The Eagle

St. John's Weekly Newsletter October 25, 2026

The past two weekends have included weddings here at St. John's. Husbands and wives have entered into that ordered goodness which God created in Eden. They have taken their solemn vows in front of hundreds of seasoned veterans – men and women who have stayed married for one to sixty-five years. Holy Matrimony is truly good, and worthy of celebration.

Next month two of our members will celebrate 75 years of marriage (see the note later in the Eagle with the Youngs' address for a card shower)! When I brought them Communion this month, Ann said, "Pastor, I didn't think I'd live to 75, let alone be married that long!" Praise God when He exceeds our expectations. And praise God for the profound goodness of natural marriage. Intercede for husbands and wives in the way that Martin Franzmann did in this wedding prayer:

O God of Eden, O Christ of Cana,
O Creator Spirit, Spirit of love,
Remember in mercy this Thy servant
and this Thy handmaid.
Give them, O Father,
under the heaven of Thy forgiveness,
the primeval blessing of our garden home.
Give them, O Christ,
Redeemer of us all, the bounty
of Thy plenteous wine of joy.
Give them, O Spirit,
the glory of the Christ
whom Thou dost glorify.
Give them Thy gift of oneness in their Lord.
So shall they praise and bless Thee,
Holy Trinity,
praise and bless Thee
all the days of their life, and join with us
to sing Thine everlasting praise
there where our praise is perfect:
at the high feast and wedding of the Lamb.
Amen!

We're all looking forward to a grand wedding feast on the day of resurrection, where we'll celebrate with our Bridegroom, Jesus. Until then, pray for marriages and families!



Voters Assembly
October 27 at 7:00 p.m.

2027 Slate of Officers
President – Rick Keller
Vice President – Jeff Weis
Treasurer – Marcy Scott
Secretary – Laura Galvan

2027 Board Nominees
Board of Christian Education – Kristin Niemerg
Board of Early Childhood – Julie Scott
Board of Elders – Adam Bohnhoff & David Wall
Board of Evangelism – Laura Janis
Board of Social Ministry – Patsy Latch
Board of Stewardship – Wade Bloemer
Board of Trustees – Al Siebert
Board of Youth Ministry – Karla Flach

Catechism Bible Study

Our Catechism Bible Study is the path toward membership for those who wish to learn what Lutherans believe and practice. It's also an excellent refresher for all members who desire to review the faith. The next five-week series will be Tuesdays, November 3, 10, 17, 24 and December 1. Each class is from 6:00-8:00pm, and participants will prepare for each session with readings from Luther's Small Catechism (and the Scriptures included in it). Who will you invite to study alongside you?

The Elders would like to hear from you if you would find it essential to have Alcohol-removed wine made available in our distribution of the Lord's Supper. Reach out to an Elder or Pastor Burdick with your request. Thank you.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday October 18	425
Sunday School	49
Adult Sunday School	30
Lifelight	13

Our Offering

Sunday October 18	$7,418.85
Online Offering	$4,652.00
Total Gen. Fun	**$16,108.82**

Stewardship Moments

John 8:36 – "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." Today we celebrate Reformation Day! Luther is rightly remembered as a champion of the Gospel — but he also called himself "the apostle of good works." For, only by being set free by the Gospel, can we do good works. Jesus has set us free: His blood covers our sins, and now we stand before God as His beloved children, invited to live our lives to His glory for the good of His kingdom.

LCMS Foundation

Including a statement of your Christian faith is important in your estate plans. Creating that statement of faith is something we do in community. The goal of writing a Christian statement in your estate plans is not to be novel, but to offer a gift, confidence in Jesus, in His forgiveness and resurrection power, offering that gift to those close to you. It is more valuable, by far, than all the financial things you can direct through your estate. Who are the people you want to receive this blessing from you? Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you get started. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org.

Operation Christmas Child

More than 23.5 million children reported decisions for Christ since 2009. Lim, 12, reported, "It's the first present that I have ever received. I'm so excited; tears started to come down with joy in my heart. I began feeling care and love." He accepted Christ as his Savior.

Golden Eagles

The Golden Eagles dinner will be on Thursday, October 29, at 12 noon. The meal will be catered by Joe's Pizza & Pasta. The menu will be mostaccioli, chicken fettuccine alfredo, salad, garlic bread and dessert. Attendees will pack Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes with gifts and prayer notes. Everyone is welcome to attend. There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the atrium. Sign up by Sunday, October 25.

THANKS to all the ladies who created 100+ quilts that are on our pews this weekend. They now will be sent to Lutheran World Relief for our neighbors around the world.

TRINITY HOPE
HAITIAN FEEDING PROGRAM

The Haiti Hunger Fight Breakfast is just two weeks away on Nov 8. Support Trinity Hope! Support the children of Haiti with meals and readiness to hear the Good News About Jesus! While the breakfast will include eggs and ham, you are also urged to experience a bit of what the children of Haiti truly appreciate receiving: rice and beans. The Evangelism Board is preparing a batch of the life-sustaining beans and rice that Trinity Hope provides. We hope you'll try a small amount … and you'll help Trinity Hope feed kids!

ALTAMONT
Lutheran
Care Center

Bring your LSB hymn requests to the Lutheran Care Center Congregational Service here at St. John's next Sunday. **3:00pm on November 1!** After the brief Service, we'll gather in the Fellowship Hall with members of many LCC owner congregations for the "Pastors' Bake-Off" auction. All proceeds go to the LCC Care Campaign.

Youth Corner



Music Jam

November 15 from 4:00 – 7:00

The youth board is planning a fun night of music and fellowship! Come hungry, as they will be serving a meal. If you have a musical talent to share, please sign up on the bulletin board. You can sing, play an instrument or participate in Karaoke! All members are invited and encouraged to come enjoy an evening with your church family!

Life Quote

"Today God continues to defend and aid His people, those who trust in His Son as their Savior. God is ever with us. He preserves His Word and Church despite the constant attack of the devil, the unbelieving world, and false teachers. God provides for all our needs of body and soul, even in times of great need and conflict. God is our refuge. His Word endures forever. His grace and power never fail." *From "Meditations on Favorite Scriptures: Devotions for a Year" – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Christmas Program

December 20 -10:30

It's the time of year to start planning for the Christmas Program. We hope all the children can participate, but please let us know if your child can't make it. The first planning meeting will be October 28 at 4:45 in the gym. If you are interested in helping, please come to the meeting or let Kathy Burdick or Kiley Bohnhoff know.

Soup Supper

St. Paul Blue Point Ladies Aid will host their Annual Soup Supper on Sunday, November 8 starting at 4:00.

This Week's Sunday School Lesson
Lesson 9

As we gather today, we will study "A Family Reunites," as God helps Joseph forgive. Joseph's siblings journey to Egypt hoping to find food for their family. Failing to recognize Joseph, the brothers head home with sustenance and supplies. Heeding Joseph's early warning, the brothers bring Benjamin when returning to Egypt for food. After testing and trying his brothers, Joseph finally reveals himself to his astonished siblings. Joseph relocates all of Jacob's family to Egypt, promising to care for them.

LOVE in action through Lutheran World Relief

One year ago, through the faithful compassion of Lutheran churches, Lutheran World Relief was able to expand their Quilt & Kit Ministry to our neighbors in crisis here at home, in addition to those in crisis abroad. After tornados, flooding and wildfires struck communities in 12 states, more than 60,000 handmade quilts and 76,000 essential kits were distributed to people in need.

This weekend, 120 quilts that have been constucted by volunteers here at St. John's will be blessed and dedicated. On Friday, these quilts will be packed into boxes and taken to the ingathering at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Shelbyville, IL. Then they continue on to the different LWR distribution facilities where they will wait to be distributed around the world.

We here at St. John's meet on Wednesdays beginning at 10 A.M. Come join us – we'd love to have you. Contact Jane Tolch for more information.

Chili Supper and Bake Sale

St. John's Louisville
November 1 from 4:00-7:00.

Go up to the balcony around the Atrium and spend time reading the history timeline. People are saying it's pretty fascinating.

CALENDAR----------October 25 – November 1, 2026			
Sunday	25	8:00 a.m.	Worship w/HC - Reformation
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship w/HC - Reformation
		7:00 p.m.	Man Up
Monday	26	5:15 p.m.	Board of Early Childhood
		5:15 p.m.	Choir
Tuesday	27	3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
		5:00 p.m.	Altar Guild
		7:00 p.m.	Voter's Assembly
Wednesday	28	9:30 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		10:00 a.m.	Bible Study (Conference Room)
		10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.	Quilting
		10:00 a.m.	Preschool Fall Pumpkin Party (Trinity Rm)
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Meeting and Devotion
		4:45 p.m.	SS Christmas Program Planning
		5:00 p.m.	Bell Practice
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Thursday	29	9:30 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		10:00 a.m.	Preschool Fall Pumpkin Party (Trinity Rm)
		Noon	Golden Eagles
Friday	30		Pastor Burdick Sabbath
Saturday	31	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship w/HC – All Saint's Day

Birthdays This Week

10-25 Becky Bailey, Erica Marxman, Larry Gehle
10-26 Cavan Snow, Copelan Debolt, Derek Sanders, Kohen Baker, Pat Wendte
10-27 Carolyn Campton, Lois Budde
10-28 Margie Sidwell, Nathan Bahrns
10-29 Zac Bloemer
10-31 Brian Marxman, Melissa Goldstein, Ruth Holland, Sam Wagner, Will Kohnert

Anniversaries This Week

10-29-2016 Darcie & Brennan Buening

Holy Trinity School Spirit Wear

Holy Trinity's Promark webstore is open through October 25.

Greeting Cards

Orders are to be placed by November 1.

Church Directories

There are new directories in the atrium. Please enjoy one per household.

Card Shower

George and Ann Young will be celebrating **75 years** of marriage on November 11. You can send them a card at: Lutheran Care Center, 702 W Cumberland Rd #11, Altamont, IL 62411.

Prayer List

Roger Fritch, Steve Rubin, Gerry Thoman, Alan Phelps, Terry Simmons, Lynn Kuhn, Eileen Wall, Irvin Wendte, Kathy Shingler