

St. John News

October 26, 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.

Sunday, October 26 – Reformation Celebration

- Handbell Practice – 8:00 AM
- Worship w/Communion – 9:00 AM
- Education – 10:15 AM

Wednesday, October 29

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

Saturday, November 1

- Men's Group – 7:00 AM

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday, November 2 - All Saints' Celebration

- Handbell Practice – 8:00 AM
- Worship w/Communion – 9:00 AM
- Education – 10:15 AM

Tuesday, November 4

- Elders Meeting – 6:30 PM

Wednesday, November 5

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



This symbol is an acronym for the Latin phrase *Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum* (The Word of the Lord Endures Forever) and was the motto of the Lutheran Reformation, a confident expression of the enduring power and authority of God's Word. The motto is based on 1 Peter 1:24–25, and the symbol first appeared in the court of Frederick the Wise in 1522 when he had it sewn on the sleeves of his courtiers.

It was soon found on flags, banners, swords and helmets, personal seals, and church doorways and foundation stones.

Today, you will primarily find this symbol on church paraments (the cloths used in the sanctuary). Still, in an increasingly secular society, we turn to God's Holy Word to know His will – especially that all might be saved in His loving act of redemption through Jesus.

As we remember the Reformation today, we stand together with our brothers and sisters to say

Sola Gratia (Grace Alone)

Sola Fide (Faith Alone)

Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone)

Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum



AT OUR CHURCH



**Adult Bible Study and Sunday School Today:
10:15 AM**

On Sunday, November 23 we will have a special presentation that will help you think through your will and estate plan with regard to the church. You love St. John and the people and ministry here - leave a legacy of support.

RSVP at the Information Center Table or through the church office (churchoffice@stjohnnt.com or 716-693-9677, option 2). Breakfast provided.

For more news in our church and school, and around our neighborhood and synod, make sure you are signed up for our weekly E-news. Contact the church office at churchoffice@stjohnnt.com.



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY is quickly approaching: Sunday, November 2. As part of our worship service on All Saints' Day we remember those who have died this past year (November 2024-October 2025) If you would like to add someone to this list please contact the office by Thursday, October 30 (email churchoffice@stjohnnt.com or call 716-693-9677, option 2). Tell us your loved one's name and the date they died.

Cemetery decorations, flower containers, etc.

To facilitate a year-end cleanup, the cemetery maintenance crew requests that all spring/summer potted plants and decorations that are on or in the grassy areas around headstones be removed by November 1, 2025. In addition, all winter, Christmas wreaths/decorations should be removed by April 15, 2026. The cemetery guidelines are available at the church office.



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

Our **annual church and school picnic** is a wonderful opportunity for our community to fellowship together. Peggy Meyer and Dennis Gauda have led for many years the team who organizes this event. St. John thanks both of them for stewarding their gifts for this ministry.

Is it your turn? Prayerfully consider if your skills of organization and communication can be used to bring our church/school family together over food. You would be well supported by the office staff and an array of willing volunteers.

If you would like to know more, please contact either Peggy (716-417-5748) or Dennis (716-228-7765).

September Giving:

Online: \$7,337.64

In person: \$15,361.00

Total: \$22,698.64

Food Pantry

In September, we were able to donate 9 bags of food to The North Tonawanda Inter-Church Food Pantry.

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

AT OUR SCHOOL



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



Greetings St. John families,

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9. Our St. John family will celebrate the Reformation on Friday, October 31st. What a blessing to receive forgiveness, life, and salvation through Jesus.

Did you know...

- We are so grateful to be able to use our home field this season. Our varsity all stars are: Piper Christ, Jayden Moskalenko, Sophia Coric, Luke Wentz, and Isaac Reed. Congratulations and GO EAGLES!
- Our 1st quarter Chapel mission offerings will go to children/families who are dealing with chronic illness and long hospital stays. The organization is called Stones' Buddies through Oshei/Golisano Children's Hospital. Our next Chapel mission opportunity is through Samaritan's purse. Consider supporting Operation Christmas Child and filling a box for a boy or girl to be blessed at Christmas time. More information to come...

Blessings,
Katie Gundell
Principal



Hi! Join us in earning money for our school by using the Box Tops app. It's an easy way to make a difference.

- Scan QR CODE
- Download Box Tops APP
- **Search for School – zip code 14120**
Select St. John Lutheran (Ward Rd)

Plus, use referral code TU7M9I9F when you sign up and get 25 Bonus Box Tops when you scan your first receipt, while supplies last.

Use the link below to download the Box Tops app:



There are easy ways to earn money for our school with shopping you're already doing. Here's how at Tops:

1. **Register** your Tops Bonus Card at TopsMarkets.com/Education. Choose St. John as the benefits recipient.
2. **Shop** using your Tops Bonus Card.
3. **Earn** up to 5% for St. John School.

For by
GRACE
you
have
been
saved
through faith.
EPHESIANS 2:8. NRSV

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 is one week left for prayer requests with the filled square.* Please use the back of your Connection Card or contact the church office if you would like to renew prayers or submit new requests.

- The family and friends of Beth Keating (mother of Pastor Keating) at her passing last week.
 - Maria Stainsby (5th grade teacher) – Healing for her broken wrist
 - Mary Salefske – Health concerns
 - The family and friends of Paul Lamprecht (brother-in-law of Linda Sonnen) at his passing
 - Herb Meissner – Home recovering
 - Owen Licht – Recovering from surgery
 - The family and friends of Katherine “Judy” Pankow at her passing
- † 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

Owen Arizmendi, George Barnett, Jason Barry, Frank Cornell, Doreen & Larry Damba, Martha Darlak, Carol Donner, Shelly Erwin, Paul Greinert, Rick Hamilton, Bev Harder, Elsbeth Kaus, Annie Kelly, Barb Manning, Dennis Martin, Donna Martin, Ken Musall, Doug Rich, Rosie Siegmann, Mary Schlegl, Jaycee Schmitz, Donald Schultz, Kim Snell, Matthew Wallace, Doris Wollaber

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.