

February 11-12, 2017

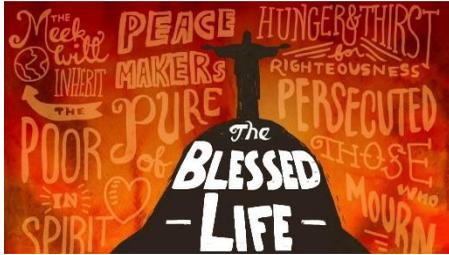


# THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

***IN JESUS, BECOMING ONE...REACHING MANY!***

**Week of February 12, 2017**

## WORSHIP CELEBRATION



**DO YOU HAVE A BLESSED LIFE?** Most people would define it as having a great family, a good job, ongoing health and overall well being. Others might define it further as being financially successful, well loved, or being surrounded by positive circumstances. But what if we are wrong about all that? What if having a truly blessed life goes beyond the external measures of value? Jesus once taught on what being truly blessed in life is all about, and it may surprise you. Join

us in worship for a four-week message series entitled *The Blessed Life* based on Jesus’ teaching from Matthew 5:1-11.



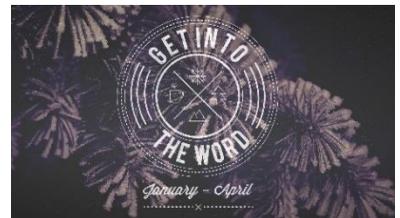
**HOLY BAPTISM** - This Sunday, February 12, we celebrate the baptism of William Wesley Watts III (Liam), son of Bill and Kylee, at the 11:00 AM Traditional Praise Service. May God richly bless him and his family!

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE UPDATE** “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”—Hebrews 10:24-25

Attendance for weekend of February 4-5.....869

## BIBLICAL DISCOVERY

**GET INTO THE WORD THIS WINTER** – What a blessing it is to explore and talk about God's Word - whether as a child, teen, or adult, whether as someone brand new to the Bible, or as someone fairly familiar with it! We're excited to offer a wide variety of opportunities throughout the week for people of all ages and all interests to get into God's Word. Please be sure to take the latest GET INTO THE WORD brochure home with you. In it, you will find the listing of Bible Class selections for Sundays as well as Sunday School and any classes held during the week. Brochures are available in easel racks in the Atrium and just outside the Sanctuary. They are also available on our St. John website.



**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** will be held next Sunday, February 19 as our leaders and volunteers take a little break over Presidents’ Day weekend. Adult Bible Classes will be held as usual. Sunday School will resume on Sunday, February 26.



**GRAB A CUP OF COFFEE AND INVITE A NEW FRIEND.** Following all our Sunday morning services, coffee and refreshments are served in Luther Hall. What a wonderful opportunity it is to get to know someone in worship with us. What a great way to be the church by encouraging each other in Jesus' name!

**BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS TODAY** - February is American Heart Month. This annual campaign by the American Heart Association brings awareness to cardiovascular disease, the nation's number one killer and leading cause of disability. Heart disease, stroke, or high blood pressure will cause one out of three deaths in the U.S. Celebrate American Heart Month and take control of one of those risk factors by getting your blood pressure checked in the Church Library. High blood pressure often has no symptoms, so checking it on a regular basis helps to ensure it is controlled. The next blood pressure screening will be Sunday, March 12. For more information, or if you would like to help with blood pressure screenings, please contact Faith Community Nurse Laura Tom (586-201-9162 or [laurajtom@comcast.net](mailto:laurajtom@comcast.net)). Helping you be well to serve well.



**DEAR ST. JOHN FAMILY,** Words cannot express the love, support and prayers that I felt as you comforted my family during my dad's heavenly homecoming. The plant is beautiful and is now in my classroom. We appreciated all of the beautiful cards and notes. Thank you everyone for all of your caring. It meant so much. God bless you. ~Karen Neumeyer and family

## “CULTURE SHOCK” – AN INVITATION TO THE CONGREGATION

The culture of the world is changing rapidly. How are we as Christians to react to these changes? Please join us for a special presentation by Dave Leinberger on Monday, February 13 at 7:00 PM in Concordia Hall. Dave taught a Bible Study on this subject and has good insight into how to not let the culture change us and how we can witness our faith in trying times. How did we get here? Whatever happened to right and wrong? How are we to respond to the sexual revolution, abortion and other issues that are becoming mainstream in our society? How does the Word of God direct us?

This special opportunity is sponsored by the St. John Stephen Ministers. For more information, please contact our Stephen Leaders, Lori Horton, Sandi Brandenburg and Tom Rowe at [sjstephenministry@gmail.com](mailto:sjstephenministry@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you at this very relevant presentation.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST EVENT | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Gentlemen, the time is quickly coming to be encouraged in your faith walk with Jesus, enjoy a tasty breakfast and connect with other guys who are humbly seeking to grow as men, husbands, fathers, sons and brothers in Christ! Our next Men of St. John breakfast event will be Saturday, February 18 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM (registration begins at 8:30 AM) on our campus in Concordia Hall. A free-will offering will be taken to cover costs. Come check it out and bring a friend as everyone is welcome!



**MEN'S  
BREAKFAST  
EVENT**

Saturday, February 18  
9:00 - 11:00 AM

[Click to learn more](#)

Our outstanding speaker will be Les Morrison. Les is a Licensed Professional Counselor who works with men and women. He specializes in marital counseling, relational conflict, family counseling, men's issues, depression, anxiety, adjustment issues, grief & loss, and Christian counseling. A number of our St. John family members have been blessed by his partnership, expertise, and support during difficult times in their lives. Les entered the counseling profession after nearly 20 years in full time Christian ministry. He brings to his practice valuable pastoral counseling experiences and a heart to help people find healing, restoration, and renewal in their lives and relationships. All to say, guys, our time with Les will be well spent!

To reserve your spot, visit the St. John website (look at the homepage banner slides for the picture above), stop by the registration table in Luther Hall, or contact the pastoral office at [church@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:church@stjohnrochester.org). We really hope to see you there!

**GRIEFSHARE** is a weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead. We meet on Saturday mornings from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Church Library. A new 13-week series will begin on March 4. Each week the video, workbook and discussion focus on another aspect of the grieving process. Our group is open to everyone. Whether your loss is recent or it has been a while, please consider joining us. We know it hurts and we are here to help. The group is facilitated by Joanne Curran, Marlene Leinberger and Linda Baroli. For more information, please contact Linda at 248-895-0310.

**THE ST. JOHN RUNNERS GROUP** is On Track for a Great Season! This group is for all new and accomplished runners looking for fellowship and fun. Lace up your running shoes and join us on Saturday, March 11 at 10:00 AM for a kickoff meeting at Leo's Coney Island on Livernois Rd. in Rochester. We will talk about goals for the group, including the launch of a St. John Runners Facebook page, group training runs, raising money for a charity, ordering jerseys, and potential races for the season. Hansons Running Shop has graciously offered to host a team day for our group at the Lake Orion and Utica stores on March 13 from 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM. They will get you fitted for new running shoes and give you a 20% discount on your purchase. Please note this is the first day of Michigan high school track season, so the stores might be busy. After March 13, mention our running group at checkout to receive a 10% discount. Please contact Julie Schmidt at 586-864-4768 or [salyetja@gmail.com](mailto:salyetja@gmail.com), or Nicole Buday at 248-520-3383 or [quadlevel@gmail.com](mailto:quadlevel@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

**SCHOOL NEWS - Upon this Rock: Day School Chapel:** 2<sup>nd</sup> grade led this week's chapel. The students read Bible verses about God's love and acted in a skit about the Good Samaritan.

**Enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year:** Current student re-enrollment/congregation early enrollment has concluded, and available spaces in Preschool to 8<sup>th</sup> grade are now open to the community. Several sessions have already reached capacity! St. John offers Preschool to 8<sup>th</sup> grade, in a Christ-centered setting. The school is accredited by the State of Michigan and by National Lutheran Schools. For information, to schedule a private tour or to obtain an



enrollment packet, please contact Beth Dameron, Director of School Admissions at 248-402-8012 or [bdameron@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:bdameron@stjohnrochester.org).

**ST. JOHN ROCHESTER NIGHT AT LHNW:** On Friday evening, February 17, Lutheran High Northwest will host special activities surrounding their regular season basketball games, including half-time games for K-8 students, a special prize drawing, and a half-court shot attempt by St. John principal Mr. Pehlke! The evening will also include the induction of LHNW Hall of Fame 2017 members, which will include several members of our St. John family! For more details, visit the information board across from the Main Office.

**FIRST COMMUNION CLASS** - The sacrament of communion is an important part of a Christian's walk with Jesus. First Communion class is offered for those families interested in having their child (6th grade and older) take communion. Parents will need to attend the class sessions with their child and work together to decide if their child is ready to receive the sacrament. For more information, please contact Director of Child and Family Ministry Steve Wilson at [swilson@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:swilson@stjohnrochester.org) or 248-402-8006. Please sign up for the class on the St. John website. Click on Discover/Junior High. Classes are scheduled for March 5, 12, 19, 26.

**GROUP MISSION TRIP MEETING** will be held on Sunday, March 5 at 5:00 PM. Those who are attending or are interested in attending the mission trip this summer, please plan to be at the meeting. We will be covering important information about sponsorship, medical forms, and t-shirt design. Steve Wilson will also be answering any questions for those interested in learning more about the trip. For more information, please contact Director of Child and Family Ministry Steve Wilson at 248-402-8006 or [swilson@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:swilson@stjohnrochester.org).

**JUNIOR HIGH 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> GRADE TOOL TIME RETREAT** will be held on March 25 at 11:00 AM until March 26 at 2:00 PM. The cost is \$60 if you register by February 15, and \$70 if you register between February 16 and March 1. This is an overnight retreat at Concordia University in Ann Arbor. Concordia puts on a great retreat with musicians, speakers, games, and a service project. Contact Steve Wilson Director of Child and Family Ministry at 248-402-8006 or [swilson@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:swilson@stjohnrochester.org) to get signed up today!

**BAPTISMAL CROSS** - Down in the Sunday School hallway, our white cross for baptismal celebration is out. Each month non-dayschool students who have their baptism birthday that month are encouraged to write their name on the cross. (Dayschool students do this during the school day.) This is a special activity for all our students as a reminder of baptism connecting them to salvation we have in Christ!

**CAMP CONCORDIA** is coming to St. John! On Sunday, February 26 during the Sunday School hour, Dr. Craig Oldenberg will be coming from Camp to lead a special Sunday School time for our young children. Please mark it on your calendars if you want to hear about camp and watch Doc-O share the love of Jesus with our kids. The presentation will be done in the Gym but students will go to their Sunday School classrooms to start and end the hour.





**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH** – TODAY we are mixing, stirring, flipping and serving pancakes and bacon in Luther Hall between services. All donations will help defray the cost of the Michigan Youth Gathering trip as well as our work camp trip to North Carolina in July. Thank you to the congregation of St. John for loving us, praying for us and supporting us!

Next weekend we will be at Springhill Camp for our winter retreat. What a blessing it will be to have fun in the snow and worship together with 400 kids at camp! March 5 from 6:00-7:00 PM will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> information night for the MI Youth Gathering. Parents

and students are invited to attend the meeting. We will collect a \$100.00 deposit to secure each student's spot for the trip. Total cost for your student is \$285.00. We were able to defray the cost from \$385.00 because of the congregation's generosity at all the pancake breakfasts! March 19 from 6:00-8:00 PM will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> Parent/Student Night with the topic on Marijuana. We are so thankful for the presentation by Chief Jason Poole of the Fraser Police Department. Chief Poole has also worked undercover in the past and has the pulse of what is going on in our community. Thanks be to God!

~Melissa Hammett, Director of High School Youth Ministry, [mhammett@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:mhammett@stjohnrochester.org)

## SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

**HAVE BREAKFAST HERE TODAY!** This Sunday, February 12, the high school youth are serving a pancake breakfast in Luther Hall between services. Freewill donations will be gratefully accepted. All proceeds will help fund the youth trip to the 2017 Michigan District Youth Gathering on Mackinac Island. Bring your appetite and enjoy a delicious breakfast as you support our youth!



**BOY SCOUT TROOP 356 FUNDRAISER RESCHEDULED** - Please mark your calendar for Monday, February 20 and plan to join the Boy Scouts at the Big Boy Restaurant on Tienken Rd. in Rochester Hills, any time between 5:00 and 8:00 PM. The fundraiser will help raise money for their upcoming high adventure trip to Philmont. Big Boy will donate 15% of all sales during those hours, plus any money earned from the raffles. Have some dinner and join in the other fun (raffles, etc.) and fellowship. Hope to see you there!

**SCHOOL FUNDRAISER** - On Sunday, February 26 the Buffalo Wild Wings location across from Crittenton Hospital will be holding a fundraiser for St John Lutheran School. 20% of your entire bill (alcohol included) will be returned to St John. The fundraiser will be all day, both dine in or carry out! You must have a special certificate with you, either hard copy or on your phone. Hard copies of the certificate are available outside the Main Office. Electronic copies will be emailed out closer to the date. Please share copies of the certificate with your friends, family and co-workers! All funds raised will directly benefit our school ministry. Enjoy a delicious meal or snack at Buffalo Wild Wings on February 26 as you support the school. Hope to see you there!

**MEXICALI MISSION TRIP SUPPORT OPPORTUNITY** - Over Spring Break again this year (March 31-April 7) over 50 young people and adults from Detroit area Lutheran congregations will be making their way to Mexicali, Mexico with a team from Our Shepherd Lutheran in Birmingham. While in Mexico, the group will sleep in tents for a week in a dirt field. During the day they will offer a Bible school experience for

the local children and mission partners in some of the most impoverished neighborhoods in Mexico. The hope and goal is to form relationships with these children and share Jesus' love. In the process, our young people are challenged and pushed out of their comfort zones. Past experience shows that most, if not all that go, come back with a different perspective and changed lives. **This year, eleven students and two adults from St. John are going on the trip.** It costs \$1,350 per person including \$600 for airfare. Any contribution will help reduce the overall per person cost. To make a tax-deductible donation, please visit the team's website: [www.area12-2.org](http://www.area12-2.org). Thank you for your support! In the meantime, most importantly please keep this year's Mexicali Mission Team in your prayers!

**CROSSROADS PREGNANCY CENTER'S 33<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL BENEFIT BANQUET** will be held at the beautiful Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester on Friday, March 3, from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. Seating begins at 6:30 PM. Guest speaker, Le'yandria Murray, will share her not-so-typical childhood, as her mother was thirteen years old when she gave birth, and with little to no help, lived on the streets of Detroit while raising a baby. Rebecca Kiessling with *Save The 1* will also be presenting.

There is no charge to attend, but reservations are required for each person planning to attend. This is one of Crossroads' most important fundraising events of the year, so an appeal for donations will be made. Ages 18 and up are welcome.

Reserve your complimentary tickets for this lovely dinner and program by visiting [www.crossroadspregnancy.org](http://www.crossroadspregnancy.org) or by calling Alex at 248.293.0070 x107. All reservations for seating are on a first come, first served basis. The deadline to RSVP is February 18.

**WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE**

“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God!” - 2 Corinthians 9:11. Thank you so much for your ongoing generosity that allows us to make an eternal impact in Jesus' name!

Offerings for February 4-5.....\$42,801.13

Special Contributions for February 4-5.....\$60.00

As of 2/5/17 Y.T.D. Offerings to Approved Budget: \$1,234,785 or 97.5%

As of 2/5/17 Y.T.D. Special Contributions: \$18,104

(St. John's fiscal year is 7/1/16 through 6/30/17.)

**COMPASSIONATE SERVICE**

**OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AS USHER & COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**– If you have a desire to serve your Lord and can smile, then you can be an usher/communion assistant at one of our services. There are openings in all services and you only need to decide when you want to serve. You serve as usher/communion assistant for one month in either the 8:00, 9:30, or 11:00 AM Sunday service in the sanctuary, the 11:00 AM Modern Praise service in the gym, or the 5:00 PM Saturday Modern Praise service in the gym. Then you are off for two months, and then you repeat, for a total of 4 months during the year. Please call John Fedototszkin at 248-375-0832 or e-mail [sherryjohnf@aol.com](mailto:sherryjohnf@aol.com) to volunteer and get assigned to a team. Thank you for your help in filling this critical need in service to our Lord Jesus.



**CHURCH NURSERY** - The nursery needs your help. We have been welcoming children to the nursery every Sunday, and they are enjoying being in the nursery. We are looking for adult and youth volunteers who are willing to take a whole Sunday or just one service to watch the little ones. We need people during both the 9:30 and 11:00 AM services. You can come to the nursery and sign up for the day that works for you. If you are interested or would like more info, please contact Nursery Coordinator Angie Abraham at [Abraham@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:Abraham@stjohnrochester.org) or 248-601-3846.

## RELATIONAL WITNESS



**THE POWER OF THE SHARE BUTTON!** Have you ever been in worship and wished someone you know could have heard the message from God's Word that day? If so, did you know it's actually really easy to share weekend sermon messages with others via email, Facebook, Twitter, etc.? Simply visit our St. John webpage at [www.stjohnrochester.org](http://www.stjohnrochester.org), and click on the MESSAGE icon to go to our video and audio sermon message archive. Select the sermon message you want to send out and simply click the share button, select how you want to share, type a personal message of introduction and send it! It's pretty much that simple! Imagine how the Lord might use that simple step of relational witness?

## CONSTANT PRAYER

**WE WOULD LOVE TO PRAY FOR WHATEVER IS ON YOUR HEART.** To submit a prayer request, please text or email it to [prayer@stjohnrochester.org](mailto:prayer@stjohnrochester.org) at any time or fill out a Prayer Request Card and hand to an usher during worship. These requests are received by our pastors and are passed along when requested to be included in the weekly prayer list that is sent out to our prayer warriors and included in weekend worship.



### THIS WEEK:

Thanksgiving: *Baptism of William Wesley Watts III (Liam) son of Bill and Kylee, birth of Jack Garrison Kwapis to Nick and Aubrey*

Hope & Healing: *Irene Forgette (grandmother of Lori Hehl) – hospitalized, Jim Madson, Linda Madson, George Karas, Sandi Brandenburg, Bob Koch (father of Bev Koch & Marian Grothaus) - hospitalized*  
Bereavement (For the families of...) *John Kraft (son of Earl & Ellen), Wanda Wheeler*

### LAST WEEK:

Guidance & Strength: *Stephanie & Zachary, James Grover*

Hope & Healing: *Sam Kell – miracle of healing, Sandi Brandenburg – recovering from surgery, Janette Bernthal – healing, Linda Kelterborn, Don Manger (cousin of Walt Brown)*

Bereavement (For the families of...) *John Earl Kraft (son of Earl & Ellen), Edmund Nowos (grandfather of Curtis Reynolds)*

## PRIOR WEEK:

Thanksgiving: *Future City – second place win at regionals, Nancy Mooneyham’s 70<sup>th</sup> birthday*

Guidance & Strength: *New One Class, Linda Winter, Stephanie & Zachary*

Hope & Healing: *Sam Kell – miracle of healing, Joseph Prokes – recovering at home, Lois Burger, Jim Madson – rehabilitation, Irene Lueddeman (mother Leanne Scott) – cancer surgery, Elaine Roberts (sister of Jean Perry) – surgery, Kyle Cass – hospice, Herman – surgery, Finn Cox – 8 yr old inoperable brain cancer, Jamie – surgery, Marleen Wheeler & Wanda Wheeler*

Bereavement (For the families of...) *Ellen Orr, Linda Campbell*

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

### OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

### FACILITY HOURS THIS WEEK

Monday-Friday: 7:00 AM-10:00 PM

Saturday: 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM

\* The facility may be closed on Saturdays when no daytime events are scheduled.

### Sunday

9:00 AM Youth Sponsored Pancake Breakfast – Luther Hall  
9:00 AM Blood Pressure Screening – Church Library  
9:30 AM Adult Bible Study (Book of Galatians) – Concordia Hall  
9:30 AM Adult Bible Study (Citizens of Two Kingdoms) – Room 101  
9:30 AM Confirmation Class – Music Room  
9:30 AM Sunday School – School Classrooms  
6:00 PM Lighthouse – Luther Hall

### Monday

9:00 AM MOPS – Luther Hall  
7:00 PM “The ONE” New Member Class – Luther Hall  
7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Presentation – Concordia Hall \*Cong. Is invited\*

### Tuesday

9:30 AM Bible Basics Class – Mary Martha Room  
11:30 AM International Bible Class – Room 128  
1:00 PM ESL Class – Concordia Hall  
7:00 PM Women’s Bible Study (Entrusted) – Church Library

### Wednesday

8:45 AM School Chapel – Sanctuary  
9:30 AM Special Needs Support Group – Youth Room  
1:00 PM Women’s Bible Study (Armor of God) – Concordia Hall  
7:00 PM Senior Choir Rehearsal – Choir Rehearsal Room

### Thursday

10:00 AM Men’s Small Group (Fedototszkin) – Church Library  
11:30 AM Hannah Circle – Mary Martha Room  
5:00 PM Skit & Drama Ministry for Kids (grades 3-8) – Luther Hall  
6:00 PM Jubilate Bell Choir Rehearsal – Choir Rehearsal Room  
8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous – Concordia Hall

**Friday**

8:00 AM LCEF Savings Stamp Sales – Atrium  
9:00 AM ESL Class – Concordia Hall  
6:00 PM St. John Rochester Night at LHNW – K-8 families invited!  
7:00 PM Friday Night Bible Study – Luther Hall

**Saturday**

8:00 AM Bibles & Basketball – Gymnasium  
9:00 AM Men's Breakfast – Concordia Hall  
1:00 PM Visual Faith (formerly Bible Journaling) - Offsite  
5:00 PM Modern Praise Worship – Gymnasium



**Worship Celebration Schedule**

Traditional Praise: Sundays @ 8:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 11:00 AM

Modern Praise: Saturdays @ 5:00 PM | Sundays @ 11:00 AM

**1011 W. University Dr. | Rochester, MI 48307 | 248.402.8000 | [www.stjohnrochester.org](http://www.stjohnrochester.org)**