

A stylized, vibrant orange and yellow flame graphic with black outlines, set against a dark blue background with radiating lines. The word "pentecost" is written in a white, cursive script across the middle of the flame.

pentecost

May 19-20, 2018



THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS...REACHING MANY!

Week of May 20, 2018

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



CELEBRATE PENTECOST WEEKEND!

Jesus promised it and the day came just as He said it would. Just when the future for the early followers of Jesus seemed stalled, the Holy Spirit arrived just in time and ignited the early believers with power to miraculously give witness to what they had seen and heard! On that amazing day, thousands were moved to faith in Jesus, giving birth to the early church into all the world, and nothing has been

the same since! We join together in worship this weekend as that same Holy Spirit comes among us to do what only God can do to transform our lives for witness to our world through what we have seen and heard.



HOLY BAPTISM – TODAY during the 10:45 AM Modern Praise worship service, we celebrate the baptism of Carter Erwin Venglar, son of Brian & Ashley. May God richly bless Carter and his family!

ALTAR FLOWERS are placed in thanksgiving to God for Joan Sebastian's 90th birthday on May 20.

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 May 12-13.....1076

BIBLICAL DISCOVERY



GET INTO THE WORD THIS SPRING – This Spring brings 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 is truly something for everyone, no matter your age, life circumstances or schedule! Take a big step as a family in your faith walk with Jesus! To learn more, be sure to pick up the spring GET INTO

THE WORD brochure. In it you will find the listing of Bible Class selections for Sundays, as well as Sunday School and those classes held during the week. Brochures are available in easel racks in the Atrium and just outside the Sanctuary, as well as on our St. John website.



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!

IMPORTANT ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING - Please make TODAY **Sunday, May 20** a priority in your schedule as we come together as the St. John family to give thanks for the many ways the Lord has been blessing us. Following morning worship, a very important **Congregation Meeting will take place at 12:30 PM.** At such an important time in our St. John history, we will highlight how God has been leading us over the past year, share a vision challenge for what lies ahead, and seek to be an answer to Jesus' prayer as a ministry family. At that meeting three key agenda items will be presented and voted on: 1) **2018-2019 Annual Ministry Budget**, 2) **Annual Election of Elders, Foundation Governors and Vestry members**, 3) **ONE Legacy Future Direction**, including the approval of construction and/or renovation of facilities which requires the borrowing of funds (per St. John By-Laws Article II). Following are the candidates for the respective elected offices.

ELDERS: Paul Charen*, Tom Chmiel, Tim Dameron, Bob Danielson*, Jeff Kadzielewski, Dave Schulz, Larry Wroza

FOUNDATION: Matt Hiler, Nick Oleskie

VESTRY: Jennifer DuBois, Arlan Hughes, Myron Lick, Scott Mattox, Ron Rader, Mark Rafdal, Dave Scharrer*

**incumbent*

CAREGIVER CARE SUPPORT GROUP will meet this Tuesday, May 22 in Concordia Hall on the lower level. 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. 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 are held the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM in Concordia Hall. You do not need to sign up for this support group. Just come and join us any time! For more information, please contact Laura Tom, RN, Faith Community Nurse at 586-201-9162 or laurajtom@gmail.com.



MICHAEL HANSEN ORDINATION UPDATE – As previously shared, upon completing his seminary training this spring, Michael Hansen (son of our congregation) received a Divine Call to serve as Associate Pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School in Walled Lake/Wixom, MI. Please continue to keep Michael in your prayers as he prepares to begin his pastoral ministry at St. Matthew soon. Also, mark your calendar for **Sunday, July 1 at 3:00 PM** and plan to attend his ordination celebration here at St. John, followed by an appetizer reception! If you are interested in helping plan the reception, please contact

Lynette Novack in the Pastoral Office at lnovack@stjohnrochester.org or 248-402-8020.

STEPHEN MINISTERS NEEDED - Please join us in Luther Hall between services TODAY to learn more about Stephen Ministry. Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips lay people to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to individuals in our congregation and community who are experiencing a difficulty in their lives such as loss of a loved one, hospitalization, marital separation or divorce, loneliness or discouragement, chronic illness, aging and many more. The Pastors will always be on the front lines of care, especially during times of crisis, but there are always more needs for ongoing, one-to-one care than our Pastors can effectively meet by themselves. Our Stephen Ministers receive 50 hours of training in providing emotional and spiritual care. They have gifts of caregiving and are simply a caring Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports and encourages. As the needs of our congregation grow, we also need to grow our Stephen Ministry. If you are a good listener and a compassionate person looking to help others, please prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister. There will be an informational meeting on Monday, May 21 at 7:00 PM in the Mary Martha Room for those interested in becoming a Stephen Minister. Please contact our Stephen Leaders Lori Horton, Sandi Brandenburg and Tom Rowe for more information at sjstephenministry@gmail.com. "...and the God of all comfort, who comfort us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." 2Corinthians 1:4



WALK, RUN OR BIKE WITH THE ST. JOHN RUNNERS GROUP

This group is for all new and accomplished runners and bikers looking for fellowship, fitness and fun. Lace up your running shoes or grab your bike and join us every Saturday at 7:30 AM. We meet and start with prayer at Rochester Park off Ludlow St. before heading to the Paint Creek Trail. Hope to see you there! Please contact Julie Schmidt at 586-864-4768 or salye1ja@gmail.com or Nicole Buday at 248-520-3383 or quadlevel@gmail.com if you have any questions.



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Today is the final day of Sunday School for this year. We would like to thank our wonderful teachers who give so much of themselves for the students. They truly have a heart for Jesus and the children, which is evident as they teach about the Bible and God's unfailing love. **Thank you: Jayne and Corey Martyniuk, Ruth Finch, Lisa Miller, Mary McColeman, Joy Craig, Ashley and Jason Robert, Sara VanWagoner, Yolanda Udell and Heidi Quitmeyer.** We look forward to seeing you next year! May God bless your summer.

If you too have a heart for Jesus and love children, please consider becoming a part of Sunday School. We would be happy to have you! If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Dawne Gazal (dmherzog@msn.com) or Steve Wilson (swilson@stjohnrochester.org)

ST. JOHN DAY SCHOOL NEWS:

Wigs 4 Kids: More than 50 students, parents and friends participated in the Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids Cut-A-Thon at St. John this past Monday, May 14. Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan helps make possible free wigs and related support services for children who have lost their hair due to medical situations. Thank you to the many stylists who donated their time, to the participants and those who made financial donations, and a special thanks to Mrs. Elizabeth Leinberger, Middle School teacher, and Ms. Jung, 5th grade teacher, for bringing this program to St. John. We are thankful for this opportunity to help others!



The St. John Eagle Summit was held this past Wednesday. Mr. Pehlke shared information about school governance, an overview of the standardized testing results, updates on the school Strategic Plan, detailed feedback on the recent NLSA Accreditation process, and more. For a copy of the information, contact the Main Office. Other questions may be directed to Mr. Pehlke, tpehlke@stjohnrochester.org.

Save the Date! We invite you to attend the Spring Concert on Thursday, May 31 at 7:00 PM, featuring performances by Beginner Band, Advanced Band, Choraliers, and Handbells, as we share the musical talents of our students in the final concert of the school year.

Selecting a school is a big decision! St. John offers Preschool to 8th grade on our campus, including half and full day Kindergarten options. Students learn daily about their Savior Jesus, receive outstanding academics, have the opportunity to participate in a variety of extra-curricular activities, and are able to enjoy many programs and services such as free bus transportation and a daily in-house lunch program. Most preschool sessions are full, with afternoon availability only, and limited Kindergarten spaces remain. For a tour, enrollment information, or to learn more about how St. John Lutheran School might be the right school for your child, contact Beth Dameron, Director of School Admissions at bdameron@stjohnrochester.org 248-402-8012.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING SOON! Mark your calendar for June 18-22, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM as *Shipwrecked; Rescued by Jesus* comes to St. John! Students age 4 through those entering 6th grade are welcome to join us. Kids will discover that Jesus rescues them when life gets stormy. *Shipwrecked* is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste!

Scency-Fun Gizmos, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life - something we call God Sightings. Come one, come all to an amazing week of VBS! T-shirts for the kids will be available for \$10 each during the week of VBS. To register for VBS, visit our St. John website and look for the colorful VBS rotator on the homepage!

SPRINGHILL DAY CAMP is returning to St. John on July 9-13! Day camp is five full days of summer fun for children entering grades 1-6 in the fall. Camp includes small group Bible teaching, high-energy large group sessions, and high-adventure activities including archery, bungee trampoline, camp songs, climbing wall, crafts, and so much more – all right here at St. John! For more information and to register, check out the SpringHill website at www.springhilldaycamp.com.



CAMP CONCORDIA - If you are looking for a great camp experience this summer for your kids, please consider a great resident camp opportunity for kids in 1st-8th grade. This Lutheran summer camp is an awesome outdoor camp for kids. Mr. Steve Wilson will be helping Camp Concordia the week of June 24-29 for 3rd-6th graders. If you send your child that week, make sure they say hi to Steve! Visit www.campconcordia.org for more information or to register your child for camp.

LIGHTHOUSE – All 6th-8th graders are invited to join us for Lighthouse, our weekly Middle School Youth Ministry time. We meet in the gym each week for games and activities and then go to Room 101 for Bible Study. For more information, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family Ministry, at swilson@stjohnrochester.org.



SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS AT LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHWEST! Do you have a 4th-8th grader who enjoys sports? Lutheran High Northwest is hosting a number of summer sports camps this year! Girls & Boys Basketball Camps will be June 11-14, Soccer Camp will be June 25-28, and Football and Volleyball Camps are on July 9-12. Register now at www.lhnw.lhsa.com.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH – TODAY we are serving up burgers, brats, hot dogs and Greek salads! We will start selling at 11:30 AM and continue until the Congregation Meeting begins at 12:30 PM. Greek salad, pita, water for \$5.00 OR burger/brat/hot dog, chips, water for \$5.00. Please have lunch with us! All proceeds will go toward our mission trips this summer.

Sunday, June 3 will be Shaving Cream Whiffleball and Ice Cream Night together with our Middle School Ministry. You will not want to miss this! Don't wear your best clothes. It gets messy!

High School Youth! We need you to help with VBS! Please sign up to help the week of June 18-22. For more information, contact Melissa Hammett, Director of High School Youth Ministry, at mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY



CAMPUS MASTER SITE PLAN RENOVATION AND EXPANSION PROJECT UPDATE | CONGREGATION MEETING NEXT WEEK! With the Rochester City Planning Commission preliminary approval behind us we are continuing to make progress with this important project for our future as a church and school. This approval gave us the go-ahead we needed to get back to work with interior architectural design that will better inform the financial feasibility study

of the project in prayerful preparation for our **congregational decision set for TODAY, Sunday, May 20 at 12:30 PM** (see related article in Shared Life section). To help us together gain discernment for this important meeting, two congregation forums were held two weeks ago. Many thanks to all who attended and gave their important feedback! This past week, a brand new FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) email was sent out, based largely on feedback received at the forums, to help prepare for the Congregation Meeting TODAY.

While it is nothing short of amazing to realize the response to God's faithfulness as so far we have received **pledges totaling over \$3,456,000** toward the *ONE Legacy* initiative, we are still prayerfully hopeful the Lord may continue to provide further pledges. Keep in mind this project isn't just about our local campus and ministry. True to our missional focus as a church and school, we have committed to **passing along a 10% tithe of these pledged resources** to further God's kingdom through our local, national and global mission partners as well! To learn more about making a pledge to the *ONE Legacy* initiative, please visit www.stjohnrochester.org/one-legacy-pledges or stop by the *One Legacy* display in the Atrium.

Let's keep praying that all future decisions we make together will be truly according to the Lord's will in these amazing days! If you haven't yet seen the most recent rendering of the Campus Master Site Plan, visit www.stjohnrochester.org/one-legacy or stop by the *One Legacy* display in the Atrium.



JOIN US FOR LUNCH TODAY (SUNDAY)! Join the High School Youth who will be grilling burgers and hot dogs for lunch TODAY. Beginning at 11:30 AM, they will be serving a burger, brat or hot dog meal (burger/brat/hot dog, chips, water) or a Greek salad meal (salad, pita, water) for only \$5.00! All proceeds

will support upcoming Youth trips this summer. This is a great opportunity for those attending the Congregation Meeting at 12:30 PM today to grab a tasty lunch beforehand right here at St. John. Bring your appetite and help support our Youth. See you there!

CAN DIAPERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN JESUS' NAME?! When it comes to helping local moms and babies in need, the answer is a huge yes! Please join your St. John family in making a huge difference by bringing in packages of diapers over the next several weeks (up until Father's Day weekend) as we create a mountain of diapers in the church and school Atrium! Diapers of all sizes are appreciated! This annual diaper shower will directly benefit our awesome mission partner, Crossroads Care Center in Auburn Hills. For more information, please contact Dale Griffith at 248-894-8423.



GOLF "FORE" LIFE – Start forming your foursome and join in the Crossroads Care Center's annual Golf "Fore" Life outing on Monday, June 4 at Oakland University. If you're not a golfer, there are still great opportunities for you to get involved. For detailed information on this event, visit www.crossroadscarecenter.org. Crossroads Care Center (a primary mission partner of St. John) seeks to promote the sanctity of human life while providing care and resources for women and their unborn children in the Rochester area.

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 May 12-13.....\$58,328.18
Special Contributions for May 12-13.....\$145.00

As of 5/13/18 Y.T.D. Budgeted Offerings:	\$ 1,940,003.26
As of 5/13/18 Y.T.D. Actual Offerings:	<u>\$ 1,981,742.72</u>
As of 5/13/18 Y.T.D. Variance to Budget:	\$ 41,739.46
As of 5/13/18 Y.T.D. Special Contributions:	\$70,054
(St. John’s fiscal year is 7/1/17 through 6/30/18.)	

ONE LEGACY INITIATIVE

As of 5/16/18 Y.T.D. Amount pledged.....	\$3,455,994.79
As of 5/16/18 Y.T.D. Amount received.....	\$817,640.96

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VBS JUNE 18-22 - VBS is coming quickly! We need volunteers to help serve as crew leaders, snack helpers, and Imagination Station helpers. We need people all week but if you can make it 2 days or more we can really use your help. This year we are planning to have 400+ students and we need help to keep them safe and share the love of Jesus. Almost 50% of these students probably

don’t have a church home, and this is a great opportunity to reach many with the love of Christ. Sign up today to volunteer for VBS at www.stjohnrochester.org/VBS.

SPRINGHILL DAY CAMP – MAKE A DIFFERENCE! We are in need of helpers for Spring Hill Day Camp. We host camp here at St. John July 9-13. We need host homes, CIT’s (Counselors in Training) and food helpers. Host homes provide a bed for the counselors for the week and breakfast each morning. It is a great opportunity to serve the counselors for the week. Counselors in Training are people in Grades 9-12 who want to help the counselors for the week. They play games with kids, and serve alongside SpringHill staff. Lastly, food helpers help prepare meals for our camp staff for the week. If you have the gift of service and are available during the day for these positions, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family Ministry, at swilson@stjohnrochester.org.



SPECIAL NEEDS BUDDY MINISTRY: We are in need of some more helpers for the summer months. This is an amazing opportunity to help out families in need of a break in order to worship. We provide buddies for special needs children so their parents are able to worship. If you might be interested in helping, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family Ministry, at swilson@stjohnrochester.org.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE! On Sunday mornings we have many little ones in need of care in our church nursery while their parents are in worship. Our current ministry team is in need of some more helpers. If you might have availability on Sunday mornings to help watch our precious little children, please contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family ministry, at 248-402-8006.

VOLUNTEER WITH NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE (a primary mission partner of St. John), where they welcome and need your assistance. Volunteers share their time and talents on a regular basis at the Clothes Closet, Food Pantry, and at their Main Office. They also have opportunities for volunteers to help with special projects and events from home or from one of their locations. Their volunteer program is very organized and offers volunteers maximum flexibility. To learn more about volunteering, contact Neighborhood House at volunteer@ranh.org or 248-651-5836.

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: Don & Jean Susewitt 60th wedding anniversary, Baptism of Carter Erwin Venglar, son of Brian & Ashley, Joan Sebastian's 90th birthday

Guidance & Strength: Congregation Meeting

Hope & Healing: Becky Mancier – continued recovery from cancer surgery, Linda Madson, Kenneth Brown – thanksgiving for continued healing, Marilyn Miller, Russ Schmidt, Hailey Noonan

LAST WEEK:

Thanksgiving: Baptism of Giuliana Rose Saputo, daughter of William & Krystin, Birth of Ezra James Mandrick (grandson of John & Loraine Boyer), Bob & Ann Danielson – minor injuries in a major car crash

Guidance & Strength: Bill Hammond

Hope & Healing: Terri Turner – knee surgery, Fred Meinberg, Fran Schuessler – recovering at home, Two Marines injured in friendly fire – comrades of Jon Taykowski (Jake's brother)

Bereavement: (Family of...) Kim Hude (49y cousin of Ann Danielson), Robert Standfest Sr. (father of Bob)

PRIOR WEEK:

Thanksgiving: Charlotte Josephine Steudle - daughter of Chris & Jennifer, Marriage of Jessica Dornbush & Patrick McGee

Guidance & Strength: Upcoming Congregation Meeting

Hope & Healing: Robyn – heart issue, Karl Barton – successful shoulder surgery & upcoming back surgery, Marilyn Miller, Russ Schmidt, Hailey Noonan, Richard Robinson – flu & pneumonia, Elfrieda – 94y in much pain from arthritis, Addi Goff – 9y complications from brain surgery, Rod - COPD

Bereavement: (Family of...) Deborah Plivelich, Tom Werth (friend & neighbor of Steve Udell)

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

FACILITY HOURS THIS WEEK

Monday – Thursday: 7:00 AM-10:00 PM

Friday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Saturday: FACILITY CLOSED (except worship)

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

Sunday

9:30 AM

Adult Bible Study (Romans) – Concordia Hall

9:30 AM

Sunday School – School Classrooms

11:30 AM

Youth Sponsored Cookout – South Parking Lot

12:30 PM

Congregation Meeting – Church Sanctuary

6:00 PM

Lighthouse – Room 101

Monday

7:00 AM

Men's Small Group (McCallum) – Church Library

9:00 AM

Gleaners Quilting – Concordia Hall

7:00 PM

St. John Foundation Meeting – Church Library

7:00 PM

Stephen Ministry Information Night – Mary Martha Room

Tuesday

9:00 AM

Apples of Gold – Offsite

11:30 AM

International Bible Class – Room 128

1:00 PM

ESL Class – Concordia Hall

6:30 PM

Caregiver Care – Concordia Hall

7:00 PM

Women's Bible Study (Discerning the Voice of God) – Church Library

Wednesday

8:45 AM

School Chapel – Church Sanctuary

9:30 AM

Special Needs Support Group – Mary Martha Room

Thursday

8:00 PM

Alcoholics Anonymous – Concordia Hall

Friday

NO SCHOOL – FACILITY CLOSING AT 12:00 PM

9:00 AM

ESL Class – Concordia Hall

Saturday

FACILITY CLOSED EXCEPT FOR WORSHIP

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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