

THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS... REACHING MANY!

Week of May 10, 2026

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



MISSION INEVITABLE | You are Not Alone

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 baptisms of:

- Ethan Hunter Green, Brooks Huntley Green, and Elle Kennedy Hunt Mueller, children of Nathan Mueller & Autumn Green Mueller

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter | May 10, 2026

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

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN: *Now Thank We All Our God*

LSB # 895

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Invocation/Opening Verses

Screen

Holy Baptism (11:00)

Confession

LSB p.151

Gloria

Screen

Prayer of the Day

First Reading: Psalm 66:8-20

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Alleluia

LSB #952

Holy Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Screen

HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Day of Resurrection*

LSB #478

MESSAGE

Pastor Steve Grafe

PRAYERS/LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *Jesus Shall Reign*

LSB #832

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.



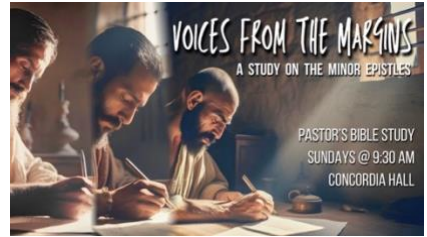
As you come forward, gluten free wafers are available by request, as well as individual cup choice of wine or lighter colored non-alcoholic grape juice (located in the center of the trays). Common cup is also offered during Traditional Praise services at the altar only. **During regular worship weekends, 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.



READING & INTERPRETING THE BIBLE | Wednesdays at 6:00 PM | Concordia Hall

This is a 1517 course, led by Chad Bird and invites you into the grand story of Scripture, a story that stretches from Genesis to Revelation and is still alive and speaking today. You'll learn how to read both carefully and confidently, paying attention to context and genre while following the Bible's overarching narrative that always leads us to Christ and our life in Him. This course introduces essential interpretive tools for reading the Bible with clarity, depth, and faithfulness, equipping you to hear God's

voice in His Word and to teach and share the Scriptures with confidence. For more information contact Bob Danielson at cornell_eng@hotmail.com.

THE BOOK OF ESTHER: FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Tuesdays at 7:00 PM | Luther Hall

All women are welcome to join, as we read through and study the Book of Esther. Watch as God unfolds the beautiful plan of a seemingly young and inexperienced girl who ends up becoming a bold and mighty queen, saving the lives of the exiled Jews in Persia. Let's explore and find the gems hidden in these chapters, and watch as the drama unfolds, and the secret plans and agendas come to life in this epic life story of Esther. No workbooks, no homework, just bring a Bible, a pen, and an open heart! For more information, please contact Sue Stingu at suestingu@gmail.com or text (248)321-0572.



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*	Karl Reading
Mike Dunn	Michael Reinhold*
Barry Jenkins	Tom Rowe
Paul Looker	Aaron Roggow
Tim Noonan*	Brett Torgler
Bob Novack*	Tom Vitu*
Ed Potoczak*	Karl Weber
Mark Rafdal*	Sarmed Yokhana

FOUNDATION (2 openings)

Brian Evanson*
Dave Hofmeister

VESTRY (3 openings)

Dave Scharrer*
Brian Bonner
Steve Kiehl
Krista Nesbit



OWLS LUNCHEON | Friday, May 15 at 12:00 PM | Concordia Hall

The May OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans in Service) Luncheon/Fellowship event will feature a presentation on "**Generation to Generation - Leaving a Legacy of Love**" by well-known author and presenter Elise Arndt. This presentation should be of special interest to every parent and grandparent. We will meet in lower-level Concordia Hall Friday, May 15, beginning with lunch at Noon. The menu will include pizza and beverages provided by the volunteer ministry team. Attendees, if able, are requested to bring the following potluck items: Last Name A-K (salads/side dishes), and Last Name L-Z (desserts).

Invite a friend – all ages welcome! Folks wishing to attend the presentation only may join us at 12:45 PM. For anyone requiring transportation, we will try to accommodate you. To assist with planning, please pre-register with Roger Guetzkow at 248-622-1606 or email rjguetzkow@comcast.net by Tuesday, May 12.

OWLS Invitation to Matinee Performance of "Annie" | May 14 at 12:30 PM | LHNW

St. John's OWLS invite you to attend Lutheran High School Northwest's special matinee performance of the musical "Annie" on Thursday, May 14, beginning at 12:30 PM. There is no admission charge for this fun-filled event. We will meet at LHNW, 1000 Bagley Avenue in Rochester Hills (West of Livernois and just South of M59). Reserved parking will be available at LHNW's Main Entrance. Lunch will not be provided for this event. Please RSVP to Roger Guetzkow at 248-622-1606 or email rjguetzkow@comcast.net by Tuesday, May 12, for this OWLS-sponsored activity. Bring a friend!



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. **Please submit by May 18.**

The VTOT is also conducting a solemn Memorial Day ceremony. The event is free and open to the public, from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM on Monday, May 25 at the Veteran's Tribute of Oakland Township located at 5236 Adams Rd, just south of the intersection at Silver Bell Rd. Veterans' names will be read aloud, followed by the ringing of a ceremonial bell and a moment of silence. You can opt-in to this tribute during name submission.

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.



TRACK NEWS

Congratulations to Coen on breaking a school record in the mile at last weekend's Lutheran Schools Meet in Monroe. **Coen ran a 4:41.14 minute mile, breaking a record previously set in 2015!** Regionals are next weekend at Lutheran North on May 16. Go Eagles!

FIRST ROBOTICS OPEN HOUSE & PROGRAM LAUNCH | Monday, May 11, 6:00-8:00 PM

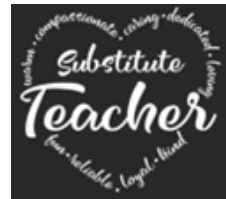
Join us for a Robotics Open House on May 11, as St. John launches a K–8 FIRST Robotics program! See real robots, build a take-home bristlebot, race LEGO cars, and enjoy free pizza! Program registration information and timing will be available at the Open House, and teams will begin forming in May for the fall of 2026. This open house and robotics program is for children entering K - 8 for the 2026-2027 school year, and is open to the church, school and community, so feel free to invite your friends and neighbors!

Please register for the Open House by scanning the RSVP QR code. Interested in serving as a volunteer to help make this program possible? Contact Aaron Roggow, volunteer event coordinator, aroggow@gmail.com or Beth Dameron, Director of Admissions, bdameron@stjohnrochester.org.



SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS | Now Accepting Applications

Applications are being accepted for substitute teachers. A bachelor's degree is preferred and you must be able to pass a background check. Prior teaching experience is helpful but not required. Candidates should have a love for Jesus and a love for children. Interested candidates should email their resume to Interim Principal Elizabeth Leinberger at leinberger@stjohnrochester.org.



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

No Kindergarten & 1st Grade Sunday School on May 10. All others are in session.

Children ages 4 years to 6th grade are welcome and encouraged to join us every Sunday in the school wing for Sunday School! There are no attendance requirements! If you have any questions regarding Sunday School, please

contact the Pastoral Office at church@stjohnrochester.org.

Sign up for our Sunday School email list to get updates! Sign up at the Sunday School kiosk or on our website at stjohnrochester.org/groups/childrens-sunday-school

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH | Sundays at 12:30 - 2:30 PM | OFF May 10

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 | OFF May 10

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

You're invited! LHNW has two big events coming up and they'd love to have you join the fun! Additional details & Annie ticket link can be found at www.LutheranNorthwest.com/events.

FINE ARTS FESTIVAL | Saturday May 9 at 6:00 PM

Art Exhibit opens at 6PM; Concert begins at 7PM. This free event is the capstone of the year for our outstanding Art & Music programs!

SPRING MUSICAL – ANNIE | May 15, 16, 18

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.



GIVE NOW

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 begins Mother's Day weekend and will run 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.

ONGOING SERVICE



STAY CONNECTED!

If you are interested in upcoming and ongoing service opportunities, please contact our Mission Liaison Coordinator Jennie Eller at jeller@stjohnrochester.org, or sign up for People Helping People emails to receive regular updates by scanning the QR code.

RELATIONAL WITNESS

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

Another great way to stay connected to your St. John family and ongoing news and events is follow us on Facebook and Instagram! Find us on Facebook at [@StJohnLutheranChurch&School](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnLutheranChurch&School) and on Instagram at [@StJohnRochester](https://www.instagram.com/StJohnRochester).



WATCH & SHARE PREVIOUS SERMONS

While nothing replaces the experience of gathering in the same space with others in worship, prayer, and praise, we sincerely hope our online worship resources help you connect wherever you are with the loving promises of your Savior Jesus. Previous sermons can be found on our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/@stjohnrochester810> or scan the QR Code. Make sure to Like and Subscribe!



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: Kate Lillard (Irwin) - major medical birth complications for Kate and newborn twins Isabelle & Joseph / Dylan Crossley (4y) - tonsil and adenoid surgery Monday / Tom Griswold / Roberta Neilson - heart catheter next week / Art Schrade - hospitalized / Chuck Bartley - heart complications from A-fib / Diane May – hospitalized with brain swelling

Bereavement (for the families of): Larry Cole (father of Amy Kranker) / Nick Law (grandson of Dorothy Haddrill) / Allen Frost (father of Laura Shaw) / Jane Sternemann / Carolyn Whitman

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

Gospel Impact: Crossroads Care Center collection

Thanksgiving: Baptisms of: Ethan Hunter Green, Brooks Huntley Green, and Elle Kennedy Hunt Mueller-children of Nathan Mueller & Autumn Green Mueller / Birth of Eve Isabelle Sanders to Heather (Harker) Sanders / Births of Isabell and Joseph to Kate & Jeffery Lillard (Irwin)



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](https://www.stjohnrochester.org/VBSdonate) to see the list of items needed!



VBS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY | June 22-26

We are still in need of 5 adults to serve as preschool leaders/teachers, and 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!





BE THE CONNECTION!

GREETER

- Be the first friendly face of St. John!
- Greet guests at building entrances 15 minutes before a worship service.

USHER

- Greet guests at worship entrances and hand out bulletins.
- Help with seating / communion dismissal.
- Attend to any concerns or needs of guests.

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

- Men are encouraged to serve.
- Help serve the Body and Blood of Christ.
- No prep work required!

WELCOME CENTER

- Greet guests at one of our Welcome Centers for 10 minutes after a worship service.
- Answer questions and gather contact information.

TRAINING

Join one of our ministry teams and become a vital part of worship services!

These teams play a crucial role in creating a welcoming and orderly environment for all who worship with us.

Attend one of our information and training sessions:

**Wednesday
May 13 at 7:00 PM**



For more information, please contact Deana Stevens at dstevens@stjohnrochester.org or 248-402-8004.

Register for training by scanning the QR code or visit <https://www.stjohnrochester.org/training>

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MAY 11 - 17

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

Monday

9:00 AM - Quilters Guild (Room 128)
6:00 PM - Robotics Open House (Gymnasium)

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Tuesday

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

12

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)
7:00 PM - Connection Volunteer Training (Sanctuary and Luther Hall)
7:00 PM - RMB at Rochester Mills Brewery (Offsite)
7:00 PM - The Chosen - Women of Faith & Friendship LIFEgroup (Church Library)

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Thursday

8:30 AM - MomCo (Luther Hall)
1:00 PM - International Bible Study (Mary Martha)
7:00 PM - Choir Practice (Choir Loft)

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Friday

9:30 AM - ESL (Mary Martha)
12:00 PM - OWLS Luncheon (Concordia Hall)
2:00 PM - Mom's Bible Study (Luther Hall)

15

Saturday

8:00 AM - Bibles & Basketball (Gym)
10:00 AM - Griefshare (Church Library)

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Sunday

9:30 AM - Pastor's Bible Study (Concordia Hall)
9:30 AM - Sunday School (School Wing)
12:00 PM - FOG Bagged Lunch Prep (Church Kitchen)
12:30 PM - Congregation Meeting (Sanctuary)
12:30 PM - Middle School Youth - LAST DAY (Youth Room/Gym)
6:00 PM - High School Youth - LAST DAY (Youth Room)

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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)

1011 W. University Dr. | Rochester, MI 48307 | 248.402.8000 | stjohnrochester.org