

The **EAGLE CONNECTION**

ALL-SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

A JOYFUL MILESTONE FOR OUR CONFIRMANDS

Dear Families,

This Sunday, we rejoice alongside several of our 8th grade students as they publicly confess their faith through the Rite of Confirmation here at St. John's and at Glory of Christ Lutheran. We give thanks to God for His continued work in their lives and celebrate this milestone with great joy as a school and church family.

Our 2026 confirmands are:

**Emmy H., Isaac H., Molly J., Faith K., Katharina M., Henry R., Grace R.,
Simon S., Milo S., and Ace T.**

In The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, Confirmation is not a “graduation” from church, but a joyful affirmation of faith. These students have spent years learning God's Word, studying the Small Catechism, and growing in their understanding of what God has done for them through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

During the Rite of Confirmation, each student publicly

- Confesses their faith in the Triune God
- Affirms the promises made at their Baptism
- Commits to remaining in the Christian faith
- Receives the blessing of the congregation

They also begin participating more fully in the life of the Church, including receiving the Lord's Supper.

While Confirmation marks the completion of formal catechism instruction, it is truly just the beginning of a lifelong journey of faith. Our prayer is that each of these students (and all of our students) continues to grow in his or her relationship with Christ—rooted in His Word, strengthened through His Sacraments, and supported by their church family.

As a school community, we are incredibly grateful to have walked alongside these students during their years at St. John's. It has been a blessing to watch them grow—not only academically, but spiritually—as they are formed as disciples of Christ.

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JOYFUL MILESTONE CONT.

We invite you to keep these students in your prayers:

- That they remain steadfast in the faith
- That they continue to grow in God's Word
- That they boldly live as His baptized children

Congratulations, confirmands! We rejoice with you and pray that the Lord continues to guide and bless you in the years ahead.

ALL GLORY TO GOD!! WE HAVE A FULL STAFF NEXT YEAR!!

We are excited and incredibly thankful to share that God has provided three wonderful new teachers to join our St. John's family for the 2026/27 school year! Each of these educators brings unique gifts, experiences, and a shared commitment to Christ-centered education.

Mrs. Bree Lindgren – Preschool

Mrs. Lindgren, our current lead ESP preschool teacher, will be stepping into Mrs. Carbone's classroom, where she will nurture and guide our youngest learners. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education and is currently working toward her Master's degree. Mrs. Lindgren has a heart for Jesus, children, and early childhood education; she is very much looking forward to helping our students grow academically, socially, and in their faith during these foundational years.

Ms. Erin Rudolph – Middle School

Ms. Rudolph brings a genuine passion for working with middle school students and a strong commitment to Christ-centered learning. A graduate of Concordia University, St. Paul, she has experience teaching a wide range of ages but especially enjoys working with middle school students. In her classroom, she intentionally helps her students connect their faith to what they are learning, guiding them to see how God's truth shapes their understanding of the world around them.

Ms. Rudolph joins us from Crown Christian School of St. Francis. Please keep Crown in your prayers as they begin the process of calling a new teacher.

Mrs. Katy Gifford – LSEM

Mrs. Gifford will serve as our LSEM teacher, supporting students with specialized learning needs. She holds a Master's degree in Special Education and is a licensed teacher with additional licensure as an Academic and Behavioral Strategist (K-12). She and her husband, Rev. Dan Gifford (senior pastor at Lord of Glory Lutheran Church in Elk River), pray that God would use their work to share the hope we have in Christ Jesus with others.

Please join us in warmly welcoming Mrs. Lindgren, Ms. Rudolph, and Mrs. Gifford to St. John's! We are thankful for the ways the Lord continues to bless our school with faithful, dedicated teachers who are eager to serve Him and our students.

We look forward to the impact they will have on our students, our families, and our entire school community.



3RD & 4TH GRADE SINGING IN CHAPEL TOMORROW

Our 3rd and 4th graders are singing in chapel **TOMORROW** at 8:15am. You are welcome to join us!

HANDBELL CHOIR PLAYING IN CHAPEL & DIVINE SERVICE

The middle school handbell choir will be playing in chapel **NEXT** Friday, May 8th at 8:15am **AND** during the Divine Service on **Sunday, May 17th at 8am.**

STJ TALENT SHOW

Our annual Talent Show is scheduled for 1:45pm on Wednesday, May 20th. Audition forms and the sign up sheet are available hanging on the wall in the front lobby. Auditions will take place during recess (12:30-1pm) on May 4th -8th, and students should prepare a 5-minute audition and bring their completed forms to submit. Questions may be directed to Miss Fuhrman at anna.fuhrman@stjlutheran.org.

CLOSING SERVICE & GRADUATION INFO

K-8th grade are participating in the closing service/graduation

- 8th graders should arrive at 6pm.
 - 8th grade handbell choir members report to sanctuary.
 - All other 8th graders report to Ms. Preus's room.
- K-7th graders arrive at 6:15pm and head to music room.
- Service begins at 6:30pm.
- Students should wear church clothes and look nice.

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT RECOGNITION

We are proud to recognize the following students for demonstrating faithfulness. Thank you for showing your love for our Lord and Savior! We are so thankful for the example you set for others!

- Aspen H.
- Michael P.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL & PICNIC INFO

- Students DO NOT need to bring backpacks.
- School ends at 11:30am.
- There is no ESP.
- Afterschool picnic is 11:30am-12:30pm.
- **Children MUST have a parent or guardian present at the picnic to participate.**
- **Parents are responsible for children during the picnic.**

IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THE PICNIC

- Pick up your **K-8th grade** child in the gym and proceed to picnic outside.
- Pick up your **preschooler** in his/her classroom and proceed to picnic outside.

IF YOU ARE NOT ATTENDING THE PICNIC

- If you are NOT attending the picnic after school, you will need to either pick up your child in regular car line or have him/her ride the bus home (regular bus students only).
 - Parents, notify the front office if your child will be riding the bus.



END-OF-YEAR LIBRARY REMINDER

Yesterday was the last day to check out books, and ALL books are due by May 6. Items not returned by May 22 will be considered lost, and a replacement fee will be charged through FACTS. Fees are non-refundable, even if the book is found later (you may keep or donate it at that point). If you've received a reminder slip, your student has an overdue book—please return it as soon as possible. Questions? Email library@stjlutheran.org by May 22.

WE ARE HIRING FOR 2026/27

We are hiring for several key positions, and we'd love your help spreading the word: preschool ESP aides; K-8 ESP aides, and substitute teachers.

These roles are vital to supporting our students, staff, and school community. If you or someone you know might be a good fit, please contact the individuals listed below for more information or to apply. Thank you for helping us find dedicated people to join the St. John's team!

Substitute Teachers

- This position begins mid-August 2026.
- Substitutes teachers are needed for grades preschool-8th grade.
- College degrees are preferred but not required.
- Contact our principal, Kristen.Skura@stjlutheran.org for more information or to apply.

ESP Preschool Aides

- This position begins in August 2026.
- 2:45-5:30pm Monday-Friday
- Follows the school year calendar
- Supervise and engage with children ages 3-5 years old
- Must be fingerprinted and pass background check
- Must be/become CPR/1st aid certified (all applicable training will be provided)
- Previous childcare experience preferred but not required
- Contact our preschool director, Tori.Kuehne@stjlutheran.org for more information or to apply.

ESP K-8 Aides

- This position begins in August 2026.
- 2:45-5:30pm Monday-Friday
- Follows the school year calendar
- Supervise and engage with K-8th grade students
- Contact our ESP director at Kayla.Harken@stjlutheran.org for more information or to apply.

FACTS MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION

Beginning today, FACTS has implemented a multi-factor authentication (MFA) process for logging into your parent account. The next time you log in, you may be required to update your account information, such as password, security questions, etc. This update should not impact student log ins. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Skura.



THIS WEEK'S EAGLE BOOST

Making Moments Count:

The moments we remember most are often the simplest ones, time spent together, laughing, moving, and connecting. Being present with one another builds stronger bodies and stronger relationships.

Ways to make moments count this week:

- Plan a family outing to a local park or trail and be fully engaged together.
- Invite another family to join for a walk, game, or outdoor activity.
- Play an active game outside, tag, catch, or a simple family challenge.
- Share highs and lows of the day during a backyard picnic.
- Close the day with gratitude for time spent together.

“Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.” — Hebrews 10:24

May your days be filled with meaningful moments and joyful connection.

— The Wellness Committee

GOT A TABLE?

ESP is in need of a table or two to replace a couple of much-loved ones. If you have one at home that you are interested in donating, please contact Kayla Harken at Kayla.Harken@stjlutheran.org.

END-OF-YEAR PICNIC HELP NEEDED

Join us for our End-of-Year Picnic, hosted by Student Council, right after the 11:30am dismissal on Friday, May 22 (the last day of school). All families are invited!

We're looking for help with donations and volunteers—every bit makes a difference. [Sign up here to contribute](#). Donations are due by Wednesday, May 20 and can be dropped off at the front office.

Thank you for your support!

UPCOMING INTRUDER DRILL

We will be conducting our one remaining intruder drill in the coming weeks.

St. John's uses ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) protocols. Staff are fully trained, and students in Preschool–8th grade receive age-appropriate instruction. Intruder drills are announced in advance to students. No simulations will be used at any time.

SUMMER ESP REGISTRATION!

Summer ESP registration is OPEN! Go ahead and [register your child now!](#) Spots are limited, so don't wait!

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL & SAVE THE DATE - STJ GOLF EVENT

The 13th annual St. John's Golf Charity Event is Saturday, September 19th at Rush Creek Golf Course. As an early bird special, receive a team color ball if you [go ahead and register in May](#). More info to come!



NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Friday, May 1

- 8am 7th & 8th grade Track & Field Day at Mayer Lutheran
 - Returning at 2pm
- 8:15am Chapel
 - 3rd & 4th grade singing in chapel
- 11am 5th & 6th grade Track & Field Day at Mayer Lutheran
 - Returning at 5pm

Monday, May 4

- 9:40am 2nd grade field trip
- 3pm Bowling practice

Tuesday, May 5

- Band
- 7th & 8th grade softball day

Wednesday, May 6

- 7:15am Student Council meeting
- 3pm Bowling practice

Thursday, May 7

- 7:00am Wellness Comm. meeting
- 5th/6th grade softball day

Friday, May 8

- 8:15am Chapel
 - Handbells playing in chapel
- 3rd & 4th track & field day

COMING SOON

Mark your calendars now with these important dates



- **May 12:** Band concert
- **May 13:** Preschool field trip/Final library book due date
- **May 15:** 1st/2nd grade track & field day; Honors choir singing in chapel
- **May 17:** Handbell choir playing in Sunday Divine Service
- **May 20:** Student Council meeting/Talent Show
- **May 21:** Closing service & graduation/K-8th singing
- Check out the [school calendar](#) for all the special dates in May.

Mrs. Anderson says...

Congratulations,
confirmands!!





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)



Come Support

ST JOHNS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ST JOHNS LUTH SCHOOL

May 20, 2026

4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

**13770 83rd Way N
Maple Grove, MN 55369**

20% OF SALES WILL BE DONATED

Show your cashier a digital copy of this post when
ordering in our dining room or drive-thru.



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ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

LEARN. PRAY. GROW.

The Fifth Week of Easter: May 3 - 9, 2026



LEARN-BY-HEART

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

Classic Bible Memory for Primary Grades

K. + **1 Peter 4:8** - Above all, keep loving one another earnestly,
Since love covers a multitude of sins

The Table of Duties: What the Hearers Owe Their Pastor (Part II)

1st gr+ ¹²We ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you,
Who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you.

2nd gr+ ¹³Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work.
Live in peace with each other. (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13)

3rd gr+ Obey your leaders and submit to their authority.
They keep watch over you as men who must give an account.
Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden,
For that would be of no advantage to you. (Hebrews 13:17)



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

May 10: Rogate (Easter 6)

Numbers 21:4-9 - The Bronze Serpent

James 1:22-27 - Be Doers of the Word

John 16:23-33 - Ask, because Jesus has overcome the world

Thurs May 14: Ascension Day

2 Kings 2:5-15 - Elijah Ascends on the Fiery Chariot

Acts 1:1-11 - The Ascension of Our Lord Jesus

Mark 16:14-20 - Jesus Commissions His Disciples



HYMNS

Church Hymn of the Day for Rogate (Easter 6): "Our Father Who from Heaven Above" (LSB 766)

Church Hymn of the Day for Ascension: "Up Through Endless Ranks of Angels" (LSB 491)

School Hymn of the Month (Easter): "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands" (LSB 458)

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

<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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