

the connection

one in Jesus... reaching many

Week of October 11, 2026

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



WEEK 1 — THE CALL | *Get Off the Sidelines*
Jesus calls every one of us into His mission.

WEEK 2 — THE ROSTER | *Find Your Position*
God has uniquely gifted you.

WEEK 3 — THE PLAY | *Get In The Game*
Don't just discover your gifts—use them.

WEEK 4 — THE SACRIFICE | *Leave It All On The Field*
He gave Himself for us; we give ourselves to Him.

WEEK 5 — THE TEAM | *Play For Something Bigger*
Together, God can accomplish more through us

GETTING IN THE GAME - Week 5 | The Team: Play For Something Bigger

Faith Isn't a Spectator Sport. Have you ever found yourself sitting on the sidelines, watching the action but wondering where you fit in? God has something more for each of us! In this five-week fall worship series, **Getting In The Game**, we'll discover how God has uniquely gifted every one of us with abilities, passions, resources, and opportunities to make an eternal difference. Together, we'll move from the sidelines to the field—discovering our place, putting our faith into action, serving sacrificially, and joining with others to advance the mission of our Savior Jesus. And it all begins with the good news that **Jesus didn't sit on the sidelines for us—He gave Himself completely for us.** So come discover your place, find your position, and **GET IN THE GAME!**



HOLY BAPTISM | This weekend we give thanks for the baptisms of:

Saturday 5:00 PM - Ezra Anthony Tunis, son of Christopher and Stephanie Tunis

Sunday 9:30 AM - Evelyn Marie Lemon, daughter of Matthew and Leah Lemon
Hudson Thomas Stadelbauer, son of Cory and Kelly Stadelbauer
Andrew Jay Stadelbauer, son of Cory and Kelly Stadelbauer

TRADITIONAL PRAISE WORSHIP OUTLINE

Pentecost 20

Many service elements are taken from the Pew Hymnal.

PRELUDE: *Sarabande & Carillon (8:00/9:30)*

Brass

OPENING HYMN: *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

LSB #909

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Invocation/Confession

Screen

Holy Baptism (9:30)

Hymn of Praise: Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

LSB #940 | stz. 1, 2, 4, 5

Prayer of the Day

First Reading: Nehemiah 3:1-12

Anthem: Come, Ye Sinners (8:00/9:30) | Praise the Lord (11:00)

Choirs

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

Alleluia

LSB #952

Gospel Reading: John 17:15-23

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Screen

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Sing Praise to God the Highest Good*

LSB #819

MESSAGE

Pastor Tyler Cronkright

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way*

LSB #857

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

GET INTO THE WORD!

September – December 2026

Our Fall Bible studies and LIFEgroups are underway! Check out the full listing of classes and events by scanning the QR Code or visiting our website. A printed copy of the *Get Into The Word* guide can also be found in the narthex and atrium. Whether you are looking for a small class or a large group, there is something for everyone - no matter your age, schedule, or life circumstances! Be sure to make the most of growing in your faith walk with Jesus through His Word this Fall.



FROM DARKNESS TO GRACE

FACING MENTAL HEALTH
& ADDICTION IN CHRIST
WITH DONAVON RILEY



DONAVON RILEY: FROM DARKNESS TO GRACE | Saturday, November 21, 8:15 AM – 2:45 PM

On November 21, St. John Lutheran Church & School invites you to a special event featuring **Rev. Donavon Riley** as he addresses the deeply personal challenges of mental health and addiction. Drawing from nearly twenty years of parish ministry and his own powerful journey as a former addict and convert from atheism, Rev. Riley brings a raw, unflinching perspective to these modern struggles.

Grounded in a rich Lutheran theology of grace, his message and gift for storytelling moves beyond self-made solutions to shine a light on the true rest, healing, and hope found in Christ alone.

Whether you are personally struggling, supporting a loved one, or seeking to care for your community, come be encouraged by the daily reality that we do not have to carry our heaviest burdens alone. Join us for an inspiring, honest conversation on moving from shame, guilt, or heartache to the promises of the Gospel. RSVP by November 7 at <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/darknesstograce>

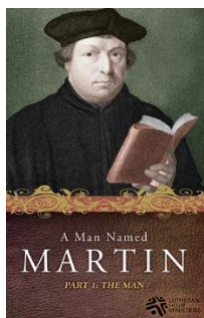
We expect this event to sell out, so act quickly! | \$50 per person(non-refundable) | Catered Lunch by Vince & Joe's



WOMEN OF GOSPELS | Thursdays, October 8 – November 5 at 1:00 PM | Church Library

Join us for a 5-week Bible Study series: "Tapestry, Women in the Gospels!" The time together will include videos and discussions. Registration is necessary. For more information contact Candi Schwark at candice@mac.com or 248-652-9449.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY | New 5 week series begins Wednesday, October 14 at 6:00 PM | Concordia Hall



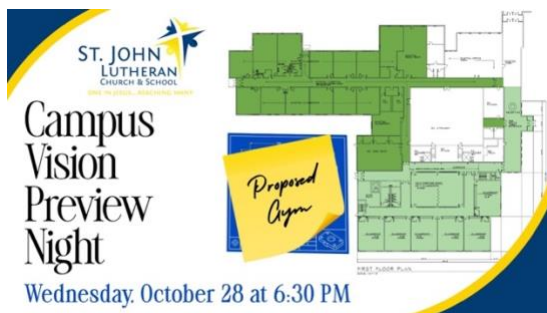
"A Man Named Martin" is a 5 part series devoted to Martin Luther, a monk whose Spirit-inspired grasp of God's justification of sinners through faith in the Savior was the cornerstone of the Protestant Reformation. Luther's life and times are examined through the lens of history, religion and theology. Expanding on commentary from Rev. Gregory Seltz, former speaker for The Lutheran Hour, numerous scholars add their expertise and perspective to render an illuminating portrait of the life of this extraordinary human being. To this day, Luther's staunch faith and the extent of his outreach remain a standard for Christ-centered living to believers in the 21st-century. The class is led by Pete Grund. For more information contact Bob Danielson at cornell_eng@hotmail.com.

SHARED LIFE

ST. JOHN CAMPUS VISION PREVIEW NIGHT

Save The Date: Wednesday, October 28 at 6:30 PM

Praise the Lord as we have been blessed to officially begin our third school year in a newly expanded and renovated facility! As we reflect on the incredible blessing of this \$9 million dollar project, it's time to share a financial update and dream together about what's next! With that prayerful dream comes the importance of understanding the opportunities and challenges involved—along with clarity on how to walk boldly in faith together as a St. John family toward it. Specifics of the Campus Vision Preview Night will include a financial update on our All2Jesus Capital Initiative, as well as an advanced preview of the exciting plans for a second gymnasium! Join us on Wednesday, October 28 beginning with refreshments at 6:30 PM in the Main Atrium followed immediately by a presentation in the gymnasium at 7:00 PM. **Please RSVP with this link or QR code so we know you are coming! See you there!** <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/event/campus-vision-preview-night>



YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY CALL PROCESS UPDATE

As announced this summer, the Call Committee has shifted from seeking a Director of Youth and Family Ministry (DCE) to seeking an Associate Pastor of Youth & Family Ministry to serve in this very important role. Last week our Call Team received an official list of ten potential pastor candidates from our Michigan District—including several that were recommended by our St. John family when names were requested over the summer. These ten candidates have been contacted by our team with a request to pray about next steps, including a video interview with our Call Team. Please continue to pray for this important process and for the Lord's guidance toward His will!



PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and the St. John family would like to thank Pastors Marc, Steve, and Tyler for their unyielding service to our church and school. Each of you are a great example of living a life of faith. Thanks for all the ways you make a difference in our church and school, and for all you do to make St. John an encouraging and faith-building place! We truly appreciate you!

BIBLES & BASKETBALL | Saturdays at 8:00 AM starting October 3 | Gymnasium

Bibles & Basketball is an opportunity to get into God's Word, play some basketball, and promote the ideals of Christian brotherhood. This group of men meets almost every Saturday morning from 8:00 to 10:00 AM and is open to men of all ages – the more the merrier! Whether you come regularly or occasionally, all are welcome. For more information and to get on the mailing list, please contact Eric Garland at egarlan10@gmail.com.



GRIEF SHARE | Began October 10 at 10:00 AM | Church Library

Grief Share is a special weekly support group offering comfort, answers, and hope. It is designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one and is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the days ahead. This group meets Saturdays at 10:00 AM in

the Church Library, starting October 10, 2026 and running through January 9, 2027. For more information, please contact Deaconess Terry Priestley at tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org. Scan the green QR to register. <https://find.griefshare.org/groups/299490>



OWLS Luncheon | Friday, October 16 at Noon | Concordia Hall

Our October OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans in Service) Luncheon/Fellowship event will feature a presentation by Eric Elloie, Oakland County Coordinator for Citizens for Traditional Values. Voting Guides for the November 3 election will also be available for your use. Lasagna and beverages will be provided by our volunteer ministry team while salads and desserts will be gifted by Waltonwood University.

Invite a friend - all ages welcome! Folks wishing to attend the presentation only may join us at 12:45 PM. If anyone requires transportation, please let us know, and we will try to make arrangements. To assist with planning, please pre-register with Roger Guetzkow at [248-622-1606](tel:248-622-1606) or email rjguetzkow@comcast.net by Tuesday, October 13.

RMB MEN'S GATHERING | Thursday, October 22 at 7:00 PM

The RMB (Rochester Mills Brewing) Men's Gathering is an informal gathering for men to connect for great conversation and a cold brew if you so desire. Take time to be with other guys for friendship, good conversation, and God's presence among brothers. Bring a friend and tell the restaurant host you are looking for the St John group. **PLEASE NOTE THIS GROUP HAS MOVED TO THE 3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH.** For more information, please contact Ed Potoczak at edpotoczak@oakstonegroup.com.

CROSSROADS ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 24 at 9:00 AM | Concordia Hall

What a privilege it is for St. John Lutheran Church & School to host this year's Crossroads Prayer Breakfast. The morning gathering will include a time of prayer seeking the Lord for His favor and direction, a time to socialize, and a wonderful breakfast prepared and served by the St. John Men's team. If you would like to attend, please register with the QR code or follow this link:

<https://v4app.fundeasy.com/events/attendance/1274/event>

If you have questions please contact Dale Griffith, Crossroads Liaison at daleegriffith@gmail.com



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026



OPEN POSITIONS

PART-TIME SCHOOL KITCHEN ASSISTANT

We have an immediate opportunity for a part-time School Kitchen Assistant. This important team member provides assistance in the school kitchen preparing and serving lunch to our students and staff. This is a part-time hourly position serving on flexible days, 10-15 hours per week. Interested candidates should contact:

School Kitchen Manager, Amanda Lorenzen at alorenzen@stjohnrochester.org

School Principal, Elizabeth Leinberger at eleinberger@stjohnrochester.org

PART-TIME CAREROOM AIDE

We have an immediate opportunity for a part-time Preschool Carerom Aide. This important team member provides before-school care to our preschool students. This is a part-time hourly position serving Monday - Friday from 6:45 AM until 8:45 AM during school days only. Interested candidates should contact our Childcare Licensing Director, Melissa Kauppila mkauppila@stjohnrochester.org. Candidates must pass a background check and complete online licensing courses (paid training).

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SCHOOL NEWS

Fall sports are well underway! Our 2026 Eagles soccer team is having a fun season, and this past week they earned a big 4-0 victory over St. John Fraser! Next week, the team travels to St. Peter, Eastpointe. Soccer is currently offered at St. John as a co-ed sport for 5th - 8th graders. Go Eagles!

God's blessings to our cross country team, competing at states this afternoon! Congratulations on 1st place for the girls and 2nd place for the boys at this week's regionals.

There will be no school this Thursday and Friday, October 15 & 16, for Faculty Professional Development. We pray for a restful time for students and families, and for productive learning sessions for our Faculty. School resumes on October 19!



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL | Sundays at 9:30 AM

Join us on Sundays at 9:30 AM in the south school wing! Children ages 4 years to 5th grade are welcome and encouraged to join us. There are no attendance requirements! If you have any questions regarding Sunday School, please contact Deaconess Terry Priestley at [tpriestley@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:priestley@stjohnrochester.org).



SPRINGFIELD
ILLINOIS



2027 WORKCAMP MISSION TRIP | Springfield, IL | July 17-24

The Group Mission Trip offers youth (age 12+ or 6th grade and up) an opportunity to serve in a community and provide home repair for under privileged, elderly, or disabled individuals. Hundreds of teenagers from youth groups across the country gather to repair and transform homes while deepening their faith and building new relationships with their peers and youth leaders. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

The 2027 St. John Group Mission Trip will be held in Springfield, Illinois on July 17-24. The total cost of the mission trip is \$360. A \$60.00 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit is due at the time of registration. Scan the QR Code for more information and to register.



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 12:30 - 2:30 PM (Arcadia Retreat October 16-18)

Middle School Youth meets most Sundays at 12:30 PM in the Youth Room. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 6:00 - 8:00 PM (no meeting October 18)**

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

**LHNW****LUTHERAN NORTHWEST STATE OF THE SCHOOL UPDATE | November 12 at 7:00 PM | LHNW**

Lutheran Northwest invites you to their State of the School Update. Principal Kristi Baughman and Superintendent/CEO Micah Lorenzen will share updates on enrollment, academics, student life, facilities, strategic priorities, and the future direction of the school. Whether you are a current family, alumni, supporter, congregation member, delegate, area pastor, or friend of our school, you are invited to attend to learn more about how God is blessing the LHNW ministry. Visit <https://www.lutherannorthwest.com/events/2026/sots> for more information.

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.

**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: Zach Hendrick – keep his eyesight / Jennifer Webster / Pat Gonser – healing from hand surgery

Bereavement (for the families of): Bill Olson (Don & Sandy's son) / Randy Abro (father of Trinity student)

Strength & Guidance: Stelmach family (sister of Terri Marshall) – catastrophic house fire / Velvareth family / Pastor of Youth and Family interviews

Gospel Impact: Food Drive / Crossroads Care Prayer Breakfast

Thanksgiving: Baptisms of: Ezra Anthony Tunis - son of Christopher and Stephanie Tunis / Evelyn Marie Lemon - daughter of Matthew and Leah Lemon / Hudson Thomas Stadelbauer - son of Cory and Kelly Stadelbauer / Andrew Jay Stadelbauer - son of Cory and Kelly Stadelbauer / Bob & Billie Sheldon's 28th anniversary

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE



FAMILY OF GOD BAGGED LUNCHES

October 18 at 11:45 AM | Church Kitchen

Each 3rd Sunday of the month our lunch team prepares bagged lunches and delivers them to Family of God in Detroit. This is an opportunity to help provide items for the lunches and to prepare the lunches following Modern Praise Worship. Scan the QR to sign up for this month, October 18 at 11:45 AM. For more information please contact team lead, Dave Helmer at dbjhelmer@gmail.com.

ST. PAUL PONTIAC FOOD PANTRY

Every Tuesday & Thursday from 12:45 - 2:00 PM our St. John Team provides non-perishable food items and prayer to the community at St. Paul, Pontiac. If you would like to join this team on a rotating basis you can do so by scanning the QR code or contacting team lead, Mike McColeman at mmpn99@sbcglobal.net for more information.



VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED FOR STUDENTS

St. Paul Pontiac and Gifts for All God's Children share a vision! Connecting Kids to Christ (CKC) is a tutoring program, with no more than one volunteer assigned to two students. Tutoring sessions also include prayer, engaging Bible lessons, and other learning activities. If you have two to four hours a week to volunteer please contact Pastor Jerry Corbett at [586-662-7094](tel:586-662-7094).

- Pontiac Public School calendar October through May
- Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- St. Paul Community Lutheran Church
1133 Joslyn Avenue, Pontiac, MI. 48340



SCAN TO
VIEW THE
FLYER



Neighbor-2-Neighbor Food Drive

OCTOBER 3 - NOVEMBER 1
2026



As you grocery shop for your family, help us restock our local Mission Partner Pantries with **non-perishable items**.

- ☐ CEREAL
- ☐ PASTA
- ☐ OATMEAL (INSTANT & ORIGINAL)
- ☐ BROWN RICE (1 LB. BAGS)
- ☐ WHITE RICE (1 LB. BAGS)
- ☐ FLOUR
- ☐ WHITE SUGAR
- ☐ BROWN SUGAR
- ☐ APPLESAUCE
- ☐ PEANUT BUTTER
- ☐ JELLY
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐ GRANOLA BARS
- ☐ SNACK PACKS
- ☐ FRUIT SNACKS
- ☐ CRACKERS (SALTINE, RITZ ETC...)
- ☐

- ☐ CANNED CHICKEN
- ☐ CANNED TUNA
- ☐ CANNED TOMATO PRODUCTS
- ☐ CANNED FRUIT
- ☐ CANNED VEGETABLES
- ☐ CANNED BEANS (KIDNEY)
- ☐ SOUP
- ☐ PASTA SAUCE
- ☐
- ☐ BIRTHDAY CAKE MIX
- ☐ FROSTING
- ☐ CANDLES

THANKSGIVING MEAL ITEMS

Help provide Thanksgiving dinner for 10-20 families at St. Paul Pontiac.

- ☐ CANNED HAM
- ☐ BOXED SCALLOPED POTATOES
- ☐ CANNED GREEN BEANS
- ☐ BOXED STUFFING

Donations can be dropped off at the designated areas in the Atrium and Church Lobby during school and worship hours.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: OCTOBER 12 - 18

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

Monday, October 12

9:00 AM - Quilters Guild (Room 128)
4:15 PM - JV Volleyball - B Team vs. Trinity Utica (Gym)
5:15 PM - Varsity Volleyball - B Team vs. Trinity Utica (Gym)
7:00 PM - ONE Class (Concordia)

12

Tuesday, October 13

1:00 PM - ESL (Mary Martha)

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Wednesday, October 14

6:00 AM - Dad's Bible Study (Luther Hall)
8:40 AM - Mom's Morning Prayer Group (Nursery)
8:50 AM - Chapel (Sanctuary)
6:00 PM - Adult Bible Study (Concordia Hall)
6:30 PM - Bell Choir (Choir Loft)
7:00 PM - The Chosen Women's Bible Study (Off-Site)

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Thursday, October 15

10:00 AM - The Lutheran Witness - Men's Bible Study (Church Library)
1:00 PM - Lingering in His Word - Schwark (Luther Hall)
1:00 PM - International Bible Study (Mary Martha)

15

Friday, October 16

9:00 AM - Prayer and Service: Women's Bible Study (Off-Site)
12:00 PM - OWLS Luncheon (Concordia Hall)

16

Saturday, October 17

8:00 AM - Bibles and Basketball (Gym)
10:00 AM - GriefShare (Church Library)

17

Sunday, October 18

9:30 AM - Pastor's Bible Study (Concordia Hall)
9:30 AM - Sunday School (Preschool Wing)
12:00 PM - FOG Bagged Lunch Prep (Church Kitchen)

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GET IN THE GAME

JOIN A SERVE TEAM



STJOHNROCHESTER.ORG/SERVE



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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