

# The **EAGLE CONNECTION**

ALL-SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## **EXCITING THINGS AHEAD FOR ST. JOHN'S!**

Dear families,

As another incredible school year begins to wind down, we cannot help but look ahead with excitement and gratitude for all that God continues to do at St. John's Lutheran School. These final days of school are filled with special memories, celebrations, and milestones, but they are also a reminder that God is continuing to bless and grow our school family in amazing ways.

As we prepare for the 2026/27 school year, we are excited to welcome several wonderful new teachers and staff members to St. John's. Joining our ministry team next year are:

- Ms. Erin Rudolph – Middle School Teacher
- Mrs. Bree Lindgren – Preschool Teacher
- Mrs. Katy Gifford – LSEM Teacher
- Mrs. Kayla Harken – ESP Director

Each of these individuals brings unique gifts, talents, and a shared passion for Christ-centered education. We are incredibly thankful that God has led them to St. John's, and we cannot wait for our students and families to get to know them.

We are also thrilled to share that we will be welcoming many new students and families into our school community next year, including 10 new K-8 students and 26 new preschool students! What a blessing it is to see new families seeking a place where children are known, loved, encouraged, and grounded in God's Word each day.

In addition to new faces, there is much excitement surrounding continued growth and improvements around campus. From our new digital sign to ongoing enhancements in our programs and classrooms, we remain committed to providing students with an excellent academic experience rooted firmly in Christ.

Most importantly, we celebrate the relationships, faith, and community that make St. John's so special. Every chapel service, classroom lesson, concert, game, and conversation helps shape students not only academically, but spiritually as well.

Thank you for your continued support, encouragement, prayers, and partnership throughout the school year. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to partner with



## **EXCITING THINGS cont.**

your family in Learning and Living as God's Baptized Children.

The future is bright at St. John's, and we are excited to see what God has planned next!

## **7/8 HANDBELL CHOIR PLAYING IN DIVINE SERVICE THIS SUN.**

The middle school handbell choir will be playing during the 8am Divine Service this **Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**.

## **YEARBOOKS COMING MON.!**

Yearbooks will be distributed on Monday! Be sure to have your child bring them back to school on Thursday so they can participate in a special yearbook signing activity.

Those who did not order yearbooks are welcome to bring a notebook or journal for other to sign.

## **STUDENT MEDICATION**

Any student medications kept at school will be sent home on the last day of school. If an alternate plan is requested, please call or email nurse Liz Glock at [nurse@stjluthेरanschool.org](mailto:nurse@stjluthेरanschool.org) before Friday, May 15th.

## **OUR DIGITAL SIGN IS IN...**

but we won't be able to light it up until early June, as Xcel Energy must first install the electrical components.

## **REPORT CARDS**

The end of the year is quickly coming to a close. Make sure you're checking your child's grades on FACTS!

Final report cards for the 2025/26 school year will be mailed on Friday, May 29th.

## **CHEF'S CHOICE MENU ITEMS FOR NEXT WEEK**

The menu for next Wednesday and Thursday is as follows:

Wednesday, May 20

- Mini Corn dogs
- Corn Dogs
- Chicken Patty's
- Italian Dunkers
- Hot dogs

Thursday, May 21

- Cheese Pizza
- Turkey Sandwiches

## **STJ TALENT SHOW**

Our annual Talent Show is scheduled for 1:45pm on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Questions may be directed to Miss Fuhrman at [anna.fuhrman@stjluthेरan.org](mailto:anna.fuhrman@stjluthेरan.org).



Godspeed, 8<sup>th</sup> graders!



## **CLOSING SERVICE & GRADUATION INFO**

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

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

## **REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER ESP!**

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

## **JOIN US FOR VBS!!**

Join us June 22-26 from 9:00am-12:00pm for a joyful week of "Wake, Awake: Watching for Jesus" VBS! Children ages 3 years old through 4th grade are invited to participate, while students who have completed 5th grade through adults are welcome to volunteer.

Each day, students will explore Scripture through beloved hymns and Bible accounts—from the Triumphal Entry to the Parable of the Ten Virgins and more—growing in faith and learning what it means to watch and wait for Jesus with joy.

Register now: [vbsmate.com/stjvbs2026](https://vbsmate.com/stjvbs2026)

## **JOIN US AT DQ NEXT WEDNESDAY!**

Join us for our final PTL restaurant fundraiser of the school year on Wednesday, May 20 from 4:00-7:00pm at the Maple Grove DQ (13770 83rd Way N)!

Bring this flyer (or show a digital copy), and 20% of your purchase will be donated back to support St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School.

We'd love to have you join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, and ice cream—a sweet way to celebrate the year and support our school community!

Grab a cone, bring a friend, and we'll see you there!

## **COME WALK IN THE PARADES WITH US!**

Come join the St. John's community for the Maple Grove Days Parade on July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and/or the Osseo Lion's Roar parade on September 12<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Grab your St. John's gear, put on some comfortable walking shoes, and enjoy a fun evening together as we connect with the community and share a little St. John's spirit.

Learn more and register by clicking the links below. We hope you can join us!

- [Maple Grove Days Parade](#)
- [Osseo Lion's Roar Parade](#)



## **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.

## **BIG NEWS FOR ESP MUSIC!**

For years, music lessons offered during ESP hours have been a wonderful opportunity for St. John's students to grow their musical talents right here at school – and now we're excited to share some great news!

Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, our ESP music program will be expanding with the addition of another piano teacher to help meet growing interest in after-school lessons.

Lessons are offered during ESP hours Monday-Thursday, making it a convenient option for busy families while giving students the chance to explore and strengthen their musical abilities in a fun and encouraging environment.

Interested in learning more or adding your family to the waiting list? Please contact:

- Tiffin Fuhrman: 763-228-4210 or fpopmusicstudios@gmail.com
- Sarah Carter: sarah.carter@stjlutheranschool.org



## **THIS WEEK'S EAGLE BOOST**

### **Lifelong Learning: Building Your Summer Bucket List**

Looking ahead to summer builds excitement and intention. Creating a bucket list helps families prioritize movement, connection, and meaningful time together. Start your summer bucket list this week.

- Include active outings like:
  - Hiking at Afton State Park
  - Swimming at French Regional Park Beach
  - Exploring trails at Hyland Lake Park Reserve
- Mix simple ideas (evening walks, park play) with bigger adventures.
- Let each family member add at least three ideas.
- Plan to complete one or two each week this summer.
- Pray together for a safe, active, and joyful season.

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.” – Proverbs 16:3

May your plans be filled with purpose, joy, and meaningful movement.

– The Wellness Committee

## **AVOID A LOST BOOK FEE!**

**ALL library books are due.** Any books not returned by May 22 will be considered lost, and a replacement fee will be charged through FACTS on the June 1 invoice.

## **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-8<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **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](mailto:Kayla.Harken@stjlutheran.org).



## NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

### Friday, May 15

- 8:15am Chapel
  - Honors choir singing
- 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade track & field day
- 4pm ESP Spring recital

### Saturday, May 16

- 10am Bowling tournament at Bowlero in Eden Prairie

### Sunday, May 17

- 8am Middle school handbell choir playing in Divine Service

### Monday, May 18

### Tuesday, May 19

- 7pm Board of Education meeting

### Wednesday, May 20

- 7:15am Student Council meeting
- 1:45pm Talent Show

### Thursday, May 21

- 6pm 8<sup>th</sup> grade arrival time
  - 8th grade handbell choir members report to sanctuary; all other 8<sup>th</sup> graders report to Miss Preus's room
- 6:15pm K-7<sup>th</sup> grade arrival time
  - Report to music room
- 6:30pm Closing service and graduation

### Friday, May 22

- 8:15am Chapel
- 11:30am Dismissal - No ESP available
- 11:30am Picnic

## COMING SOON

Mark your calendars now with these important dates



- **May 27:** Summer ESP opens
- **May 29:** Report cards mailed home
- **July 16:** Maple Grove Days parade
- **August 24-28:** Tell the Teacher More days
- **August 25:** Last day of Summer ESP
- **August 26:** Back-to-School Night
- **August 31:** 1<sup>st</sup> day of school for K-8
- **September 4:** No school
- **September 7:** Labor Day - No school
- **September 8:** 1<sup>st</sup> day of school for 5-day preschoolers
- **September 9:** 1<sup>st</sup> day of school for 2- and 3-day preschoolers
- **September 12:** Osseo Lion's Roar parade

*Mrs. Anderson says...*

The parades are SO much fun! I hope you join us for them!





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