

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
8020 SOUTH PARK ROAD
WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI 54494-8685



NON-PROFIT ORG.
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PERMIT NO.96

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

October 2025

Saturdays: 4pm Divine Service

Sundays: 9:30am Divine Service

Wednesdays: 6pm Worship Service (Divine Service w/communion every 1st & 3rd Wednesday)

Monday Bible Study in October

October 16 Coffee with Friends

October 23 Lutheran Women in Mission

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

October 2025

Mission Statement: Our mission is to proclaim Christ crucified and worship the Holy Trinity.

Purpose Statement: By the work of the Holy Spirit we are gathered together in Christ to proclaim the good news of Jesus and mercy of God to all people in our community. We do this through historical, biblical, Christ-centered worship and teaching.

Lutheran Women In Mission

The Lutheran Women in Mission meetings will be on October 23rd at 1pm.

BOOK SALE. —Our annual book sale will take place upstairs in the **Narthex on Saturday, October 25.** If you have donations (Books, CD's, and DVD's) please bring them to church and place them in the blue bin located in the library. **No magazines, newspapers, cassettes tapes, or VCR tapes.** If you would like to help, volunteers are welcome to set up on Thursday, October 23rd at 9 AM and /or on the day of the sale.

October Wednesday Evening Following Meals. Please join us between 5 & 6 for a meal, followed by church from 6 to 6:30 and weekday school following the service.

Mark Your Calendars!!! Dellwood Sand County Players are presenting... St John members friends are invited to attend **Friday, November 7th or Sunday, November 9th** cost of the beautiful Buffet Dinner and the play has not been determined, more info to come as it is available.

September Organ Fund Update

Thank You! Thank You! to all who have so generously donated to the Organ Fund. The total received to date is over \$48,000.00 with a balance of approximately \$ 31,000.00.

Donations have been received from MANY individuals along with donations from ORGANIZATIONS within St. John Church.

Donations may be made by using the "Organ Fund" envelopes on the Thermometer board, placing your donation in the Offering Plate or you may use your own envelope— (PLEASE note "ORGAN FUND" and your name on the envelope). Donations may also be placed in the Church Office or mailed to

St. John Ev. Lutheran, 8020 South Park Road, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. 54494.

We are getting closer to the goal...we can almost hear the music!

Thank You again to ALL who have made Organ Fund donations!

Strategic Planning Update for October

At our most recent Strategic Planning Session, we worked on creating vision statements. These are prayerful, hopeful statements of what we would like our congregation to look like in the future. Vision statements paint a broad picture of a possibility of what things could look like. We also humbly submit to the Lord's plans, knowing that He will direct our ways. At our next meeting on October 18 from 10am - 12pm, we will be doing a SWOT analysis as we take our vision statements and evaluate our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. I hope you can join us, all are welcome to give input.

Vision Statements

Youth Ministry, Education, Catechesis

- There are multiple ways for people of all ages to serve the congregation and community.
- Congregation members are equipped to share their faith in Jesus Christ
- Resources are available for members of all ages to be in the Word.
- We deliberately develop life long disciples (learners) of Jesus Christ from birth into adulthood.
- Children and youth attend worship with their families.
- Younger members (new members) are deliberately mentored by more mature (in the faith) Christians.

Outreach and evangelism

- The congregation has regular and routine evangelism emphases.
- Congregation members are inviting non-members to church.
- The congregation engages the community.
- The congregation has an intentional plan of welcoming visitors and assimilating new attendees and members.

Human Care

- The church intentionally investigates the present needs of the community.
- Congregation and staff are visiting homebound members.
- Mercy work is carried out in a way that invites people into our Word and Sacrament ministry.

Worship & Prayer

- The Divine Service is the source and goal of everything we do.
- The Lord's Supper is available for those that have been examined and absolved who wish to receive it on the Lord's Day, other feast days, and as requested.
- The congregation is ever increasing familiarity with faithful, doctrinally pure hymns from our Lutheran heritage and from current hymn writers.
- Members of the congregation meet with one another to pray for their neighbors.

Lutheran Hour Broadcast



The Lutheran Hour can be heard on the following radio stations on Sunday Morning:
WAXX 104.5 FM at 6:30 a.m.; WDLB 1450 AM at 8 a.m.; WDUX 92.7 FM at 8 a.m.;
WSAU 99.9 FM at 8:30 a.m.; and WRVM 91.3 FM, 94.3 FM or 101.3 FM at 10 a.m.

October 2025

October 5th

"A Little Light, Reading"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The Book of Job is not light reading, but Christians read it in the Light of Christ.

(Job 1:8)

October 12th

"Fearless and Endless Growing"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

God's Word grows like a perfect garden, bearing fruit in every season.

(Colossians 1:1-14)

October 19th

"God's Plan = Jesus"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God's plans for us are not me-centered; they are Christ-centered. Dr. Zeigler talks with "Soul Surfer" author, Bethany Hamilton.

(John 16:33)

October 26th

"Getting the Talk Started"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God's Law-talk prepares us for God's Gospel-talk. Author Tim Carter (The Executioner's Redemption) is featured.

(Luke 11:1)

St. John Lutheran October 2025

			1 5:00 PM - Community Meal 6:00 PM - Midweek Worship Service 6:30 PM - Wednesday School	2	3	4 4:00 PM - Saturday Worship Service
5 9:30 AM - Sunday Morning Worship	6 1:00 PM - Adult Bible Study	7 6:00 PM - Trail Life	8 5:00 PM - Community Meal 6:00 PM - Midweek Worship Service 6:30 PM - Wednesday School	9	10	11 4:00 PM - Saturday Worship Service
12 9:30 AM - Sunday Morning Worship	13 1:00 PM - Adult Bible Study	14 6:00 PM - Trail Life	15 5:00 PM - Community Meal 6:00 PM - Midweek Worship Service 6:30 PM - Wednesday School	16 9:00 AM - Coffee with Friends 6:00 PM - Elders Meeting 7:00 PM - Council Meeting	17	18 10:00 AM - Strategic Planning - SWOT Analysis 4:00 PM - Saturday Worship Service
19 9:30 AM - Sunday Morning Worship	20 1:00 PM - Adult Bible Study	21 6:00 PM - Trail Life	22 5:00 PM - Community Meal 6:00 PM - Midweek Worship Service 6:30 PM - Wednesday School	23 1:00 PM - Lutheran Women in Mission	24	25 4:00 PM - Saturday Worship Service
26 9:30 AM - Sunday Morning Worship	27 1:00 PM - Adult Bible Study	28 6:00 PM - Trail Life	29 5:00 PM - Community Meal 6:00 PM - Midweek Worship Service 6:30 PM - Wednesday School	30	31	

The Lord's Supper is offered every Saturday, Sunday, and on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

**57th Annual
Fall Harvest and Bake Sale**

**Saturday, October 25, 2025
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Believe it or not....

after a very beautiful summer....

Fall is here!

Time to finishing preparing for the annual **church-wide**

Fall Harvest and Bake Sale!

Check your garden or the local Farmer's Market...home-grown produce is always a favorite!

Home-can an extra jar or two of plentiful bounty, any fruits or vegetables or make just "one more" batch of your best jam or jelly or any of your families favorite preserves!

If you would like to donate to the Fall Harvest and Bake Sale, items that are asked for include: Fall and Holiday decorations, crafts of all kinds, woodcrafts, toys, baby items, quality farm produce, canned fruits and vegetables, jams and jellies, dried fruits and vegetables, dried arrangements and painted home decor ...and of course, our delicious home-bake goods!

It's a good time to make applesauce and pie slices.

A **Bar-B-Que Luncheon** will be available, complete with homemade pie.

Used Book Sale will be featured. If you have books, CD's, DVD's, etc. to donate, please bring them to the church and place them in the Library area. (Please no magazines, newspapers, cassette tapes, or VCR tapes.)

A "**Theme Basket**" Raffle. All groups/organizations, families/circle of friends, anyone—children and adults are invited to be a part of this fun project! Baskets may be centered around your groups mission or activity or may reflect another interest of your family or group.

Additional information on the **Church-wide Fall Harvest and Bake Sale** will be published in the up-coming Bulletins.

Questions or suggestions?---contact one of the Fall Harvest Committee members:
Judy Shepard, 715-423-2071 or 715-347-8242. Cindy Johnson,715-213-2699
Elaine Polansky,715-325-3312 or 715-213-0929. Star Anacker, 715-213-2580
Darleene Swen, 715-213-5636. Marilyn Knoll 715-213-8010



Sand County Players present
their Fall 2025 Dinner and Show
at the Dellwood Pavilion

“A Doublewide Texas Christmas”

Friday, November 7th

Tickets \$35 each—Paid Reservations are due by Sunday, October 13th

Place payment in Large Envelope on the Table in the Narthex

Bar and Theatre open at 5:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner at 5:45 p.m. Show at 7:00 p.m.

Car Pool leaves St. John promptly at 4:30 p.m.

OR

Sunday, November 16th

Tickets \$35 each—Paid Reservations are due by Sunday, October 13th

Place payment in Large Envelope on the Table in the Narthex

Bar and Theatre open at 11:00 a.m. Buffet Dinner at 11:45 a.m. Show at 1:00 p.m.

In this outrageously funny comedy, it's Christmas time in the newest and the and tiniest town in Texas! It's beginning to look like trouble in Doublewide! Not only are the residents of the trailer park dealing with the stress of the holiday season, but they have discovered that Doublewide is being double-crossed by the County. With their official incorporation papers in jeopardy, this band of eccentric Texans throw themselves into taking on the “Big Guys”! Determined to bolster their legitimacy, they first set their sites on the countywide “Battle of the Mangers” competition. They conspire to win this smack down with their “Nativity at the Alamo” entry...or by any means possible.

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Member Congregation of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Matthew D. Lorfeld, Pastor
8020 South Park Road
Wisconsin Rapids, WI. 54494
715-423-7788

Council Meeting: Thursday, September 18, 2025

Call to Order by Chairman Craig Timm at 7:07 p.m. with 13 members present.

Call for Additional Agenda Items: None.

Opening Devotions: Pastor Lorfeld: , 1 Thessalonians, Chapter 5. "Encourage one another."

Minutes from August 21, 2025. Motion made by Darleene Swen, seconded by Jerry Swen to approve. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Printed copies were reviewed. Question on select items in Statement of Activity were discussed. Motion made by Doug Ross, seconded by Jim Schoenick to approve the Report. Motion carried.

Audit of 2023 and 2024 is to be scheduled in the near future.

Elders are scheduling a meeting to review their portion of the **2026 Budget**.

Membership changes: Richard Manke to Trinity, Port Edwards.

Adam and Megan Onesti and daughters Adison, Elie, and Riley to St. Luke, Wisconsin Rapids.

Kevin Lau, Brittney, Keegan, Breelyn, and Kynslee to St. Luke, Wisconsin Rapids.

Elder's Report: Jeff Zimmerman stated sign-up Sheets for 2026 are available.

Trustees Report: Jerry Swen, nothing to add.

Pastor's Report/Board of Education: Children's **Christmas program** will consist of a "church-wide" Program and Caroling to area facilities. **Weekday School** is implementing a program to encourage families. Kids to "Earn Points" through activities such as serving ,attending sermon reports, etc. Children will use their "points" to purchase items from a catalog.

Neighborhood Table (Focus): St. John will sponsor meal (cost approximately \$300.00) on Thursday, August 6 with a motion by Judy Shepard and seconded by Jeff Gellerman. Motion carried.

Coffee with Friends: Thursday, October 16, 2025 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Lower level

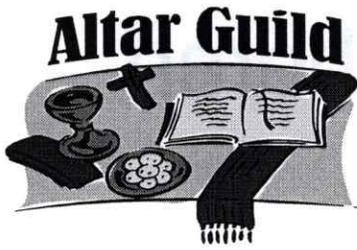
Elder's Meeting Thursday, October 16, at 6:00 p.m. **Council Meeting**, Thursday, October 16, at 7:00 p.m.

Circuit Forum: Our Circuit will be meeting to select one pastor and one lay delegate to the July 2026 LCMS convention. On a motion by Pastor Lorfeld, seconded by Doug Ross, Craig Timm was nominated as our lay delegate representative at the circuit meeting.

Adjournment by Jeff Zimmerman, second by R.D. Manke.

Closed with **Prayer and Benediction**.

Respectfully Submitted by *Judith A. Shepard*, Congregational Secretary



October 2025

Office hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-2pm

Office Phone: 715-423-7788

Head Elder: Bill Coley

715-323-7482

Altar Guild: Marilyn Knoll/Cindy Timm

Birthdays	Anniversaries	Elder Schedule
1 st Darlene Swen	15 th Allen & Judith Ontl	Wed 1 st Scott Federwitz
4 th Madison Fletcher	20 th Matthew & Heidi Lorfeld	Sat.4 th Jim Schoenick
4 th Miles Lepak	21 st James & Claydeen Schoenick	Sun.5 th Chuck Peters
5 th Isabella Kramer	26 th Jim & Wendy Kiedrowski	Wed.8 th Lew Porter
5 th JoLynn Winkels	28 th Larry & Judith Shepard	Sat.11 th Chuck Peters
6 th Zoey Brost		Sun.12 th Doug Ross
6 th Kiara Jarosinski		Wed.15 th Darwin Lamb
8 th Ellyna Hall		Sat.18 th Jeff Gellerman
12 th Donald Hanneman		Sun.19 th Bill Coley
13 th Aaron Lorfeld		Wed.22 nd Doug Ross
14 th Jerry Zeman		Sat.25 th R.D. Manke
14 th Shyan Borchardt		Sun.26 th Jeff Zimmerman
15 th Keegan Cavanaugh		Wed. 29 th Scott Federwitz
15 th Phyllis Oberbeck		
16 th Hudson Moran		
18 th Adison Onesti		
22 nd Nathan Weinfurter		
23 rd Robert Greening		
29 th Craig Timm		
30 th Carlos Torres		
30 th Carson Rosenthal		
30 th Danica Rosenthal		