



# St. John News

December 22, 2024

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & School  
North Tonawanda, New York

School founded 1846  
Church founded 1853

St. John is a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**,  
welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.  
School: Nurturing children academically and spiritually toward a life of witness and service in Christ.

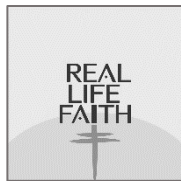
Scan this QR code when you attend worship  
to fill out our *electronic* Connection Card.



**WOMEN OF ST. JOHN** will meet next **TODAY** following  
worship service.



**THANK YOU** We were able to donate 6 bags of  
food and 1 turkey to the North Tonawanda Inter-  
Church Food Pantry in November. If you are  
interested in contributing, they are looking for non-  
perishable items, especially coffee/tea/hot chocolate,  
pasta and rice side dishes, and canned meats (chicken, tuna,  
corned beef, SPAM). Thank you for your continued support.



### Real Life Faith Group: Women's Bible Study

Ladies, are you looking for an opportunity  
to connect, relax, and grow in faith? ✨

Join our **Real Life Faith** group for a 6-  
session Bible study where we bridge the gap between  
Scripture and real-life application. Expect laughs, meaningful  
conversations, reading Scripture, and a warm, welcoming  
environment where you can come as you are. Yes, sweats or  
yoga pants are allowed!

### Winter Session: Galatians

📅 **Sunday Nights:** Jan 12, Jan 19, Feb 9, Feb 23, Mar 9, Mar  
23

🕒 **Time:** 7:00 – 8:30 PM

📍 **Location:** Borgstede's Home

This is the perfect opportunity to grow in faith, build  
friendships, and be encouraged in a judgment-free, supportive  
group.

RSVP or Questions: Contact Sara, 303-627-7923 (text or call)  
or saraborgs@gmail.com.

## UPCOMING Events

### Today: Sunday, December 22

- Handbell Practice – 7:15 AM
- Worship – 9:00 AM
- Women of St. John Meeting – 10:00 AM
- Choir Practice – 10:00 AM
- Sunday School/Bible Study – 10:15 AM

### Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

- Musical Reflections – 5:30 PM
- Candlelight Worship – 6:00 PM

### Wednesday, December 25 – Christmas Day

- Worship w/Communion – 10:00 AM
- NO Evening Service

### Sunday, December 29

- Handbell Practice – 8:00 AM
- Worship – 9:00 AM
- Choir Practice – 10:00 AM
- NO Sunday School/Bible Study
- NO Confirmation Class

### Wednesday, January 1

- NO Evening Service

**Office Hours:** 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Worship:** Sundays at 9:00 AM

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

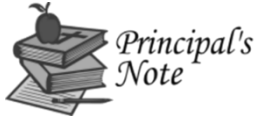
6950 Ward Road, North Tonawanda, NY 14120

(716) 693-9677

(option 1-School, 2-Church, 6-Principal, 7-Pastor)

churchoffice@stjohnnt.com • office@stjohnnt.com

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL



*Principal's  
Note*

Greetings,  
Happy Advent! As we light our candles on the Advent wreath for hope, peace, joy and love, we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' birth in whom we find these wonderful gifts. Merry Christmas.

Did you know:

- Our school will be on winter break for a bit now. We are grateful for this time to celebrate Jesus' birth and be with family and friends.
- Our basketball teams have begun their season. We are so appreciative of our volunteer coaches and assistants. Often the games are on Fridays. Our next home games are at the end of January. Stay tuned. Go eagles!
- Our re-enrollment/registration process for 2025-2026 will begin in January. Please keep this in prayer as God sends families/children to St. John where they receive the Gospel daily and receive a quality education.



Blessings,  
Katie Gundell

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**Prayer 12:13** Thank you for praying over our school family at 12:13 PM each weekday. While the school is out on break, please continue to pray for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives our students and families, and that God would refresh everyone for the New Year.

**Save the date: Open House** Our first school open house is Tuesday, January 21 at 6-7:30 PM. Start inviting now and share our fantastic school with those you know.



**\*\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\*\* SPRING AUCTION** is scheduled for March 29, 2025 at St. Johnsburg Fire Hall. Start collecting your donations of baskets, wine, and other special items or services now. For more information, contact Katelyn Fontana (716-245-9094) or Lynn Willis (716-523-8589).

*Blessed by their service:*

<b>Liturgist/Preacher:</b>	Rev. Michael Borgstede	<b>Organist:</b>	Doreen Sutherland
<b>Elders for December:</b>	Roger Carr and Robert Borgstede	<b>Acolyte:</b>	Camryn Fontana
<b>Reader Today:</b>	Dennis Gauda	<b>Next Week:</b>	Frank Wendt
<b>Counting Team Today:</b>	Frank Cornell, Donna Cornell, Diane Milne, Suzette Drenko, Donna House		
<b>Counting Team for Christmas Eve/Day:</b>	Lorrie Weir, Marv Merth, Randy DeVantier		
<b>Counting Next Week:</b>	Lynn Willis, Don Schroeder, Matt Schultz		
<b>Altar for December:</b>	Jeanne Borgstede, Donna Cornell, Annie Kelly, Donna Carr		
<b>Hospitality Today:</b>	Donna & Roger Carr, Annie Kelly, Bev Harder, Liz Schultz, Patti Norris		
<b>Hospitality Next Week:</b>	Peggy & Doug Meyer, Lorrie Weir, Suzette Drenko, Jean Hein		
<b>Education Hour Teachers:</b>	All Sunday School Teachers		

## ABOUT THE CHURCH

### GIVING REPORT:

**October 27:** \$3,969.00  
**November 3:** \$5,176.00  
**November 11:** \$6,640.00

### ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE

You can give online. Go to [stjohnnt.com](http://stjohnnt.com), click "Worship With Us), and scroll down to click "Give Online". Or scan this QR code:

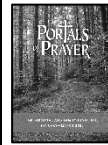


COMMUNION

December: 25<sup>th</sup>

January: 5<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

**ORGAN RENOVATIONS** The first phase will modernize the organ's circuitry: replacing the 1966 wiring and upgrading for MIDI and physical playback capabilities. We continue raising money toward our Phase 1 upgrade. Find more information about this project in the Information Center.



January-March Portals of Prayer are in! You can find them in the main entryway.



Your 2025 offering envelopes are in your Flock Box. If you are missing a set of envelopes that you are expecting, if you do not have a Flock Box, or if you would like to request envelopes for the first time, please contact the church office or write your contact information on the sheet near the boxes.

## LCMS YOUTH GATHERING 2025

**ENDURE**  
2025 LCMS YOUTH GATHERING  
HEBREWS 12:1-3



**13 Students from 3 congregations** are traveling to New Orleans, LA (NOLA) next summer to experience worship, Bible study, and fellowship like never before.

**Please pray for:** Pastor and Zakary Borgstede; Payton, Charlie, and Lorrie Weir, Addie and Lynn Willis of St. John; John, Daniel, and Lacey Bahr and Audrey Markel of Grace NF; and Christina and Cayden Hicks-Wilhelm of Mt. Olive Lockport.

\*\*\***Save the Date: Meat Raffle January 25<sup>th</sup>**. Details to come soon.

\*\*\***Super Bowl Subs:** Order forms coming out in January.



**School Office** will be closed for Christmas break, until January 2.

**Church Office** will be open 9 am - 12 noon on Thursday, December 26 and Friday, December 27.

Merry  
**CHRISTMAS**  
& Happy  
**NEW YEAR**

## OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Please **ask permission** to publish prayers that are not for yourself.
- **Private prayers** – [pastormike@stjohnnt.com](mailto:pastormike@stjohnnt.com) or 716-693-9677 option 7
- Contact the church office: [churchoffice@stjohnnt.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnnt.com) or phone: 716-693-9677 option 2

**Short-Term Prayers** – *There is one week left on the prayer list for people marked by the open square.* Please use the back of your Connection Card or contact the church office if you would like to submit new prayers.

- April Smith – Seeking treatment options
- Olivia (St. John Preschooler) – Hospitalized
- Tom Suthoff (Peggy and Doug Meyer’s uncle) – Cancer treatments and hospitalization
- For Jessica (neighbor of Pastor Mike and Sara) and her family at the passing of her mom on Tuesday
- Herb Meissner – Healing from surgery
- George Barnett – Ongoing health issues
- Maria Palma-Nunez – Ongoing health issues
- The family and friends of Kim Sova (sister-in-law of Kath Schultz) at her passing
- Doris Wollaber – Health and healing
- Karen Hermann – Recovery from surgery
- Michele DiCarlo (friend of Terrie Licht) – Cancer treatments
- Daniel Kusch (son of Pastor Matthew Kusch) – Thanksgiving for returning home from the hospital



✝ For places of conflict: Ukraine & Israel

✝ That we might proclaim the Word of God to the lost, so they can see their need for a Savior and know Him

### Long Term Prayers

Frank Cornell, Doug Rich, Rick Hamilton, Donna Martin, Shelly Erwin, Mary Schlegl, Jaycee Schmitz, Annie Kelly, Barb Manning, Doreen & Larry Damba, Marty Darlak, Jason Barry, Dean Scirri, Rosemary Siegmann, Elsbeth Kaus, Doris Wollaber, Paul Greinert, Ken Musall, Owen Arizmendi, Kim Snell, Donald Licht, Jr., Matthew Wallace

**In the U.S. Military:** David Hoppe, Stephen Marshall, Chaplain Ben Bahr

**The Bereavement Department at Niagara Hospice** provides grief support groups in Lewiston, Sanborn, and North Tonawanda. Please see the posting on the bulletin board for locations and times.

### Please note:

- Short-Term prayers are kept on the prayer list for 4 weeks.
- Updated prayer requests will be considered renewed.
- If you would like your prayer request to be moved to the Long-Term Prayers, please contact the office.