and on-site supervision
- Manage purchasing, budgeting, inventory, and recordkeeping for program snacks, supplies, and materials
- Prepare and present regular program updates to the Board of Education and participate in required meetings
- Maintain required certifications (including CPR and first aid)

Academic Year Hours

- **2:30–5:30 p.m. daily (15 hours/week)**
- Additional hours as needed for purchasing, scheduling, or administrative duties
- **Approx. 19.5 total hours/week**

Summer Program Hours

(To be determined based on program structure and scheduling needs)

Required Education & Experience

- Minimum age 18
- High school diploma or equivalent (associate or bachelor's degree preferred)
- At least 2 years of experience in childcare, education, or youth ministry preferred
- Leadership or supervisory experience strongly preferred
- Must pass a background check prior to employment
- Willing and able to become preschool certified
- Must hold or obtain CPR and first aid certification
- LCMS membership encouraged but not required
- Models a Christian life and leads in a way that supports St. John's mission and respects LCMS doctrine and practices.

Chapel Project Updates

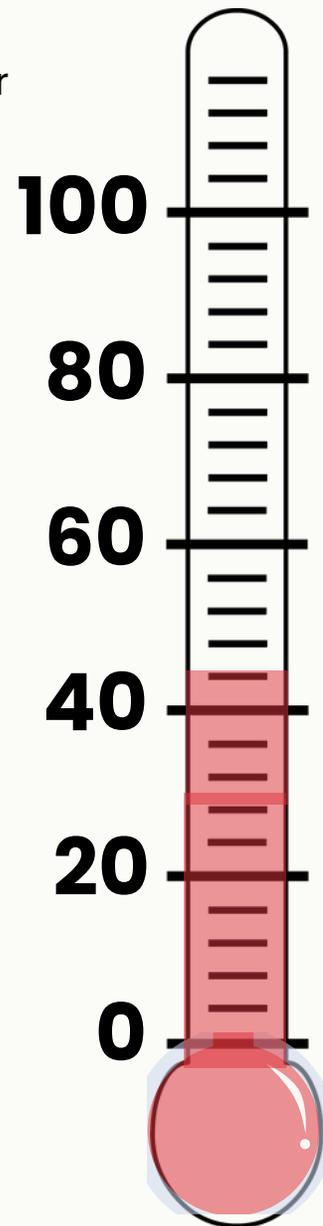
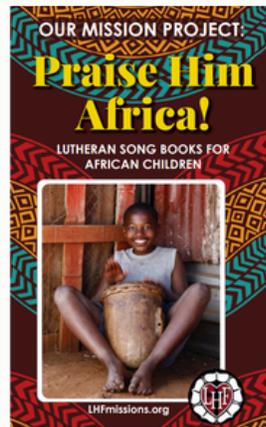
2/10/26

What's New

We don't have many days left of Term 2 and we're about halfway to our goal of 100 books (or more!). Please consider sending in some offering to support this awesome cause.

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

Total Raised So Far: \$\$221.22
Books: 44





10 FUN COLORS!

\$12
PER SHIRT
\$14 FOR 2X-5X SIZES

T-SHIRTS

This year, our school is raising funds to support upgraded HVAC systems to keep students focused and comfortable in every season, as well as new trees that bring shade, beauty, and greener spaces for outdoor learning and play. Together, these improvements will enhance each student's school day from the moment they arrive to the moment they head home.

Ordering Available From

February 12th to March 20th



Order Now!

1. Scan the QR code or go online to <https://sjf25.itemorder.com>
2. Choose your items and add them to your cart
3. Securely checkout with your credit card
4. T-shirts will be handed out to students prior to FUNDay.

\$5 PER SHIRT GOES TOWARDS THE FUNDRAISING TOTAL.

**YOUTH SIZES S-XL
ADULT SIZES S-5XL**



Other ways you can Support

↓ SEE BELOW ↓

Donate items from our Amazon Wish-List. Scan the QR Code or Click [HERE](#)



Donate items from our Target Wish-List. Scan the QR Code or Click [HERE](#)



We need Volunteers! Scan the QR Code or Click [HERE](#)



SAVE THE DATE



**SATURDAY
APRIL 25, 2026**

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



You're invited to a

Portillo's[®]

FUNDRAISER



Come Join Us!

Eat Portillo's. Support a Cause. Receive 20% of the proceeds!

Present this flyer in-restaurant or use the online code for online/app orders, and 20% of the proceeds will be donated to:

St. John's Lutheran School

At the Portillo's located at: When:

12251 ELM Creek Blvd N

March 9, 2026

Maple Grove, MN

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

ONLINE CODE: PORTILLOS53

Learn [more](https://www.portillos.com/good) about Portillo's Fundraisers at [portillos.com/good](https://www.portillos.com/good).

For online/app orders to qualify for the fundraiser, orders must be placed for pickup only, from the participating restaurant, on the fundraiser date and during the listed fundraiser hours. Gift card purchases, delivery orders, and orders placed on the third party websites are excluded from the fundraiser. Online ordering subject to availability. \$200 minimum fundraising sales required for the organization to receive donation. Cannot be combined with other offer codes.



Portillo's
FOR GOOD

WE'RE HIRING! APPLY AT [PORTILLOS.COM/CAREERS](https://www.portillos.com/careers)

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

LEARN. PRAY. GROW.

The Week of Ash Wednesday: Feb. 15 - 21, 2026



LEARN-BY-HEART

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

Classic Bible Memory for Primary Grades

K.+ **Psalm 51:10** - Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Hebrews 11:6 - Without faith it is impossible to please God.

Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

3rd gr+ *What does such baptizing with water indicate?*
It indicates that the Old Adam in us
should by daily contrition and repentance
be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires,
and that a new man should daily emerge and arise
to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?
1st gr+ St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six:

K.+ **We were therefore buried with Him
through baptism into death**

2nd gr+ **in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
through the glory of the Father,
we too may live a new life. (Romans 6:4)**

Catechism Verse

3rd gr+ **Galatians 2:20** - I have been crucified with Christ.
It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.
And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,
Who loved me and gave Himself for me.



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

Feb. 18 - Ash Wednesday - Forty Days until Easter

Joel 2:12-19 - Return to the Lord Your God

2 Peter 1:2-11 - Confirm Your Calling and Election

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 - Prayer, Alms, & Fasting

Feb. 22 - Invocabit - First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 3 - The Fall into Sin

2 Corinthians 6:1-10 - Receive the Grace of God

Matthew 4:1-11 - The Temptation of Jesus



HYMNS

Church Hymn of the Day for Ash Wednesday- "From Depths of Woe" (*LSB* 607)

Church Hymn of the Day for Invocabit- "A Mighty Fortress" (*LSB* 657)

School Hymn of the Month (Lent): "Glory Be to Jesus" (*LSB* 433)

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,

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

That the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen