ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2026

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Each Sunday

- 8:00am Divine Service (live streamed)
- 9:30am Adult Bible Study
- 10:30am Divine Service

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- October Birthdays
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REMINDERS

Please notify the secretary of any **changes in personal information**, including address, phone number, email, etc.

If you are **unable to serve** on your scheduled day, it is your responsibility to find someone to serve in your place.

A LETTER FROM PASTOR MATTHEW MOSS

Dear St. John's members,

After last month's long newsletter introduction to the Book of Revelation, I thought I had better keep this one short. This month we at St. John's are honored to host the Minnesota South District Pastors' Conference. On Monday, October 19 over 100 pastors will descend on Corcoran to use our wonderful facility for study, refreshment, and building one another up.

For a long time these pastors' conferences were held in pricey event centers, maybe using a church for the Divine Service. Recently the district has brought them back to congregations to host the whole thing, and we have all appreciated that. I am so proud of what you dear Saints have built for us here that I could not help but offer us up as a site, and they accepted. Now we have some work to do to help pull it off!

The District does own the conference (and charges registration for us pastors), so there is a lot that they do and provide and pay for. Some of it does also come to us for hosting and hospitality. We have a few team-leaders lined up for various areas, but we will need many helping hands from October 19th (starting at 8:00 AM) to October 20th (ending by noon).

We will be responsible for our building, parking lot, cafeteria, bathrooms, and worship in the Sanctuary. We will need some parking lot attendants to help direct these visitors where to go. We will need people around our building (ambassadors) who help them find the bathroom or their way around. We will need some extra custodial help, as we've been told that the trash bins fill up faster than one would think!

The worship service opportunities will be especially beneficial to all. District President Woodford will preach on Monday evening at a Divine Service (5:00 PM) which will otherwise feature or normal, beautiful liturgy, hymns, and choir. This is a chance for us to host a service for the spiritual nourishment and edification of all the pastors of our district. You are welcome to attend and will be moved by what our excellent acoustics can sound like with over one hundred pastors belting out the hymns and liturgy. The Tuesday morning Matins service (8:00 AM) will also be open to the congregation and I will be preaching for the brother-pastors.

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School will start late that Tuesday (and have an extra day off on Monday) to make room for all the comings and goings. We hope it all goes well and if it does we may look to make something like a smaller conference a regular feature of our worship life and service to the district and region. When we have been so richly blessed by God (and we have), it is important to share that with our fellow congregations, pastors, musicians, and all who serve in other venues.

Please consider how you might help us make this an amazing conference for the pastors of our district. Look for our sign-up board in the narthex or get in touch with one of your pastors.

In Christ,

Pastor Moss

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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 1
- Jason Christopher

October 2
- Katie Borcherding

October 3
- Heaven Knutson
- Paul Dickman

October 4
- Joshua Glock
- Nichole Schilling
- Tessa Birznieks

October 5
- Andrew Dickman
- Louis Gaffaney

October 6
- Orin Skramstad
- Ricky Haver
- Riley Gehl
- Steve Kruse

October 7
- Sandra Scott

October 8
- Sadie Say
- Wallace Koehler

October 9
- Kristi Bode

October 10
- Caden Sandliuzza
- Joseph Ims

October 11
- Bradley Kruse
- Jeremy Johnson

October 12
- Darius Uditsky

October 13
- Evan Lane
- Rolf Preus

October 14
- Jacob Hindermann
- Logan Peterson

October 15
- Lois Foggia

October 16
- Andrew Hoitink
- Craig Schutte
- Samuel Lane

October 17
- Linda Kalk
- Mackenzie Basham

October 18
- David Kiesow
- Luke Kolstad
- Lynn Schutte
- Tom Gardner

October 19
- Jackson Lane

October 20

October 21
- Henry Rather
- Kim Pomerenke

October 22
- Jim Peterson
- Mara Schmidt
- Oliver Borcherding

October 23
- Cory O'Hern
- Gabriel Hindermann

October 24

October 25
- Kari Preus
- Miles Halvorson
- Milo Schumann

October 26
- Grace Windsperger

October 27
- Aaron Rossow
- Johanna Uditsky
- Weston Holovnia

October 28

October 29
- Cameron Spaulding
- Joseph Sweeney
- Kelly Canavatti

October 30
- Gail Lieske
- Marshall Anderson

October 31
- Conrad Koehler
- Karen Nelson

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OCTOBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. JOHN'S WILL NO LONGER be renting or providing school/church property (such as tables, chairs, etc.) for outside use.

CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY – WE'D LOVE TO GET EVERYONE'S PHOTO!! Mark your calendars to prepare for our upcoming Church Photo Directory picture days! The photographer will be back **October 6-10** (Tuesday through Saturday). Time slots are available from 2:00 pm to 8:40 pm weekdays and 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Saturday. Scan the QR code to schedule your appointment with Universal (Username: mn659 Password: mnmembers659).

THANK YOU TO THE 32 FAMILIES who have returned their pledge cards. There is still time to return yours. Please place them in the white box in the narthex or return them to the front office. If you have not received one in the mail and would like to contribute, there are extra cards and envelopes on the table in the narthex.

ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN ST. JOHN'S EXPANSION! With the purchase of the Shannon Lane property, we are forming a Property Development committee and need your expertise. All communing members are welcome. Construction, real estate, long-term planning, and project management experience helpful, but all backgrounds are needed to fully represent our congregation. Help shape our future! If interested, email Ron Tarvin.

SENIOR MINISTRY ENRICHMENT EVENT We're looking forward to our next Enrichment Event - the Osceola Fall Colors Train Ride on October 10th at 1:30! A few tickets still remain, so if you're interested in joining, please email STJLSenior@stjlutheran.org. All ages are welcome!

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE IS DELIGHTED TO INVITE YOU TO THE ST. JOHN'S 2026 FALL FESTIVAL. Come celebrate the beauty of the autumn season, the joy of Christian fellowship, and the warmth of community with friends, family, and neighbors. Enjoy delicious fall favorites, seasonal activities for all ages, and the opportunity to gather as a church family while celebrating God's blessings.

- **Date: Sunday, October 11, 2026**
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (immediately following the second Divine Service)
- **Location:** St. John's Church Grounds (outdoors, weather permitting; indoors in case of rain)

Please RSVP so we can ensure there is plenty of food and supplies for everyone attending. We look forward to celebrating this special fall tradition with you!

FALL FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS WANTED! If you'd like to lend a hand with set-up, games, or the food tables, your help is greatly appreciated. Reach out to Lori Kiesow or Jamie Peterson.

GATHER, CELEBRATE, & GIVE BACK AT THE ST. JOHN'S GALA! Join us for an evening of dinner, meaningful connection, and exciting silent and live auctions as we come together to celebrate and

support our St. John's Church and School community. As one of our most anticipated events of the year, this special night is truly made by your presence. Mark your calendars now!

Save the Date: November 13, 2026 | 5:00 PM | Rush Creek Golf Club

We look forward to sharing the joy and fellowship of this autumn season with you at St. John's, as we celebrate God's abundant blessings together.

SHANNON LANE PROPERTY CAMPAIGN We are grateful for the opportunity to move forward with our new Shannon Lane property. Beginning today, St. John's is launching a capital campaign with the goal of raising $100,000 toward the property's mortgage by December 31.
Gifts may be made in any of the following ways:

- Place a gift in the Sunday offering plate using an envelope marked "Shannon Lane Property Campaign."
- Give online at www.stjlutheranchurch.org. Select **Sharing**, then **Giving**, choose "Shannon Lane Property Campaign" from the dropdown menu, and follow the prompts.
- Scan the QR code to go directly to the online giving page, select "Shannon Lane Property Campaign," and follow the prompts.

Every gift, regardless of size, will bring us closer to our goal. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might support this campaign and for your continued generosity to the ministry of St. John's.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY meets weekly at **9:00am** in the auxiliary room. Pr. Moss is leading a study of *The Book of Psalms*.

2026 ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE

January: Arlene R. & LuAn S.

February: Deb K. & Rocky J.

March: Theresa G. & Jill G.

April: Julie M. & Brenna K.

May: Beth G., Kayleigh R., LeAnn C.

June: Janine D. & Elizabeth K.

July: Arlene R. & LuAn S.

August: Deb K. & Rocky J.

September: Theresa G. & Jill G.

October: Julie M. & Brenna K.

November: Beth G. & LeAnn C.

December: Janine D. & Elizabeth K.

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Life Notes: To love God is to obey His commandments. "If you love Me, keep My commandments," says our Lord. The commandments shape our love in how we live with one another. Therefore, love is not what I want, but what my neighbor needs. And what my neighbor needs for his or her body is care and protection, for "love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law." And God's love for us is that "Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God."

To read more or to learn more about Lutherans for Life, visit www.LutheransforLife.org.

How can we show we are pro-life? Here are a few ideas: as a family pray together, attend church together, eat as many meals as you can together, celebrate all milestones such as birthdays, Baptisms, first date anniversary, engagement anniversary, and wedding anniversary. All activities done as a family also show the public that we are pro-life. As the children get older involve them in some pro-life activities. As relatives, neighbors, and friends age have your children help them with you. All these ideas show we are pro-life. Can you think of more ideas?