



St. John News

February 23, 2025

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.



Card Crafting

Card Ministry Patti Norris is beginning a ministry to create cards for various uses at both the church and the school. If you are interested in crafting,

fellowshipping with others, or learning a new skill, please contact Patti at 716-228-0791 or norris362@roadrunner.com. When to meet and frequency will be determined by those interested



Niagara Youth Endurers

Thank you for your generous support. Our Super Sub sales brought in **\$939.75!** We are over

halfway to our fundraising goal. See page 3 for ways you can continue to support our youth.

Lunch Monitors are an enormous blessing to the teachers, giving them a break to eat and plan. If you have availability between 11 am and 12:30 pm any weekday, and are willing to monitor the lunch room, please contact Terrie Licht in the school office: 716-693-9677, option 1.

Organ Update: Through your generous support, the Phase One funding is up to **\$24,766**. This is nearly half of our goal. Thank you!

For more information, please pick up a "St. John Organ Fund" flyer in the Information Center.

UPCOMING Events

Sunday, February 23

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

Wednesday, February 26

- Worship – 7:00 PM

Saturday, March 1

- Men's Group – 7:00 AM

Sunday, March 2

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

Monday, March 3

- Board of Education Meeting – 6:30 PM

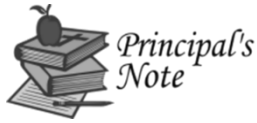
Wednesday, March 5

- Ash Wednesday Service w/Communion – 7:00 PM

Thursday, March 6

- Elder's Meeting – 6:30 PM

ABOUT THE SCHOOL



Greetings,

What a chilly, wintry week! It is so good to have a warm, safe place to gather. Our students are well into the 3rd quarter. Our staff is so pleased with the growth we see academically, spiritually, and socially. St. John Lutheran School is a good place to be each week. May God continue to shape the hearts and minds of the young ones in our care as they hear His Word and embrace His love for them. "We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19

Did you know?

- Our next Open House is from 6-7:30 PM on **Tuesday, March 11th**. Our best advertisement is our church/school families and members. It's exciting to think of the new opportunities that God has in store for us for the 2025-2026 school year.
- LEGO club has begun! **Over 70 students** will be building and creating for the next several weeks on Thursday afternoons with Pastor Mike, Miss Bekah, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Chambers... along with several other volunteers including Mark Rogers, Steve Argo, and Bob Borgstede.
- "Denim and Diamonds" is the theme for our auction **on March 29th** at Johnsburg Fire Hall. Our auction committee, under the leadership of our PTL president Lynn Willis, have prepared a night of fun and fellowship. Please mark your calendars and support this school fundraising event.

Blessings,
Katie Gundell

AUCTION: Don't hesitate, participate!

Denim and Diamonds is quickly approaching. *Get your tickets* now! The auction is a time of fun, fundraising, and fellowship. Join our church and school family for this evening of excitement.



The *classroom donation baskets* are rolling in! Wow!!! They are looking good.

In addition to our silent and live auction we will also have a wine pull and gift card grab. Lots of local restaurants and shops have been helping us make this evening possible. Come check it out.

For your bidding delight we have

- ❖ **Aldi Little Shopper Package** Includes an Aldi shopping cart, Aldi brick building set, Aldi play food set, and an Aldi gift card.
- ❖ **Dessert of the Month** Each month for a YEAR receive a delicious, homemade treat to enjoy. A priceless treat.
- ❖ **Heather Williams Salon Gift Certificate**
- ❖ **"Spa Day Essentials" Spa Basket** donated by Excuria Salon and Spa (\$208). Includes gift certificate for a gel polish manicure and essential pedicure, 3 bottles of polish, shea butter soap, shea butter cuticle cream, hand wash and a zippered pouch.

Please contact Katelyn Fontana (kfontana1@twc.com) or Liz Schultz (716-957-4138, text) for more information.



Prayer 12:13 Thank you for praying over our school family at 12:13 pm each weekday. We will pray through each room:

Monday – Mrs. Sandra Gannon, Mrs. Nikki Volz, Mrs. Joy Koch, and all our volunteer kitchen helpers

Tuesday – Ms. Carol Szalach (AIS), and our many supportive PT, OT, and speech specialists

Wednesday – Our chapel leaders, especially our student volunteers: Piper Christ, Daniel Bahr, Brayden Redding, and Jayden Van Dusen

Thursday – Mrs. Katie Gundell, Mrs. Terrie Licht

Friday – Pastor Mike Borgstede, Mrs. Lacey Bahr

ABOUT THE CHURCH

GIVING REPORT:

January 12: \$2,107.00
January 19: \$2,786.00
January 26: \$2,500.00

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE

You can give online. Go to stjohnnt.com and click the yellow "Donate Today" button in the top right corner. Or scan this QR code:



In January, we were able to gift 8 bags of food! Thank you for your support!

If you are interested in contributing to the North Tonawanda Inter-Church Food Pantry, 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.



March: 2nd & 5th; 16th & 19th

LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS

St. John and other local congregations are partners in this ministry, helping to start a large-print center. If you have questions or would like to participate, please contact Terry Hoffman at 716-225-2612.

Not everything makes the Printed News edition. To see more of what is happening in our community and in our Synod, be sure to receive and read the weekly e-news. Sign up with the church office.



LCMS World Relief's *Sharing* newsletter for the end of 2024 is now available at the Information Center and in the glass entryway.



The Vocal Choir will sing on March 2, Transfiguration Sunday.
Handbells will practice March 2, and will continue each Sunday until May 4.

If you would like to participate in either worship activity, contact Doreen Sutherland (716-523-9474).



LCMS YOUTH GATHERING 2025

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.

You can continue to support our youth through their envelope donation program. Pick up an envelope and form at the sanctuary entrance. \$5 gets you a postcard from NOLA, \$50 also gives you a themed pen, and \$100 includes an invitation to our thank you dinner after the gathering.



Students PreK-4th grade adventure through the entire Bible this year. Meet in the Cafeteria.
5th grade-adults discuss the day's readings in-depth and in an applicable way with Pastor Mike. Meet in the meeting room.

Saturday Men's Group meets most Saturdays at 7 am. The next session begins this Saturday, March 1.

Eastern District Convention News: Our delegates for the 2025 convention are John Rosebrock and Pastor Mike; Doug Meyer is our alternate. The convention is June 20-21, please keep preparations in your prayers.

FROM THRIVENT

This is a reminder that Thrivent Choice Dollars® are available to direct as of January 14. Please log in to your account to view your balance and direct Choice Dollars® **by March 31** if you haven't already done so. Choice Dollars lets eligible clients with membership help choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its funding each year. Your eligibility is based on insurance premiums and contract values.

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 open square.* Please use the back of your Connection Card or contact the church office if you would like to submit new prayers.

- Michele DiCarlo (friend of Terrie Licht) – Cancer treatments
- Herb Meissner – Continued health concerns
- Kevin Gundell – Preparing for his new call to the Eastern District
- Holy Ghost Lutheran – Preparing to call a principal
- National Guard – Deployed in New York state this week
- Eileen Zwetch (Annie Kelly’s mom) – Health concerns
- Rick Weir (brother-in-law of Dennis Kelly) – Upcoming heart surgery
- The family and friends of Joe Michno (husband of Barb Elzer) at his passing.
- Olivia (St. John Preschooler) – Praise; she is back in school!
- Lily Lyons (wife of St. John teacher Rick) – Diagnosis of breast cancer
- April Smith – Healing from cancer treatment
- George Barnett – Ongoing health issues
- Maria Palma-Nunez – Ongoing health issues
- Denis McManus – Known to God

- † Those affected by fires in California
- † For places of conflict: Ukraine & Israel
- † For less division in our home, community, and nation
- † 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.