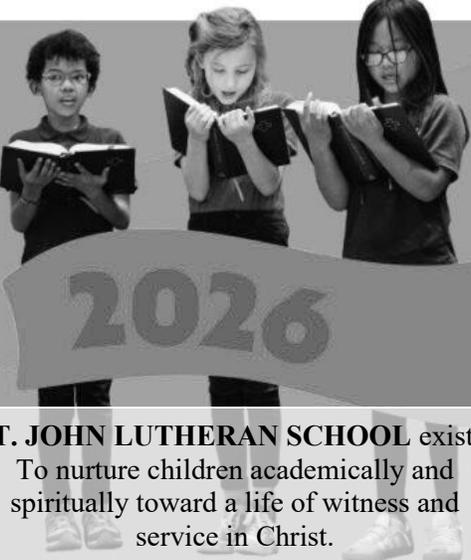




NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
February 1, 2026

Let's
Make
a Joyful
Noise PSALM 98:4



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL exists:
To nurture children academically and
spiritually toward a life of witness and
service in Christ.

AS WE GATHER

National Lutheran Schools Week is an opportunity for us to come together as a community of believers across the nation and around the world to celebrate the joy and purpose found in Lutheran education. Our theme, drawn from Psalm 98:4, is a powerful and vibrant call to action: "Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" Psalm 98 invites us to lift our voices in response to the marvelous things God has done — from creation to salvation — and to His constant care in our daily lives. What a fitting focus for a week in which students, teachers, families and congregations join to reflect on the blessings of Lutheran schools. Each school — no matter the size or setting — is part of a beautiful symphony of joyful noise to the Lord.

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; "OAR" is the multi-color book.

WELCOME & INVOCATION

JOYFUL NOISE LITANY

HYMN: "JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE"

LSB 803

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 98

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Colossians 3:12-17

HOLY GOSPEL READING

Luke 19:28-40

APOSTLES' CREED

SPECIAL MUSIC

To God Be the Glory – St. John School Students

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN: "IN CHRIST ALONE"

OAR 241

SERMON

OFFERING

St. John School Handbells

LUTHERAN JUNIOR HONOR ASSOCIATION*

See names on page 5

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: "EARTH AND ALL STARS"

LSB 817, sts. 1-3, 5-6

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 READING*Luke 19:28–40*

²⁸When [Jesus] had said these things, he went on
ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹When he drew near
to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is
called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying,
“Go into the village in front of you, where on
entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one
has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If
anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you
shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’” ³²So
those who were sent went away and found it just as
he had told them. ³³And as they were untying the
colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you
untying the colt?” ³⁴And they said, “The Lord has
need of it.” ³⁵And they brought it to Jesus, and
throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on
it. ³⁶And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks
on the road. ³⁷As he was drawing near—already on
the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole
multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and
praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty
works that they had seen, ³⁸saying, “Blessed is the
King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in
heaven and glory in the highest!” ³⁹And some of
the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher,
rebuke your disciples.” ⁴⁰He answered, “I tell you,
if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

- 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	
PreK 3	Katie Marzano	
PreK 4	Jessica Chambers	
Kindergarten	Heidi Sue Mumm	
1st Grade	Adrienne Orłowski	
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	Valerie Nicholas	
AIS	Carol Szalach	
7th/8th Grade	Rick Lyons (Science, Religion, History, Life Skills, PE)	
Instrumental	Dave Manth	
Piano	Steve Parisi	
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 Greene and Virginia Markel	

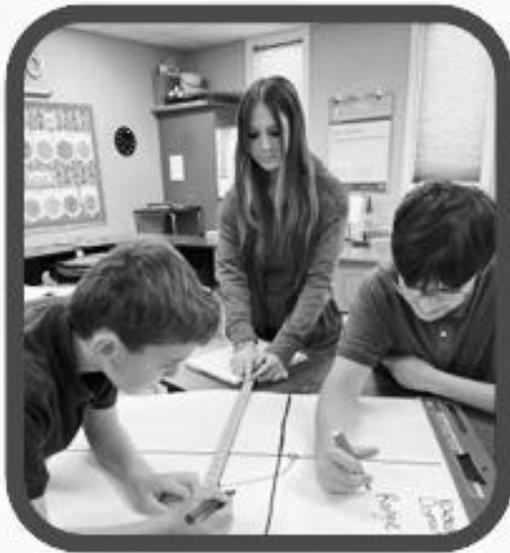
Class Sponsors

**These are church members who regularly interact with specific classes, to enrich the relational experience between church and school.*

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

Blessed by their service in worship today:

Liturgist/Preacher:	Rev. Michael Borgstede	Organist:	Doreen Sutherland
Elders for February:	Bob Borgstede & Bruce Sutherland	Acolyte:	Lucy Schultz
Reader Today:	Connie Craig & Jessie Chambers, teachers	A/V:	Dennis Kelly
Children's Message:	Katie Gundell, School Administrator		
Counting Team Today:	Diane Milne, Suzette Drenko, Donna House		
Greeters for February:	Jim & Cheryl Oliver		
Hospitality Today:	Cheryl & Jim Oliver, Doreen Sutherland, John Rosebrock, Diana Harder		
Education Hour Teachers:	Lorrie Weir, no Adult Bible study		



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

PK-Grade 8

Tuesday, January 27, 6-7:30 pm
Tuesday, February 10, 6-7:30 pm
Tuesday, March 3, 6-7:30 pm



St. John's Purpose Statement:
To nurture children academically
and spiritually toward a life of
witness and service in Christ.



PROGRAM FEATURES :

- ✓ Faith, Character, and Academic Excellence
- ✓ Friendly and Caring Environment
- ✓ Nationally Accredited
- ✓ Family and School Partnership
- ✓ Daily Christian Instruction



716-693-9677



www.stjohnnt.com

6950 Ward Road
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

St. John News

February 1, 2026



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, February 1

National Lutheran Schools Sunday

- Worship, NO Communion – 9:00 AM
- Clothing Exchange – 10:15 AM
- Sunday School – 10:15 AM
- NO Adult Bible Study

Monday, February 2

- Board of Ed Meeting – 6:30 PM

Tuesday, February 3

- Elders' Meeting – 6:30 PM

Wednesday, February 4

- School Chapel – 8:30 AM
- Worship, NO Communion – 7:00 PM

Saturday, February 7

- Men's Group – 7:00 AM

Sunday, February 8

- Worship w/Communion – 9:00 AM
- Sunday School – 10:15 AM
- NO Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, February 10

- STREAM Open House – 6:00 PM

Wednesday, February 11

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

Saturday, February 14

- Men's Group – 7:00 AM

Sunday, February 15

- Worship w/Communion – 9:00 AM
- Education Hour – 10:15 AM

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

WELCOME, SCHOOL FAMILIES AND GUESTS

Today is a special day in our year when we intentionally join together as school and church family to thank our God, who has given us St. John Lutheran School.

Thank you for participating!

Following worship, please stay for refreshments and fellowship.



Congratulations to the following students

inducted today:

Piper Christ
Sophia Coric
Isaac Greene
Jacqueline Insalaco
Jayden Moskalenko
Levi Northrup
Megan Reynolds
Lucy Schultz
Mackenzie Sisson

At the School



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



Greetings St. John families,

Happy Lutheran Schools Week! St. John is pleased to celebrate this special week with schools nationwide. (Please check out the data provided in the Newsletter about Lutheran Schools nationwide). Our week was filled with daily, all-school devotions, special dress and activities. We're glad to have our students here this week to sing during the service. Our pews will be full, and we will worship as a church/school community. We are so grateful for the financial support, prayers, and encouragement from our church members. St. John Lutheran school is an arm of the church; gathering children daily to hear the love of Jesus. It is a wonderful blessing!

Did you know...

- Our first Open House went well this month. Encourage families, neighbors, and friends to learn more about our PreK3-8th grade educational program. Our next one is **Tuesday, February 10th, 6-7:30 PM**. STREAM night will also be featured throughout the building. Our talented teachers and staff are eager to greet new students.
- Re-enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year is underway. We are pleased to start thinking about the 181st school year at St. John.
- Our accreditation Self-Study is wrapping up. In just a couple of weeks, we will pass the study off to the LCMS site visit team and they will come in March for 3 days, March 18-20, to validate our report. This is a big endeavor led by the Board of Christian Education, pastor, teachers, staff, committee members, and me. The accreditation process takes place every five years and keeps our St. John school ministry focused on our purpose statement, a healthy school climate, commitment to leadership, quality personnel, rigorous and faith-based curriculum, a variety of student services, a safe and well-maintained facility, and a focus on good financial stewardship. Continue to keep our school community in your prayers as we celebrate the blessing of sharing the Gospel of Jesus each day through a quality, Christian Education.

Blessings,
Katie Gundell
Principal

STREAM Open House: Tuesday, February 10, 6-7:30 PM. Come enjoy projects and interactive displays in science, technology, religion, art, and mathematics.

Signs of Lent

2026

Sundays at 9:00 AM
Wednesdays at 7:00 PM,
Ash Wednesday through Easter.

ASH WEDNESDAY
Wednesday, February 18

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY
Sunday, March 29

MAUNDY THURSDAY
Thursday, April 2

GOOD FRIDAY
Friday, April 3

EASTER
Sunday, April 5



Men's Group: Meets most Saturdays at 7:00 AM. Whether you grew up in the church or are brand new to faith; whether you are sure of your salvation or still seeking answers – all men are invited to discuss the Bible and be supported and encouraged by each other.

Real Life Faith: Women's Bible studies groups are back in session. Gather with other women for 6-week sessions to be encouraged and enlightened by God's Word. Contact rlf@stjonnt.com to find a group convenient for you. (Days and times vary.)

New Member Sunday: St. John Church is formally welcoming new members on February 22. Please contact Pastor Mike if you would like to become a member, or would like more information on membership. You can also indicate this by marking it on your connection card ("How can we serve you?").



PRAISE THE LORD!

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– *Items with a filled square are on their final week on the prayer list.* Please use the back of your Connection Card or contact the church office if you would like to renew prayers or submit new requests.

- Stacey Vogel (Worker at Potter’s Field) – Health concerns
- Laura Ciffa (Wife of P.E. teacher, Sal) – Health concerns
- Donald Schultz (Grandpa of Ava) – Health concerns
- Amy Weir – Upcoming surgery
- Doris Wollaber – Recovering from a fall
- Ernie Hoover – Thanksgiving for recovery
- Sherry (mother of Rhiannan Stacey) – Rehab
- Roy Seiwel – Strength in circumstances

- ✝ For St. John school families
- ✝ For places of conflict
- ✝ 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.

Serving next week (February 8th):

Acolyte Next Week:	Charlotte Willis	A/V Next Week:	Matt Schultz
Reading Next Week:	Frank Wendt		
Counting Next Week:	Lorrie Weir, Marv Werth, Matt Schultz		
Hospitality Next Week:	Peggy & Doug Meyer, Lorrie Weir, Suzette Drenko, Sue Kenyon		