



Reminiscere
1 March 2026

In the Congregation

A special Voters Meeting will be held between services at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, March 1, to discuss the construction of St. John's Classical Lutheran School classrooms in the lower level beneath Luther Hall.

Easter lily order forms are now available. Look for the insert in this week's bulletin. Order forms and payment must be returned to the church office by Monday, March 2.

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

Daylight Savings: Don't forget to reset your clocks on Saturday, March 7!

[RSVP here for next week's Lenten dinner.](#) Dinner will be served from 5:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. prior to Lenten Compline. French toast sticks and breakfast burritos are on the menu. If you are able, you can sign up to bring an additional side or dessert, or volunteer to help clean up. Even if you forget to RSVP, please still come!

There will be no Sound Words Academy on Wednesday, March 18 due to spring break. This means there is no meal or Jr. Lutherans. However, Lenten Compline at 6:30 p.m. will still be held. During Holy Week, there will be no Sound Words Academy on Wednesday, April 1.

March is St. John's month at Doorstep. Wednesdays in March (and one Monday—March 9) are our days to go volunteer at Doorstep. Please contact Chris Graversen if you can help.

The next monthly breakfast will be Sunday, March 8. St. John's Lutheran Braille Workers group will host. This breakfast is potluck.

An altar guild training session will be held on Sunday, March 8 during the monthly breakfast. If you have ever been interested in altar guild, now is a great time to learn! St. John's altar guild is in need of 9–12 more people to serve.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 15! After the late service, the LWML ladies will be hosting lunch and a game afternoon for families. See the LWML section below for more details.

Please note: A few members have recently reported receiving scam emails from Pastor Wright asking for gift cards. Be careful what you click on and remember, Pastor Wright and other St. John's staff will never email you asking for gift cards.

In our prayers: All those who are hospitalized along with our homebound members.

Coming Up

Sunday, March 1

REMINISCERE

8:00 a.m. Divine Service
9:20 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
9:45 a.m. Special Voters Meeting
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Divine Service
12:30 p.m. Adult Catechesis

Monday, March 2

8:30 a.m. Chapel
1:00 p.m. LWML Exec

Tuesday, March 3

8:30 a.m. Chapel

Wednesday, March 4

8:30 a.m. Chapel
10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
5:00 p.m. SWA
6:30 p.m. Lenten Compline

Thursday, March 5

8:30 a.m. Chapel
6:15 p.m. Ecclesia Bells
7:15 p.m. Kantorei

Sunday, March 8

OCULI

8:00 a.m. Divine Service
9:15 a.m. Monthly Breakfast
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Divine Service
12:30 p.m. Adult Catechesis

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Family Prayer
For the Week of March 2–8*

Psalm of the Week

Psalm 121 (ant: vv. 1–2)

Hymn of the Week

“When in the Hour of Deepest Need” (LSB 615)

Daily Readings

Monday (3/2): Genesis 18:1-15; Mark 6:14-34

Tuesday (3/3): Genesis 21:1-21; Mark 6:35-56

Wednesday (3/4): Genesis 22:1-19; Mark 7:1-23

Thursday (3/5): Genesis 24:1-31; Mark 7:24-37

Friday (3/6): Genesis 24:32-52,61-67; Mark 8:1-21

Saturday (3/7): Genesis 27:1-29; Mark 8:22-38

Sunday (3/8): Genesis 27:30-45, 28:10-22;
Mark 9:1-13

Prayer of the Week

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Looking Forward to Next Week

Oculi

Exodus 8:16–24; Ephesians 5:1–9; Luke 11:14–28

Lent

This Lent for our midweek services we will focus on the **Lord's Passion and the Lord's Prayer**. We pray the Lord's Prayer daily, and rightly so. Our Lord gave us this prayer as we are God's dear children who pray to our dear Father. The Lord's Prayer with its petitions also connects with our Lord's Passion as he suffered and died for our sake. Join us for our Lenten midweek services on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. as we prepare for Holy Week by hearing God's Word and praying together.

We welcome you to join us for Lenten Compline on Wednesday, March 4, 11, and 18 at 6:30 p.m. Please note that there will be no noon services during Lent this year. A Divine Service for the Annunciation of Our Lord will be held on March 25 at 6:30 p.m.

Holy Week and Easter

On Wednesday of Holy Week, April 1, a Service of Corporate Confession and Absolution will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Nave. This service has a general confession of sins, like on a Sunday morning, as well as an individual absolution kneeling at the communion rail.

Pastor Wright is also available for private confession and absolution on Wednesday, April 1. Contact him to set up a time to come. As always, you can schedule confession and absolution with Pastor Wright anytime throughout the year.

Triduum Schedule of Services

April 2 Maundy Thursday	Divine Service at 6:30 p.m.
April 3 Good Friday	Tenebrae at 6:30 p.m.
April 4 Holy Saturday	Vigil of Easter Divine Service at 8:00 p.m.
April 5 Easter Sunday	Divine Service at 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

On Easter Sunday, join us for **pastries and fellowship** in Luther Hall between services. **Easter egg hunt for Sunday School children:** On Easter, we'll have a shortened Sunday School lesson starting at 9:45. This will be followed by an Easter Egg Hunt. High school students are encouraged to attend their class as they will be helping to hide the Easter eggs. Sunday School students are welcome to bring their Easter baskets or other bags for the Egg Hunt.

Bible Study

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

Adult catechesis is on **Sundays
at 12:30 p.m.**

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!

St. John's tenth annual **Worship
Conference** will be held Saturday,
August 29, from 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Serve on St. John's Altar Guild

Have you ever thought about serving on St. John's altar guild? This is a great way to serve Christ's church by helping prepare for Holy Communion each week, changing out paraments with the liturgical seasons, and keeping the altar and sacristy neat and tidy.

Volunteers serve in groups of three and are on duty roughly once a month. The altar guild is in need of 9–12 more volunteers so that the workload is spread evenly and each group doesn't have to serve as often.

An altar guild training session, led by Pastor Wright, will take place during the monthly breakfast on **March 8**. Other opportunities for training to come.

If you do wish to volunteer, you will be placed with an existing group at first until you feel comfortable.

Please contact the church office if you are interested in serving.

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

Go Ape Zipline and Treetop Course on Sunday, March 22

Join us at GoApe Zipline and Adventure Park in Kansas City on Sunday, March 22! Plan to arrive at 2:00 and stay until about 3:30. Cost is \$10 per person. Please let Rachel Kathman know by **March 8** if you would like to attend.

Financial Update

	Monthly	YTD
Treasurer's Report		
Jan 2026 Total Income(General Fund)	\$57,903.28	\$57,903.28
Jan 2026 Total Expenses	\$69,090.18	\$69,090.18
Current Monthly Total	\$(11,186.90)	\$(11,186.90)
Financial Secretary's Report		
Jan 2026 Contribution Receipts	\$55,818.08	\$55,818.08
Jan 2026 Projected Monthly Receipts	\$66,760.92	\$66,760.92
Over/Under Budgeted Contribution	\$(10,942.84)	\$(10,942.84)

St. John's Women's League

Fun Church Family Event Coming Up!

On **March 15**, after the late service, the LWML ladies will serve a simple lunch at 12:30 p.m. (Menu: sandwiches, veggie tray, chips, desserts, and drinks)



Games begin at 1:00.



All ages are invited. The young children of our congregation have been asked to use their gifts and talents to teach the adults some of their table games. Parents of younger ones may want to help.

Let's share our time and talents together and have a fun time!

Save the date!

Topeka Zone Spring Event
April 11

41st Biennial Convention
of the LWML Kansas District
April 17-19, 2026

Meetings

Monday, March 2, 1:00 pm:
LWML Exec

Monday, March 9, 6:30 p.m.:
Sarah Circle

Tuesday, March 10, 1:00 pm:
Dorcas Circle



Lutheran Women in Mission

Topeka Zone Spring Event

Immanuel Lutheran Church
2104 Bob Billings Pkwy, Lawrence KS 66049

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen" 2 Peter 3:18

SATURDAY

9 AM REGISTRATION &
SERVICE PROJECT

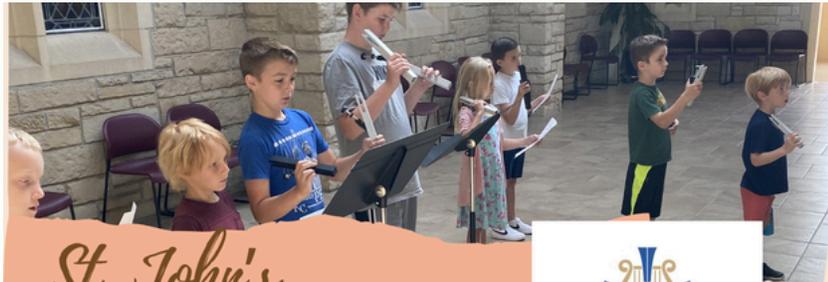
11
APRIL

10 AM EVENT
BEGINS

Lunch to follow for \$8

*Rsvp your group's attendance number by April 6th
to Kristie at standingwater@midco.net*

We will be collecting Gifts from the Heart to benefit Willow Domestic Violence Center: full sized toiletries for adults and children.



St. John's Music Camp

SPONSORED BY
ST. JOHN'S MUSIC ACADEMY



June 8-12

9:00-11:30 a.m.

901 SW Fillmore, Topeka

Ages: entering 1st-5th grades
Cost: \$30 per child
music, snacks, crafts, & games
gathered around God's Word



Led by Bethany Johnson and Erin Grass

Questions? Contact Bethany Johnson (bjohnson@stjlcms.org)

Register: stjohnlcmstopeka.org/learning/music-camp/

Fill out the Google Form (forms.gle/qVIFVciSHdCyAA1V8) by June 1

Sing, Pray, and Keep His Ways

“Sing, Pray and Keep His Ways” is an LCMS Worship initiative that is dedicated to helping congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod give faithful and purposeful attention to children in Lutheran worship. This project is made possible through generous support from Lilly Endowment Inc. as part of their “Nurturing Young Faith in Worship” initiative.

St. John’s pilot project will focus on a **Bible Class opening at 9:45 a.m. before class each Sunday** in which the congregation of all ages (parents and children encouraged) will gather together. We will also encourage children and adults to work together to **serve in the following roles in our quarterly single Divine Services**: greeters, ushers, altar guild, acolytes, choir, and special music. The pilot project intends to:

- Build a bridge from the richness of past generations to children of present generations through learning and service together.
- Provide a pattern of prayer for individuals, couples, and families and encourage the continual study and teaching of God’s Word at church and the home.
- Encourage children and adults to serve together in quarterly single Divine Services
- Impart agency and ownership to children alongside humility, character and an understanding of their vocation.
- Provide children a faith and church to “grow-into,” not “grow-out-of.”

Doorstep News: March 2026

Thank you to everyone who donated soup and crackers during our Souper Bowl Sunday weekend collection! The need for food assistance continues to grow in our community, and it is truly through neighbor helping neighbor that we can continue feeding the people who need it.

This year we are trying a new version of our most popular fundraiser, Operation Soup Line, by splitting it into two events. The first Soup Line 2.0 was the same weekend as SouperBowl Sunday, and admittedly it did cause some confusion. This was a pre-order & pay event with pick up over Super Bowl weekend. We made over \$4,000 and we will be evaluating the whole event for 2027! Part two of Soup Line was the theme basket auction; and we are turning that into an online only auction in March! The Starlight Auction for Doorstep will start on Sunday, March 14th @ 10am and run until Saturday, March 21st at 10pm! Please check out the items that were donated from our faith communities and local businesses to raise funds for Doorstep!

Doorstep's annual Appreciation Banquet & Quilt Drawing will take place on Tuesday April 21st at St. John's Lutheran. Everyone is welcome to join us as we celebrate Doorstep and our volunteers and wait to see who wins quilts. A Love Offering will be taken, and we will hand out Volunteer of the Year awards.

This June marks Doorstep's 60th anniversary of helping our neighbors in need by providing a hand up! We are planning our 9th annual Neighbor Helping Neighbors Walk/5K fun Run, AND a celebration at Lake Shawnee to kick off our 60th year, and a big announcement for future changes! So mark Saturday, June 6th on your calendars and plan to participate in our walk/run and stick around for some fun afterwards!



DOORSTEP
Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Starlight Auction

Bid Under the Stars....from wherever you are!

Begins: March 15, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
Ends: March 21, 2026 at 10:00 p.m.

Step into the glow and be a part of a week filled with wonder, whimsy, and community impact.

The Starlight Auction brings together supporters, dreamers, and faithful givers for an online event that sparkles with possibility. Discover unique items, bid boldly, and help fuel the outreach work that lights up lives across our community.

How it Works:
Register Here: <https://givebutter.com/StarlightAuction26>
Browse items.
Bid and Bid Often
Shine Bright for Doorstep!





March is Doorstep Month at St. John's Ev. Lutheran

How you can help your Neighbors:

Volunteer in the Clothing Room on any Wednesday during the month of March. You will sort, organize and help clients with clothing needs. Shifts are 8:45am - 1:45pm

Help us stay organized! Volunteer in the Clothing Room on Monday March 9th. Shifts are 8:45am - 1:45pm

Donate food items for the pantry! Our Faith Community is one of five Mission Members responsible for stocking the food pantry during the month of March.

Mac & Cheese	Pinto Beans	Powdered Milk
Spaghetti Sauce	Canned Fruit - Variety	Evaporated Milk
Oatmeal/ Dry Cereal	Peanut Butter/ Jelly	Tuna
Egg Noodles	Canned Soups	Pinto Beans

Our Doorstep Contacts are:

Coordinator: Chris Graversen 785-256-1105
Board Member: Yvonne Berry 785-221-5508

News from the Neighborhood

We have an exciting year ahead as we get closer to Doorstep's 60th Anniversary of neighbors helping neighbors. We have added extra events/fundraisers and we're planning for a family friendly celebration at this year's Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run on Saturday, June 6th at Lake Shawnee. In February we are collecting soup and crackers to stock our pantry; in March there will be an online auction March 15-21; April brings our Appreciation Banquet, Quilt Drawing and Re-Imagined Jewelry; and in May we will be getting our 60th Anniversary/Walk Run together with an exciting opportunity and announcement to unveil at the event! Each of you makes Doorstep what it is today because you are the neighbors helping your neighbors.

www.doorsteptopeka.org



Living and Learning in the Calendar By Andrea Kosmicki

We are in this section of the year where there are many holidays. Between Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day, and St. Patrick's Day, that includes three holidays in just four weeks. Many of these holidays have become commercialized and taken over by our modern-day culture. At St. John's Classical Lutheran School, we spend time observing these holidays, but most importantly, we learn about why they are holidays in the first place.

For Valentine's Day, we learn about St. Valentine. We also spend time making cards for each other and leaving one another notes, like St. Valentine did. Instead of just going out and buying a box of cheap cards, the students actually spend time thinking about each other and why they appreciate one another.

We just finished a week-long study about Presidents' Day. The students learned about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. We learned about their childhoods and what made them great presidents. We culminated the week by making Abraham Lincoln Log Cabins and George Washington hand puppets. These fun activities will help them remember what they learned.

With St. Patrick's Day coming up, we won't just be focusing on four leaf clovers and wearing green. The focus will be on the life and work of St. Patrick.

Even more important than learning about these holidays that have become commercialized, we recognize and focus on the events in the church year. We talk about what each season of the church year is about and what it is preparing us for, especially in Lent and Advent. We learn about the changes to the altar colors and what is happening with the candles in church as the church year seasons change. We recognize each feast and commemoration as they occur. These things really help the students to focus on living their day to day lives in the church.

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 Table of Duties to Husbands, Wives, and Parents
- Learning about Moses, the Passover, the Crossing of the Red Sea, the Golden Calf, and Joshua
- Reading *Lassie* (5/6)
- Reading *Charlotte's Web* (3)
- Reading *Little House in the Big Woods* and *The High Hills* (2)
- Reading *Billy and Blaze* (1)
- Learning spelling words from Geography, Science, Math, and History (3-6)
- Celebrating the 100th day of school (K-2)
- Learning about Clara and Robert Schumann, and also learning about world instruments (K-6)
- Singing in church for Ash Wednesday and for Brad Bindfield's memorial service
- Enjoying Pastries with Parents (K-6)
- Making lemon pie and omelets in the kitchen (K-6)
- Making cards for each other (K-6)
- Illustrating poetry (3-6)

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
REMINISCERE 1 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am VOTERS MEETING 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	2 8:30am CHAPEL 1pm LWML EXEC	3 8:30am CHAPEL	4 8:30am CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm LENTEN COMPLINE	5 8:30am CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	6	7 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
OCULI 8 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:15am MONTHLY BREAKFAST 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	9 8:30am CHAPEL 6:30pm SARAH CIRCLE	10 8:30am CHAPEL 1pm DORCAS CIRCLE 4pm SJCLS	11 8:30am CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm LENTEN COMPLINE	12 8:30am CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 6:30pm ELDER CALLING 7pm ELDERS 7:15pm KANTOREI	13	14
LAETARE 15 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	16 5:30pm STEWARDSHIP	17 4pm PARISH ED 4:30pm TRUSTEES 6pm MISSIONS/EVANG	18 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30pm LENTEN COMPLINE	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	20	21
JUDICA 22 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	23 8:30am CHAPEL	24 8:30am CHAPEL 9am BRAILLE 6:30pm COUNCIL	ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD 25 8:30am CHAPEL 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SWA 6:30pm DIVINE SERVICE in Nave	26 8:30am CHAPEL 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	27	28 8am ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING
PALMARUM 29 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm ADULT CATECHESIS	30 8:30am CHAPEL	31 8:30am CHAPEL	1 8:30am CHAPEL 6:30pm SERVICE OF CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION	MAUNDY THURSDAY 2 6:30pm DIVINE SERVICE	GOOD FRIDAY 3 6:30 TENEBRAE	4 8pm VIGIL OF EASTER DIVINE SERVICE



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)