

THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of May 17, 2026

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



MISSION INEVITABLE | Sent to the Nations

Join us this Easter season as we journey through the risen Christ's ongoing work among His people. Beginning in the upper room, where Jesus speaks peace into fear, we follow him through the Scriptures, the Shepherd's voice, His promises of a prepared place and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Along the way we discover that **the resurrection was never the end of the story - it was the beginning of a mission that cannot be stopped.** The same Jesus who died and rose now sends, equips, and sustains His church to proclaim repentance and forgiveness to the end of the Earth. Because He lives, His mission is inevitable - and by His grace, we are a part of it.

HOLY BAPTISM

This weekend we give thanks for the baptism of:

- Layla Joanne MacGregor, daughter of Blake and Abbey MacGregor

*For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off,
everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself. – Acts 2:39*



TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

Celebration of the Ascension | May 17, 2026

All hymns will also be found in the pew hymnal and on the screen.

PRELUDE: Beautiful Savior (8:00/9:30) Men's Chorus

BELLS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: *O Love, How Deep* LSB #544, stz. 1, 3-6 | Choir sings stz. 3 & 5 (8:00/9:30)

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Invocation/Opening Verses Screen

Hymn of Praise: *Feast of Victory* LSB p. 154

Prayer of the Day

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Anthem: *Gift of Love* (8:00/9:30) Men's Chorus

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

Alleluia LSB #952

Holy Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

THE NICENE CREED Screen

HYMN OF THE DAY: *And Now the King Eternal*

MESSAGE

Pastor Marc Schwichtenberg

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Hymn: *A Hymn of Glory* Screen
LSB #493

Nunc Dimittis Screen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER/BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: : *On Galilee's High Mountain* LSB #835 | stz. 1, 4, 6

COMMUNION - THE LORD'S SUPPER - WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Bible teaches that along with the bread and wine of Holy Communion we also receive the true body and blood of our Savior. Jesus' own words, "this is my body" and "this is my blood for the forgiveness of sins" reveal His Real Presence in the sacrament (Luke 22, 1 Cor. 10:15-16). The Bible also teaches (1 Cor. 11:23-32) the Lord's Supper, properly received brings great blessings, but improperly received without understanding can actually incur God's judgment. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the Biblical teaching of communion, please feel free to commune today. If you have any questions, please first speak to a pastor.



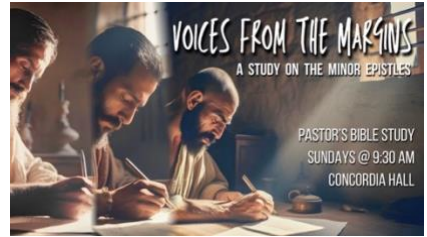
As you come forward, gluten free wafers are available by request, as well as individual cup choice of wine or lighter colored non-alcoholic grape juice (located in the center of the trays). Common cup is also offered during Traditional Praise services at the altar only. **During regular worship weekends, the Lord's Supper is celebrated in Traditional Praise on the first and third weekends of the month; and in Modern Praise on the second and fourth weekends of the month. On months with a fifth Sunday, Communion will be served at both Traditional and Modern Praise services.**

BIBLICAL DISCOVERY

VOICES FROM THE MARGINS: A STUDY ON THE “MINOR” EPISTLES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Pastor's Bible Study | Sundays at 9:30 AM | Concordia Hall

Join our Pastors on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in Concordia Hall. We are familiar with Romans, Philippians, 1 and 2 Corinthians, but what about the smaller Epistles? John's letters, Peter's letters, or even Philemon? We are covering these three, chapter by chapter, and hearing from the “margins”, the lesser known letters. We can't wait to see you! For more information, contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.



DAD'S BIBLE STUDY | Wednesdays at 6:00 AM | Luther Hall

This study is intended for dads of all ages and walks of faith as we grow in God's Word together, learn what it means to lead our families well, and receive encouragement in the highest calling God has for men. Join us on Wednesday mornings (even if you have to leave early) as we pick a book of the Bible and read through it with discussion. Coffee and bagels/donuts will be provided, so that we don't miss out on breakfast before work! Contact Pastor Tyler at pastortyler@stjohnrochester.org.

MOM'S BIBLE STUDY | Rooted Together: Moms Growing in Faith | 1st & 3rd Fridays at 2:00 PM | Luther Hall

This study creates a welcoming community for moms seeking deeper roots in Christ and stronger connections with one another. Pastor Tyler will be sharing Scripture, prayer, and honest conversation as we grow together in faith while navigating the joys and challenges of motherhood. Whether you're new to faith or have walked with Jesus for years, you're invited to come for encouragement and growth alongside other moms. Please join us on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month (MomCo off-weeks) at 2:00 PM in Luther Hall before student pick-up! Contact Beth Lowell at elowell1@gmail.com.

SHARED LIFE

CONGREGATION MEETING | Sunday, May 17 at 12:30 PM

This important annual meeting will include the election of lay leadership (Vestry, Elders, and St. John Foundation Governors) as well as a presentation of the annual budget and vote for approval. The following individuals are candidates for the respective elected office: (an * denotes incumbent)



ELDERS (15 openings)

Nate Benter*
Mike Dunn
Barry Jenkins
Paul Looker
Tim Noonan*
Bob Novack*
Ed Potoczak*
Mark Rafdal*

Karl Reading
Michael Reinhold*
Tom Rowe
Aaron Roggow
Brett Torgler
Tom Vitu*
Karl Weber
Sarmed Yokhana

FOUNDATION (2 openings)

Brian Evanson*
Dave Hofmeister

VESTRY (3 openings)

Dave Scharrer*
Brian Bonner
Steve Kiehl
Krista Nesbit



MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTES

St. John Lutheran Church & School, in collaboration with The Veteran's Tribute of Oakland Township (VTOT), will be honoring our Fallen Veterans this Memorial Day. If you would like to recognize a departed military hero please scan the QR or

visit this page <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/memorial-day-2026> to submit a name to be included in a special article in the Memorial Day Connection and the VTOT Memorial Day Ceremony. **Please submit by May 18.**

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Are you or someone you know seeking a Christ-centered school with challenging academics, a variety of extracurricular opportunities, and a team of nurturing, experienced educators? We invite you to check out St. John Lutheran School! We are currently accepting applications for the 2026-2027 school year for Preschool 3's, Young 5's, and 2nd to 8th grades, now through May 31. For more information about our school and enrollment, visit school.stjohnrochester.org/admissions.



Robotics Night Recap! Thanks to the nearly 200 students, parents and Robotics program supporters for attending the St. John Robotics Open House on Monday. What a great night of robots, lego races, and learning about Robotics! **SCAN THE QR CODE** to learn more or to volunteer. This program is for students

entering K - 8 for the 2026-2027 school year.

2026-2027 BIODIVERSITY THEMED ROBOTICS SEASON

FIRST TECH CHALLENGE

FIRST LEGO LEADERS

FIRST LEGO CHALLENGE

FIRST LEGO ROBOTICS

FIRST CANOPY

IMPORTANT LINKS:

REGISTER COACH NO COST

REGISTER STUDENT

STUDENT PAYMENT PAGE

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Contact Aaron Roggow with questions at aaroggow@gmail.com.



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL | Sunday at 9:30 AM | **LAST DAY MAY 17**

Sunday School will have its final meeting on Sunday, May 17 before breaking for the summer. We would like to thank our wonderful teachers and helpers who give so much of themselves for the students. They truly have a heart for Jesus and the children, which is evident as they teach about the Bible and God's unfailing love. Special thanks to our Sunday School Superintendent Beth Grillo for a wonderful job of organizing and leading our Sunday School program, with the assistance and support of our Deaconess in Training Terry Priestley. We are so thankful for all of you! We look forward to seeing you next year! May God bless your summer.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 12:30 - 2:30 PM | **LAST DAY MAY 17**

Meets most Sundays at 12:30 PM in the Youth Room. Check your weekly emails for meeting locations and details. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 6:00 - 8:00 PM | **LAST DAY MAY 17**

Meets most Sundays at 6:00 PM in the Youth Room. Check your weekly emails for meeting locations and details. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org



LHNW NEWS

SPRING MUSICAL – ANNIE | May 15, 16, 17

Thespian Troupe #4216 proudly presents its 2026 spring musical, Annie. Tickets cost \$10 (plus a \$1 processing fee). **Scan the QR code for showtimes and ticket links.** The only form of payment accepted is by credit card online or at the door. Many St. John current alumni students will be in the production!



SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES:

- LHNW has partnered with Tribe AI Creators, who will be hosting an **AI Skills Camp** at Lutheran Northwest the weeks of 6/15 & 6/22 and 7/13. This camp is designed for children ages 9-12. Learn more & sign up here: <https://tribeai creators.com>
- **LHNW-led Athletic Camps** for various ages are back again for Summer 2026! Check Facebook, Instagram and www.LutheranNorthwest.com for information and registration links for these opportunities:
 - Girls Basketball, June 8-11, 9AM-Noon
 - Boys Basketball, June 15-18, 9AM-Noon
 - Boys Football, June 15-18, 1PM-4PM
 - Girls Softball, June 16-18, 9:30AM-Noon
 - Girls Volleyball, June 22-25, 1PM-4PM

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE

Your continued financial support and partnership in the ministry and mission of St. John Lutheran Church & School is so important and is making a huge difference in changing lives for eternity in Jesus' name! If you are worshiping onsite, offerings can be placed in the designated areas outside the sanctuary. You can also scan the provided QR code to give online or visit our website stjohnrochester.org/give/. If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Operations, Steve Gauss, at sgauss@stjohnrochester.org.



DIAPER Shower Mother's Day thru Father's Day



Gifts will benefit our Mission Partner, Crossroads Care Center



AMAZON WISHLIST

ANNUAL DIAPER SHOWER

Mother's Day thru Father's Day

Help spread showers of blessing to our Mission Partner Crossroads Care Center. Crossroads helps local moms-to-be, moms, dads, and babies in need. Donations of diapers, wipes, and formula can be dropped off at the Church Lobby or Atrium. This drive began Mother's Day weekend and runs through Father's Day weekend. You can also select items off of our Amazon wish list at <https://a.co/o3KoEKgo> and have them delivered to St. John for no delivery fee.

CONSTANT PRAYER

LET US PRAY FOR WHATEVER IS ON YOUR HEART

To submit a prayer request, please email prayer@stjohnrochester.org at any time or visit our website and click on the prayer link toward the bottom of the homepage. These requests are received by our pastors and are passed along (or kept confidential when requested) to our prayer warriors and are also included in our weekend worship.



Healing & Peace: David Henriques – recovery from a medical procedure, Chris Connolly – recovering from surgery, Lauren Brown (daughter of Joel and Karen Neumeyer) – pregnancy, Joseph (newborn of Kate Irwin Lillard) – continued improvement, Roberta Neilson - successful heart catheterization (no stent needed), Brian Wynn – hospitalized with leg and circulation issues

Strength & Guidance: Call Team for our Youth & Family ministry director / Congregational meeting

Gospel Impact: Sunday School and Youth Groups concluding for summer

Thanksgiving: Baptism of: Layla Joanne MacGregor, daughter of Blake and Abbey MacGregor / 48th Anniversary of Joe and Kathie Davis / 60th Anniversary of Glenn and Lorraine Sattelmeier

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MAY 18 - 24

Here is a highlight of activities happening on campus this week.

Monday

9:00 AM – The Five Books of Moses - Men's Bible Study (Church Library)
6:00 PM – Foundation Meeting (Church Library)
7:00 PM – Vestry Meeting (Media Center)

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Tuesday

8:45 AM – Women of Prayer (Mary Martha)
1:00 PM – ESL (Mary Martha)
7:00 PM – Sue Stingy Bible Study (Luther Hall)

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Wednesday

6:00 AM – Dad's Bible Study (Luther Hall)
8:40 AM – Mom's Morning Prayer Group (Nursery)
8:45 AM – Chapel (Sanctuary)
2:00 PM – The Way of Wisdom - Ladies Bible Study (Concordia)
5:00 PM – Brass Ensemble Practice (Choir Loft)
6:00 PM – Bell Choir Practice (Choir Loft)
6:00 PM – Adult Bible Study (Concordia)

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Thursday

8:30 AM – MomCo Leadership Meeting (Luther Hall)
10:00 AM – The Lutheran Witness - Men's Bible Study (Church Library)
1:00 PM – International Bible Study (Mary Martha)
7:00 PM – Choir Practice (Choir Loft)

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Friday - HOLIDAY - CAMPUS CLOSED

22

Saturday

8:00 AM – Bibles & Basketball (Gym)

23

Sunday

9:30 AM – Pastor's Bible Study (Concordia Hall)

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COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

**PRAISE THE LORD, EVERYTHING HE HAS
CREATED, EVERYTHING IN ALL HIS KINGDOM.**

PSALM 103:22

VBS DONATIONS | June 22-26



If you want to help with VBS but can't volunteer, please consider donating items for snacks and crafts! Non-perishable items can be dropped off to the main office any time (please clearly label VBS). Perishable items should be dropped off to the main office June 16-18. Scan the QR code or visit stjohnrochester.org/VBSdonate to see the list of items needed!



VBS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY | June 22-26

We are still in need of 10-15 middle school and older volunteers to lead crews. To sign-up please scan the QR Code or visit <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/2026vbs/>.

Email vbs@stjohnrochester.org for more information!



Worship Schedule

Traditional Praise: Sundays at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM (also online), and 11:00 AM

Modern Praise: Saturdays at 5:00 PM | Sundays at 10:45 AM (also online)

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