



The EAGLE CONNECTION

ALL-SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

A SHOUT-OUT TO OUR STAFF!

Dear Families,

New this year is our STJ Staff Shout-Out form, which gives everyone the opportunity to recognize a staff member who has gone above and beyond. Several submissions have already been received, and they're a lovely reminder of how wonderful our faculty and staff are and how much they mean to our families. Sometimes it's an opportunity that helps a child thrive. Sometimes it's a song brought home from the classroom, a careful reminder from the nurse, or a smile and greeting each morning. Big or small, these moments make a difference. We're grateful to the families who shared their stories, and we hope you'll enjoy reading them below!



Dr. Skura is creating an environment where each child feels like school is a second home. You can count on Dr. Skura to greet each and every student with a smile and by name in the morning. Dr. Skura encourages the children to go above and beyond, and recognizes them through the fruit of the spirit awards. Last year, my daughter was blessed to have received the fruit of the spirit award which included a free ice cream sundae from Dairy Queen. Positive reinforcement for positive behavior is something more schools should have programs for and we consider ourselves lucky to have Dr. Skura leading our children in such a positive way! I also wanna take the time to thank Dr. Skura for making special accommodations for my son in fifth grade to pursue seventh and eighth grade maths. Thank you for being such a bright light each and every day! -Britta B.O.

In just the second week of school, **Mrs. Cadie Koosman** has already advocated for my 5th grader to pursue advanced math. My son, 10 years old, is working on 7th and 8th grade math and is being generously supported by the whole administration team of St. John's. We are so grateful for the opportunity to strive for mathematical academic excellence at a significantly faster pace! My son's favorite subject is math, and he is so excited and so honored to be allowed the opportunity to excel at a faster pace! Also shout out to **Dr. Skura and Ms. Gifford** for rearranging schedules to accommodate my son; he is very grateful for the opportunity and will work hard to continue to earn this wonderful opportunity! Many, many thanks to you all for supporting him in his pursuit of advanced math! -Britta B.O.

I want to give a shout out to **Liz Glock** our school nurse. One thing we really love about the school is that you really get to know the people who work at school and they also get to know you and your family. Liz knows that my 2nd grade daughter has a wasp allergy with an EpiPen

Continued on next page



SHOUT OUTS CONT.

prescription. I totally forgot to send in the EpiPen this year and Liz reached out to me twice to be sure that my daughter is safe at school in the event of a wasp sting, by reminding me to send in the EpiPen. I am so grateful to have a caretaker at school who cares so deeply and really knows our family! Thank you Liz! -Britta B.O.

Mrs. Basham creates such a warm and loving classroom for the children to grow in. I cannot tell you how many times my daughter came home singing a song that Mrs. Basham taught her. We would run errands after school and sing the song together for hours and hours. She's always smiling and is simply a joy to be around, we are very lucky to have had her as our teacher! -Britta B.O.

We are a brand new, incoming preschool family. We haven't seen **Tori** since we originally toured St John's 6+ months ago. We walked into the gym last week for Open House and she not only recognized us, but knew us all by name and our son (who she had never officially met). Tori, you are incredibly warm, welcoming, helpful and an absolute blessing to this community. We are so honored and grateful to be here. -Sammi J.

Mr. Peterman is my son's favorite PE teacher and cross country coach. My son came home from his first week of school and announced that Mr. Peterman is the best PE teacher and the BEST cross country coach. I asked him why and he said, " Mr. Peterman always encourages us to be the best versions of ourselves. He pushes us to our own limits and encourages us to be better. He never makes

us feel bad about not being athletic and instead helps us grow." My heart melted hearing this testimony from my 5th grader. I asked my son if he made time to let Mr. Peterman know how he felt, he said "Yes, I thanked him for being my PE teacher today." Shout out to Kyle Peterman for being the best PE teacher and best cross-country coach out there! -Britta B.O.

The summer 2026 ESP program was fantastic!! **Mrs. Harken** did such a fabulous job of organizing daily and weekly activities. She communicated well about special days, weeks, field trips, etc. When picking up my child each day, we could feel the calm energy of the room, the happiness of the kids, and our son reported he had a great time each day! Thank you so much! -Jen D.



THANK YOU to the families who took the time to share these stories. It means so much to our staff to hear how they've made a difference, and sharing the good helps our whole community see the care and encouragement happening at St. John's every day.

If you'd like to give a shout-out, you can find the link [HERE](#) or in the body of the newsletter email each week under the "Don't forget..." section.

MAP TESTING BEGINS MONDAY

Fall MAP testing begins on Monday for K-8. MAP stands for Measures of Academic Progress and is a computer-based test used to measure what students know and how much they grow academically over time.



THANK YOU PARADE VOLUNTEERS!

A huge thank you is extended to all of our wonderful volunteers who came out to support our school in the Osseo Lion's Roar Parade this past Saturday! We are so grateful to everyone who took the time to walk in the parade. Your presence helped make the day a fun and memorable experience. Thank you for showing up and representing our school!!



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

FIRST DIBS ON FALL FAMILY PHOTOS!

Slow Road Photography is giving our STJ families advance notice of its outdoor Fall Mini Sessions at Como Park! Sessions tend to fill quickly, so watch for the booking link and a code for \$10 off, which Slow Road will send by email TOMORROW at 9 a.m. You're welcome to share the discount with a friend, too!

More info about their services, including the fall mini sessions, can be found [HERE](#).

DON'T FORGET...

As we consider the future of St. John's meal program, we want to hear from your family. Our current program costs the school more than government reimbursements cover, and our food service contract is nearing its end. Please take a few minutes to complete our [five-question survey](#) about breakfast, lunch, affordability, and what matters most to your family. Your ideas will help us make a thoughtful decision that serves our students well.

A FINAL OPPORTUNITY...

...to register for the [13th Annual St. John's Charity Golf Tournament](#) - **a last-minute cancellation has created an opening for two additional teams** to join us THIS Saturday, September 19 at Rush Creek Golf Club! Enjoy a fun day of golf, friendly competition, dinner, and prizes—all while supporting tuition assistance and school improvement projects at St. John's.

[Register today](#) and join us on the course!



JOIN US AT CHIPOTLE ON THE 29TH

Join us at Chipotle (18800 70th Wy N, Maple Grove) on Tuesday, September 29, anytime from 4–8 p.m. for a fun evening with STJ families! Enjoy dinner together and help raise money for St. John's.

SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS CONTINUE

Students and staff will be participating in safety drills throughout the year, including fire drills, severe weather drills, and intruder drills. **Fire drills and intruder drills continue the first few weeks of school.**

DIGITAL OPTION FOR CHAPEL OFFERINGS

We know families don't always have cash on hand, so chapel offerings may now be given digitally! Families may make a one-time gift or set up recurring contributions online.

Whether your child brings an offering to chapel or your family gives digitally, thank you for helping our students put their faith into action through these worthwhile projects!

IMPORTANT ESP REMINDERS

- All families picking up children from ESP **MUST park in the back parking lot and enter through door 7.**
- Sign your child out FIRST before heading to the preschool room to collect him/her.
- The subscription registration deadline is Wed., Sept. 30. Families must schedule their child via Sign Up Genius after this date.
- If you have chosen the subscription option you DO NOT have to schedule your child via SignUp Genius UNLESS he/she is coming on a day that IS NOT part of his/her subscription.
- Students must be scheduled for ESP if they are staying after school (excluding school sports and activities).
- For the safety of students with nut allergies, ESP is a nut-free program. Your child may choose to bring a snack from home if it is nut-free or they may enjoy a snack provided by ESP.
- The deadline to request all-day care for MEA/fall break is 9am on Thursday, October 1st.



NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Friday, September 18

- 5th/6th grade returning from LIC
- 8:15am Chapel
- 3:45pm Cross country meet at Crown Christian

Saturday, September 19

- 12:30pm 13th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, September 21

- MAP testing begins
- 3:30pm A & B soccer practice
- 3:30pm A & B volleyball practice

Tuesday, September 22

- 4:15pm A soccer at Holy Trinity
- 4:15pm A volleyball vs. Stillwater
- 5:15pm B volleyball vs. Stillwater

Wednesday, September 23

- 3:30pm Cross country practice

Thursday, September 24

- 7am Wellness Committee meeting
- 4:15pm A volleyball vs. Bloomington
- 5:15pm B volleyball vs. Bloomington
- 6pm B soccer at King of Grace
- 7pm A soccer at King of Grace

Friday, September 25

- 8:15am Chapel
- 11am Cross country meet at Camp Omega

COMING SOON

Mark your calendars now with these important dates



- **September 29:** Chipotle fundraiser
- **October 2:** 5th-8th grade sings in chapel
- **October 4:** 5th-8th grade sings at 10:30am Divine Service
- **October 7:** Preschool field trip
- **October 9:** Mid-term; K-4th singing in chapel
- **October 11:** K-4th singing at 8am Divine Service
- **October 14:** 2nd & 3rd grade field trip
- **October 15-16 & 19:** No School - Fall Break
- **October 20:** 2-hour delayed start
- **October 24:** Trunk or Treat!

Mrs. Anderson says...

We had such a great showing at the parade! Thank YOU!!





SEPT./OCT. 2026



This calendar is meant to be helpful; it is NOT the official school calendar. The [official school calendar](#) is located on our website.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
13	14 StuCol campaigning	15 BOE meeting	16 5th/6th LIC trip	17	18 Chapel	19 13th Annual Golf Tournament
20	21 StuCo voting & elections MAP testing begins	22	23	24	25 New StuCo announced Chapel	26
27	28 MAP testing continues	29 Chipotle fundraiser Feast of St. Michael DS	30	Oct. 1	Oct. 2 Chapel • 5th-8th singing	Oct. 3
Oct. 4 5th-8th singing at 10:30am service	Oct. 5	Oct. 6	Oct. 7 PS Field trip to Dehn's	Oct. 8	Oct. 9 Mid-Term Chapel • K-4th singing	Oct. 10
Oct. 11 K-4th singing at 8am service	Oct. 12	Oct. 13 PTL Meeting	Oct. 14 Chapel	Oct. 15 NO SCHOOL	Oct. 16 NO SCHOOL	Oct. 17

Notes

Athletic practices and events may be found [HERE](#).

StuCo = Student Council; DS = Divine Service

Be on the lookout for numerous **October** events, including

- Wellness Month
- MEA/Fall break (Oct. 15-16, 19)
- Delayed start (Oct. 20)
- Parent/Teacher conferences
- Trunk or Treat (Oct. 24)
- Picture retake day (Oct. 28)



STJL BOARD OF EDUCATION

The St. John's Lutheran School Board of Education consists of the the following:

- Chairperson: Bonnie Radintz
- Vice Chair: Jim Peterson
- Deacon: Grant Birznieks
- Deacon: Gary Volberding
- Deacon: Stu Glock
- Secretary: Brenna Koehler
- Candace Fisher
- Davey Kulberg
- Krista Anderson
- Ex officio: Kristen Skura
- Ex officio: Tori Kuehne

Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

BOE agendas and approved minutes are available in FACTS.

WHERE DO I FIND...?

- [FACTS family portal](#) (Use code SJL-MN)
- [School calendars](#)
- [Hot lunch menu](#)
- [ESP sign up](#)
- [Continuous Connection survey](#)
- [St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church](#)

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Join us for worship each Sunday at St. John's Lutheran Church!

- Divine Service 8:00 & 10:30am
- Adult Bible study 9:30am
- Sunday school 9:30am

QUICK REFERENCE

- **ESP questions?** Contact Kayla.Harken@stjlutheran.org.
- Report absences, early dismissals, and late arrivals to **attendance@stjlutherschool.org**
- Share your STJ pictures for use in the yearbook and social media to **pictures@stjlutherschool.org**
- Request library book holds, ask our librarians questions, or request a new book to **library@stjlutheran.org**
- Volunteer to help in the library by clicking **[HERE](#)**.

BE SURE TO FOLLOW US!



OUR MISSION

The mission of St. John's Lutheran School & Preschool is to nurture young people through God's Word, sound Lutheran doctrine and worship, and a strong academic foundation. Our goal is to equip students to lead their lives as God's baptized children in this world and to carry out Christ's command to "make disciples of all nations."

(Matthew 28:19)



Save the Date

FOR THE

St. John's Lutheran Church and School Gala



NOVEMBER 13, 2026



5:00 PM



RUSH CREEK GOLF CLUB

7801 COUNTY RD 101, MAPLE GROVE, MN 55311



*Funds raised benefit our tuition assistance
program and sound system improvements.*

Chapel Offering and Service Projects



Current News – 9/10/2026

In this flyer, you'll see the updated information for our Service Projects and Chapel Offering throughout the year! I will keep you in the loop about our goals and what's happening!

Term 1 our focus is The Jared Box Project. A Jared Box is a plastic shoebox filled with small gifts, games, crayons, coloring books and other fun activities. Boxes are given to children in the hospital to provide a special, fun diversion. The boxes calm nerves, lift spirits and show the children that someone cares!

Our chapel offering during Term 1 will go towards funding Jared Boxes to deliver to Gillette Children's in St. Paul.

If you would like to pack your own Jared Box, information is included and also can be found @ thejaredbox.org. Any Jared boxes can be given to Miss Fuhrman to deliver to the hospital.

Year at a Glance

- 1** The Jared Box Project
- 2** Hygeine and Food for the Unhoused
- 3** Flowers and Cards for the Homebound



Questions?



Reach out to Miss Fuhrman @
anna.fuhrman@stjlutheranschool.org

Make a Jared Box



step 1 – Get a Box

Get a shoebox-sized plastic storage box.

☐ Boy	☐ Infant (0 - 12 months)
☐ Girl	☐ Toddler (1 - 3)
	☐ Preschool (3 - 5)
	☐ Elementary (5 - 8)
	☐ Tweens & Teens (8 and up)

step 2 – Choose for a Boy or Girl

Decide if the box you are making is for a boy or a girl and select an age group. If the box could be for either a boy or girl, check both the Boy and Girl boxes.



step 3 – Fill your Box

Select items for your box, such as crayons, card games, puzzles, or stickers. Refer to our Suggested Toy List for more ideas. Place toys in the box.



step 4 – Say Hello

Print our "Little Note From You" Card. These can be printed on white cardstock. Write a personal note on the card and place it in the box.



step 5 – Print your Lid Label

Print the Box Label (top) - Logo. This template can be printed on Avery Labels 15264, or any standard white shipping labels, six per sheet, 3 1/3" x 4" label size. Place the Jared Box label on the lid of the box.



step 6 – Print your Side Label

Print Box Label (side) - Boy/Girl. This template can be printed on Avery Labels 18163, or any standard white shipping labels, ten labels per page, 2" x 4" label size. Place the Boy/Girl label on the end of the box. Check the appropriate gender and age.



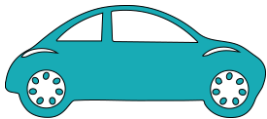
step 7 – Print Activity Sheet

For age groups older than toddler, print the Activity Sheet. Fold the sheet in half and add it to your box.



step 8 – Have some fun

Decorate your box. Our Lid Decoration Guide has lots of great examples. You can optionally use markers or stickers to decorate the outside of the box.



step 9 – Deliver your Box

Deliver your boxes to your local hospital. Use our Hospital Directory to locate a hospital or deliver the boxes to your local hospital. If you would like to deliver your boxes to a new hospital not on our list, you may contact that hospital directly. The Child Life or Volunteer Services Departments usually handle donations.



step 10

Complete the Jared Box Smiles Delivered form (<https://thejaredbox.org/make-a-jared-box/tracking>) to let us know how many boxes you made and to what hospital you are delivering them. If you are unable to complete the online form, send an email to hospitals@thejaredbox.org. We would love to receive suggestions, stories about your project, and pictures too!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

LEARN. PRAY. GROW.

The Sixteenth Week after Trinity: Sep 20 - Sep 26, 2026



LEARN-BY-HEART

MEMORIZE TOGETHER AS A FAMILY
SCHOOL STUDENTS EXPECTED TO RECITE ON FRIDAY

Classic Bible Memory for Primary Grades

K.+ **2 Thessalonians 3:10** - If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

Psalm 116:11 - I said in my alarm, "All mankind are liars."

Seventh Commandment

PreK+ You shall not steal.

1st gr+ *What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God
so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions,
or get them in any dishonest way,
but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Eighth Commandment

PreK+ You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

2nd gr+ *What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God
so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor,
betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation,
but defend him, speak well of him,
and explain everything in the kindest way.

Catechism Bible Verse

3rd gr. + **Romans 13:10** - Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.



PRAYERS

MANY CHRISTIANS STRUGGLE TO PRAY BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW WHO OR WHAT TO
PRAY FOR. USE THIS GUIDE TO PRAY FOR DIFFERENT NEIGHBORS IN THEIR VARIOUS NEEDS.
LET US PRAY...

Sun ...for all who attend the Divine Service today, that they may be fed with His Word and Sacrament
...for all who do not know the joy of the Resurrection, that they hear and believe the Gospel

Mon ...for all who begin a new week of work, for the unemployed, for our government, and for our teachers and
students who begin a new week of school

Tues ...for rescue from temptation and sin, for repentance for those who have fallen away, for the guilty to be
comforted with the Gospel

Wed ...for all husbands and wives, for all parents and children, that all families may live in peace according to God's
Word

Thu ...for our Church & pastors, for our teachers, for our missionaries, for all who serve and volunteer at St. John's

Fri ...for all who preach Christ crucified this week, for Christians who are persecuted, for all who are sick/ dying

Sat ... for the Holy Spirit to preserve our faith to the End, for our hearts to be ready to hear God's Word at the Divine Service tomorrow



SCRIPTURE LESSONS

STUDY TO HEAR NEXT SUNDAY

Sept. 27 Trinity XVII

Proverbs 25:6-14 - A Word Fitly Spoken

Ephesians 4:1-6 - Unity in the Body of Christ

Luke 14:1-11 - Healing the Man with Dropsy



HYMNS

Church Hymn of the Day "See Where You May" (*LSB* 557)

School Hymn of the Month: "These Are the Holy Ten Commands" (*LSB* 581)

School Year Theme Hymn: "Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head" (*LSB* 647)



FAMILY DEVOTION

Here is a short order you may follow for family devotions around the dinner table or in the living room.

Invocation - In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit - **Amen.**

Recite - the Apostles' Creed and the Learn-by-Heart Bible Verse & Catechism

Read and Discuss - one of the Scripture readings from this past Sunday, from school, or the coming Sunday

Pray - the Lord's Prayer, Luther's morning or evening prayers, and the topical prayers for the day of the week

Sing a hymn - use one of the hymns from the past Sunday, the coming Sunday, or the school year

Benediction

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

Luther's Morning & Evening Prayers

I thank you, my heavenly Father,
through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son,
that You have kept me this night
from all harm and danger;
and I pray that You would keep me
this day also from sin and every evil,
that all my doings and life may please You.
For into Your hands I commend myself,
my body and soul, and all things.
Let Your holy angel be with me,
That the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen

I thank you, my heavenly Father,
through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son,
that You have graciously kept me this day;
and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins
where I have done wrong,
and graciously keep me this night.
For into Your hands I commend myself,
my body and soul, and all things.
Let Your holy angel be with me,
that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen

