



Feast of All Saints (observed)
2 November 2025

In the Congregation

Turn your clocks back before Sunday. Daylight saving time will take place this weekend, so set your clocks back before going to bed Saturday evening.

Return your pledge cards: The Board of Stewardship requests that you turn in your pledge card as soon as possible. Remember, you can email our bookkeeper, Coleen Akers, at cakers@stjlcms.org with your pledge. Printed copies of the cards are also available in the church office.

The Festival of Reformation Divine Service is on Friday, October 31 at 6:30 p.m. in the Nave (no incense included). Pastor Hjulberg from Christ Lutheran Church will be preaching. There will also be a special Reformation offering to support mission outreach in the Kansas District. The Feast of All Saints with the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed will be observed on Sunday, November 2 at both services.

Our next monthly breakfast will be potluck, served by the Council and board members, on Sunday, November 9. Join us after our early service for food and fellowship.

The 2026 Narrative Budget presentation by the Board of Stewardship will be on November 9 at 9:45 a.m. in Luther Hall, following monthly breakfast.

A new Bible Study will begin on the book Romans on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. between services, beginning November 16. All adults and high schoolers are encouraged to attend.

The Thanksgiving Eve Divine Service is on Wednesday, November 26 at 6:30 p.m. Join us in the nave as we worship and give thanks to God for all of our blessings.

Share the Harvest: St. John's members will again have the opportunity to "Share their Harvest." This donation goes to local agencies to assist the needy in the Topeka area. Use the "Share the Harvest" designated offering envelope from your contribution envelopes. Donations may be left in the offering plate or sent to the office by Sunday, November 30. The donations from "Share the Harvest" will be split 25% to each of these local agencies: Door Step, Let's Help, Topeka Rescue Mission and St. John's Human Care fund.

Our next scheduled voter's meeting is set for Sunday, November 23 at 12:30 p.m. in the Nave.

Altar flowers are given by Kay Everitt in loving memory of her children Lisa, David, and Cary.
The following dates are needed for flowers: November 30 and December 28.

Coming Up

Sunday

8:00 Divine Service
9:45 Sunday School/Bible Class
11:00 Divine Service
12:30 Adult Catechesis

Monday

8:30 Chapel
1:00 LWML Exec

Tuesday

8:30 Chapel

Wednesday

8:30 Chapel
10:00 Women's Bible Study
5:00-6:45 SWA with Closing Devotion

Thursday

8:30 Chapel
6:15 Ecclesia Bells
7:15 Kantorei

Sunday

8:00 Divine Service
9:15 Monthly Breakfast
9:45 Budget Presentation
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Divine Service
12:30 Adult Catechesis

Psalm of the Week... Psalm 27:1-9 (antiphon v. 8)

Hymn of the Week... LSB 828 "We Are Called to Stand Together"

Daily Readings...

Monday (11/3): Jeremiah 3:6-4:2; Matthew 22:1-22
Tuesday (11/4): Jeremiah 5:1-19; Matthew 22:23-46
Wednesday (11/5): Jeremiah 7:1-29; Matthew 23:1-12
Thursday (11/6): Jeremiah 8:18-9:12; Matthew 23:13-39
Friday (11/7): Jeremiah 11:1-23; Matthew 24:1-28
Saturday (11/8): Jeremiah 20:1-18; Matthew 24:29-51
Sunday (11/9): Jeremiah 22:1-23; Matthew 25:1-13

Prayer of the Week...

O Lord, grant to Your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve You with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Looking Forward to Next Week...

~ The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity ~
Exodus 32:1-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 24:15-28

Special Services

Friday, October 31, 6:30 p.m.

Festival of the Reformation
Divine Service (with no incense)
Guest preacher: Pastor Hjulberg

*We will observe All Saints Day on Sunday,
November 2 for both services.*

Wednesday, November 26, 6:30 p.m.

Eve of Thanksgiving
Divine Service

Welcome

We welcome Sarah Hjulberg as our new administrative assistant at St. John's. She began this past October 20, so if you see her in the church office be sure to say "hello" and introduce yourself.

Sarah is married to the Rev. Avery Hjulberg, the new pastor at Christ Lutheran Church.

She was formerly a writer for LCMS Communications, contributing to Reporter, The Lutheran Witness, and Lutherans Engage the World. Before that, she taught high school Great Books at a classical school in northern Virginia. She loves to read, cook, and garden.

Sarah grew up in St. Louis, Missouri.

Monthly Breakfast

Sunday, November 9, 9:15 a.m.

Potluck served by Council and Board members
The 2026 Narrative Budget will be presented by the Stewardship Board at 9:45 a.m. in Luther Hall.

Thank You

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the Golf Scramble and Oktoberfest. A lot of preparation and work went into these events, and we had a great turnout, wonderful fellowship, and a good time overall. A total of \$8,350 was raised for the school.

Thanks be to God!

~ SJCLS Board

Thank you very much for your donation of \$950 to the Old Latin School in July. We are very grateful for your support and praise our good God from who all blessings flow.

~Dr. Wilhelm Weber

Thank you to Pastor Wright and the St. John's family for all the support, prayers, cards, and notes during the difficult time of Chad's sickness and death.

~Nancy Taylor

Thank you for all who attended the LWML breakfast. Thank you also for your generous contribution of \$1,000 given to Dean's family and for the continual support for our many mission projects throughout the year.

~St. John's Women's League

Thank you for all the birthday cards and well wishes. God's blessings on everyone.

~Dale Addington

Bible Studies and Classes

Women's Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10am, studying the book of Revelation

Adult & High School Bible Study on Sundays at 9:45 a.m., **new Bible Study** on the book of Romans beginning November 16

Adult Catechesis Class on Sundays at 12:30 p.m., studying our Christian faith

Sound Words Academy

5:00	Meal, provided by volunteers and families
5:30-6:30	Youth Catechesis I in Room 201
	Youth Catechesis II & III in Room 202
	Issues Etc. Podcast recording in Luther Hall for adults
5:30-6:00	PreK-1st grade Jr. Lutherans downstairs Grades 2-4 music in Nave
6:00-6:30	Grades 2-4 Jr. Lutherans downstairs PreK-1st grade music upstairs
6:30-6:50	Chapel Devotion in Nave for everyone
6:50-7:10	Grades 5-8 Handbell Choir

St. John's Women's League

Mission Statement

Led by the Holy Spirit, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Kansas District will equip women to proclaim Christ, support missions and serve the Lord with gladness.

Meetings

Monday, November 3, 1pm: LWML Exec
Monday, November 11, 1:30 pm: Sarah Circle
Tuesday, November 12, 1pm: Dorcas Circle

Join us for our Annual Christmas Luncheon, Bazaar and Bake Sale on Friday, December 5.

Tickets for the soup luncheon will be sold in Luther Hall during the monthly breakfast on Sunday, November 9. Tickets will also be sold in the courtyard on Sunday, November 16, 23, and 30 between services. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 12.

Congregation members are encouraged to donate pies and cakes for the luncheon, and cookies for the cookie walk. Volunteers are also needed.

Youth Activities

Upcoming Dates:

Late November–early December
shop for family in need

Sunday, December 21 at 9:00 a.m.
Wrap presents for adopted family

Advent Midweek Services & Children's Christmas Service

This Advent we will be looking at various canticles (songs) in the Bible associated with Advent and the Christmas story. This series will be in conjunction with our Children's Christmas Service this year, "Saints and Angel Hosts Rejoice." Join us for our midweek services on Wednesdays in Advent on **December 3, 10, and 17 at noon and 6:30 p.m.** The PreK-8th grade Children's Christmas program "Saints & Angel Hosts Rejoice" will be on **Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m.**

Share the Harvest

This year, St. John's members will again have an opportunity to "Share their Harvest." This donation will go to local agencies to assist the needy in the Topeka area. The harvest will be gathered at services on Thanksgiving Day and the following Sunday.

Through "Share the Harvest" we will be able to direct those in need of assistance to a local agency that we support. Last year, \$1,716 was distributed in support of Topeka Rescue Mission (25%), Let's Help (25%), Doorstep, Inc. (25%), and St. John's Human Care (25%). We deeply thank you for your contribution to this human care effort. "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love endures forever." Psalm 107:1

Sing, Pray, and Keep His Ways

A few takeaways from the 26 October discussion about children in worship

- It's important for the parents to be intentional about teaching their children at home and at church how to live as a Christian, specifically in the Divine Service (posture, singing, participating, serving, etc.)
 - Home devotions are a part of a parent's calling to raise their child in the faith
 - The same motions that happen in the Divine Service can happen at home (begin by making the sign of the cross, read God's Word, pray, sing, etc.)
- It's important for the church/congregation members to encourage and support each other in these efforts through "mentors" and provide opportunities for children and adults to interact with each other in the midst of learning about the faith.
- Music in the church for children should be full of substance and purpose, and something they can grow into and not grow out of.
- Goals for St. John's:
 - Strengthen the idea of a "mentorship" within the congregation and more opportunities to connect children with other members of the congregation.
 - Be intentional about teaching children the purpose of what they do and sing in church.
 - Provide resources for parents in discussions about the Divine Service.
 - Establish ways in which children can help serve before, during, or after the Divine Service, even at a young age (i.e. music, altar guild, usher service, acolyte, etc.).

Financial Update

	Monthly	YTD
Treasurer's Report		
Sept 2025 Total Income(General Fund)	\$49,875.80	\$553,598.77
Sept 2025 Total Expenses	\$58,616.32	\$636,615.43
Current Monthly Total	(\$8,740.52)	(\$83,016.66)
Financial Secretary's Report		
Sept 2025 Contribution Receipts	\$46,229.30	\$508,558.85
Sept 2025 Projected Monthly Receipts	\$65,382.00	\$588,438.00
Over/Under Budgeted Contribution	(\$19,152.70)	(\$ 79,879.15)

Doorstep

Doorstep Newsletter Article – November 2025



Doorstep Christmas Project ~ 2025



Doorstep is adopting 260 households with 800+ individuals from the Christmas Bureau again this year. We need your help to make Christmas bright for these families and individuals.

We need the following NEW items:

(Needed by 12/9/25)



Household Items:

- ♦ Sauce Pans, Dutch Ovens & Crockpots
- ♦ Kitchen Utensil Sets
- ♦ Kitchen Food Storage Sets
- ♦ Laundry Baskets & Cleaning Supplies (glass, all-purpose, toilet, micro-towels, dish soap)
- ♦ Queen & King Sheet Sets (darker colors)



Toys, Teens & Gifts:

- ♦ Learning Toys ex: Vtech
- ♦ Basketballs & Footballs
- ♦ Teen Books ~ Fantasies
- ♦ Family Board Games
- ♦ Dominoes & Card Games
- ♦ Canvases (Value Packs)
- ♦ Paints & Brushes
- ♦ Ear Buds & Headphones



Women's Gifts:

- ♦ Candles
- ♦ Nail Sets
- ♦ Body Care Sets (Body Wash, Lotion, Spray)



Men's Gifts:

- ♦ Wallets
- ♦ Tool Sets
- ♦ Body Care Sets (Axe, Adidas, Old Spice)

Money for Gift Cards & Food

Visit Doorstep's Walmart Christmas Registry:

<https://bit.ly/doorstepchristmas2024>

Purchase gifts directly from our registry!

Visit Doorstep's Amazon Wish List:

<https://a.co/ff4EokG>

Purchase gifts directly from our list!

Volunteer Opportunities:

Tuesday, December 16th ~ Opportunities from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm.
(Lunch provided)

Wednesday, December 17th ~ Opportunities available from: 8:30am – 1:30pm,
1:30pm – 4:30pm and 4:30pm - 7:30pm. (Lunch & Dinner provided)

Thursday, December 18th ~ Opportunities available from 8:30am – 12:30pm and
12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

Call Doorstep (785) 357-5341 to sign up & help during distribution week!



Doorstep is located at 1119 SW 10th, 66604 (10th & Buchanan).
Christmas Donation hours are Monday - Friday, 9am - 2pm through Dec. 12th.

You can mail your monetary donations, or use our website:
DoorstepTopeka.org under the Donate Tab.



A Teacher's Book Review by Bethany Johnson:
"Wisdom and Eloquence"

by Robert Littlejohn and Charles T. Evans

(Since the beginning of August, the teachers have been reading and discussing this book during their staff meetings.)

This book begins by defining the purpose of education in light of the Christian educational life, or "discipleship." True wisdom comes from God's Word that is the foundation for everything else that we learn. Eloquence, then, encourages students to think, discern, and behave wisely, putting "proper words in proper places." As the book puts it, "we aim to shape individuals who are both heavenly minded and capable of doing great earthly good." Perfection in this area is ultimately centered in the person of Christ, from which truth, goodness, and beauty flow.

Through a community of faith and learning, a liberal arts approach to education provides a "worldview, a mind-set, and an ethos" that is connected more with inherited tradition and knowledge from the past. The majority of education should be reading: students reading aloud, students reading silently, and teachers reading aloud from great works. This sharpens their listening skills, awakens their imagination and creativity, and instills a deeper love for stories.

Throughout the areas and subjects of the trivium and quadrivium, we as teachers assist the parents in developing the students' habits of mind and heart, leading them into "the conversation of the ages," and connecting what is ordinary to the sublime of God's existence in our lives, as evident in His Word, which is God's wisdom given to us in Christ.

Prayer

O keep me watchful, then, and humble;
Permit me nevermore to stray.
Uphold me when my feet would stumble,
And keep me on the narrow way.
Fill all my nature with Thy light,
O Radiance strong and bright!
LSB 694:4



Highlights

- Memorizing the Close of the Commandments
- Learning about Cain and Abel, the Genealogy of Death, Noah and the Flood, God's Covenant, and Job (suffering of the cross)
- Building the Tower of Babel with marshmallows and toothpicks
- Reading "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" (5/6)
- Reading "Farmer Boy" (3)
- Reading "The Courage of Sarah Noble" (2)
- Singing for Marlene Clemmer's funeral
- Learning solfege in choral music class
- Making fall landscape collages in art
- "Ars longa vita brevis" – "Art is long and life is short" (5/6)
- Reading stories for American Studies
- Making cards for our veterans
- Building candy corn catapults

November 2026
 St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19th SUNDAY after TRINITY 8amDIVINESERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	26 8:30 CHAPEL	27 St. Simon & St. Jude 8:30 DIVINE SERVICE 6:30pm COUNCIL	28 8:30 CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm DEVOTION	29 8:30 CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	30 REFORMATION DAY 6:30pm DIVINE SERVICE in NAVE	1 ALL SAINTS DAY
ALL SAINTS DAY (observed) 8amDIVINESERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	2 8:30 CHAPEL 1pm LWML EXEC	3 8:30 CHAPEL	4 8:30 CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm DEVOTION	5 8:30 CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	6 8:30 CHAPEL	7 8:30 CHAPEL
THIRD LAST SUNDAY 8amDIVINESERVICE 9:15am MONTHLY BREAKFAST 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	9 8:30 CHAPEL 1:30pm SARAH CIRCLE 5:30pm STEWARDSHIP	10 8:30 CHAPEL 1pm DORCAS CIRCLE 4pm PARISH ED 4pm SJCLS 4:30pm TRUSTEES 6pm MISSONS/EVANG	11 8:30 CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm DEVOTION	12 8:30 CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 6:30pm ELDER CALLING 7pm ELDERS 7:15pm KANTOREI	13 8:30 CHAPEL	14 8:30 CHAPEL
SECOND LAST SUNDAY 8amDIVINESERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	16 8:30 CHAPEL	17 8:30 CHAPEL	18 8:30 CHAPEL 9:00 BRAILLE 6:30pm COUNCIL	19 8:30 CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm DEVOTION	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 8:30 CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	21 8:30 CHAPEL
LAST SUNDAY 8amDIVINESERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm VOTERS MEETING	23 8:30 CHAPEL	24 8:30 CHAPEL	25 6:30pm THANKSGIVING EVE DIVINE SERVICE	26 8:30 CHAPEL	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28 OFFICE CLOSED
AD TE LEVAVI 8amDIVINESERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	30 8:30 CHAPEL 1pm LWML EXEC	1 8:30 CHAPEL	2 8:30 CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm VESPERS	3 8:30 CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	4 8:30 CHAPEL	5 8:30 CHAPEL



901 SW Fillmore, Topeka, KS 66606-1445

"CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED"



The Mission of the Church

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19–20a)

"So that we may obtain faith in Christ, God instituted the ministry of teaching the gospel and administering the sacraments. Through the gospel and sacraments, as through means, God gives the Holy Spirit who produces faith, where and when He wills, in those who hear the gospel."

(Augsburg Confession, Article 5)