



St. John's
Ev. Lutheran Church

In the Congregation

TRINITY XVIII + October 4, 2026

Missions Sunday is this Sunday, October 4. We welcome the Rev. John Kastner, pastor of LCMS church plant Light of the World Lutheran Church in DeSoto, Kansas, as our guest pastor. Between services, in lieu of Bible study, Pastor Kastner will present on his ministry at this church plant. The Board of Missions and Evangelism will provide refreshments. We hope you can join us in learning more about this important mission that St. John's supports!

While Pastor Wright is out of town, please call the church office first for any pastoral care needs. Pastor Kellogg or one of our circuit pastors will step in to help.

All St. John's families are invited to Gary's Berries Pumpkin Patch on October 10th! We are selling tickets for a discounted price of \$5 per person. Please purchase your tickets in advance from Rachel Kathman. Tickets may be used anytime on October 10th. We will meet at the corral for a devotion, hot dogs, and s'mores at 5:30!

Sing with the special women's choir for LWML Sunday on October 11! All women of the congregation are welcome to sing. The rehearsal will be on Thursday, October 8 from 7:15-8:15 p.m. Look in the LWML section below for more information.

The next monthly breakfast will be on Sunday, October 11, hosted by St. John's Women's League in honor of LWML Sunday.

Help Ruby Mark, our oldest member at St. John's, celebrate her 100th birthday! Send her a birthday card and join her for an open house birthday party at Celebration Villa on Saturday, October 17 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

A special Voters Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 18 at 9:45 a.m. in Luther Hall for the purpose of voting on the classroom options for St. John's Classical Lutheran School. See the letter from the Board of Trustees below for more information.

Children ages 8-14 are invited to learn to play Pitch on Wednesdays from 4-4:30 (before SWA). This is in preparation for LWML's Pitch Party on Sunday, October 25. Contact Mary Kellogg for more information.

The Church Council has approved offering CPR/EMD training for our members. The church will cover the cost of the classes, however, we would gladly accept donations (\$40 per person, mark checks as CPR/EMD in memo line). Classes are about 3 hours long; several classes will be scheduled based on interest (dates/times to follow). Certification is included. If you are interested, call or email the church office to let us know how many in your family will attend.

Altar Flowers

Are given by Donna Barr
in honor of her husband
Roger's and great-
granddaughter Olivia's
birthdays.

In Our Prayers

All those who are hospitalized
along with our homebound
members.

Sound Words Academy Meals

Use the Sign-Up Genius link below to
RSVP and volunteer to bring a side
dish, dessert, or help clean up.

[Sign Up for October 7](#)

Coming Up

Sunday, October 4

TRINITY XVIII

MISSIONS SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:20 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship

9:45 a.m. Presentation by Pastor
Kastner/Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Divine Service

Monday, October 5

8:30 a.m. Chapel

1:00 p.m. LWML Exec

Tuesday, October 6

8:30 a.m. Chapel

Wednesday, October 7

8:30 a.m. Chapel

5:00 p.m. Sound Words Academy

6:30 p.m. Devotion

Thursday, October 8

8:30 a.m. Chapel

6:15 p.m. Ecclesia Bells

6:30 p.m. Elder Calling

7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting

7:15 p.m. Kantorei

Sunday, October 11

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:15 a.m. Monthly Breakfast

9:15 a.m. Parish Ed meeting

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Divine Service



Give to the
St. John's
General Fund
via [Vanco](#)

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Family Prayer

For the Week of October 5–October 11

Psalm of the Week

Psalm 34:8–22, antiphon v. 19

Hymn of the Week

“Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower” (LSB 694)

Daily Readings

Monday (10/5): Deuteronomy 5:1–21;

Matthew 8:18–34

Tuesday (10/6): Deuteronomy 5:22–6:9;

Matthew 9:1–17

Wednesday (10/7): Deuteronomy 6:10–25;

Matthew 9:18–38

Thursday (10/8): Deuteronomy 7:1–19;

Matthew 10:1–23

Friday (10/9): Deuteronomy 8:1–20;

Matthew 10:24–42

Saturday (10/10): Deuteronomy 9:1–22;

Matthew 11:1–19

Sunday (10/11): Deuteronomy 9:23–10:22;

Matthew 11:20–30

Prayer of the Week

O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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

Trinity XIX

Genesis 28:10–17; Ephesians 4:22–28;

Matthew 9:1–8

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 in the Nave

6:30 Chapel Devotion in the Nave for everyone

6:50-7:10 Grades 5-8 Handbell Choir

Bible Study

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

Adult Catechesis at **12:30 p.m.**
will resume on October 18.

Thank You

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the bierocks 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. The net proceeds to go toward the school were \$4,299.22.

Thanks be to God!

~ SJCLS Board

Ruby Mark is turning 100!

Let's celebrate Ruby's 100th birthday. She is
St. John's oldest member!

Open House
at Celebration
Villa on Saturday,
October 17 from
1:30-3:30.

Card Shower
Send your card to
Ruby Mark

Volunteer to help clean the church



St. John's needs a few more
cleaning volunteers.

Volunteers would serve once a month for a couple of hours on a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday.

We also need someone to help **launder the albs** once a month. The albs can be washed in the machines at church. It takes about an hour.

Contact Jeff Lacrone if you are interested in serving.

Financial Update

Treasurer's Report

	Monthly	YTD
Aug 2026 Total Income(General Fund)	\$89,742.89	\$509,441.64
Aug 2026 Total Expenses	\$57,067.03	\$507,417.54
Current Monthly Total	\$32,675.86	\$ 2024.10

Financial Secretary's Report

	Monthly	YTD
Aug 2026 Contribution Receipts	\$90,975.61	\$492,314.46
Aug 2026 Projected Monthly Receipts	\$66,760.92	\$534,087.36
Over/Under Budgeted Contribution	\$24,214.69	(\$ 41,772.90)

Sing for LWML Sunday

On **Sunday, October 11**, we will be giving thanks to God for the work of the LWML (which includes all women of the congregation, whether or not you are actively involved!)

As is our custom, a women's choir will sing that Sunday. We will be singing a two-part "How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place" piece, along with the Introit and Alleluia verse. It would be great if you could sing at both services!

The rehearsal is on **Thursday, October 8** from 7:15-8:15 p.m. in the choir balcony.

This Thursday, October 1, Bethany will have regular Kantorei rehearsal but will save time at the end to go through some of the women's choir music. You are welcome to attend this rehearsal, knowing that you will be rehearsing that particular music with them at the later end of the rehearsal (around 7:50-8:15).

| 22. *She makes bed coverings for herself; her clothing is fine linen and purple....* 30 *Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.* 31 *Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.* Proverbs 31:22,30-31

You Are Invited

to the

LWML Topeka Zone Fall Event

at

St. John Lutheran Church

Aliceville, Kansas

****Registration, Coffee Hour, & Servant event --**

9:00 am (Registration/ lunch -\$8.00)

****Bible Study and Meeting--10:00 am**

**** "Gifts from the Heart" to benefit God's Storehouse in Burlington, Kansas**

Items needed:

breakfast items
cake/brownie mixes
shampoo

boxed dinners
mandarin oranges/pineapple
feminine products

****Address of church:**

**114 2nd Street
Westphalia, KS 66093**

Please RSVP by October 10 to:

**cathitemplelwml@gmail.com
or text: 620-490-1366**

St. John's Women's League

Meetings

Monday, October 5, 1:00 pm:

LWML Exec

Monday, October 12, 6:30 p.m.:

Sarah Circle

Tuesday, October 13, 1:00 pm:

Dorcas Circle

October 11: LWML Sunday

LWML will host monthly
breakfast

**October 17: Topeka Zone
Rally**

at St. John's in Aliceville, KS

Pitch Party

The LWML ladies will host a Pitch Party/Game Afternoon on Sunday, October 25. Lunch will be served after the late service with games, such as Pitch, Go Fish, and more to follow.

Don't know how to play Pitch?
Learn on Wednesdays before
SWA from 4:30-5:00.



Missions Sunday is October 4

This year, the Board of Missions and Evangelism has invited the Rev. John Kastner as our guest preacher.

Between services, join us for refreshments and a presentation on Light of the World Lutheran Church, a new church plant in DeSoto, KS



2026 Kansas District Reformation Offering

This year's offering will go to the Rev. Eugene Schmidt Memorial Mission Fund, which supports mission work here in Kansas. Your donation can help plant a church, equip congregations to reach out in their communities, and keep special ministries going.

CALL FOR MUSICIANS

Consider offering your time and musical talents to serve and grow in faith and fellowship

ECCLESIA BELLS

- 3+ Spots open
- Plays once a month according to players' schedules
- Rehearsals on Thursdays at 6:15 p.m.

KANTOREI

- We always welcome new choir members!
- Sings once a month and on feast days
- Rehearsals on Thursdays at 7:15 p.m.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

- Men and women's choirs, sing 1-2 times a year
- Cantor or small choir for chanting, as needed
- Instrumentalists, as needed

Contact Kantor Bethany Johnson if you are interested!



2026 Fall Confirmation Retreat

October 2-3, 2026
Rock Springs 4-H Ranch
Junction City, KS



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The theme is "Confession, Absolution, and the Office of the Keys." This year's presenters are Rev. David Kahle (Redeemer, Olathe), Rev. Michael Ada (Beautiful Savior, Olathe) and Rev. Sean Kilgo (Redeemer, Lawrence).

St. John's Youth & Family Events 2026-2027

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
Friday & Saturday, October 2 & 3	5th - 8th Grade Confirmation Retreat
Saturday, October 10	Gary's Berries Pumpkin Patch
Late November-Early December Saturday,	Shop for adopted family in need
December 19	5th - 12th grade progressive dinner & caroling
Sunday, December 20	Wrap presents for adopted family
Sunday, January 10	Serve/clean up monthly breakfast
Sunday, January 24	See <i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</i> play
Saturday, January 30 (weather permitting)	Skiing and tubing at Snow Creek
Friday, February 19	Trampoline park
Saturday, March 20	Church cleaning, obstacle course and zipline
TBD	Help with golf tournament





DOORSTEP

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

October 2026

We have had a busy year with special events to help mark our 60th anniversary, along with some regular and new fundraisers. We appreciate everyone's support in whatever events you have chosen to participate in so far.

We decided to eliminate the Golf Tournament and instead are moving the online auction to October going forward. This will allow us to spread out our spring events. We are planning to do Soup Line 2.0 again in 2027 with some additional soups!

The 2nd **Starlight Online Auction** will be live for bids October 18th @ 10am until October 24th @ 10pm. We are getting auction items ready, and you will be able to preview them before the auction starts. We have some other changes planned with the auction site to make bidding a little easier. We will have holiday items, experiences, gift items with the holidays around the corner, and it all goes for a good cause!

Our **60th Anniversary Building a Better Doorstep Capital Campaign** is underway, and we need your donations to help renovate our building to improve accessibility and dignity; create a safer and more efficient facility; and increase our capacity to serve. Currently we are focused on raising the first 40% (\$400k); this threshold will make us eligible to apply for a grant through the Mabee Foundation in the hope of receiving \$200k for our project. Please consider donating to this valuable project in 2026 and/or 2027 to make these upgrades a reality that benefits our clients, volunteers and donors! Visit: www.DoorstepTopeka.org to donate, mail your donation to Doorstep, Inc., 1119 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, Ks 66604. Please note 'remodel' on your check.

DOORSTEP
Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Starlight Auction

Fall 2026 Edition

Begins: October 18, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
Ends: October 24, 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 Doorstep continue being a light in the Topeka community.

How it Works:
Register Here:
<https://givebutter.com/StarlightAuctionFall26>
Browse items.
Bid and Bid Often
Shine Bright for Doorstep

School Supplies for Christmas

If you find sales or clearance items, we are still short on the following items for Christmas distribution:

Spiral Notebooks – Wide Rule	45+	
Loose Leaf Paper – Wide Rule	83+	Quantities
Folders – 2 pockets	127+	Needed as
Spiral Notebooks – College Rule	60+	of 8/27/26
Loose Leaf Paper - College Rule	49+	
Backpacks	111+	
Erasers – Pencil Top	59+	
Markers	71+	
Glue (not sticks)	95+	
Colored Pencils	62+	

These are approximate numbers as we won't know exactly what we need until we receive our families in November.



Repetition in the Classroom

Repetio mater memoriae means "Repetition is the mother of memory." Many of us grew up memorizing multiple things, but with the advent of new technology our need to memorize has diminished. Memory is necessary for ongoing learning. Our students spend time each day stretching their memories. The use of songs, chants, and jingles aids in our ability to memorize information. If you can sing it, you know it. But what does that look like in our classrooms?

In the lower grades, Mrs. Kosmicki teaches a variety of jingles including skip counting through twelves, grammar jingles, the continents and oceans, the books of the Bible, the 50 states, and the presidents. The lower grade students start each morning with Morning Recitation where these jingles are sung. There is also time for spoken answers to many common facts. The jingles are also sung throughout the day as different things come up to remind the students that they already know information about what they are learning.

In the upper grades, Mrs. Kathman continues to use the grammar jingles students learned before, and teaches some new ones to go along with higher-level grammar concepts. Students sing the skip counting song before math, and use it throughout their math class as they multiply and divide. Each novel in Literature is paired with a poem, which students recite each day as they prepare to read, leading to memorizing the poem by the end of the unit.

In Mrs. Johnson's Latin classes, she leads the children in various Latin chants, such as "Sanctus," "Agnus Dei," "In nomine Patri," and the "Pater Noster." They also learn hymns and other songs in Latin in the classroom and in choir rehearsal. For example, right now they are learning "Dona Nobis Pacem." For the older students, conjugations and declensions are set to various melodies that help with memory and mastery at the grammar level.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for another great school year to learn more about You in Your Word and in Your creation. Grant us grace to continue to live in Your Word through faith in You. In your name we pray, Amen.



Highlights

- Reading *King Arthur* (6/7)
- Learning the *ad fontem* fallacies in Logic (6/7)
- Learning about the Ethiopian salt fields in geography (6/7)
- Reading *A Cricket in Times Square* and making cricket habitats (3/4)
- Memorizing the 15 brightest stars (3/4)
- Learning about apples, reading *How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World*, and getting to make apple pie (K-2)
- Reading *Hubert's Hair-Raising Adventure* and learning about the elements of literature (K-2)
- Making Self-portraits (K-2)
- Acting out plays with Latin words in them (K-4)