

# St. John News

November 16, 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.*

## UPCOMING Events

### Sunday, November 16

#### Poinsettia Orders Due

- Handbell Practice – 8:00 AM
- Worship – 9:00 AM
- Choir Practice – 10:15 AM
- Education – 10:15 AM

### Wednesday, November 19

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

### Thursday, November 20

- Church Council – 6:30 PM

### Saturday, November 22

- Men's Group – 7:00 AM

### Sunday, November 23

- Handbell Practice – 8:00 AM
- Worship – 9:00 AM
- Choir Practice – 10:15 AM
- Sunday School – 10:15 AM
- Lutheran Faith Class – 10:15 AM
- Legacy Class – 10:15 AM

### Wednesday, November 26

- Thanksgiving Eve Worship – 7:00 PM

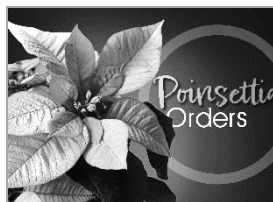
### Food Pantry

*Food banks are in recovery due to the government shutdown. If you are able to help fill their shelves and prepare for the holidays, please bring in items.*

Canned meats (tuna/chicken/etc.), pasta and sauces, soups and stews are helpful. Also personal hygiene (think soap, shampoo, razors), feminine products, and baby care would be helpful.

Put items in the box under the information center. We will deliver the items to the pantry throughout the week.

Thank you for your help.



Poinsettia orders are due TODAY November 16. Forms can be found on the Information Center table or near the Worship Center doors.

Thank you to all who donated gift cards and certificates for the Ladies Aid Fall Fundraiser. **Starting today, November 9<sup>th</sup>**, we will be selling raffle tickets to win a Christmas Tree board filled with all of those wonderful gift cards and certificates. Tickets are \$5 for one and \$10 for three. Please support the Ladies Aid as we continue over 100 years of support for St. John's projects and improvements.



### Hospitality Ministry



Hospitality is looking for a few more volunteers to be on one of our Hospitality teams! The commitment is minimal; you would only need to bring in a plate of goodies once a month, on a rotating basis. That's it! Please contact Cheryl Oliver at 716-909-7938, or see me at church if you can help out with this ministry...your participation would be much appreciated!

## AT OUR CHURCH



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

*The Lutheran Faith at St. John* Want to know more about what we believe and how that faith lives out at St. John, or looking to become a member? Join Pastor Mike next **Sunday, November 23 at 10:15 am** as he goes over our basic Lutheran beliefs and what it means to be a member of St. John. Come with your questions or just to learn more about St. John.

**NEVER  
STOP  
LEARNING**

Also on **Sunday, November 23 at 10:15 am** members are encouraged to attend 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.

**Offering Envelopes** are in! If you have a flock box, you will find your offering envelopes for 2026 in it. If you are missing a flock box, or you are missing envelopes you were expecting, please contact Lacey in the church office: 716-693-9677, opt. 2 or churchoffice@stjohnnt.com.

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).

**Giving for the Month of October:**

In-person: \$14,461

Online: \$8,063

**Total: \$22,524**



The St. John Ladies Aid will meet **TODAY, November 16**, following worship.

## AT OUR SCHOOL



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



Greetings St. John families,

*"Give thanks to the God of gods, for His steadfast love endures forever."*

Psalm 136

The month of November is a special time to remember all of our blessings and give God thanks!

Did you know...

- Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are being filled for boys and girls to be blessed at Christmas time. Thank you for participating with the students.
- Our Vendor Fair was on Saturday, as was a wonderful time for all!
- Basketball teams are beginning their season with practices this week. A schedule of their games will be shared soon. Go eagles!
- Our first quarter ended on Friday. The teachers met with families about their child's progress and ways to create a strong partnership between church and home.
- Our next Family Fellowship event is on December 8th. Mark your calendar and plan on Christmas caroling with the group beginning at 6 PM.

Blessings,  
Katie Gundell  
Principal

**December, 8th 6:00pm**  
FAMILY FELLOWSHIP  
*Christmas Caroling*

JOY to the WORLD  
SILENT NIGHT HOLY NIGHT

Meet at St. John Lutheran @6pm for cookies, hot cocoa, and directions!



### Gift Cards for Christmas!

Did you know that St. John has gift cards available for special occasions and your everyday needs? Shop our scrip program and a portion of each sale goes to St. John Parent Teacher League which helps fund all our student activities and events. Please check out the link below for how to use the RaiseRight app.

<https://youtu.be/1jBU1SSEZvE>

\*If you prefer to order on paper, fill out an order form located in the narthex and return by December 10 to be returned in time for Christmas giving.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

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 for prayer requests with the open 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.

- Dennis and Donna Martin - Health concerns and Donna recovering from broken hip
- Ralph Licht – Health concerns
- Meredith Roberts (daughter of Sara Dexheimer Roberts) – Hospitalized
- Brenda Giroux (neighbor of Frank and Kathy Wendt) – Battling cancer
- Heidi Sue Mumm – Healing
- Ernie Hoover – Upcoming surgery
- For the Sheldon family at the sudden death of their husband and father, Christopher
- The family and friends of Beth Keating (mother of Pastor Keating) at her passing last week.
- Maria Stainsby (5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher) – Healing for her broken wrist
- Mary Salefske – Health concerns

- † For places recovering from hurricanes and typhoons this season
- † 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, 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.