

The background is a complex abstract composition. It features a central orange rectangular area with a large, dark brown fingerprint overlaid on it. The fingerprint is oriented vertically, with the ridge lines clearly visible. The orange area is surrounded by dark, textured borders that look like charcoal or ink splatters. The overall effect is gritty and thematic, relating to the concept of identity.

Identity **THEFT**

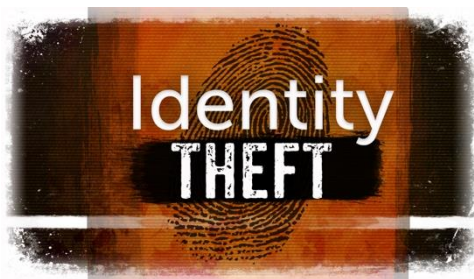
January 20-21, 2018

THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS...REACHING MANY!

Week of January 21, 2018

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



A Sermon Message Series For a New Year and a New You
Daily news reports tell us of the havoc that identity theft has caused in the lives of billions of people. In fact, in recent months it was even reported that over half of all Americans had their personal identity stolen through a single breach of security by online hackers. Whether it be through stolen credit information, social security numbers, or other personal information, identity theft is a major problem jeopardizing life as we know it.

But may we be reminded today this is nothing compared to the ongoing risk and eternal implications of *spiritual* identity theft so often overlooked in the dark web of our sinful humanity. Make no mistake, your identity in Christ is under constant attack. Join us over the next several weeks as we expose this ongoing spiritual identity theft and find full restoration in the One who calls us by name as His own.

Pickpocketed By The Past | Jan. 13 & 14 (listen or watch online)

Hacked By Hypocrisy | Jan. 20 & 21

Mugged By The Mirror | Jan. 27 & 28

Stolen By Success | Feb. 3 & 4

Robbed By Relationships | Feb. 10 & 11

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 the weekend of January 13/14.....874

BIBLICAL DISCOVERY

GET INTO THE WORD THIS WINTER – It's a New Year and with it come many new opportunities at St. John to grow in your faith through God's Word! From children to seniors, internationals to parenting, Bible basics to more in-depth studies—there truly will be something for everyone no matter your age, life circumstances or schedule! Make this the year that you take a big step as a family in your faith walk with Jesus! Many classes and groups just kicked off this past week. Our new Get Into the Word brochure with a full listing of Bible Class selections for Sundays as well as Sunday School and all classes held during the week is now available in easel racks outside Luther Hall and in the Atrium, as well as on our St. John website. Let's get into the Word together this winter!





STARTING MONDAY! Have you or someone you know been searching for an opportunity to learn or rediscover what real faith in Jesus is all about in a non-threatening environment where your real questions can be answered? Maybe you're new to St. John School or maybe you have been worshiping as a guest and finally feel led to make St. John in Rochester your official church home. Whether transferring from another church or brand new to the Christian faith, The ONE Class is for you...and now is the time! Come join Pastor Marc and Pastor Steve

on a nine week, action-packed journey through God's Word as they help you discover what Christian Lutheran faith is all about! They'll also introduce you to our St. John mission and vision! (Plus, you'll get a chance to meet other amazing people like you who also want to grow in relationship with Jesus!) The class will meet on Monday evenings at 7:00 PM in Luther Hall (near the church sanctuary), starting January 22. Childcare is provided in the nursery. Upon completion of the classes, participants will be welcomed to prayerfully consider official membership as part of the St. John family. For more information or to enroll, please visit our St. John website (look for the homepage banner slides) or contact the pastoral office at 248-402-8020 or church@stjohnrochester.org. We hope to see you there!

SHARED LIFE



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!

CAREGIVER CARE SUPPORT GROUP is starting this Tuesday, January 23! Do you assist a family member or friend with activities of daily living and/or medical tasks? If you answered yes, you are a caregiver. There are about 2 million unpaid family caregivers in Michigan. Caregiving is rewarding, but can also be stressful, overwhelming, and exhausting. We are happy to announce **Caregiver Care**, a new support group for the loving caregivers of St John. Join fellow caregivers to learn problem-solving strategies and receive validation and encouragement from others who understand what you may be going through. The meetings will be held the 4th Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 PM in Concordia Hall. You do not need to sign up for this support group. For more information, please contact Laura Tom, RN, Faith Community Nurse at 586-201-9162 or laurajtom@comcast.net.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS LECTURE/TOUR - You're invited to join the OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans In Service) sponsored trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts on Thursday, February 8, from 12:00 to 4:00 PM. The event will include a 45-minute lecture on the current "Monet: Framing Life" Exhibition followed by 45 minutes of free time to tour the world-class DIA public art collection. As an alternative to viewing the public art collection, you may purchase a \$10 ticket on the day of the event to tour the special Monet Exhibition. Light refreshments will follow at 2:30 PM prior to returning to St. John. Free bus transportation will be provided by the DIA if a minimum of 25 persons sign up. If you are interested in attending or have questions, please contact Roger Guetzkow at 248-377-9048 or rjguetzkow@comcast.net.

GET CONNECTED! Every week we send out email worship updates, seasonal devotional thoughts, opportunities to serve, children's events, youth events, etc. These emails are intended to help you stay connected, keep growing in your faith and experience a better sense of community with our St. John

family. If you don't already and would like to begin receiving these emails, please leave your email address in the Welcome Folder today or sign up on the bottom of the homepage of our website at www.stjohnrochester.org. When you do, you can also designate what you are most interested in receiving.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



ST. JOHN DAY SCHOOL NEWS:

National Lutheran Schools Week 2018 will be celebrated at St. John Lutheran School this week, January 21-26. National Lutheran Schools Week provides our network of nearly 2,300 LCMS preschools, elementary schools and

high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God's work among us in Lutheran schools. St. John Lutheran School will celebrate NLSW with a variety of events, activities and themed-attire. *St. John Lutheran School graduates:* Send us your story! We are compiling news and information from our Alumni to share during NLSW and we would love to hear from you. Send your name, year of graduation, a photo or video clip, what you are doing now, and how St. John Lutheran School prepared you for high school, college or the real world. Email bdameron@stjohnrochester.org.

30th Annual Authors and Dessert Theatre was held at Lutheran High Northwest (LHNW) on Thursday, January 18 at 6:30 PM. This year's theme was "A Night at the Oscars" and the evening was hosted by St. John 2nd and 3rd grade families. The LHNW Drama Department (including many St. John Alumni) performed stories written by St. John 3rd grade students.

2018-2019 Enrollment Information: Re-enrollment for current school families and early enrollment for congregation families will be from Monday, January 22 to Friday, February 2. Application packets will be available in the Admissions office starting January 22, and an online application is available as well. A completed application form and a non-refundable \$100 fee (cash or check) is required to start the enrollment process. Please be aware that many sessions tend to fill quickly. Remaining space will be made available to the community starting Monday, February 5.

St. John Lutheran School offers Preschool to 8th grade in a Christ-centered setting firmly rooted in God's Word. The K – 8 program includes daily religion with weekly chapel, challenging academics, fine arts opportunities, and a variety of extra-curricular programs are available. Students entering Preschool need to be 3 by September 1 for the 3's session and 4 by September 1 for the 4's session. Students entering Kindergarten need to be 5 by September 1. We warmly invite you to attend upcoming enrollment events to learn more:

- *Kindergarten Information Night*, Thursday, February 1, 7:00–8:00 PM: Parents/guardians are invited to meet the Kindergarten faculty and learn about our Kindergarten curriculum, objectives and schedule for Half and Full Day options.
- *Preschool Information Night*, Tuesday, February 6, 6:30–7:30 PM: Parents/guardians are invited to meet the Preschool faculty and staff and learn about the Preschool 3's and 4's program session options.
- *School Open House*, Sunday, February 11, 12:00–2:00 PM: This event is for the whole family. Visit the classrooms and meet the faculty for Preschool to 8th grade to learn all about our program.

For more information or to schedule a personal tour, contact Beth Dameron, Director of School Admissions at bdameron@stjohnrochester.org or 248-402-8012, or visit stjohnrochester.org.

GRADE SCHOOL NIGHT AT LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHWEST – Lutheran High Northwest invites K – 8 students & their families to attend Grade School Night on Friday, February 2, in conjunction with the Northwest Girl's and Boys' Basketball games: 4:30 PM Girls JV; 6:00 PM Girls Varsity & Boys JV; 7:30 PM Boys Varsity. Enjoy a fun evening of Crusader basketball, plus kids games, giveaways and prize drawings throughout the evening. Kids under grade 8 are free. Pastor Marc will represent St. John Lutheran School in a half court shot contest during halftime. Free adult admission passes are available through the St. John Main Office. Be sure to wear your St. John spirit wear! Go Eagles! To learn more about LHNW, visit lhnw.lhsa.com.



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 or 248-402-8006. Please sign up for the class on the St. John website. Click on Discover/Middle School. Classes are scheduled for March 4, 11, 18 and 25.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH – TODAY we have a Mexicali meeting, 3:00-6:00 PM, followed by Youth Group, 6:00-8:00 PM in the Youth Room. We will have a Game Night "Hammett Style", along with a devotion series we will begin on respect. This is a topic that was suggested by our recent survey results. For more information, please contact Melissa Hammett, Director of High School Youth Ministry, at 248-402-8008 or mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

DO YOU HAVE AN 8TH GRADER interested in attending Lutheran High Northwest next year? Thursday, January 25 at 7:00 PM is Curriculum & Registration Night! During this informative evening, you'll be given a general overview of the LHNW curriculum as well as specific information on 9th grade course scheduling options. Placement test scores will be available for those families whose students have taken the test, and all attendees will have the opportunity to sign up for an April 9th grade course scheduling appointment. 2018-19 registrations can be submitted and registration cards will be available for interested families, but it is not required that you register or have registered for next school year in order to attend. Call the LHNW Admissions Office at 248-852-6677 for more information. We hope to see you there!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: THE HEART OF MARRIAGE SEMINAR | Saturday, March 17, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
What is the heart condition of your marriage? Is it vibrant but you know it can be stronger? Is it "okay" but lacking passion? Is it apathetic or hardened? Whatever the condition, this seminar is designed to help you have a healthier "heart" for a more satisfying marriage. In this seminar, marriage counselor Les Morrison and his wife Rhonda will present five key elements to a vibrant, meaningful marriage. Drawing from experiences in their 32 years of marriage and the countless couples they have counseled, the Morrisons are passionate about helping couples develop a God-centered marriage to be enjoyed for a lifetime. Watch your email, Facebook and the St. John website for online registration coming soon!



CAMPUS MASTER SITE PLAN & ONE LEGACY INITIATIVE UPDATE

Be sure to stop by the ONE Legacy display today to see the brand new architectural renderings of Phase I of the Master Site Plan! This updated 3D fly around shows actual materials and colors with greater detail than previous conceptual renderings.



This past Wednesday and Thursday evening we hosted two important neighborhood gatherings to give our neighbors opportunity to weigh in on the proposed Phase I Master Site Plan. Invitations to these gatherings were made by going door to door to homes within a one to two block radius of our campus. The response from our neighbors so far has been very positive and conversations have focused on ensuring traffic flow on school drop off and pick up times is well thought out for the future - something we are already working on with the plans. We have great neighbors and we are thankful for dialogue as we work together for the future.

After a very positive preliminary hearing at the Rochester City Planning Council in early January, we are currently preparing to go back for site approval for all of Phase I in early March (a month later than anticipated). We have every reason to believe this will go very well based on the input we have received so far. Please note that we are seeking approval for the entire Phase I plan from the city in order to give our congregation an opportunity to make the final decision on the level of construction scope (up to the full Phase I construction) later this spring as was promised and voted on in the December meeting. Having full approval from the city ahead of time will allow us to also have more accurate cost estimates based on an actual approved plan prior to a final decision by our congregation, leveraging how much we are willing to finance to complete the project. While it is nothing short of amazing to realize the response to God's faithfulness as so far we have received pledges totaling over \$3,438,000 toward the ONE Legacy initiative, we are still prayerfully hopeful the Lord may continue to provide further pledges. Meanwhile multiple teams are working through projected future cost assessment and financial feasibility of the project—all in order to prepare us to best discern how to move forward in meeting the exciting growing ministry needs the Lord is bringing about! Please keep this exciting process in ongoing prayer.

Want to learn more? Visit the *ONE Legacy* display in the church and school Atrium or stjohnrochester.org/one-legacy.



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!

GENERAL MISSION & MINISTRY Offerings for January 13-14....\$33,376.00
Special Contributions for January 13-14.....\$425.00

As of 1/14/18 Y.T.D. Budgeted Offerings:	\$ 1,172,304.29
As of 1/14/18 Y.T.D. Actual Offerings:	<u>\$ 1,221,498.69</u>
As of 1/14/18 Y.T.D. Variance to Budget:	\$ 49,194.40
As of 1/14/18 Y.T.D. Special Contributions:	\$61,951
(St. John's fiscal year is 7/1/17 through 6/30/18.)	

ONE LEGACY INITIATIVE

As of 1/17/18 Y.T.D. Amount pledged.....	\$3,438,814.79
As of 1/17/18 Y.T.D. Amount received.....	\$578,238.02

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

A MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION was sent to St. John Lutheran School by Medilodge nursing home of Rochester Hills, following a visit with the residents last month by our first grade class, teacher Mrs. Elizabeth Nelson, and a number of first grade parents. The message reads: *We wanted to write to express our gratitude to you for sharing your time, voices and artistic cards with us this holiday season. The residents were truly touched, as witnessed by the smiles and happy tears you manifested during your time here. Thank you for brightening the lives of everyone here during a time that can be sad and/or difficult. It means more than we can say. ~Medilodge of Rochester Hills.* Many thanks to Mrs. Nelson’s first grade class for their caring and thoughtful visit with the residents of Medilodge nursing home!



MEXICALI MISSION TRIP TRAINING HAS BEGUN! Excitement is building as our Mexicali student mission teams gathered to begin preparations for their upcoming Mexico mission trip that will occur over spring break. Please keep these amazing students and leaders in prayer, as well as the hearts of those they will go to serve in Jesus' name.

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, 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 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: *Jacob Keller – rank of Eagle Scout*

Guidance & Strength: *National Lutheran Schools Week*

Hope & Healing: *Tracy Ivkov (neighbor of Heidi Batt) – cancer treatment, Amanda Leonard (granddaughter of Marie Lucas) – hospitalized with pneumonia, Steve Kuhl – bone marrow transplant*

Bereavement: *Beve Sherouse – (mother of Janelle Wilson – all the Wilson family)*

LAST WEEK:

Thanksgiving: *Baptism of Teniola Efeturi Ajijo, daughter of Folarin and Helen*

Guidance & Strength: *International Friendship Workshop – Saturday, Upcoming Neighborhood meetings this week, Dope-to-Hope house nearing completion, Jason – financial struggles*

Hope & Healing: *Melodee Dunn – recovering from shoulder surgery, Del Mallinson – recovering from mini-stroke, Leanne Rios (daughter-in-law of Walt & Donna Brown), Officer David Hack – critical condition from auto accident, Arnie Viohl – Woodward Hills, Dan Wisniewski, Sr. - recovery from heart attack, Ron Doll – needing liver transplant, Anne Watch – cancer, Michelle DeGeer – stroke recovery, Sharon Deroin – auto accident, Lori Kulczycki – surgery*

Nation & World: *Families in California in wake of mudslides*

PRIOR WEEK:

Thanksgiving: *Snodgrass family – house fire – all are safe*

Guidance & Strength: *Claire – safe pregnancy*

Hope & Healing: *Ivy Schwartz – broken femur, Marjorie Dernier (sister of Mary Madson) – pneumonia, Ron Doll – needing liver transplant, Anne Watch – cancer, Michelle DeGeer – stroke recovery, Ruth Schlecht – recovering from fall, 2y old Jacob Bolitho, Zanna – successful treatment, Lori Sorensen (friend of Krystoff’s) - hospitalized*

Bereavement: *Eileen Hammett (mother of Matthew), John Zimmerman’s mother, Denise Hunt (aunt of Jeff Kadzielewski), Donna Faucht, Karl Kuck (father of Karen Motzny)*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

OFFICE HOURS	FACILITY HOURS
Monday – Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM	Monday – Friday: 7:00 AM – 10:00 PM
	Saturday: 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
*The facility may be closed on Saturdays when no daytime events are scheduled.	

Sunday

9:30 AM
9:30 AM
9:30 AM
3:00 PM
6:00 PM

National Lutheran Schools Week Begins

Adult Bible Study (Book of Romans) – Concordia Hall
Confirmation Class – School Music Room
Sunday School – School Classrooms
Mexicali Mission Trip Meeting – Youth Room
High School Youth Night – Youth Room

Monday

7:00 AM
8:50 AM
1:30 PM
7:00 PM

Men’s Small Group (McCallum) – Church Library
LSW (Lutheran Schools Week) Short Chapel – Church Sanctuary
LifeLight – Mary Martha Room
The ONE New Member Class – Luther Hall

Tuesday

8:50 AM
9:00 AM
11:30 AM
1:00 PM
6:30 PM
7:00 PM
7:00 PM
7:00 PM

LSW Short Chapel – Church Sanctuary
Bible Basics Class – Church Library
International Bible Study – Room 128
ESL Class – Concordia Hall
Young Adult Bible Study – Atrium
Women’s Bible Study (Mercy Triumphs) – Church Library
LifeLight – Mary Martha Room
Caregiver Care – Concordia Hall

Wednesday

8:50 AM
9:00 AM
9:30 AM
1:00 PM

LSW Short Chapel – Church Sanctuary
LifeLight – Concordia Hall
Special Needs Support Group – Youth Room
Women’s Bible Study (Discerning the Voice of God) – Concordia Hall

Thursday

8:50 AM	LSW Short Chapel – Church Sanctuary
9:00 AM	MOPS – Luther Hall
10:00 AM	Men’s Small Group (Fedototszkin) – Church Library
4:30 PM	Skit & Drama Ministry for Kids – Luther Hall
8:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous – Concordia Hall

Friday

8:00 AM	LCEF Savings Stamp Sales – Atrium
8:45 AM	LSW Short Chapel – Church Sanctuary
9:00 AM	ESL Class – Concordia Hall

Saturday

8:00 AM	Bibles & Basketball – Gymnasium
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 @ 10:45 AM

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