



Septuagesima  
1 February 2026

## *In the Congregation*

**Holy Baptism:** Today through Holy Baptism the Lord forgives Kensington Lee, Montgomery Richard, Alexandria Palmer, and Rutherford Jay, the children of Alex and Rachel Paulson, all their sins, rescues them from death and the devil, and gives them eternal life. Their baptismal sponsors are Kevin and Jerri Ann Mills. Praise and thanks be to God!

**This Sunday at the 11:00 service we will have four adult confirmations** (Alex and Rachel Paulson and Kevin and Jerri Ann Mills). We give thanks to God for the gift of faith He has given to them through Word and Sacrament.

**A Divine Service for the Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord** will be held on Monday, February 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Nave.

**A new adult catechesis class will be starting in February.** Please contact Pastor Wright by February 8 if you are interested in attending the class or if you have any questions.

**Support our missions:** Our international missions commitment cards are now available and can be picked up from the table in the breezeway, the kiosk, or the fireside room. Fill one out and return it in the offering plate or to the church office by February 8. You can also email your commitment information to our bookkeeper, Coleen, at [cakers@stjlcms.org](mailto:cakers@stjlcms.org).

**Doorstep's "Souperbowl Sunday" is February 8!** Drop off canned soup and crackers at St. John's Doorstep area, located near Luther Hall, from February 6-8 to help stock Doorstep's food pantry. Doorstep's goal this year is to collect five tons (or 10,000 pounds) of food.

**The next monthly breakfast will be February 8** in Luther Hall after the early service. St. John's former men's group will serve pancakes. There will be no adult or high school Bible study, but the children's Sunday School will be held. We look forward to food and fellowship with you.

**St. John's Youth will go on a skiing and tubing trip on Saturday, January 31, weather permitting.** Contact Rachel Kathman or sign up on the youth board if you are interested in joining.

**Altar flowers are given by** Kay Everitt in memory of Cary and Shawn Rahmeier.  
*Flowers are needed for February 8.*

**In our prayers:** All those who are hospitalized along with our homebound members, including Marilyn Tuller, Barbara Waters, and Loretta Bauman.

## *Coming Up*

### **Sunday, February 1**

#### **SEPTUAGESIMA**

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:20 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

9:45 a.m. Bible Class/SS

11:00 a.m. Divine Service

### **Monday, February 2**

#### **PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD AND PURIFICATION OF MARY**

8:30 a.m. Chapel

1:00 p.m. LWML Exec

6:30 p.m. Divine Service in Nave

### **Tuesday, February 3**

8:30 a.m. Chapel

### **Wednesday, February 4**

8:30 a.m. Chapel

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study

5:00 p.m. SWA

6:30 p.m. Devotion

7:15 p.m. Kantorei

### **Thursday, February 5**

8:30 a.m. Chapel

### **Sunday, February 8**

#### **SEXAGESIMA**

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:15 a.m. Monthly Breakfast

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Divine Service

## *The Congregation at Prayer*

*A Guide for Daily Family Prayer*

*For the Week of February 1-7*

### **Psalm of the Week**

Psalm 95:1-9 (ant: v. 6)

### **Hymn of the Week**

"Salvation Unto Us Has Come" (*LSB 555*)

### **Daily Readings**

Monday (2/2): Zechariah 12:1-13:9;

Titus 1:1-2:6

Tuesday (2/3): Zechariah 14:1-21;

Titus 2:7-3:15

Wednesday (2/4): Job 1:1-22;

John 1:1-18

Thursday (2/5): Job 2:1-3:10;

John 1:19-34

Friday (2/6): Job 3:11-26;

John 1:35-51

Saturday (2/7): Job 4:1-21;

John 2:1-12

Sunday (2/8): Job 5:1-27;

John 2:13-25

### **Prayer of the Week**

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; 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**

*Sexagesima*

Isaiah 42:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31;

Matthew 3:13-17

## Bible Studies and Classes

Women's Bible Study on  
**Wednesdays at 10 a.m.**,  
studying the book of Revelation

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

A new adult catechesis class  
will begin soon.

### Shrove Tuesday

On Shrove Tuesday, February  
17, Pastor Wright will be  
available for private  
confession and absolution. A  
Sign Up Genius link will be  
posted on the website.

### Ash Wednesday

Lent begins on February 18.  
St. John's will hold Divine Services  
with Imposition of Ashes in the  
Nave at 12:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

### Midweek Services

Lenten Compline will be held at  
6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February  
25, March 4, 11, and 18. A Divine  
Service for the Annunciation of  
Our Lord will be held March 25 at  
6:30 p.m. *(Please note there will  
be no noon services during Lent  
this year.)*

## Anonymous Gift Match

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good."  
Thanks for the generosity of our  
anonymous donor and all who  
contributed to the gift match. St. John's  
received \$18,433.00, plus the \$10,000  
from the anonymous donor.



In the event of winter weather, unless you  
see a closure advertised on St. John's  
website, local news stations, and on  
Facebook, assume St. John's is open.

### Save the date!

**SJMA Music Camp** will be held  
9–11:30 a.m. on June 8–12 for  
children in 1st–5th grade.

**VBS** will be held 9–12:00 p.m. on  
June 22–26 for children  
PreK–5th grade. Older children  
are encouraged to volunteer!



*Birthday blessings  
are extended to...*



Ardeth Bean  
Pearl Radefeld  
Darlene Carr  
Eunice Cochran

# 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-Kindergarten Jr. Lutherans downstairs  
Grades 1-4 music in Nave

6:00-6:30 Grades 2-4 Jr. Lutherans downstairs  
PreK-1st grade music upstairs

6:30 **Chapel Devotion in the Nave for everyone**

6:50-7:10 Grades 5-8 Glockenchor (On break from rehearsals during Lent)

# Volunteers needed

St. John's needs volunteers to help clean up the coffee after Sunday morning fellowship. If you are interested in serving, please sign up! The sign-up sheet is on the kiosk in the Courtyard.



## Upcoming St. John's Youth and Family Events

### Skiing and tubing on Saturday, January 31 (weather permitting)

Contact Rachel Kathman or sign up on the youth board if you are interesting in joining  
More details to come soon.

### Trampoline park trip on Friday, February 20

### Go Ape Zipline and Treetop Course on Sunday, March 22

## Financial Update

Monthly

YTD

### Treasurer's Report

Dec 2025 Total Income( General Fund)

\$122,205.94

\$872,879.73

Dec 2025 Total Expenses

\$ 58,971.94

\$871,032.40

Current Monthly Total

\$ 63,234.00

\$ 1,847.33

### Financial Secretary's Report

Dec 2025 Contribution Receipts

\$116,942.84

\$813,493.66

Dec 2025 Projected Monthly Receipts

\$ 65,378.00

\$ 784,580.00

Over/Under Budgeted Contribution

\$ 51,564.84

\$ 28,913.66

# *St. John's Women's League*

*Thank you!*

LWML used the proceeds from the Bazaar to donate a total of \$7500. Recipients included Vicar Joseph Moore, the Joint Seminary Fund, St. John's Classical Lutheran School, Topeka Rescue Mission, Orphan Grain Train, Doorstep, and Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

*Save the date!*

41<sup>st</sup> Biennial Convention  
of the LWML Kansas District  
April 17-19, 2026

*Meetings*

**Monday, February 2, 1:00 pm:**  
LWML Exec

**Monday, February 9, 1:30 p.m.:**  
Sarah Circle

**Tuesday, February 10, 1:00 pm:**  
Dorcas Circle

# *2025 International Missions Support*

Our international missions commitment cards are now available and can be picked up from the table in the breezeway, the kiosk, or the fireside room.

Fill one out and return it in the offering plate or to the church office by February 8. You can also email your commitment information to our bookkeeper, Coleen, at [cakers@stjlcms.org](mailto:cakers@stjlcms.org).

**St. John's supports the following  
missionaries and missions:**

**Pastor Olav Panchu and  
Pastor Alexander Furs  
St. John Lutheran Church,  
Saratov, Russia**

**Pastor David Preus  
Romania**

**Pastor Wilhelm Weber  
Wittenberg, Germany**

**Luther Classical College  
Casper, Wyoming**

# Doorstep News: February 2026

The need for food assistance increased again in 2025. We provided a total of 3,094 food orders last year, 130 more than 2024! The 169,464 pounds of food provided meals for 7,771 of our neighbors, and we could not have done it without our Mission Members... You! We want to thank each of our Mission Members (formerly congregations) for continuing to partner with and support Doorstep in our many endeavors throughout each year! Whether it is a special event, collection of food, blankets, hygiene products, school supplies, Christmas gifts or money, as a group you come through time and time again to help your neighbors coming to Doorstep. It is clear from the past few years that food will continue to be a great need in Shawnee County and the surrounding area.

One way to help in the first part of 2026 is by donating items for our annual SouperBowl Sunday collection of soup and crackers!

During the weekend of the Super Bowl (February 6th–8th) we ask our faith communities and mission partners to collect soup (all varieties) and crackers to help stock our food shelves. A successful event will keep our pantry shelves stocked with soup for a few months, at least!

In 2025, we set a goal of 10,000 pounds, and unfortunately, we fell short of the goal... However, we still fed many of our neighbors with the 7,083 pounds we received!!!!

With the need continuing to rise, we are shooting for 5 tons again this year!! Please help us reach our goal and provide a warm meal at home for our neighbors!

**2026's Goal for SouperBowl Sunday weekend is 5 tons = 10,000 pounds of soup and crackers!**

Christmas Adoption Project Update: Doorstep adopted extra households in 2025 including 20 additional single men & women, and 5 households of 5. In total, with your help, we provided food, gift cards, blankets, health kits, toys, school supplies, household items, and gifts for 282 households involving 860 individuals. Thank you to EVERYONE who donated items, time and money to make 2025's Christmas Project a success!! With 55 Mission Members and the community working together, we can make a big impact in assisting our neighbors who need a hand up!

Thank you! ~ Lisa Cain

**Doorstep's 2026  
"SOUPERBOWL  
SUNDAY" IS  
FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>**



**BRING  
SOUP  
AND  
CRACKERS**



**TO YOUR FAITH  
COMMUNITY  
FEBRUARY 6th – 8th  
TO HELP STOCK  
DOORSTEP'S FOOD  
PANTRY!**

**Our Goal this year is 5 tons... 10,000 pounds!**

**Let's stock the shelves & feed our neighbors!!!**





## Learning About and Living Out Our Faith by Rachel Kathman

Students at St. John's Classical Lutheran School both learn about and live out their faith throughout the day, not just during specific Bible lesson times. For example, 5th and 6th graders recently finished reading two books by C.S. Lewis: *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* and *The Magician's Nephew*.

C.S. Lewis is a renowned author and Christian apologist, and his novels have many allegories (similarities) to the Bible. For example, Aslan the lion creates the world, sin enters the world, and Aslan sacrifices himself to pay for man's sin. Students identified and discussed these allegories and then wrote essays on them.

Another example of learning about and living out the faith is that the 3rd–6th grade students participated in the March for Life this past month at the capitol with other members of the Kansas District. During writing time, they wrote persuasive essays on abortion, and during art time, they created signs to carry during the March. Students are learning about God, His Word, and His gift of life throughout the day, all while receiving a top-notch education as well.



## Prayer

Dear Jesus, we thank you for sending us your Holy Spirit to call us by the Gospel, to enlighten us with his gifts, and to sanctify the whole Christian church on earth, keeping it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. Grant that we continue to be your own and live eternally with you forever. Amen.



## Highlights

- Memorizing the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed
- Learning about Joseph forgiving his brothers, God saves Israel, and Moses
- Reading about Famous Men of Rome (5/6)
- Reading *Lassie* (5/6)
- Reading *Charlotte's Web* (3)
- Reading *Little House in the Big Woods* (2)
- Reading *Caps for Sale* (1)
- Creating art entries for the FAI International Aviation Art contest (3-6)
- Making snowflakes and reading "Snowflake Bentley" (K-2)
- Listening to Mozart's music
- Learning Latin roots in spelling words
- Taking walks outside for P.E. (3-6)
- Singing in church for National Lutheran Schools Week
- writing persuasive essays in grammar (3-6)
- Translating more stories Latin (5-6)
- Making their own mosaics (3-6)
- Attending the March for Life (3-6)

# February 2026

# St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>SEPTUAGESIMA</b> 8am DIVINES SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	<b>2</b> <b>PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 1pm LWML EXEC 6:30 DIVINE SERVICE in Nave	<b>3</b> 8:30am CHAPEL	<b>4</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm DEVOTION 7:15pm KANTOREI	<b>5</b> 8:30am CHAPEL	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>SEXAGESIMA</b> 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:15am MONTHLY BREAKFAST 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am DIVINE SERVICE	<b>9</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 1:30pm SARAH CIRCLE	<b>10</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 1pm DORCAS CIRCLE	<b>11</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm DEVOTION	<b>12</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 6:30pm ELDER CALLING 7pm ELDERS 7:15pm KANTOREI	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>QUINQUAGESIMA</b> 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	<b>16</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 5:30pm STEWARDSHIP	<b>SHROVE TUESDAY 17</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 4pm PARISH ED 4pm SJCLS 4:30pm TRUSTEES 6pm MISSONS/EVANG	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY 18</b> 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12pm ASH WEDNESDAY DIVINE SERVICE 5pm SWA 6:30pm ASH WEDNESDAY DIVINE SERVICE	<b>19</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>INVOCABIT</b> 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	<b>23</b> 8:30am CHAPEL	<b>ST. MATTHIAS 24</b> 8:30am DIVINE SERVICE 9:00am BRAILLE 6:30pm COUNCIL	<b>25</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm LENTEN COMPLINE	<b>26</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>REMINISCERE</b> 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	<b>2</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 1pm LWML EXEC	<b>3</b> 8:30am CHAPEL	<b>4</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm LENTEN COMPLINE	<b>5</b> 8:30am CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>





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)*