

St. John Lutheran – August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00 PM – Midweek Worship Service	2	3	4 4:00 PM – Saturday Worship Service
5 9:30 AM – Sunday Morning Worship	6 1:00 PM – Adult Bible Study	7	8 6:00 PM – Midweek Worship Service	9	10	11 4:00 PM – Saturday Worship Service
12 9:30 AM – Sunday Morning Worship	13 1:00 PM – Adult Bible Study	14	15 6:00 PM – Midweek Worship Service	16	17	18 4:00 PM – Saturday Worship Service
19 9:30 AM – Sunday Morning Worship	20 1:00 PM – Adult Bible Study	21	22 6:00 PM – Midweek Worship Service	23	24	25 4:00 PM – Saturday Worship Service
26 9:30 AM – Sunday Morning Worship	27 1:00 PM – Adult Bible Study	28	29 6:00 PM – Midweek Worship Service	30	31	

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



August 2026

Office hours: **Mon-Thurs 9am-2pm** Office Phone: 715-423-7788

Head Elder: Doug Ross

715-570-0814

Altar Guild: Carol Pierce/Jean Ranun

Birthdays	Anniversaries	Elder Schedule
3 rd Joslyn Miller	8 th Toni & Joni Lonna	Sat. 1 st Chuck Peters
3 rd Eliyjah Obemberger	8 th Cody & Wendy Rosenthal	Sun. 2 nd Jeff Zimmerman
4 th Anthony Lomma	15 th Jerry & Darlene Swen	Wed. 5 th Lew Porter
6 th Kate Piper	16 th Thad & Sara Weigel	Sat. 8 th Chuck Bossingham
9 th Carroll Knutson	17 th Ronald & Laurel Zager	Sun. 9 th Jeff Zimmerman
10 th Jordon Ashenberg	19 th R. D. & Celine Manke	Wed. 12 th Scott Federwitz
11 th Ryan Richmond	26 th Robert & Lydia Greening	Sat. 15 th R. D. Manke
11 th Ariana Hanneman	31 st Richard & Barb Kronenberg	Sun. 16 th Chuck Peters
12 th Bonnie Timm		Wed. 19 th Jim Schoenick
14 th Killian Federwitz		Sat. 22 nd Jeff Gellerman
18 th Bruce Gorden		Sun. 23 rd Bill Coley
19 th Camila Contreras		Wed. 26 th Darwin Lamb
24 th Harper Dobratz		Sat. 29 th Chuck Bossingham
25 th Jessica Herd		Sun. 30 th Doug Ross
25 th Harper Rosenthal		
26 th Dixie Richmond		
28 th Ashley Richmond		
28 th Kendra Ashenberg		
30 th Carter Swen		
31 st Beth Krey		

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

August 2026

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.

FUNERAL COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT:

After seven years, I have decided to step down as chairperson of the funeral committee. I am looking for someone to prayerfully consider taking over this position by September first. If you are interested, please call me and I will tell you what the position entails.

I would like to thank all of you who have unselfishly given of your time and served these past seven years. You are truly a blessing to the bereaved families in their time of need.

Thank you all.

Gail Bossingham

(715) 344-6306 or (715) 498-4439

Join your friends at the **Fall Sand County Players** presentation: "**The Miss Magnolia Senior Citizen Beauty Pageant**". We are scheduled to attend the evening of **Friday, November 6th** (Opening Night) or **Sunday, November 15th**. This is billed as a knee-slapping, side-splitting night (or Sunday afternoon) of live theatre and a delicious Buffet Meal. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

August Organ Fund Update

Thank You! Thank You! to all who have so generously donated to the Organ Fund. The total balance remaining is approximately \$9771.30

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!

The Lord in the midst of the storm

Where was God when the tornado hit Menasha? I'm sure this is a question many are asking today as I write this article, the day after the tornado hit. I was up at Camp Luther, and while the storm passed through and was very intense, only a few trees were toppled, everyone was safe, no buildings were damaged. Just a few miles away the storm did much more damage to a local campground. Of course the big news was the devastation in Menasha. Yet here in Rapids, things were calm.

Your response might be mixed, on one hand relief that you were spared, on the other your heart goes out to those who have lost everything. Maybe you do ask "Where was God in all of this?"

Elijah was a prophet in the Old Testament. You can read about his life in 1 Kings 17-19. After confronting King Ahab of his idolatry and defeating the 400 prophets of Baal, Elijah flees from Queen Jezebel, eventually arriving at Mount Horeb (also known as Mount Sinai). There Elijah witnesses great natural forces:

"Then [the LORD] said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the LORD's presence." At that moment, the LORD passed by. A great and mighty wind was tearing at the mountains and was shattering cliffs before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was a voice, a soft whisper. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Suddenly, a voice came to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"" - 1 Kings 19:11-13

So where was God in Menasha? The same place that He was at Horeb. God wasn't absent, but perhaps He was not where we expect Him to be. The tornado was scary for those who were in it. It was destructive and violent. But God was not in the tornado. Just as for Elijah, God was not in the wind, earthquake or fire. God was in the voice, a soft whisper. The Word. That's where God can be found. And not only found, but there we find God who is for us.

There we find the Word made flesh who dwelt among us. Who calmed the storms by His voice. Who does even more with His Word, He speaks us righteous.

God reminded Elijah that he wasn't alone. There were still 7,000 who had remained faithful. Then that Word gave him an assignment. Go anoint kings and pass your mantle on to Elisha.

If we try to find a hidden god, we end up with the tornado or the earthquake, but when we look to where God has revealed Himself, we find that that's where God is for us. He is also for our brothers and sisters who have been affected by this recent disaster. They too are not alone.

God worked through Eljah. God also works through you as well. You may be asking, "what can I do?" Right now pray. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please send money marked "Disaster Response" to: North Wisconsin District, 3103 Seymour Lane, Wausau, WI 54401.

We will provide more updates as we have them. Be on the look out volunteer opportunities in the weeks to come.

In Christ,

Pastor Lorfeld

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.

August 2026

August 2

"Why Jesus Told Parables"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Archives August—Effective communicators tell stories to make a point. Hear how Jesus' parables point us to Himself.

(Mark 4)

August 9

"Extreme Neighborliness"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Archives August—Jesus is the ultimate "Good Samaritan," the unlikely Rescuer who binds our wounds, carries us to safety, and pays the price through His cross.

(Luke 10:25-37)

August 16

"Look at Me"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Archives August—God hears our cry for justice, not as an indifferent judge, but as our merciful heavenly Father.

(Luke 18:1-8)

August 23

"Real Riches"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Ken Klaus

Archives August—It's not wrong to have possessions, but to love anything in such a way that it takes the place of God is spiritually deadly.

(Luke 12:15)

August 30

"Tell Me a Story!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer

Archives August—God lavishly sows the seed of His Word. Responses vary.

(Mark 4:1-20, 26-34)