

The **EAGLE CONNECTION**

ALL-SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

HELP STRENGTHEN ST. JOHN'S: PARENT SURVEY COMING MONDAY

Dear Families,

At St. John's, we believe strong schools are built through strong partnerships with our families. One of the most important ways we continue growing as a school community is by listening carefully to the experiences and perspectives of our parents.

On Monday, March 9, all parents will receive our annual Parent Experience & Satisfaction Survey via email. The survey will remain open through Monday, March 16 at 1:00 PM, and we encourage everyone to take a few minutes to participate. The survey should take approximately 7-10 minutes to complete.

Last year, many families shared thoughtful feedback that affirmed some of the things that make St. John's such a special place—our welcoming community, caring teachers, strong Christian environment, and the joy students experience at school. Parents also offered helpful suggestions that continue to guide our efforts to grow and improve.

For example, several families encouraged us to provide more advance notice for events and school activities, which has helped shape how we think about communication and calendar planning. Another parent shared that the ESP parking lot can become very busy and difficult to navigate when there are home soccer games, which is helpful feedback as we consider ways to improve traffic flow and safety during after-school hours. Hopefully you have noticed some positive adjustments along the way, as we continue working to thoughtfully respond to the feedback shared by our school families.

This year's survey is another opportunity to share your family's experience—what you value most about St. John's, what has been meaningful for your child, and where we can continue strengthening our school. We do ask that you include your name so that we can better understand feedback and follow up when helpful (and you'll even have an opportunity to opt out of follow up if you choose). Honest input—both positive and constructive—is always welcomed and appreciated.

After the survey closes, we will share an overview of what we heard with families in the Thursday, March 19 all-school newsletter.

Thank you in advance for taking a few minutes to participate and for partnering with us in this important work. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve your children each day and for the trust you place in us and our school.



JOIN US AT PORTILLO'S MONDAY!!

Join us for a delicious way to support STJ!
THIS MONDAY, March 9 from 5:00–8:00 PM, dine at Portillo's in Maple Grove and 20% of your purchase will be donated back to our school.

Present the flyer in the restaurant or use the online/app code PORTILLOS53 when ordering.

Bring your family, invite friends, and help our community come together to support our school. Thank you for being part of St. John's!

PTL NOMINATIONS OPEN!

Do you think St. John's teachers are AWESOME? Want your child to have memorable school experiences? Interested in connecting with other St. John's parents?

Then PTL might be the perfect place for you!

Our Parent Teacher League helps support the amazing teachers who pour into our children every day—while also adding fun events and opportunities that strengthen our school community.

Nominate yourself and/or a friend! Just click [HERE!](#)

PTL is accepting nominations for the 2026/27 school year through Mon., March 16th.

Questions? Text 612-247-8213 or email PTL@stjlutherschool.org.

Help make great things happen at St. John's!

WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY - ROCK YOUR SOCKS!

March 21st was chosen as World Down Syndrome Day because this date - 3/21 - matches the 3 copies of chromosome 21, which is a unique to people with Down syndrome. This special day was created to celebrate the lives of people with Down syndrome and to make sure they have the same freedoms and opportunities as everybody else.

Since March 21st is on a Saturday this year, St. John's will be celebrating World Down Syndrome Day on Friday, March 20th. Be sure to rock some crazy socks that day to show support! Socks are special on World Down Syndrome Day because they symbolize the 21st chromosome, which looks similar to a sock under a microscope. People wear bright, mismatched, or wild socks to represent the uniqueness of the extra chromosome that causes Down syndrome, promoting awareness and conversation.

TISSUES NEEDED

Parents, we've got a lot of runny noses but not enough tissues! Please consider donating a box or two to keep us supplied through the end of the year. Thank you!

REPORT CARDS - RETURN THE WHITE FOLDERS

Report cards went home yesterday. Don't forget to sign the white envelope and return it to school; you may keep your child's actual report card .



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! There are 10 great colors available!!



NEWSPAPERS STILL NEEDED

Donate newspapers for use in our spring musical and in preschool. Donations may be turned in at the front office. Thank you!

THE SPIRIT STORE IS OPEN!!

Our online [Spirit Store](#) is now open! This is a great opportunity to stock up on St. John's apparel and show your school spirit. The store will remain open until April 5 (Easter), and all purchases will be delivered to school around April 27.

SPRING MUSICAL: IMPORTANT INFO

“Disney’s Newsies, Jr.” will be performed in our gymnasium 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.

Ms. Preus sent a detailed email to all 5th-8th grade families on Monday outlining costume requirements. Please be sure to read this email to understand what 5th-8th grade families are responsible for regarding their child’s costume.

All PS-4th grade students will be wearing a t-shirt and jeans. The color of your child’s t-shirt depends on his/her grade.

- Preschool: red
- Kindergarten: orange
- 1st grade: yellow
- 2nd grade: green
- 3rd grade: blue
- 4th grade: purple

Performance date logistics

- **Thursday, March 12 - 1pm performance**
 - Doors open at 12:30pm
- **Friday, March 13 - 6pm performance**
 - Students arrive & doors open at 5:30pm
 - Middle school students: Meet in music room
 - K-4th students: Meet in cafeteria
 - Will be reunited with parents after their performance
 - Preschool: Meet in classroom
 - Parents, meet your child in the lobby after their performance to reunite



THIS WEEK'S EAGLE BOOST

Making Movement Meaningful: Cardio for a Cause

Keeping your heart strong often means getting your heart rate up in ways that feel joyful, not just routine. Movement that makes you smile is easier to do regularly — and regular movement is great for your heart.

Ways to make movement meaningful this week:

- Attend a group walk or fitness class at a local recreation center or community space.
- Take the family cross country skiing at Elm Creek Park Reserve; notice your heartbeat and thank God for it.
- During TV commercial breaks, challenge everyone to do a set of jumping jacks or a pushup contest.
- Try a “Heart Pump Playlist” — upbeat music that gets everyone moving.
- Share favorite songs or memories while you walk or dance together.

“Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” – 1 Corinthians 10:31

May your movement this week strengthen your body and lift your spirits.

– The Wellness Committee

SPRING BREAK

School and ESP will be closed Monday, March 23rd - Friday, March 27th for spring break!

“DON'T SWEAT IT...FUND IT!”

Eagle Family FUNDay is coming on April 25, and this year's fundraiser will support two exciting improvements that will benefit our entire school community for years to come: new trees to enhance our outdoor spaces and upgraded HVAC systems for more comfortable classrooms. Every donation, purchase, and volunteer hour helps create safer, more inspiring environments where our students learn, grow, play, and worship.

How You Can Help

- **Shop the Wish Lists**
 - [Amazon wish list](#)
 - [Target wish list](#)
- **Order FUNDay T-Shirts**
- **Volunteer**

Thank you for supporting St. John's and helping make this year's FUNDay the best yet!



LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES

St. John's Lutheran Church holds special Lenten midweek services at 7pm each Wednesday during Lent. Please feel free to join us in worship as we await the triumphant resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!



NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Friday, March 6

- 8:15am Chapel
- 4pm Ski Club
 - Dependent on weather

Monday, March 9

- Parent Survey emailed
- 5pm Portillo's Fundraiser

Tuesday, March 10

- Band
- 6:30pm PTL meeting

Wednesday, March 11

- Library
- 7pm Lenten mid-week service

Thursday, March 12

- 1pm All-school musical

Friday, March 13

- 8:15am Chapel
- 5:30pm Doors open & students arrive for musical
- 6pm All-school musical

COMING SOON

Mark your calendars now with these important dates.



- **Mar. 16-20:** 8th grade D.C. trip
- **Mar. 18:** 5th & 6th grade field trip
- **Mar. 20:** Rock Your Socks for World Down Syndrome Day!
- **Mar. 23-27:** Spring Break!
- **Apr. 2:** Flex day - we may or may not have school this day - we'll let you know
- **Apr. 3 & 6:** Easter break - no school
- **Apr. 8:** Student Council meeting
- **Apr. 9:** Wellness Committee meeting
- **Apr. 10:** Spelling Bee; Term 3 mid-term
- **Apr. 13:** 2nd & 3rd grade field trip
- **Apr. 17:** K-2nd singing in chapel
- **Apr. 25:** Eagle Family FUNDay!!



Mrs. Anderson says...

See you Monday at
Portillo's!!





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)

SAVE THE DATE



**SATURDAY
APRIL 25, 2026**

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)



10 FUN COLORS!



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.



**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](#)



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

LEARN. PRAY. GROW.

The Week of Oculi (Lent III): Mar. 08 - Mar. 14, 2026



LEARN-BY-HEART

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

Classic Bible Memory for Primary Grades

3rd gr.+ **Matthew 17:5c** - "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him."

Luke 1:37 - [Jesus said,] "With God nothing will be impossible."

Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar

1st gr+ *What is the Sacrament of the Altar?*

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
Under the bread and wine,
Instituted by Christ Himself
For us Christians to eat and to drink.

2nd gr+ *Where is this written?*

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write::

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

On the night when He was betrayed, took bread,

And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said:

"Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you.

This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper,

And when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying,

"Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood,

Which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Catechism Bible Verse

3rd gr + **Psalms 34:8** - Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good;
Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!



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 week, 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

March 15 - Laetare - the Fourth Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 49:8-13- The Restoration of Israel

Galatians 4:21-31- The Church Is Our Mother

John 6:1-15- Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand



HYMNS

Church Hymn of the Day for Laetare (Lent 4)- "Jesus, Priceless Treasure" (*LSB* 743)

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,
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