

The St. John's Journal Community Connect

A Monthly publication of St. John's Lutheran Church, Depew

September 2025



130 Years of Blessings Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future

As we reflect on the past 130 years, it's clear that much has changed. In 1895, communities were centered around shared spaces—where news was exchanged face-to-face, electricity was still an emerging innovation, and travel was done by horse or carriage. Today, we live in a digital age where communication is instant, and travel spans the globe with both quickly and with ease.

Over this same time period, our church community has grown and evolved alongside these changes. Looking through the gallery in our History Room, we can see not only how our physical space has moved and expanded, but how we've grown spiritually and communally as a church community. We have also embraced new ways to share the Word and connect with each other in faith.

130 years is a milestone worth celebrating—not only to honor the vision and dedication of our founders, but also to recognize who we are today. This October during Reformation weekend we are planning a special anniversary celebration. In addition to the celebration, we'll also be reaching out to all of you—our cherished faith community—to help us tell the story of 2025: from the roots your family planted in this church, to the faith that continues to shape your journey today.

St. John's Lutheran Church 130th Anniversary Celebration Sunday, October 26, 2025

Invitations will be mailed out in early September.
Tickets will be on sale after all services on 9/21, 9/28, and 10/5.



The Mission of St. John's is grounded in the presence of Christ in God's Word and in the Sacraments. We are called by the Holy Spirit to spread the Kingdom of God through ministering to all of our members and sharing the love of Christ with all people by preaching the true Word of God, providing ongoing Biblical education for spiritual growth and reaching others with God's love in all we say or do.

Weekly Worship

Sunday Traditional Worship
8:30am
Sunday Contemporary Worship
11:15am
Sunday Evening Blended
Worship 4:30pm
Sunday Morning BLAST!
September—June 10:00am
Worship Broadcast
WXRL— AM 1300 / FM 95.5
at 11:00am

September Mission and Ministry Prayers

Local School Kids & Teachers—We pray for all students everywhere that they might have an enriching, safe, and enlightening education. For all teachers that they may be supported and strengthened to provide meaningful learning experiences. Enable your love and presence to grow in these institutions that all students and staff may know of your welcome and positive influence for life.

Radio Commentators—For the St. John's Radio Ministry, the support staff at WXRL, our commentators and all listeners; that the ministry continues to be blessed and more and more people come to know the saving message of gospel through it.

Lectionary & Communion Schedule



Sept. 7, 2025

13th Sunday after Pentecost
Deut 30:15-20; Phil 1-21; Luke
14:25-33



Sept. 14, 2025

14th Sunday after Pentecost
Exod 32:7-14; 1 Tim 1:12-17;
Luke 15:1-10



Sept. 21, 2025

15th Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13




Sept. 28, 2025

16th Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 6:1, 4-7; 1 Tim 6:6-19; Luke
19-31

Next Council Meeting:
September 15, 7:00pm



Those Serving September 2025

	8:30AM		11:15AM	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Lector</u>
9/7	Betty Cavaleri	Pastor	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik
9/14	Betty Cavaleri	Sue Bluhm	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik
9/21	Betty Cavaleri	Karen Shafer	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik
9/28	Betty Cavaleri	Ed & Deann Lorenz	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik
<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>September Altar Guild</u>	
9/7	Amy Krupa	Amy Krupa		
9/14	Jackie Kraebel	Pastor		
9/21	John Gauthier	Pastor		
9/28	Jim Kless	Jim Kless		

July & August Radio and Flower Sponsorships

7/6	<p><i>Ed & Deann Lorenz, Karen Lorenz, Barb Perry, Debbie & Marty Wisniewski</i> <i>In honor of our Aunt Ruthie Heichberger's 95th Birthday this month on July 20th And also in loving memory of our Grandmother, Mabel Schweikart who was born on July 4th 1898. We love you both dearly.</i></p>	<p><i>Tom Bluhm</i> <i>In celebration of Sue Bluhm's 80th Birthday. All my love, Toma.</i></p>
7/13	<p><i>Suzanne & Richard Sabadasz</i> <i>For all those attending the upcoming LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans – our 16 youth, Dana, Nick & Pastor Galen. We are blessed to have Dana in this ministry for many years of leading our youth to grow in their faith walk with Jesus. God's blessings and protection for all attending this gathering. May they experience God's presence as they gather to grow in His name.</i></p>	<p><i>Youth Group Convention Participants</i> <i>Thank you to our congregation for your continued support. This opportunity would not be possible without you. Please keep us in your prayers as we travel to New Orleans '25.</i></p>

7/20	<i>Norm & Vikki Hirschey</i> <i>We thank, honor, and remember all those family and friends who have helped guide our lives in Christian Worship.</i>	<i>Jim Kless</i> <i>A very happy Birthday to my mom on July 5th. Love you and thank you so much for everything that you do for me.</i>
7/27	<i>Jackie Kraebel</i> <i>In loving memory of my husband, Larry on the anniversary of his passing.</i>	<i>Sue Pijacki</i> <i>In loving memory of my husband, Paul, on his heavenly birthday.</i>
8/3	<i>Kathy Lange & Jim Kless</i> <i>In loving memory of husband and father, Milton Lange who went to heaven 12 years ago. Also, in thanksgiving for the many blessings we receive from God.</i>	<i>Susan Reitzel</i> <i>In loving memory of John Krickovich, Jon L Whiting and Thomas Jon Krickovich.</i>
8/10	<i>Betty Cavaleri</i> <i>For the many blessings received.</i>	<i>Dawn Brennan</i> <i>In memory of my beloved husband, Jim, and our special day, August 3, 1968. Grateful for every moment we shared. We were, and are, blessed.</i>
8/17	<i>Sharon Taylor</i> <i>Thanking God for the many blessings He has given me, no matter my age. May I always strive to run the race in His honor.</i>	<i>Tom & Sue Bluhm</i> <i>In memory of Sue's parents, Ray & Helen Binkowski. We miss you.</i>
8/24	<i>Helana & Scott Geisen</i> <i>In thanksgiving and celebration for our grandchildren and in loving memory of Millie Sietsma.</i>	<i>The Lumb Family</i> <i>In celebration of Summer's 16th birthday. We love you!</i>
8/31	<i>Ruth Heichberger</i> <i>In thanksgiving for the St. John's Radio Broadcast Ministry</i>	<i>Amy & Andy Krupa</i> <i>In celebration of our 29th Wedding Anniversary.</i>

Interested in sponsoring a broadcast or flowers?

Openings are still available!

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board near the church office.

Full broadcast is \$180.00 (or \$45.00 per line)

Flowers: \$25.00/weekend



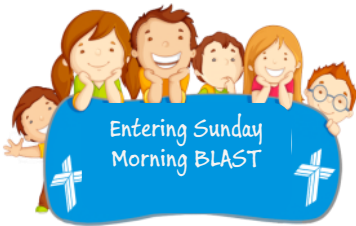


Sunday Morning B.L.A.S.T.

Now Registering online
for the 2025-26 school year!



Join us on Sunday, September 7th
to Kick off the 2025-26 School Year!
(Instruction to begin 9/14/25)



ENTERING "BLAST" STEPPING STONE

For all Age 4 Preschoolers beginning (or continuing)

Sunday, September 21st during the
8:30am or 11:15am Service
Please contact the church office to
let us know if you will participate!

FIRST BIBLE STEPPING STONE

For all 3rd Graders
Sunday, September 28th during
the 8:30a or 11:15a Service
Please contact the church office to
let us know if you will participate!



SUNDAY MORNING CONFIRMATION with Youth Group
Leaders and other 6th and 7th grade students will begin on Sep-
tember 7th, 2025 at 10am. ALL 8th Grade Students are expected
to participate!

WEEKDAY CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION
with Pastor is expected to begin in early October
(day TBD based on registrations). All 8th Grade
students are expected to participate!



2025-2026 Schedules will be available in early September.

Matthew	Bluhm	1
Beth	Lasky	2
Trudy	Possinger	2
Danniella	Benson	2
Zachary	Richardson	3
Hugo	Geitter	3
Joseph	Manna	4
Carrie	Schwarzmueller	5
Chandra	Jagiello	6
Charlotte	Olson	6
Dawn	Smith	8
Daniel	McMahon	8
Guy	Ramey	9
Lilyana	Cocco	12
Nicholas	Krupa	14
Caroline	Coffed	16
Joy	Yaskow	16
Brandon	Wright	17
Vikki	Hirschey	18
Gino	Napierala	20
Arianna	Lysiak	21
Susan	Vriesen	24
Carole-Ann	Pleban	24
Ava	Purpura	25
Mary (Betsy)	Suttell	26
Donna	McNett	27
Ronald	VanDewark	29
Ethan	Meyer	29
Anne	Bovo	29



2	Tracy & Alan Lumb
6	Leslie & Ronald Maciejewski
10	Caroline & David Coffed
10	Karen & Doug Rutkowski
11	Wendy & John Garbutt
13	Heidi & Anthony Manna
16	Mary & Joseph Momot
18	Jane & John Marone
21	Dawn & Mark Smith
23	Karen & Michael Durning
25	Michelle & John Hughey

The Chosen Watch Party

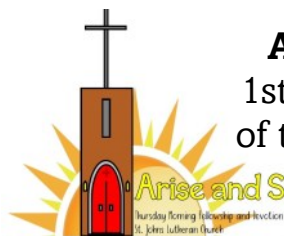


Join us on September 13th
when we resume
The Chosen Watch Party!

Sign up sheet on the bulletin
board in the Narthex

Questions?

Call Barb Perry : 716-983-7064





Arise and Shine
1st & 3rd Thursdays
of the month at 10am

(Begins Thurs. 9/18)



3rd Thursday
of the month
at 6:00pm

(Begins Thurs. 9/18)

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 <i>Office Closed</i>	2	3 <i>Office Closed</i> 8p– A.A.	4 10a— Arise & Shine 5p- Scrap- booking	5 <i>Office Closed</i>	6 8a– Men’s Group 8p– A.A
7 Pentecost 13 8:30a– Worship w/ H.C. 10:00a– BLAST 11:15a–Worship w/ H.C. 4:30p– Worship w/ H.C.	8 <i>Office Closed</i> 7:15p Elder’s Meeting	9	10 <i>Office Closed</i> 8p– A.A.	11 6p– Girl Scouts #30984	12 <i>Office Closed</i> 6p– Girl Scouts #31973	13 4:30p– Watch Party 8p– A.A
14 Pentecost 14 8:30a– Worship 10:00a– BLAST 11:15a–Worship 4:30p– Worship	15 <i>Office Closed</i> 7p– Coun- cil Meeting	16	17 <i>Office Closed</i> 8p– A.A.	18 10a– Arise & Shine 6p– Girl Scouts #30984 6p–Café	19 <i>Office Closed</i>	20 8a– Men’s Group 8p– A.A
21 Pentecost 15 8:30a– Worship w/ H.C. 10:00a– BLAST 11:15a–Worship w/ H.C. 4:30p– Worship w/ H.C.	22 <i>Office Closed</i>	23	24 <i>Office Closed</i> 8p– A.A.	25 6p– Girl Scouts #30984	26 <i>Office Closed</i> 6p– Girl Scouts #31973	27 8p– A.A.
28 Pentecost 16 8:30a– Worship 10:00a– BLAST 11:15a–Worship 4:30p– Worship	29 <i>Office Closed</i>	30				

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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St. John's is a
member
congregation of
the LCMS.

Pastor
Rev. Galen M. Purpura Jr.

Pastoral Assistant
Rev. Howard Warner

Organist
Mr. Camden Church

Contemporary Music Leader
Mr. RJ Nieman

**ST. JOHN'S OFFICERS:****President:**

Jamie Bluhm
(President@sjlcdepew.com)

Elders:

(Elders@sjlcdepew.com)
Rod Lorenz (Chair)
Betty Cavaleri
Karen Dowdall
John Fragale, Jr.
John Gauthier
Jim Kless
Jackie Kraebel (Alt)
Amy Krupa
Leslie Maciejewski (Alt)
Barb Perry
Bob Plewik
Steve Plewik
John Preston
Ken Schabert

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Sunday School Superintendent:

Chandra Jagielo
(SundaySchool@sjlcdepew.com)

Prayer Chain:

Jim Kless

Radio Announcers:

Jim Kless
John Gauthier
Karen Lorenz
Darlene Schwenk
Suzanne Sabadasz

Altar Guild Chair:

Betty Cavaleri

Communion Assistants:

Tom Bluhm
Rod Lorenz
Gary Hillman
Bob Chapman
Bob Plewik

Communion Deacons:

Betty Cavaleri
Caroline Coffed
Deann Lorenz
Judy McMahon