



St. John News

December 29, 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.



Reminder: Your end of the year donations must be post-marked by December 31st. Funds you might consider contributing to include the Organ Renovation Fund, the Tuition Assistance Fund, and the General Fund of either the church or the school. Give online today (see page 3).



MEN'S GROUP Bible Study resumes this Saturday at 7 am. Bring a friend and dive deeper into God's Word, supporting one another through this life.



SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT BIBLE CLASSES will resume next Sunday, January 5.

Students PreK-4th grade are welcomed to venture through the entire Bible this year.

5th grade-adults are welcome to discuss the day's readings in-depth and in an applicable way.

UPCOMING Events

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

Saturday, January 4

- Men's Group – 7:00 AM

Sunday, January 5

- Handbell Practice – 8:00 AM
- Worship w/Communion – 9:00 AM
- Choir Practice – 10:00 AM
- Bible Study/Sunday School – 10:15 AM
- Confirmation Class – 6:30 PM

Monday, January 6

- Board of Education Meeting – 6:30 PM

Tuesday, January 7

- Board of Elders Meeting – 6:30 PM

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

Worship: Sundays at 9:00 AM

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

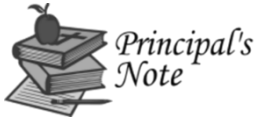
6950 Ward Road, North Tonawanda, NY 14120

(716) 693-9677

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

churchoffice@stjohnnt.com • office@stjohnnt.com

ABOUT THE SCHOOL



Greetings,

As we have lit our candles on the Advent wreath for hope, peace, joy and love, we now light the white candle 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



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.

MONDAY - That hearts would resolve to quit their turning from the call of God.

TUESDAY - For a safe celebration of the new year.

WEDNESDAY - That families fully complete their refreshing time of rest.

THURSDAY - For all faculty, staff, students, and families as they return to school routines.

FRIDAY - For the continued safety of our school.

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).



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

Church Office will be open 9 am - 12 noon on Tuesday, December 31 and Friday, January 3.

ABOUT THE CHURCH

GIVING REPORT:

November 11: \$6,640.00

December 1: \$6,081.00

December 8: \$2,992.00

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE

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

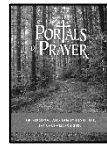


THANK YOU *We were able to donate 6 bags of food and 1 turkey to the North Tonawanda Inter-Church Food Pantry in November. If you are interested in contributing, they are looking for non-perishable items, especially coffee/tea/hot chocolate, pasta and rice side dishes, and canned meats (chicken, tuna,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



January:
5th & 8th, 19th & 22nd

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



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.

The meat raffle has been postponed.

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

REAL LIFE FAITH GROUP: Women's Bible Study

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!

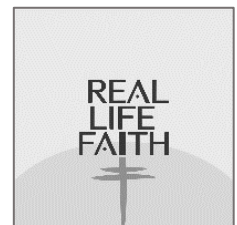
Winter Session: Galatians

📅 **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.



OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Please **ask permission** to publish prayers that are not for yourself.
- **Private prayers** – pastormike@stjohnnt.com or 716-693-9677 option 7
- Contact the church office: 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 closed square.* Please use the back of your Connection Card or contact the church office if you would like to submit new prayers.

- ☐ Cathy Schultz – Upcoming surgery
- ☐ Leslie – Life challenges
- ☐ Michele DiCarlo (friend of Terrie Licht) – Cancer treatments
- 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

✠ 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.