

St. John News

April 26-May 9, 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.

INDOOR GARAGE SALE & BAKE SALE with VENDORS, Too!

School Kids selling hotdogs!
Gift Card Raffle!

SATURDAY, 16 MAY, 2026, 9:00AM – 2:00PM

St. John Lutheran Church (gymnasium),
6950 Ward Rd, N. Tonawanda, NY 14120
(corner of Ward Rd & Niagara Falls Blvd)

Please call Susan (315) 729-3725 to reserve a \$20 table.

Table Reservations by May 2nd.

Checks must be received by May 8th.

Make payable to: "St. John Church Women", and mail to
St. John Lutheran Church at the above address.

Sellers set up Fri. 5/15 at 5:00pm; clean up 5/16 at 2:00pm



Sunday, April 26

*Gospel Lights sing and School Handbells play
Game night RSVPs due*

- Worship – 9:00 AM
- Education Hour – 10:15 AM

Wednesday, April 29

- School Chapel – 8:30 AM
- Family Fellowship – 6:00 PM
- Worship – 7:00 PM

Saturday, May 2

Garage Sale reservations due

- Men's Group – 7:00 AM
- Skate-A-Thon – 11:30 AM

Sunday, May 3

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

Monday, May 4

- Ladies Aid Game Night – 6:00 PM
- Board of Christian Ed Mtg – 6:30 PM

Tuesday, May 5

- Spring Cleaning – 3:15 PM
- Elders' Meeting – 6:30 PM

Wednesday, May 6

- School Chapel – 8:30 PM
- Confirmation Instruction – 3:00 PM
- Worship w/Communion – 7:00 PM

Saturday, May 9

- Men's Group – 7:00 AM

Sunday, May 10

- Mother's Day
- Worship – 9:00 AM
- Education Hour – 10:15 AM

Live in Concert



**MAY
23rd**

7:00pm

St. John Lutheran
6950 Ward Road
North Tonawanda

FIVE14

www.thebandfive14.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ladies Aid Game Night

Monday, May 4 in the multi-purpose room at 6:00 PM. Ladies, bring your cards for Euchre, Hand and Foot, Pinochle, etc. Bring your board games - Scrabble, Monopoly, Taboo, Yahtzee, Trivial Pursuit, etc. Bring your spouse or significant other.



RSVP by April 26 to Susan Kenyon (skenyon101@gmail.com) or Cheryl Oliver (coliver3338@gmail.com) or on the sheet on the Information Center Table.

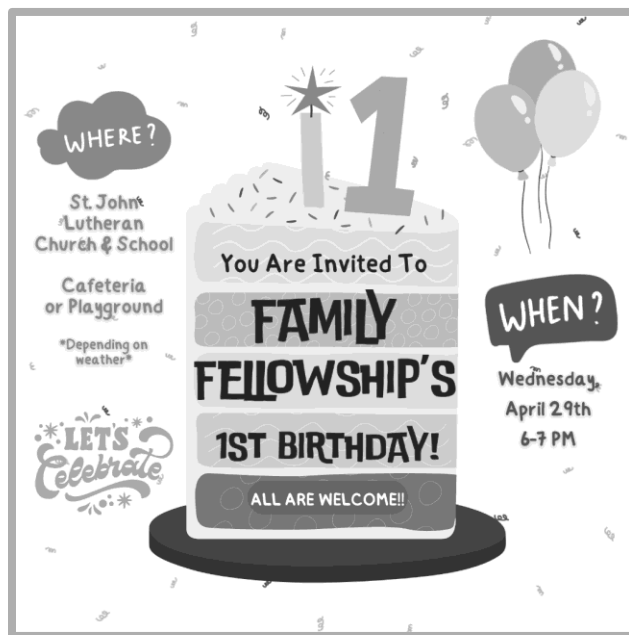
The North Tonawanda Inter-Church Food Pantry

For the first quarter (January through March), we gave 16 bags of food and toiletries. This makes a big difference to our area!

If you would like to contribute to the food pantry, St.

John makes it easy. Drop off your non-perishable food and personal care items in the large wooden bin under the Information Center.

A special Thank You to Diana Harder for regularly bringing donations to the pantry



GRADUATION is coming up!



If you have a high school or college graduate you would like to celebrate, please contact the church office (churchoffice@stjohnnt.com) this week with name, school graduating from, degree earned or going to college for, and next step (place of employment or college entering). We are excited to celebrate with you!

We will have a breakfast for the graduates and their immediate families at 8 am on Sunday, May 31st. If you would like to participate, please sign up by May 24th by telling Doreen Sutherland or contacting the church office.

We are looking for sponsors. If you are willing to make sure a graduate receives a care package or card from St. John once in a while, please contact Doreen Sutherland or the church office. Thank you.

There will be no regular worship June 17 due to School graduation service.

Ladies Aid's next meeting at Sunday, May 17th after the 9:00 AM worship service.

Last day of Sunday School and Adult Bible Class is May 17.

Blessed by their service May 3rd:

Liturgist/Preacher:	Rev. Michael Borgstede	Organist:	Doreen Sutherland
Elders for May:	Dennis Gaude & Bruce Sutherland	Reader Today:	Dennis Gauda
Children's Message:	Pastor Mike	A/V Today:	Roger Carr
Counting Team:	Cathy Schultz, Dan Schultz, Kathy Wendt	Greeters for May:	Cathy & Dan Schultz
Altar for May:	Lorri Argo, Lynn Kroening		
Hospitality:	Peggy & Doug Meyer, Lorrie Weir, Suzette Drenko, Sue Kenyon		
Education Hour Teachers:	Lynn and Pastor Mike		

Save the date Camp J.O.Y. LEGO time: Thursdays 9:30-11:30 am July 9-August 14, 2026.

Spring clean-up May 5th at 3:15 pm work alongside church and school families to beautify the grounds. Work will include mulching, weeding and planting. Bring your favorite shovel, rake, or other gardening tool.

Real Life Faith (RLF) Women's Groups are wrapping up their spring session. This first year has seen wonderful growth from one to six groups, with around 50 women participating in small group Bible study. Many women have felt a deeper connection to God's Word and strong mutual support within their groups.

Looking ahead, RLF will take a break for the summer and resume later in 2026 following the same format with sessions in the fall, winter (with a break for Christmas), and spring. For more information check out <https://stjohnnt.com/rlf/> or email rlf@stjohnnt.com. Check out the videos about RLF groups on St. John's YouTube channel <https://youtube.com/@stjohnlutheranwheatfieldny>.

AT THE SCHOOL

Greetings St. John families,



There is something special about spring. I love hearing the voices on the playground again, seeing the spring bulbs show their beauty, and all the colors return. It reminds me of the words from a common hymn, For the Beauty of the Earth “For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies. Christ, our Lord, to You we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.”

Did you know...

- Our Gospel Light Choir (grades 2-4) and Handbell Choir (select 7th and 8th graders) will participate in the worship service on April 26th.
- NYS exams are underway. Our school has ranked well academically and was noted as one of six A+ schools (public and private) in all of WNY according to Business first 2024. Most recently we were noted as the Top Lutheran School 2026 by Education Insider. To God be the glory!
- Enrollment is open for the 2026-2027 school year. Share information about St. John. Encourage family and friends to make an appointment to visit with me (716)693-9677 about our PreK3-8th grade quality, Christian education.
- This Saturday, May 2nd, our school children will be participating in a Skate-a-Thon. The funds raised will be allocated to the parking lot loan.
- Check out our April 22nd newsletter:



Blessings,

Katie Gundell, Principal

Skate-A-Thon 2026

On your mark, get set, skate!

Our upcoming Skate-A-Thon to support the PTL will take place on Saturday, May 2nd at St. John. Registration begins at 11:30 AM, with skating from 12:00–1:30 PM. Participants can join the fun using roller skates, rollerblades, or non-electric scooters.

This is a pledge-style fundraiser, encouraging students to stay active while raising money for our parking lot. It's a great way to combine fitness, fun, and community spirit!

Find a St. John student and see how you can sponsor their efforts!



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 an open 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.

- Thanking Jesus for all He did for us (Ava)
- Don Schroeder – Health concerns
- Ryan Gundell – Health concerns
- Annie Kelly and family at the death of her cousin, Suzie
- Pastor and Judy Vogler – Health concerns and life transitions
- Rosie Siegmann – In recovery
- April Smith – Ongoing cancer treatments
- For the family of Rita Marzano, Katie Marzano's grandmother, at her death on April 14
- Ava Schultz: for my family and friends' health
- Larry Damba (father of Terrie Licht) – Ongoing health concerns
- Isabella Borgstede – born to Savannah Hughes and Paul Borgstede (son of Pastor and Sara Borgstede) on April 4th
- Mother of Claire Newton – Cancer diagnosis
- Stacey Vogel (worker at Potter's Field) – Health concerns
- Laura Ciffa (wife of P.E. teacher, Sal) – Health concerns



- ✠ St. John School: Impact in our community for the Gospel of Christ.
- ✠ For beloved family members to be brought to faith.
- ✠ For places of conflict, especially Iran and Ukraine
- ✠ 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, Emma Gauda, 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.