



REFORMATION

October 27-28, 2018



THE WEEKLY CONNECTION

ONE IN JESUS...REACHING MANY!

Week of October 28, 2018

WORSHIP CELEBRATION



This weekend we will be looking closely at the Gospel of John where Jesus challenged the people with the truth of His death and resurrection and His saving grace. As we celebrate the roots of the Protestant Reformation and Martin Luther, we will be challenged to avoid living a “So What” life and instead live a life that has been changed by the Gospel “So That” Jesus’ grace will be proclaimed to the nations.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY – We praise God for the 31 young people who will be confirmed at our 11:00 AM Traditional Praise service today. God’s richest blessings to all of them as they commit their way to Him and continue to share their witness in Jesus through His eternal love.

Ava Angel
Clare Buday
Carissa Crandall
Luke Dameron
Nathan Davidson
Ethan Dodson
Natalie Fett
Martin Goleski
Braden Grabaum
Jacob Griswold
Ella Hamilton

Carley Hedlund
Francisco Henriques
Alexandra Hering
Ethan Hernandez
Carly Jones
Sloane Kerska
Jack Meyers
Sydney Miller
Evan Norton
Alexandria Poosch
Lauren Prokes

Reagan Rutkowski
Aidan Sneddon
Jack Teelander
Hannah Thomas
Susanne Udell
Sophia Vecchi
Kaley Vitu
Stephen Warner
James Wilson

COMMUNION SHIFT THIS WEEKEND

Communion will take place in Sunday’s 11:00 AM Traditional Praise service this weekend as we celebrate the confirmation of our young people and at the 5:00 PM Saturday Modern Praise Worship service. There will NO communion at the 10:45 AM Modern Praise service this Sunday only.

ALL SAINTS WEEKEND NOVEMBER 3-4 – God’s Word is clear that anyone who is a child of God through faith in Jesus is in fact by definition “a saint” through the righteousness of Jesus. What an amazing thought! As saints we have the promise of eternal life in Christ even in the face of death. Next weekend, November 3-4, at all worship celebrations, we will remember saints who are dear to us and who have over the last year gone to be with Jesus, entering the church triumphant in heaven. As part of our worship time next weekend, those names will be read and a candle will be lit in their memory as we share prayers of thanks to the Lord for eternal life in Christ. If you have lost a loved one recently, next weekend will be a very special time to find hope and healing.

THE LESSONS AND CAROLS' FESTIVAL CHORUS IS FORMING. Anyone high school age and older is welcome to join this group which forms annually for our Lessons and Carols Service, scheduled this year on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 2:00 and 4:30 PM. No experience is required. Rehearsal dates and times will be:

- Sunday, Nov. 4 (12:30-2:00 PM)
- Sunday, Nov. 11 (12:30-2:00 PM)
- Saturday, Dec. 1 (3:30-5:00 PM)
- Saturday, Dec. 8 (9:30-11:30 AM)

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 October 20-21..... 931

BIBLICAL DISCOVERY

GET INTO THE WORD – The Fall and Early Winter Bible Study program for all ages is underway! Please be sure to take the current GET INTO THE WORD brochure home with you. In it you will find the listing of Bible Class selections for Sundays as well as those 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.



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!

FALL BACK – Daylight Savings Time ends next Sunday, November 4 at 2:00 AM. Don't forget to set your clock back one hour!

GRIEF SHARE - If you or someone you know is mourning the death of a loved one, please consider joining us at GriefShare. There you will be with others who understand and care. Through videos, workbooks and discussion we will journey together from "mourning to hope".

We meet on Saturday mornings from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM in the Church Library. The fall session is now underway and continues through January 12. You're welcome to join in any time. For more information, please contact Linda Baroli at 248-895-0310.



All articles submitted to *The Weekly Connection* will be subject to approval and editing by the staff. Articles may be sent via email to connection@stjohnrochester.org and must be received no later than Wednesday at noon the week of publication.

MEN'S BREAKFAST EVENT - 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! The next *Men of St. John* event will be a breakfast held this Saturday, November 3 from 9:00-11:00 AM. Our guest speaker will be Pastor Tyler Walworth, Associate Pastor of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Birmingham and also Pastor of Detroit Lutheran Church for the Deaf, who will share with us his experiences in ministry to the deaf and hearing impaired. A free-will offering will be taken to cover costs. Come check it out and bring a friend as everyone is welcome! To reserve your spot, visit the St. John website (look at the homepage rotating banners for the graphic shown here) or stop by the display table in Luther Hall between Sunday worship services TODAY. We hope to see you there!



OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans in Service) - Have you heard about the Grain Train? Come to the next OWLS luncheon on November 9 at noon in Concordia Hall to find out more about this charitable program. Pastor David Reed (son-in-law of Ruth Schlecht) will be the presenter. This will also be the annual Thanksgiving luncheon, so join us for turkey, gravy, potatoes and dressing! Please help provide the rest of the meal. If your last name begins with A-N, please provide a salad or veggies and if your last name begins with O-Z, please provide a dessert. Be sure to provide a serving utensil. Please RSVP to Diana Sell at 248-375-9293 by Wednesday, November 7. We look forward to seeing you there!

A PRAYER FOR THE HURTING - Compassionate Father, there are those among us whose hearts are heavy and who are facing their struggles alone. Yet you have called us, saying, “Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest”, and you have promised us “the peace of God which transcends all understanding.” Help those among us who are hurting recognize they need not struggle alone and that you created us to be in community to bear one another’s burdens. Give the silent sufferers among us the courage to seek the help they need, whether from a Pastor, Stephen Leader, Stephen Minister, friend, or someone else, so that we can make your promises real to them and bring comfort and Healing to their hearts. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.



If you or someone you know are hurting and would like a Stephen Minister to walk beside you, please contact Pastor Steve Grafe at 248-402-8020 or by email at Pastorsteve@stjohnrochester.org. If you would like more information about Stephen Ministry, please email our Stephen Leaders, Lori Horton, Catherine Lick and Tom Rowe at sjstephenministry@gmail.com. “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” Psalm 46:1 We are here to care for you.

GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY - We are now preparing our 2019 Guide Book & Directory for St. John Church. The booklet provides contact information for members of our church family – names, address, phone and email. It is mailed to each family at no cost and is subsidized by local businesses that advertise in it. **You can help in two ways:** First, if you own or manage a business and would like to **find out how you might advertise** in our book (due to be published in late December), please contact **Bev Koch** at 248-402-8056 or bkoch@stjohnrochester.org. Second, please ensure we have your most current information. You may refer to your 2018 Directory and **submit any changes or requests to omit information** to Lynette Novack at lnovack@stjohnrochester.org or 248-402-8020 **by October 29**. Thank you for your help!

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

TRUNK OR TREAT – Approximately 500 children and family members attended last Sunday's Trunk or Treat at St. John on a very chilly fall day. Many thanks to all who attended, donated, volunteered, or hosted a trunk to help make the event a successful outreach into the community!



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL



St. John Cross Country Girls' Team is National Champion! The St. John girl's cross country team was crowned 2018 National Champions at the National Cross Country Championships. The Meet was held last Saturday, October 20, at Concordia University in Mequon, WI. All 9 members of the girl's team, as well as 2 members from the boy's team, competed in Nationals against nearly 500 runners from around the country. This is the first National Championship for any athletic team at St. John Lutheran School. Although at the event the team was awarded Runner-Up, upon further review an error was detected, resulting in St. John as the

champion. The top five runners of the girls team were Madeleine Barge, Lily Myers, Abby Rice, Kendall Zaliwski, and Emma Burrell. In addition, several members of the team earned spots on the All-American Teams, including Madeleine Barge earning 2nd Team All-American honors (and 10th place overall in the meet!) and Abby Rice, Lily Myers and Henry Barge earning 3rd Team All-American honors. Many thanks to our amazing coaches, Mr. Todd Bauer and Mr. Paul Rice! A banner raising ceremony and celebration will be held soon. Congratulations and God's blessings to the whole team!

For more information about Preschool to 8th grade at St. John Lutheran School contact Beth Dameron, bdameron@stjohnrochester.org or 248-402-8012, or visit www.stjohnrochester.org/school.

LIGHTHOUSE MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY happens on most Sundays 6:00-8:00 PM for 6th-8th grade students and friends. Look online or check out our Facebook page for dates and times. For questions about Middle School ministry, contact Steve Wilson, Director of Child and Family Ministry, at 248-402-8006 or swilson@stjohnrochester.org.



YOU ARE INVITED TO BE A PART OF THE 2018 ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL DINNER AND AUCTION ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 at Cherry Creek Golf Club. Enjoy a night out with reception and hors d'oeuvres, family style delicious dinner, companionship of friends old and new, and the opportunity to bid on silent and live auction items such as classroom baskets, classroom projects, travel packages, and much more! This year all bidding will be done online allowing for you to set bidding limits,

monitor bids minute-by-minute, and pay online as well. This year's event will also feature Dueling Pianos International. **Time is running so act today to be a part of the event.**

- **BUY TICKETS:** Tickets are available for \$85 each or purchase a Teacher Ticket for \$75 so that our hard-working teachers may attend the event at no cost. Submit the seating request form to the Main Office (forms are available at the front desk).
- **DONATE AN ITEM FOR THE AUCTION:** Large-scale items such as vacation rentals, professional sports suites, and restaurant outings are welcome! In addition, smaller items such as gift cards to local restaurants are also welcome, to be combined into larger gift baskets or used for door prizes. Could you offer a behind the scenes tour at your unique business? Provide a custom spa and salon outing? Think outside the box!
- **BE A SPONSOR:** Sponsorship opportunities range from \$500 - \$5000.
- **ADVERTISE IN THE PROGRAM BOOK:** Program book Advertising opportunities range from \$25 - \$250. For more information, visit www.stjohnrochester.org/auction or contact the auction committee.
- **HELP WITH YOUR CLASSROOM BASKET:** Check with your homeroom teacher if you aren't sure who the basket coordinator is for your child's grade level.
- **VOLUNTEER TO HELP:** Volunteers are needed to help move auction items to the venue to help with event setup during the day on November 9.
- **PRAY** that the auction efforts will be successful and pleasing to the Lord.

To purchase tickets or for sponsor/advertiser/donor information, visit the **St. John website** and click on the Auction rotator at stjohnrochester.org/school or email the auction committee at auction@stjohnrochester.org. Proceeds from the auction will benefit the general school fund (50%), support special projects (35%), and support curriculum upgrades (15%). This year's special project will be classroom technology upgrades and the curriculum upgrade will be Physical Education and Art. Special Project funds from the 2016 auction were designated towards new playground equipment, which has been earmarked to be implemented with the new playground location planned for the 2019-2020 school year.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH – Thank you to our St. John family for supporting us in our efforts to help raise money for WORKCAMP 2019. Because you supported the burger and salad lunch we prepared for you, we were blessed with just shy of \$1,000! Incredible blessings! Thank you so much!

Tonight we will meet 6:00-8:00 PM. We will talk about what is happening in Mexico and finish watching our movie!

Mexicali 2019 planning is underway! The mission trip to Mexicali, Mexico will be March 29 to April 5. Make plans now to be a part of this mission week. An informational meeting will be held for parents and students next Sunday, November 4 at 5:00 PM in the Youth Room. Registration paperwork and the deposit will be due on December 9. A commissioning service and a final training meeting will be held on March 17 at noon. Additional dates will be provided with registration.

Sunday, November 11 will be the next Pancake Breakfast and also the first of four parent/student nights. Thank you to for Dr. Jamie Jones who will be giving a presentation on "Preventing Suicide - How to Recognize the Silent Cry for Help". This is a precious gift to parents and also students who could take what they learn and use it with their friends. It could help save a life. Mark your calendar!

For more information, please contact Director of High School Youth Ministry Melissa Hammett at 248-402-8008 or mhammett@stjohnrochester.org.

LUTHERAN NORTHWEST TO PRESENT “LITTLE WOMEN”: Thespian Troupe 4216 of Lutheran Northwest is presenting Louisa May Alcott’s “Little Women” to open its 2018-19 season! This classic tale of family love and devotion will be performed Friday and Saturday, November 2 & 3, at 7:00 PM and Sunday, November 4, at 2:00 PM. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$7 for students and seniors. Bring a canned food item and receive \$2 off the price of one admission while supporting the Troupe’s TOTS EAT food drive campaign! Don’t miss this heart-warming performance! Lutheran Northwest is located at 1000 Bagley in Rochester Hills. Learn more about Lutheran Northwest by visiting www.LutheranNorthwest.com.

SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

MITE BOXES – Don’t forget your Mite Boxes next week, the 1st Sunday of the month!

ONE LEGACY GROUNDBREAKING CELEBRATION!

Just as others were prayerfully moved by the Lord to make bold steps in years past that have made St. John Lutheran Church & School what it is today, St. John took yet another important step by breaking ground on October 6 to celebrate all that is ahead through the *ONE Legacy* initiative campus renovation and expansion project that will impact current and future generations.



While actual construction is still some months away, this groundbreaking celebration was a very special time to give thanks to our Lord for His ongoing faithfulness!



And of course, as we had shared through *The Church Has Left The Building* worship series, the groundbreaking celebration concluded with a sending prayer as over 300 hundred people of all ages from our St. John family went out into our community to compassionately serve with the eternal love Jesus! Despite the rain it was an amazing day! To view a video highlighting this memorable day in the life of our St. John family, visit our website homepage and click on The Church Has Left the Building Highlights rotator.

THOSE AFFECTED BY HURRICANE MICHAEL need our help! The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) World Relief and Human Care is working with the recovery efforts needed after this devastating Category 4 storm made landfall in Florida on October 10. You may learn about opportunities to help financially with their efforts by visiting their website, lcms.org. Please continue to pray for all those affected.

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 October 20-21.....\$33,471.85
 Special Contributions for October 20-21.....\$360.00

As of 10/21/18 Y.T.D. Budgeted Offerings:	\$ 670,429.70
As of 10/21/18 Y.T.D. Actual Offerings:	\$ 662,418.80
As of 10/21/18 Y.T.D. Variance to Budget:	\$ (8,010.90)

As of 10/21/18 Y.T.D. Special Contributions: \$5,336
 (St. John’s fiscal year is 7/1/18 through 6/30/19.)

ONE LEGACY INITIATIVE

As of 10/23/18 Amount pledged.....	\$3,455,994.79
As of 10/23/18 Amount received.....	\$1,087,231.57

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

HAVE YOU DISCOVERED YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS? Be sure to take a few minutes to utilize the *Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts* survey on our St. John website. Click on the Serve dropdown. Find out how God has uniquely gifted YOU with skills and talents that enable you to be a special blessing to others, as you use these gifts to His glory! Coming soon to the Serve section of our website will be a brand new updated listing of many opportunities to serve both on and off campus!





WHAT AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE as hundreds of people of all ages and abilities went out to serve those in need on October 6 with compassion in Jesus' name! Working with our area mission partners, we secured over fifteen different sites in Rochester, Pontiac and Detroit where teams from our St. John family were able to serve with the love of Jesus. Many many thanks to our new Director of Mission Mobilization Pastor Jon Trinklein, and to our new Mission & Ministry Coordinator Jennie Eller for their incredible efforts in organizing and leading this massive Serve Event. We also thank our excellent team of site leaders and all who stepped up to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus! Be sure to check out the highlight video on our website homepage. Click on The Church Has Left the Building Highlights rotator.

A DRIVING NEED – Hundreds of older and disabled neighbors in our community need help getting to doctor appointments, the grocery store, or other essential errands. Being able to get food and medical care can make it possible for them to remain in their own homes for as long as possible. The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program is in need of volunteers who can provide transportation in the local area. We especially need drivers who are available during daytime business hours – mornings and afternoons. If you have just a couple hours a month that you can give to someone in need, you can make a huge difference in the life of a struggling neighbor. You tell us what days, times and areas are convenient for you, and we call you with specific appointments that meet these criteria. If you are free, say yes. If you're not, simply decline and we will call you another time. Even one more ride a year will make a big difference to the person who needs it! Please call the IVC office today at 586-757-5551. You can learn more about their work at www.ivcinfo.org.

RELATIONAL WITNESS



SOUTH AFRICA MISSION TRIP UPDATE - Many thanks to all of you who shared your prayerful support and encouragement for Pastor Marc and our congregation Vestry chairman, Dave Halvorson as they traveled to spend time building relationships with our new mission partners in South Africa. They were struck by the pure joy of our Christian brothers and sisters in the face of many hardships and Spirit-motivated passion to share Jesus with their neighbors, community and world. It is a country of great contrasts between those who have and those who have not. While the lasting effects of apartheid and racial discrimination continue to be sorted out through local and national government, the reconciling power of forgiveness through the gospel of Jesus and His Church is truly winning the day.

While in Middelburg they toured the church and school (preschool-11th grade) campus where a \$20,000 portion of our ONE Legacy mission tithe funding will assist with the installation of solar energy panels for the future. Beyond time spent encouraging local leaders and pastors at various mission sites and the local seminary, Pastor Marc also had an opportunity to preach in worship at a very special celebration of Pastor Mandla Khumalo's ministry where he shared official greetings from our Michigan District and presented a handmade card of congratulations from our St. John students. Overall it was an amazing trip that has further served to develop and strengthen this important mission partnership!



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: *Girls Cross Country team earning National Championship, Marriage of Jeff Chmiel and Courtney Emery, Joe Goodall's 50th birthday, safe return of Pastor Marc and Dave Halvorson from Africa*

Guidance & Strength: *Our youth as they are confirmed, Upcoming Men's Breakfast, One Legacy ongoing plans and schedules*

Hope & Healing: *Melody Manzon – struggling with mental health issues, Shelley Davidson- Cancer, Gail Whitney – hip replacement, Dolores Rigg – recovering from a fall, Sherry Fedototszkin - hospitalized...Continued healing for: Jerry Bantin, Erv Bauer, Vic Ulrich, Steve Krystoff, Russ Schmidt, Jim Boldt, Sharon Hudson, Al Lucas, Hailey Noonan, Sarah Leinberger, Linda Madson, Judy Evans, Marilyn Miller and Raymond Pauli*

LAST WEEK:

Thanksgiving: *Wedding of Elizabeth Moss and Jeffery Malinowski, Thomas family on the birth of their daughter Charlotte, Wallace Bradley (grandson of Judy) – won state finals in tennis: young man was born with a hole in his heart so this is a great accomplishment*

Guidance & Strength: *Caryn Finch & Marc Finch on a mission trip in the Dominican Republic, Pastor Marc & Dave Halvorson as they travel to South Africa – for safety and success with our partnership at St. Peter's Middelburg & COFA (Christian Outreach for Africa)*

Hope & Healing: *Kris Majkowski recovery from surgery, Jacob – dealing with depression, Patricia Gonser – recovering from knee surgery, Lucy Grafe – recovering from knee surgery, Kathy Dork, Greg - cancer*

PRIOR WEEK:

Thanksgiving: *Baptism of Mazie Elizabeth Mann, daughter of Jason & Laura (Heinrich)*

Guidance & Strength: *Robert & Tom for salvation and deliverance*

Hope & Healing: *Kristyn Recchia & family as she struggles with MS, Shelley Davidson – diagnosed with cancer, Ron Doll - successful surgery*

Bereavement: – “For the family of:” *Carolyn Wenrich, Brienne Hart*

Nation & World: *Those in the wake of hurricane Michael - for rescue teams and first responders – especially for the work of Lutheran World Relief*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

FACILITY HOURS THIS WEEK

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM – 9:00 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

Sunday School – School Classrooms

9:30 AM

Adult Bible Study – Concordia Hall

6:00 PM

High School Youth Night – Youth Room

Monday

9:00 AM

Gleaners Quilting – Concordia Hall

9:00 AM

Lutheran Northwest Crusader Day for grades 7-8 - LHNW

1:30 PM

LifeLight (Jeremiah/Lamentations) – Mary Martha Room

7:00 PM

The ONE Class – Luther Hall

Tuesday

11:30 AM

International Bible Class – Room 128

1:00 PM

ESL Class – Concordia Hall

6:30 PM

Casual College – Atrium

7:00 PM

Women's Bible Study (Experiencing God) – Church Library

7:00 PM

LifeLight (Jeremiah/Lamentations) – Mary Martha Room

Wednesday

8:45 AM

School Chapel – Church Sanctuary

9:15 AM

LifeLight (Jeremiah/Lamentations) – Concordia Hall

1:00 PM

Women's Bible Study (The Shepherd With Me) – Concordia Hall

Thursday

10:00 AM

Men's Small Group (Fedototszkin) – Church Library

4:30 PM

Skit & Drama Ministry for Kids – Luther Hall

6:00 PM

Jubilate Bell Choir Rehearsal – Choir Rehearsal Room

7:15 PM

Mixed 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

8:00 PM

Middle School Lock-in - Gymnasium

Saturday

8:00 AM

Bibles & Basketball – Gymnasium

9:00 AM

Men of St. John Breakfast – Concordia Hall

10:00 AM

GriefShare – Church Library

3:00 PM

Saturday Afternoon Bible Class – Luther Hall

5:00 PM

Modern Praise – 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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