

# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



November 2025

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Each Sunday

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

## IN THIS ISSUE

- November Birthdays
- Announcements
- Council of Deacons September Meeting Minutes
- September Financial Report
- November Church Calendar

## 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

### *What You Will Hear in November*

Pastor Johnson and I have thoroughly enjoyed working through this Trinity Season with sermon themes coming out of the Nicene Creed. We hope you have benefited from it as well. And at least you have all been patient and indulgent with us during this exercise. I want to take this newsletter to give you a foretaste of the final four themes of the Church Year.

On Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> we will observe “All Saints’ Day”. This is a special holiday where we remember with thanksgiving all the dead who died in Christ, especially our own members who fell asleep in Jesus this past year. The scripture lessons for the day are quite striking and memorable, especially Revelation 7 (the white-robed saints in heaven) and Matthew 5 (the Beatitudes). We felt it fitting and best to preach that day on the Nicene Creed phrase, “And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.” From my visits to children’s classrooms I know our children- and you too I’m sure- have lots of questions about this topic. You will truly benefit from being present to hear God’s Word teach on this subject.

On Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> (Trinity XXI), the Gospel lesson is John 4:46-54. Jesus is implored by an official to heal his son, and Jesus performs the miracle by speaking a word of healing, a long-distance miracle. The Old Testament lesson that day is Genesis 1:1—2:3, the Creation Week, where God speaks a word, “and it was so”. On this date the sermon theme will be built around the Nicene Creed’s confession that Jesus Christ, God’s Son, is the One “by whom all things were made.” We will also sing “Thy Strong Word” (LSB 578) as our processional hymn. That hymn is a powerful praise and proclamation of God’s power to create and sustain all things through the Word, and we know many of you want to know when that hymn is scheduled and would rearrange plans to be present for it!

On Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> (Trinity XXII), the Gospel lesson is Matthew 18:21-35. This is Jesus’ parable of the unmerciful servant, or so it’s often called. It may as well be called the parable of the

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“Gracious and Forgiving Master”. The infinite debt of our sin is paid for by the crucified Christ who is now risen, ascended, and reigning from the Father’s Right Hand. So that will be the Nicene Theme: “ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.” The hymn of the day, “My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker” (LSB 820) is one of my favorite hymns of praise, but it may be outdone by the closing hymn- “Now Thank We All Our God” (LSB 895). I cannot wait to hear your congregational voice lift up that beautiful thanksgiving to the ascended Lord who forgives us so abundantly!

On Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> we will close out the Church Year with Jesus’ parable of the Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13). This parable teaches us about the Last Day, Christ’s return in Judgment, and the eternal life given as a gift to the faithful. So this Trinity Season of Nicene Creed themes will come to a close with the phrase, “Whose kingdom will have no end.” This year, in keeping with that theme, we will *not* be focusing on the foolish virgins who lose out on the heavenly kingdom. We will instead hear and learn about the heavenly kingdom, banquet, and life that we shall inherit. The songs of praise that day are likewise some of the best. The hymn of the day, “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying” (LSB 516) is one of the best Lutheran chorales ever composed. And during distribution we will sing a marvelous Lord’s Supper hymn whose tune is often selected for special Wedding music: “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness” (LSB 636, tune name: *Schmücke Dich*).

It is hard for me to convey my excitement for this final month of the Church Year in a newsletter like this. So just take my word for it. I cannot wait for us to get to November! I look forward to each and every one of these weeks, and I know Pastor Johnson and Kantor Moss are equally as excited. This will be a month of amazing music and hymnody, comforting scripture lessons with encouraging and interesting themes, and the best part of preparing for the sermons that we deliver is how much we pastors get to study and learn from what God’s Word says and what other preachers and teachers of the Church have passed down to us.

See you Sunday!

Pastor Moss



# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

### November 1

- Phil Kuehne
- Alanna Robinson

### November 2

- Daniel Bussing, Jr.
- Diana Cahlander

### November 3

- Sam Schutte

### November 4

- Ryan Maurer
- Patty Picotte
- Everett Radintz

### November 5

- Michelle Johnson

### November 6

### November 7

- Peter Day
- Phil Koehler
- Colin Vetsch

### November 8

- John Meyer

### November 9

- Kayla Brown

### November 10

- Marlene Kettler

### November 11

- Liz Glock
- Gerald Steeber
- Brent Tillmann

### November 12

- Lucas Kiesow

### November 13

- Joan Dolbec
- Therese Noren
- Arlene Rogge

### November 14

- Stephanie Haver
- David Moss
- Simon Say

### November 15

### November 16

- Karen Howey
- Eric Kaiser
- Lori Kiesow

### November 17

- Ellenna Baltes
- Mark Schutte

### November 18

- Evalyn Diers

### November 19

- Katie Moss

### November 20

- Brinley Ludwig

### November 21

- Jim Giefer
- Ryan Klein
- Mary Pozarski

### November 22

- Stephanie Heidorn
- Jeremy Koosman

### November 23

### November 24

- Jacob Gordon
- Benjamin Kothrade

### November 25

### November 26

- Liz Wicklund

### November 27

- Jon Bode
- Matthew Nauth

### November 28

- Jody Preus

### November 29

- Matthew Koosman
- Cynthia Rowe

### November 30

- David Giefer



# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## NOVEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**YOU ARE INVITED** to a special **Reformation Choral Vespers Service** on Tuesday, October 28 at 7:00pm. Our new Gr. 6-8 Honors Choir class will be singing three pieces as part of this service. Please plan to attend to support our students and to be edified by their musical offerings!

**THE DEACONS HAVE ASSEMBLED A CALL COMMITTEE** to find a new preschool teacher beginning the 2026/27 school year (Mrs. Hannah Carbone is moving out-of-state this summer). The committee is comprised of: Krista Anderson, Maria Koosman, Tori Kuehne, Jesse Mathwig, Kristen Skura, and Gary Volberding.

If you know of anyone interested in serving as our new preschool teacher, please contact [Kristen.Skura@stjlutheran.org](mailto:Kristen.Skura@stjlutheran.org) or [Tori.Kuehne@stjlutheran.org](mailto:Tori.Kuehne@stjlutheran.org).

**PIANO STUDENTS** Would you like to serve your church through music? Dr. Moss is looking for elementary, middle, and high school students currently taking piano lessons to participate in a special piano-liturg project on *Sunday, February 8*. If you have a child that is interested, please contact Katie at [katie.moss@stjlutheran.org](mailto:katie.moss@stjlutheran.org) by Friday, November 21!

**WANTED! LADIES TO JOIN ALTAR GUILD!** For women interested in ways to serve with limited time commitments, Altar Guild is the place for you! Altar Guild is limited to three meetings per year and typically one month of Sundays serving with a partner to care for the altar and take care of communion ware. If you are interested please reach out to Janine DeSplinter.



**MASTERING SITUATIONAL AWARENESS** In today's world, being aware of your surroundings isn't just smart — it's essential. That's why we're inviting community members, leaders, and safety-minded individuals to an important event hosted by St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church: "Eyes Up: Mastering Situational Awareness: Staying Safe in an Unpredictable World." Join us **Tuesday, November 4 from 6:00-9:00pm** for an eye-opening workshop designed to equip you with the mindset and tools needed to recognize potential threats before they happen — and respond with confidence when they do.

**Topics Include:**

- Developing the alert mindset
- Recognizing pre-incident indicators
- Avoiding danger through awareness
- Threat response strategies in public and private spaces
- Real-world scenarios and lessons learned

Seats are limited — scan the QR code to RSVP now and reserve your spot! Let's take proactive steps toward a safer community — together. 50% of the ticket sales for this event will be donated back to St. John's Lutheran Church and School. Hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church | In partnership with Right To Bear

## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

### 12TH ANNUAL ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL GALA



Your personal invitation was sent to your email on Friday! Please register and reserve your seats by November 9<sup>th</sup> to join us for this special evening of connection, gratitude, and celebration.

- Friday, November 14 | 5:00 PM
- Rush Creek Golf Club

Enjoy a social hour, dinner, and live and silent auctions—all in support of tuition assistance for students and campus security enhancements.

If you missed the email, don't worry! Register by scanning the QR code listed here, using the link in your email, or by visiting [stjlutheranchurch.org](http://stjlutheranchurch.org) → 2025 Gala.

Don't miss this chance to **Give Thanks and Give Back!**

**SR. MINISTRY PROGRAM** Our October Sr. Ministry fellowship event had a great turnout! We enjoyed lunch, a devotion, and fun games. We look forward to our next fellowship event on November 18<sup>th</sup> at noon. Please mark your calendars and join us!

**THE NEXT ALTAR GUILD MEETING** is Thursday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the fellowship hall.

**STEWARDSHIP** It's not one Sunday, but a way of life within your vocations. You should have received from St. John's your Fall mailing including a pledge card to return to us over the next four weeks. If you have not received it yet, our labeling process may have missed you. Extras are available in the narthex. Please review the materials, pray about it, discuss it in your household, and return the communication to us. This is an important piece of our life together as members of the Body of Christ. **Thank you to the 61 households who have already returned their cards.** Every piece of information helps!

**BRING CHRIST'S JOY OF HOPE TO CHILDREN** Mobile Hope (serving Corcoran and Dayton) provides many ways to share Christ's love with children and families in need. To learn more or get involved, visit [mobilehopemn.org](http://mobilehopemn.org) or call Patty G.

**SPECIAL MISSION OPPORTUNITY** Pastor Moss will be going to Kenya! He will spend two weeks of January teaching at the Lutheran School of Theology. The Board of Spiritual Life would like St. John's to cover the air travel to and from Nairobi. The total cost of the round trip will be just over \$1,300. If you would like to contribute towards this, you may follow the procedure for other mission contributions—write "Mission: Kenya" on the memo line of a check. Any dollars raised over the cost of travel will go as a gift from our congregation to the Lutheran School of Theology. Also remember our other regularly approved missions for the year: Synod/District; Rev. Wokoma, Rev. Jastram, and Janine Foggia.

**TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY** meets weekly at **9:15am** in the auxiliary room. Pr. Moss is leading a study of *The Book of Psalms*.

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### Altar Guild 2025 Schedule

January: Theresa G. & Jill G.

July: Deb K. & Rocky J.

February: Julie M. & Brenna K.

August: Theresa G. & Jill G.

March: Vivian R. & Jan Stieg

September: Julie M. & Brenna K.

April: Beth G. & LeAnn C.

October: Vivian R. & Jan S.

May: Janine D. & Elizabeth K.

November: Beth G. & LeAnn C.

June: Arlene R. & LuAnn S.

December: Janine D. & Elizabeth K.



Life Notes: Even in a formless, dark, and empty early universe, God made Himself present and powerful (Genesis 1:2). Nothing and no one came into existence apart from the will and the Word of the Lord (Genesis 1:3). And He extended His own glory and honor to the youngest, littlest, and weakest among us (Psalm 8:2). Jesus clearly confirms the divine desire at work in surprise pregnancies: “Your [child] will live” (John 4:50).

o read more or to learn more about Lutherans for Life, visit [www.LutheransforLife.org](http://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?