

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter October 26, 2025

This weekend marks our celebration of the Reformation. It is always good to think about the things which led to the Reformation. Yet, in this pivotal point in time at the national level and the local level, it is important to focus on what God's Word has to say to us. This was the major theme of the Reformation—Luther's push to focus on Scripture alone.

Today, it's easy to define our freedom based on what our country offers. Here in the United States, we thank the Lord that we have freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the freedom to assemble together. This makes it easy to rely on our citizenship to define our freedom.

But the heart of the matter is this: true freedom is not a result of citizenship in any earthly kingdom. Even here in the U.S.A., many are still held down by the chains of sin. True freedom comes from Jesus. All of the other freedoms are truly blessings, but true freedom sets us free from the thing which weighs us down the most—our own sinfulness.

This true freedom also enables us to focus on something greater. It helps us to focus on Jesus' return. This is important because at Jesus' return, every knee will bow, and everyone who believes in Jesus will be made perfect. It is at that moment that we will live more freely than we could ever imagine. In that moment, we will live like Adam and Eve did before they sinned in the garden. Thanks be to God as we live free from the bonds of sin and await perfection.

Here is a prayer to help keep us from being distracted by the things of this world and to help us to focus on the eternal freedoms we have:

*When things of the world comprise
All of our worldview,
We lose sight of your prize.
So, today, help us to trust in you,
Not in Satan's lies,
But lead us to look focused too
On the day when all will rise,
So that we will join the great breaking through.*

Pastor Dille

Living the Lord's Prayer with Luther

On Sunday mornings during the normal Bible Study Hour in November, Pastor Dille will start a new Bible Study which walks through the Lord's Prayer. The study will be focused on the Lord's command to pray the Lord's Prayer and what it means for our daily life.

Voters Assembly

October 28 at 7:00 p.m.

2026 Slate of Officers

President – Jeff Weis

Vice President – Adam Bohnhoff

Treasurer – Marcy Scott

Secretary – Laura Galvan or Norma Lansing

2026 Board Nominees

Board of Christian Education – Phil Stuemke

Board of Early Childhood – Jamie Lotz

Board of Elders – Fred Bray & Ray Hartman

Board of Evangelism – Janet Martins

Board of Social Ministry – Ruth Bray

Board of Stewardship – Curt Meseke

Board of Trustees – Mike Kremer

Board of Youth Ministry – Carolyn Wendte

Congregational Service

Sunday November 2 at 2:30pm we will band together with all the owner congregations of **Lutheran Care Center** for the annual Congregational Service. We're moving it to the first Sunday of November to align with the tradition of having the Celebration & Pastors' Bake-Off be on the first weekend of November. Plan to come to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Altamont for the Celebration Service at 2:30pm and stay afterward for fellowship and the Pastors' Bake-off. It will be a great afternoon of thanking God for the mercy work of our beloved Lutheran Care Center in Altamont!

Chili Supper and Bake Sale

St. John's Lutheran Church, Louisville

Sun. Nov. 2nd from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Menu: Chili and Vegetable Soup, Sandwiches, Desserts, and Drinks

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday, October 19	439
Adult Sunday School.....	50
LifeLight	17
Sunday School.....	56

Our Offering

General Fund	\$6,223.25
Online Offering.....	\$2,992.30
Total Gen. Fund Offering.....	\$9,215.55

Golden Eagle's Dinner

October 30 at noon

Golden Eagles will meet again on Thursday, October 30 at noon. The menu will include Ham, potato casserole, orange salad, corn casserole, pickled beets, and desserts. Program will be presented by Pastor Dille. Cost per meal is \$10.00. Please sign the name of each person attending on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Birthday Celebration

The Congregation is invited to a celebration for Lois Budde's 90th Birthday. This will be held on November 1st from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. (Lois requests no gifts)

Food Pantry

The food pantry is in need of volunteers who can lift when receiving and stacking food orders on an "as needed" basis.

Contact Patsy Latch

The next distribution is Tuesday, October 28th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

"This Weeks Sunday School Lesson"

Lesson 9

As we gather today, we will study "A Loving Law." Months into their wilderness wanderings, the Israelites arrive in the wilderness of Sinai. God comes to the mountain in clouds and thunder—fire and smoke—as He establishes His covenant with His people through Moses, His chosen intermediary. There on the mountain, God gives Moses His Ten Commandments. Discuss why the Ten Commandments are still important in our lives today.

Prayer List

Richard Stremming, Lisa Shaw, Terry Long, Jane Probst, Cindy Esch, Mary & Kenny Dasenbrock, Matt Fauss, Cassie Power, Steve Rubin, Holly Bray, Irvin Wendte, Alan & Connie Phelps, Vi Kirchoff, and for the family of Carol Althoff. Eagle's Nest Preschoolers Abby (parents Breana & James) and Cayne (parents Brooke & Casey).

Soup Supper

St. Paul Blue Point Luther Church Ladies Aid
Sunday Nov. 9 starting at 4:00 p.m.

Check the Bulletin Board for more information.

Blindness Awareness Month

October is Blindness Awareness Month, a special time to honor the experiences of people who are blind or visually impaired, raise awareness, and pray for greater inclusion and accessibility. Throughout this month, Lutheran Braille Workers received many stories how their works is benefitting those people who need their services.

Here's just one from the fall newsletter.

We will never forget the sound of Tammy's voice when she called LBW headquarter in Yucaipa. Her words were caught between laughter and tears, joy and relief, gratitude and awe. She had just received her large print Bible. For the first time in years, she was able to open the Word of God and read it for herself. "When I opened the package Tammy said, I fell to my knees and called out to my husband in tears. When he realized what I was crying over we both became excited and joyful. It was as if God Himself had walked right through the door and placed His Word back into my life."

St. John's Large Print Center (Braille) produces 25 sets of ESV Bibles each month along with Prison Bibles and many devotionals. If you are interested in this ministry, contact Marilyn, (217-821-0508) or Kathy (217-254-9360)

Thank you!

St. Louis Seminary Food Pantry

There will be an ingathering of nonperishable items for the St. Louis Seminary Food Pantry. Items may be placed at the altar rail on Thanksgiving Eve & Thanksgiving Day before or after services & in the atrium on the weekend of Nov. 29th & 30th

Lutheran College Fair

High Schoolers, mark your calendars! There is a Lutheran College Fair at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, on Saturday, Nov. 15th from 10 a.m.-2p.m. If there is interest, we would love to make it a group event. There will be 7 LCMS Universities present as well as both Seminaries. Please let Pastor Dille or Pastor Burdick know if you are interested.

Greeting Card Catalogs

Students are taking orders until November 2.
Check the card cabinet for the catalogs.

Parent Gathering this Week

Calling Parents of all ages. On Thursday, October 30th, at 7:00 p.m., we will have the final parent Gathering of 2025. This will be an opportunity for you to gather and talk about your two most important vocations... Your faith and your family. The topic for this month's parent gathering will be: *Preparing for Advent*. We will walk through different things to do in November and December, centered around the church season of Advent. It will help prepare you and your family for the expectation of Christmas and the Joy that Jesus' birth brings to all of us. Childcare will be provided.

Boar's Head

St. John's has secured 15 tickets to attend the 2025 Boar's Head Festival at Immanuel Lutheran Church in St. Charles, Missouri. Our tickets are for the 4:00 p.m. performance on Saturday, December 13th. Please refer to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for more information. The festival begins as actors proclaim the Good News of Christ's birth through music and acting. It moves from a medieval Christmas Festival to the Nativity. A reception follows.

Brief Prayer Service

Caring for those in need is central to the mission of every church. At St. John's, our Food Pantry helps us live out that mission. Just before distribution, we hold a brief prayer service to lift up the requests of our patrons. If you're available this Tuesday from 2:30–2:45pm, please join us as we pray for the hurting in our community. Let's come together in faith and compassion.

Thank you

Kay Boerngen would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and visits.

Candy Donations Needed

Lutheran Care is accepting donations of Halloween Candy for Trick or Treat. More information can be found on the bulletin board.

Thank you

Thank you to all my friends and Prayer Partners for the prayer, cards, calls, and donations received for Lloyd during his last days. A special thank you to Pastor Fortkamp, Pastor Burdick, and Pastor Dille for the comforting words and visits during this trying time. May you all have God's blessing.

Shirley Wittenberg and Family

Prayer Campaign for LIFE

November 4th

Numerous congregations in our county are banding together to pray for children, parents, leaders, and neighbors in relation to LIFE issues. From 8:00am to 5:00pm, Christians in these churches are praying. Our day for St. John's is Tuesday, Nov 4. We have posted a sign-up sheet with 30-minute increments, so 18 volunteers are needed. You will receive a guide for prayer, and can pray at home or at the church. See the sheet on the bulletin board, and take one of the prayer guides Pastor Burdick prepared. It's not hard, but it is important. It will serve others, and you'll be blessed through your time in the Word and prayer. Please sign up today for a time slot.

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

Youth Group Participation

Jr. High LYF October 22nd: 14

Save the Date

Movie Night

November 15th

Following the 5:30 p.m. Service
Sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board
Pizza, Popcorn, and drinks will be provided by the Board of Education and Board of Youth
Adult Movie is "Truth Rising"
Children's Movie is "Ratatouille"
(Babysitting provided)

CALENDAR-----Oct. 26 – Nov. 1, 2025

Sunday	26	8:00 a.m.	Worship w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
Preschool – Monday – Friday 8:25 a.m. – 11:25 a.m. (Unless Otherwise Noted)			
Monday	27		Pastor Dille's Sabbath
			Pastor Burdick's Vacation
		5:15 p.m.	Board of Early Childhood
		5:15 p.m.	Choir Practice
		7:00 p.m.	Lutheran Care Board
Tuesday	28	3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
		5:00 p.m.	Altar Guild
		7:00 p.m.	Voters Assembly
Wednesday	29	8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Quilting
		10:30 a.m.	Preschool Pumpkin Party
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotion/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Thursday	30	8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		10:30 a.m.	Preschool Pumpkin Party
		Noon	Golden Eagles
		6:30 p.m.	Parent Gathering Meeting
Friday	31		Pastor Burdick Sabbath
Saturday	1	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		8:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study
		8:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
		1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lois Budde 90 th Birthday Party
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC - Bells

Birthdays This Week

10/26 Cavan Snow, Copelan Debolt,
Derek Sanders, Kohen Baker, Pat Wendte
10/27 Carolyn Campton, Kathy Giesler, Lois Budde
10/28 Broode Haller, Margie Sidwell, Nathan Bahrns
10/29 Lucas Keitel, Zac Bloemer
10/31 Brian Marxman, Melissa Goldstein,
Ruth Holland, Sam Wagner
11/1 Anna Rieman, Greg Keitel, Jackson Fritch

Anniversaries This Week

10/29/2016 Brennan & Darcie Buening
10/30/2010 James & Rebecca Belcher

A Big Thank You

Thank you for the Baby Shower, the cards, and the gifts. We are extremely grateful for each of you and to be part of the St. John's family!
Pastor and Katie Dille