



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**,
welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

AS WE GATHER

“You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.” (Deuteronomy 6:7) Teaching, and learning, God’s Word is something we should be doing every day. Jesus is the heart of the Bible; today we ask Him to be the heart of our teaching and learning. Teaching Christ is a privilege for each teacher in class, every parent at home, and all of us as we seek to teach others of our Lord by word and deed. Jesus is the heart of our teaching, and our prayer is that the Holy Spirit would open our hearts.

Welcome to worship at St. John. All words are displayed on the screens. If you want musical notation for the hymns, it can be found in the books in the rack in front of you. “LSB” is the red book.

WELCOME & INVOCATION

JOYFUL NOISE LITANY

Mrs. Gundell

HYMN: “EARTH AND ALL STARS”

LSB 817, sts. 1, 3, 5

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

HYMN: “EARTH AND ALL STARS”

LSB 817, sts. 6-7

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Mrs. Craig, Psalm 98

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ms. Mumm, Colossians 3:12-17

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:13-16; 7:24-27

APOSTLES’ CREED

SPECIAL MUSIC

St. John Students, “Joyful Noise”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN “WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD”

LSB 785

TEACHING FROM GOD’S WORD

COMMISSIONING OF TEACHER AND STAFF

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD’S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: “CHRIST BE MY LEADER”

LSB 861

School Open House

- Parents: After worship today, please pick up your students in their classrooms and visit the school **before** going to the picnic.
- Church members are also invited to visit the school classrooms **before** going to the picnic.

Directions for the Picnic

- Head outside through our **main entrance**. (Other doors will be used by picnic volunteers.)
- Follow the **arrows** around the building, on the sidewalk, to the back of the gym.
- Get some food, enjoy some games and hang-out under the tents!

TODAY'S READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 98

¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.
²The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight
of the nations.
³He has remembered his steadfast love and
faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!
⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the
LORD!
⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!
⁸Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together
⁹before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING *Colossians 3:12-17*

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and
beloved, compassion, kindness, humility,
meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one
another and, if one has a complaint against
another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has
forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And
above all these put on love, which binds
everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And

let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to
which indeed you were called in one body. And
be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in
you richly, teaching and admonishing one
another in all wisdom, singing psalms and
hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in
your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in
word or deed, do everything in the name of the
Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father
through him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:13-16; 7:24-27

¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has
lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?
It is no longer good for anything except to be
thrown out and trampled under people's feet.
¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on
a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a
lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand,
and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the
same way, let your light shine before others, so
that they may see your good works and give
glory to your Father who is in heaven.
²⁴“Everyone then who hears these words of
mine and does them will be like a wise man who
built his house on the rock. ²⁵And the rain fell,
and the floods came, and the winds blew and
beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it
had been founded on the rock. ²⁶And everyone
who hears these words of mine and does not do
them will be like a foolish man who built his
house on the sand. ²⁷And the rain fell, and the
floods came, and the winds blew and beat
against that house, and it fell, and great was the
fall of it.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

St. John Lutheran School 2025-2026 Staff

Pastor	Michael Borgstede
Administrator	Katie Gundell
Administrative Assistant	Terrie Licht
Pre-K 3	Katie Marzano
Pre-K 4	Jessica Chambers
Kindergarten	Heidi Sue Mumm
1st Grade	Adrienne Orlowski
2nd Grade	Kathleen Ward
3rd Grade	Hannah Evert
4th Grade	Jill Lauck
5th Grade	Maria Stainsby
6th Grade	Connie Craig (Math, History, Life Skills)
ELA/AIS	Carol Szalach
7th/8th Grade	Rick Lyons (Science, Religion, History, Life Skills, PE)
Instrumental	Dave Manth
Piano	Steve Parisi
Little Lambs Choir	Lacey Bahr
P.E.	Sal Ciffa (preK3-5th)
Art	Marla Crawford (K-8)
Teacher Assistants	Katelyn Pantano, Bekah Borgstede, Valerie Nicholas, Melanie Richards
Latchkey Director	Valerie Nicholas
Latchkey Assistants	Donna Black, Virginia Markel, Sandy Watt, Jane Schulz, Mary Redding
Lunch Director/Aides	Sandra Gannon/Erin Green and Virginia Markel

Class Sponsors

Lynn and Ben Willis, Randy DeVantier, Peggy Meyer, Cheryl Oliver, Lorrie Weir, Frank and Kathy Wendt, Patti Norris



Blessed by their service:

Liturgist/Preacher:	Rev. Michael Borgstede	Organist:	Doreen Sutherland
Elders for September:	Roger Carr and Bob Borgstede		
Elders for October:	Terry Haseley and John Rosebrock		
A/V for Today:	Dennis Kelly	Next Week:	Matt Schultz
Counting Team Today:	Lorrie Weir, Marv Werth, Randy DeVantier		
Counting Next Week:	Lynn Willis, Don Schroeder, Matt Schultz		
Altar for September:	Sandy Dworzanski and Mary Salefske		
Greeters for September:	Roger & Donna Carr		
Greeters for October:	Frank and Kathy Wendt		

FUN FALL ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

HARVEST FESTIVAL
REDEEMER, 11 AM-3 PM
265 FALCONER ST | NORTH TONAWANDA

TRUNK OR TREAT
GRACE, 3-4:30 PM
736 CAYUGA DR | NIAGARA FALLS

TRUNK OR TREAT
ST. PETER'S, 4-5:30 PM
6167 WALMORE RD | SANBORN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

TRUNK OR TREAT
ST. JOHN, 5:30-7 PM
6950 WARD RD | NORTH TONAWANDA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

FALL/HOLIDAY BAZAAR
ST. MATTHEW, 9 AM-2 PM
875 EGGERT DR | NORTH TONAWANDA

TRUNK OR TREAT
ST. MARK, 2-4 PM
1135 OLIVER STREET | NORTH TONAWANDA

TRUNK OR TREAT
FIRST TRINITY, 2-4 PM
1570 NIAGARA FALLS BLVD | TONAWANDA
FIRSTTRINITY.COM/EVENT/TRUNK-OR-TREAT-4/

TRUNK OR TREAT
ST. PAUL, 4:30-6:00 PM
453 OLD FALLS BLVD | NORTH TONAWANDA

OCTOBER 2025

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

Family Fellowship Events

FRI
10/24

TRUNK OR TREAT
5:30PM-7:00PM

WED
11/12

BOX OF HOPE
Collection & Thanksgiving Fun!
6:00PM-7:00PM

MON
12/8

CHRISTMAS CAROLING
6:00PM-7:00PM
*Meet at school first for hot cocoa and the caroling round!

WED
1/28

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP
National Lutheran Schools Week
6:00PM-7:00PM

WED
2/25

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP
6:00PM-7:00PM

ALL ARE WELCOME!

St. John News

September 28, 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.*

THIS WEEK ^{at} GLANCE



Sunday, September 28

- Worship – 10:00 AM
- Church and School Picnic – 11:00 AM

Wednesday, October 1

- School Chapel – 8:30 AM
- Worship – 7:00 PM

Saturday, October 4

- Men's Bible Study – 7:00 AM

Sunday, October 5

- Worship w/Communion – 9:00 AM
- Voters' Meeting – 10:15 AM
- Sunday School – 10:15 AM

UPCOMING DATES:

October 11: No Men's Bible Study

October 24: Trunk or Treat – 5:30 PM

November 15: Vendor Fair – 9:00 AM

We're so glad
**YOU'RE
HERE!**

It is always a joy when our church and school families come together in worship. We are glad to have a chance to fellowship together.

ST. JOHN MEN'S GROUP

Bible Study
Every Saturday
At 7:00 am



AT THE CHURCH

Real Life Faith Small Groups Update

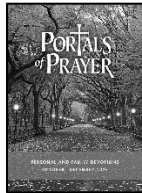


Due to the overwhelming positive response, the fall Real Life groups are at capacity. (Praise God! Over 50 women will be studying God's Word in six small groups.) Please email

RLF@stjohnnt.com if you want to be placed on the waiting list. More opportunities to join a group will be available in January. *Note: There is still space in the teen/college age group.*

The RLF Ministry would like to thank Pastor Mike and St. John for the use of the facilities and everyone on the event planning committee who helped bring the Women's Breathe and Believe Brunch to life. We are especially grateful to Sara for her leadership and for sharing as our speaker, to Nicole House, Bob Norris, and Roger Carr for their work in the kitchen and service, to Dennis Kelly for cleanup and closing, to Lorrie Weir and Lynn Willis for balloon decorations and to Katie Gundell and the children for their help with setup and takedown. We are grateful as well for all who donated, prayed, and supported this event. Your efforts made it possible to bless and encourage women in our church community and beyond.

Portals of Prayer October-December devotions are now available in the glass entrance. You can find the previous edition (July-September) on the Information Table.



Offering Envelopes *It's that time...* Time to let the office know if you need a change in your offering envelopes: need them, no longer need them, or need a change made to them. Please let Lacey know by tomorrow, September 29th (churchoffice@stjohnnt.com or 716-693-9677 #2).

The **St. John Ladies Aid** is currently collecting donations for a December basket raffle. Please pick up a donation letter at the Information Center.



Food Pantry

In August, we were able to donate 16 bags of food and necessities to The North Tonawanda Inter-Church Food Pantry.

They are in need of fruit cocktail and Thanksgiving "fixins".

GIVING UPDATE:

August Giving:

In-person: \$16,298.00

Online: \$6,123.70

Total: \$22,321.70



Congratulations and God's blessings

Daniel and Hallie (Dworzanski) Ball,
who were joined in marriage Saturday, September 20, 2025
here at St. John Lutheran Church.

AT THE SCHOOL



*Nurturing children
academically and
spiritually toward a
life of witness and
service in Christ.*



Greetings St. John families,

We are treasuring these beautiful fall days. Our Bible words for the week are from Psalm 5:11, "But let all who take refuge in You rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you." This ties in beautifully with our theme.

Did you know...

- Our teachers are attending a conference in St. Louis, MO Thursday-Saturday, October 2nd-4th. Over 3,000 Lutheran School educators from across the USA and the world will gather for workshops, fellowship, ministry-minded encouragement, and fun.
- Our fundraiser was a huge success. Our profit was above \$9,500. We are so pleased to celebrate with a Petting Zoo and holding a kangaroo on October 8th.
- Picture day is coming up! Tucked in the small hall area leading to the cafeteria is a poster of our school family last school year. We look forward to showing our church members all of these smiling faces on a new poster in the weeks ahead.
- St. John soccer players are thrilled to play on our own home field. Come cheer on the EAGLES on Monday, September 29th and Wednesday, October 1st beginning at 4 PM.

Blessings,
Katie Gundell
Principal

St. John Lutheran PTL's
Holiday
CRAFT SHOW &
VENDOR FAIR
November 15, 2025
9:00 A.M. - 2 P.M.
6950 Ward Road
North Tonawanda, NY 14120
FOOD - BASKET RAFFLE - CRAFTS
VENDORS - UNIQUE GIFTS
+2.00 admission
Students are free
for more information contact
Lynn 716-523-8589
stj-ptl@stjohnnt.com



- Lunch help. Helpers needed to serve lunch and to run the dishwasher. Monday-Friday, 11 am - 1 pm. Help one day or all of them!

Please call Terrie Licht at 716-693-9677, option 1 to schedule.

Starts October 14th for
6 weeks

Tuesday Evenings, 6-8 PM

Call Terrie with questions:
716-693-9677, opt. 1



IN OUR PRAYERS

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 are two weeks left for prayer requests with the open circle.* Please use the back of your Connection Card or contact the church office if you would like to renew prayers or submit new requests.

- Owen Licht – Health concerns
 - Doug Ellman – Recovering from surgery
 - Frank Fillicetti – Kidney disease
 - Jim Birke – Recovering in rehab
-
- † For places of conflict: Ukraine & Israel
 - † For more unity in our homes, 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

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

In the U.S. Military: David Hoppe, Stephen Marshall, 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.

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.