

The EAGLE CONNECTION

ALL-SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WE'VE MOVED UP - NOW LET'S SHOW UP!

Dear St. John's Families,

The Osseo Lions Roar Parade is **NEXT Saturday, September 12**, and we want to see a big crowd of St. John's families there! Participating in the parade has become such a fun school tradition, and this year we have even more reason to be excited: **we've moved up in the lineup and will be among the first 25 floats!**

The parade is a great family activity and one of the easiest—and most enjoyable—ways to support St. John's. Families can walk alongside our decorated trailer or ride on the float as we make our way through Osseo. The route is simple, the atmosphere is lively, and children love being part of all the parade-day excitement!

When our families show up together, it makes a wonderful impression. A strong turnout helps St. John's stand out in the community, gives others a glimpse of the school spirit we share, and reminds everyone that our school is filled with families who genuinely enjoy being together. Your presence is a simple but meaningful way to help represent and promote St. John's.

Wear your favorite St. John's apparel or red and black clothing, bring water, wear comfortable shoes and get ready to walk, wave, smile, and share plenty of Eagle pride along the route!

Parade Details

- **Date:** Saturday, September 12
- **RSVP HERE** Didn't RSVP but decide to show up last minute - that's fine with us!!
- **Parade begins:** 12:00 p.m.
- **You arrive:** Between 11:00 and 11:30 a.m.
- **Parking:** Park at Osseo High School and then catch a shuttle (school bus) to the start of the parade route (important - shuttles end at noon). We'll be in line with our float (somewhere between float 1 and float 25). The parade ends back at Osseo High School, which makes this parking location super convenient!

Grab the family and join us for a fun morning together! We would love to see students, parents, siblings, and friends turn out in full force and help us fill the parade route with St. John's spirit. **Let's make this year's parade our best turnout yet!**





WELCOME PRESCHOOL STUDENTS

Now that K-8th have the first week under their belts, we're excited to welcome our littlest Eagles to school! Our 5-day preschool friends begin this Tuesday and our 2- and 3-day preschool friends begin this Wednesday.

We can't wait to welcome you to St. John's!

YOU'RE INVITED!

Families, you're invited to join Pastor Moss's Fall Adult Catechism Class. Classes begin **NEXT THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10** from 5:30-7pm and will meet weekly (we're even offering child care during the class).

If you've ever wanted to learn more about what your child is learning at St. John's, could use a refresher on the Lutheran faith, are interested in church membership, or are simply curious, this class is for you!

For questions or to RSVP, contact Pastor Moss at pastor.moss@stjlutheran.org. Be sure you contact him ASAP if you'll need childcare.

All are welcome, and we'd love to have you join us!

BOOK TACO UPDATE

Book Taco passwords have been updated to each student's default password (Kindergarten students will learn more about their passwords later this month).

BOOHOO/YAHOO BREAKFAST & 1ST DAY PHOTO OPS

Preschool parents, our school photo props are still up in case you'd like to snap a few pictures this coming Tuesday and Wednesday, and our fabulous PTL will be hosting the Boohoo/Yahoo Breakfast for you on both Tuesday and Wednesday. We hope you'll take a moment and enjoy some coffee, treats, and fellowship as your little ones head off to preschool.

VERY IMPORTANT ESP REMINDERS/INFO

- 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.



LIBRARY BEGINS SOON!

Library begins soon, and we are excited and ready to welcome students back and to share the new books added over the summer (you can [view our library catalogue HERE](#))!

- Library visits begin Wednesday, Sept. 16
- PS-4th grade visit on Wednesdays, and 5th-8th grade visit on Fridays.
- Books are due one week from their check-out date.
 - If school is closed or a student is absent on library day, books will be due the following library day.
- K-8th should return books via the dropbox (located outside the library or in the front lobby each Wednesday morning). PK returns them in their classroom bin.
- To renew a book, simply bring it with you to your scheduled library time.
- To reserve a book, speak to a librarian or contact library@stjlutheran.org.
 - Reserved books will be available at the library desk.
- Overdue slips are sent home weekly.
- K-8th overdue fines accrue at \$0.05 each day they are late; PS does not accrue fines.
- Lost book fees are collected at the end of each trimester via FACTS.
- Always feel free to recommend new books!
- If **YOU** would like to volunteer in the library and assist students checking out books, [sign up HERE](#)!

See you on the 16th, Eagles!!

WANT TO JOIN BAND?

Have you ever thought about joining the band? Well, it's not too late! The St. John's Band program is accepting 4th-8th grade students for the 2026-2027 school year.

Whether you've been playing an instrument for a while or are a complete beginner, there is a place for you. Our program offers individual and group instruction to help students of all skill levels develop their musical talents.

Unsure where to find an instrument? We can help you find a rental option to get you started.

To register, click [HERE](#). For questions, contact Mr. Penserga at penserga@encoreensembles.com.

Instruction starts after Labor Day!

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 are scheduled to begin the first few weeks of school.**

DON'T FORGET - NO SCHOOL TOMORROW OR MONDAY!

We're out for Labor Day this Friday and Monday. See you back on Tuesday, September 8th.



THE GIFFORD GUIDE: THE VALUE OF A SCHEDULE



We're excited to share that our new LSEM teacher, Mrs. Katy Gifford, will be sharing some helpful tips and tidbits in The Eagle Connection. Be sure to read this week's tip below.

THE VALUE OF A SCHEDULE

Play, homework, meals, bath and toothbrushing, family devotions and slow-down time before bed — these are all normal activities that we try to squeeze in from 3:00 until bedtime for our families. Routines and scheduled activities are norms at school, but can be at home as well. Set a regular routine for after school, especially these first weeks of school. Let your child know expectations for lunch bags, backpacks, and chores to be completed. A visual schedule may seem like “too much” to some, but for children, especially non-readers and those whose working memory is low, it may be very rewarding.

Does your family have evening activities? Let your child know this at the beginning of the week and then remind them each morning what the evening plan will be. This will help them to be able to focus on learning while they are at school and not wondering what will come next. Indeed, schedules help keep us “rooted”!

Mrs. Gifford

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!

CHAPEL OFFERING PROJECTS

Each term we adopt a special project to support with our weekly chapel offering. We hope you'll help us support these incredibly worthwhile projects!

- **Term 1:** Supporting Gillette Children's Hospital with the Jared Box Project
- **Term 2:** Hygiene kits and supplies for the homeless encampments
- **Term 3:** Flowers and decorated pots for St. John's homebound members

SPIRIT STORE CLOSING SOON

Our Spirit Store is currently open now through September 6th, and fun, new merchandise has been added. Orders placed by the Sept. 6th closing date will arrive at St. John's a few weeks after the start of school.



TIME IS RUNNING OUT...

...to register for the 13th Annual St. John's Charity Golf Tournament on 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. Registration is \$150 per golfer.

Register today and join us on the course!

SAVE THE DATE - DINNER IS HANDLED!

Mark your calendar for St. John's Chipotle Night on Tuesday, September 29, from 4–8 p.m. at the Maple Grove location on 70th Way. Chipotle will donate 25% of qualifying event sales to our school, so plan to give yourself a night off from cooking while supporting St. John's!

NOMINATIONS OPEN

Nominations are now open!

Students in grades 3rd–8th may run for class representatives; students in 7th and 8th grade may run for offices.

Students may visit the front desk or their teacher for a nomination form.

- **Sept. 14–18:** Campaigning and posters
- **Sept. 21–25:** Voting
- **Sept. 25:** Election results announced

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

A heartfelt THANK YOU goes out to all of our Golf Charity Event sponsors! Your generosity makes this special event possible and supports the students and mission of St. John's. We are truly grateful for your partnership and support!

CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thank You

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NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Friday, September 4

- No School

Monday, September 7

- No School - Labor Day
- 6:30pm A & B soccer practice

Tuesday, September 8

- 1st day of school for 5-day preschool
- 7:30am Boohoo/Yahoo Breakfast
- 3:30pm A & B volleyball practice
- 4:15pm A soccer vs. Salem
- 6:30pm PTL meeting

Wednesday, September 9

- 1st day of school for 2- & 3-day preschool
- 7:30am Boohoo/Yahoo Breakfast
- 3:30pm Cross country practice

Thursday, September 10

- School picture gallery available
- 4:15pm A soccer at Bloomington
- 4:15pm A volleyball vs. King of Grace
- 5:15pm B volleyball vs. Berea

Friday, September 11

- Student nomination forms due
- 8:15am Chapel
- 3:45pm Cross country meet at Twin Lakes Park

Saturday, September 12

- 12pm Osseo Lions Roar parade

COMING SOON

Mark your calendars now with these important dates



- **September 16-18:** 5th/6th grade LIC trip
- **September 19:** 13th Annual Charity Golf Tournament
- **September 21-October 2:** MAP testing (K-8)
- **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

Mrs. Anderson says...

Have a safe and relaxing long Labor Day weekend!





SEPTEMBER 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
30	31 K-8 1 st day of school Chapel	1	2	3 StudentCo nominations open	4 NO SCHOOL	5
6	7 NO SCHOOL	8 5-day preschool 1 st day PTL meeting	9 2- & 3-day preschool 1 st day	10 School pictures available - check your email	11 StuCo nominations due Chapel	12 Osseo Lion's Roar Parade
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	1	2 Chapel	3

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
- PS field trip (Oct. 7)
- Mid-term (Oct. 9)
- 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

- Report absences, early dismissals, and late arrivals to attendance@stjlutheralschool.org
- Share your STJ pictures for use in the yearbook and social media to pictures@stjlutheralschool.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)

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

LEARN. PRAY. GROW.

The Fourteenth Week after Trinity: Sep 6 - Sep 12, 2026



LEARN-BY-HEART

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

Classic Bible Memory for Primary Grades

K+ **2 Timothy 3:16** - All Scripture is God-breathed
and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.

Acts 5:29 - We must obey God rather than men.

Third Commandment

PreK+ Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

2nd+ *What does this mean?*
We should fear and love God
so that we do not despise preaching and His Word,
but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

Fourth Commandment

PreK+ Honor your father and your mother.

1st+ *What does this mean?*
We should fear and love God
so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities,
but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

Catechism Bible Verse

3rd gr.+ **Romans 1:16a**- For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ,
For it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes.



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 husbands & wives, for all parents & 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 weekend, for persecuted Christians, for all who are sick and 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



SCRIPTURE LESSONS

STUDY TO HEAR NEXT SUNDAY

1 Kings 17:8-16 - The Widow of Zarephath
Galatians 5:25-6:10 - Bear One another's Burdens
Matthew 6:24-34 - Do Not Be Anxious



HYMNS

Church Hymn of the Day "What God Ordains Is Always Good" (*LSB* 760)
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