



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & School  
North Tonawanda, New York

# St. John News

February 14 – 20, 2021

## 40 DAY RED LETTER CHALLENGE

*How do I follow Jesus? What am I supposed to do?*

Using the words of Jesus (often highlighted red in print Bibles), Pastor Zach Zehnder outlines 5 principles about following Jesus: *Being, Forgiving, Serving, Giving and Going*.

Each family will have a workbook of devotions and challenges based on the “red letters” of Jesus. Together, Church and School families, we will spend 10 minutes a day for 40 days learning to be better followers of Jesus.

**TODAY we have books available to take home – one per family. If you can take a book to another household who can’t be here that would be great!**

**The readings begin Tuesday, Feb. 16.**

Each book contains a calendar to help you keep on track with the devotions. Also on our website.

Daily discussion at [facebook.com/stjohnnt.com](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnnt.com)

### BEING

Matthew 11:28

### FORGIVING

Ephesians 4:32

### SERVING

Ephesians 2:10

### GIVING

Acts 20:35

### GOING

Matthew 28:19

## RED LETTER LIVING



**AshWednesday**

February 17, 2021

### Serving This Week

<b>Liturgist/Preacher:</b>	Rev. Michael Borgstede	<b>Organist:</b>	Doreen Sutherland
<b>Elder for February:</b>	Bruce Sutherland	<b>A/V Tech:</b>	Paul Borgstede
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Addison Schultz	<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Molly Reynolds
<b>Reader:</b>	Jim Oliver	<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Bruce Sutherland
<b>Counting Team:</b>	Winston Moeller, Lori Argo, Lynn Willis, Don Schroeder		
<b>Next Week:</b>	Cathy & Dan Schultz, Kathy Wendt		
<b>Altar Guild for February:</b>	Sandy Dworzanski, Mary Salefske		

**Office Hours:** 8:00 am-3:00 p.m.

**Worship:** Sundays at 9:00 AM

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

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[www.stjohnnt.com](http://www.stjohnnt.com) • [www.facebook.com/stjohnnt](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnnt)



## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

February 14 – 20, 2021

### Online & Onsite Worship Sundays at 9 am & Wednesdays at 7 pm



#### St. John Onsite Worship Guidelines - REMINDER

- Please **wear masks** when you cannot be socially distant.
- Use **hand sanitizer** and wash hands regularly.
- Please maintain **social distancing**.
- **Seating** is every other pew and the service is projected on the screen. A **printable** copy is available each week on our website – [www.stjohnnt.com](http://www.stjohnnt.com)
- If you are **sick** or feeling sick, **PLEASE stay home** and join us online or when you are feeling better.

#### While School's in Session

[www.stjohnnt.com/school](http://www.stjohnnt.com/school)

(In person instruction, Monday-Friday, 7:00 am to 5:30 pm, following county health guidelines)

- During school hours please **call ahead** before visiting the building.
- All people coming into the building will need to **sign in** and have their **temperature checked**.
- Please **do not** visit the building
  - If you think you are **sick** or have been **sick** in the last 24 hours.
  - If you have been **exposed to COVID-19** in the last 14 days.

**With your help we can keep our children safe.**

#### GIVING REPORT

**Weekly Contributions Received:** Thank you for your contribution!

**December 20-January 3:** \$14,326; **January 10:** \$3,149; **January 17-24:** \$10,014..

\*These reflect only the amount collected for each week and not the budget goals or variety of frequency of giving.

**2021 offering envelopes** are ready for you to pick up. Thank you.

#### ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE

You can **give online**. It is simple, convenient and safe. Go to [stjohnnt.com](http://stjohnnt.com) and click "Give Online," follow the directions to set up your account TODAY. You can also use **Give+** on Apple or Android phones. **Please note:** Only donations to church/school ministries are tax deductible. Paying for tuition, school items, or other items/activities purchased are NOT tax deductible.

#### CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWS

##### Family Bible Hour – 10:15 AM Sundays (In person)

- *Children* – Foundations of Faith - Lunchroom
- *Adults* – Study weekly Scripture readings - Worship Area.
- *Young Adults* - "The Chosen" video series and discussion. A fictionalized look at Jesus and His disciples based on Scripture. Meeting in the Middle School.

**Confirmation:** (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade) Sundays at 6:30 pm [www.stjohnnt.com/confirmation](http://www.stjohnnt.com/confirmation)

**Online:** Bible study/Devotional resources: [stjohnnt.com/households-of-faith](http://stjohnnt.com/households-of-faith)

**An Organ Fund** has been established to help with the ongoing maintenance and repair that is part of owning and using this instrument. There are some immediate repairs that need attention and funding. The Benevolent Fund of St. John has set up a matching fund challenge – **for every dollar contributed to the Organ Fund, they will match it up to \$10,000.** Donations can be given to St. John; please indicate that it is for the Organ Fund in order to receive the matching funding. Thank you for contributing to this important project.

**Food Pantry:** Donations are collected on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month. Monetary donations are also appreciated. *Anyone needing food assistance can come to the Pantry once a month, Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 100 Ridge Street, N. Tonawanda.* **If possible, please bring donated items directly to the Food Pantry during this pandemic.** Thank you for your continued support.

**Counting Teams:** We are in need of a few volunteers to help count the offerings after church services, at least during the pandemic. Please contact the church office if you can help.

**FYI:** The church secretary is in the office on Thursdays and Fridays each week. If you need any assistance or need to speak to Pastor Mike during the secretary's absence, please press option 7 when calling the church office.



## Principal's Note

**From Principal Katie Gundell:**

*We are... SENT to SERVE with GLADNESS!* I love to hear these words as we begin each day at St. John. What a great reminder of God's purpose for His children/disciples! On the wall in the Narthex we changed the end a bit: **SENT to SERVE with KINDNESS**. We are surrounded by people serving and showing kindness. So many of these blessings may get overlooked. We are intentionally paying attention to others serving with KINDNESS and filling the wall with hearts that acknowledge these blessings.

### *Did you know?*

Our first **Open House**, this past Tuesday, was a success even with the snowy conditions. We have two more coming up on **February 9 and March 30**. 6-7:30 PM. St. John school and church members are our best advertisement. For those of you who are attending worship in person and know of someone who would like to visit St. John at our Open House, please grab an Open House card under the tv in the narthex to share with a prospective family.

- We had **kangaroos** in the building on Thursday! It was a week of celebration... National Lutheran Schools Week. Each day began with a school-wide devotion and reminder of how awesome it is to hear God's Word daily and grow in our faith. Special activities and events happened throughout the week.

*"Surely goodness and mercy will follow you all the days of your life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."* These words from Psalm 23:6 was shared by Pastor Mike at our morning faculty devotions this week. They have been running through my mind and offer such peace. God is good. He fills our days with so many blessings. Our response is simple... share His JOY and KINDNESS by serving others.

God bless our Lutheran schools and churches!

**Thrivent Choice Dollars:** The deadline for designating 2020 Thrivent Choice Dollars is **March 31, 2021**. If you have not already done so and would like to, you can go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice), contact the Thrivent Home Office at (800) 847-4836, or your local Thrivent Financial Representative at 695-2200. It only takes a few minutes and could help our church and school in many ways!!

## **FUNDRAISERS**

- **Scrip Cards** are available by order if handed into the office by the 15th of each month.
- **Our Gotsneakers project:** Please bring in any new or used sneakers or athletic cleats ONLY that you no longer want or need. A container is located in the narthex by the flock boxes.
- **Remember our on-going School fundraisers:** [TopMarkets.com/Education](https://www.TopMarkets.com/Education): register your Tops BonusPlus card and select St. John Lutheran School. Amazon Smile: Amazon will donate a portion of the price of your purchases to St. John Lutheran by using the link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/16-0844810>

St. John is part of the [Eastern District](#) of the [Lutheran Church Missouri Synod](#). The [Lutheran Church Missouri Synod](#) is divided into 35 districts ([map of all districts](#))

## OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Please **email** St. John with any additions or updates to our Prayer List. Since this information is being distributed electronically due to the pandemic, the email will serve as your permission to publish the information you give us. Our email address is [churchoffice@stjohnnt.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnnt.com).
- Private prayers – [pastormike@stjohnnt.com](mailto:pastormike@stjohnnt.com)
- We ask that you update our **Military List** with members' names or names of relatives serving our country.

### Short-Term Prayers

- Marion Schaffer – At Elderwood at Wheatfield for rehab
- Marty Darlak – At Buffalo General Hospital
- Karin Rogers – Medical procedure
- Wayne Herman – Health issues
- Estella Bullwinkle – Ongoing health issues
- Dennis Kelly – Health issues
- JoAnn Durick – Ongoing health issues
- Janet Herman – Good report of healing
- Rosemary Siegmann – For ongoing healing at home
- Shelley Erwin – Ongoing health issues
- Donald Licht, Jr. – Health issues
- Denielle (sister-in-law of John Rosebrock) – Diagnosed with cancer
- Jessica Gauda-Lane (daughter of Dennis Gauda and sister of Estella Bullwinkle) – Being treated for cancer
- Carol Brown (mother of Kristy Messing) - Successful healing after surgery
- Matthew Wallace (former St. John member) – Recovering from surgery for cancer
- Roxann (sister of Kathy Wendt) – Health issues
- Luc Garlau (nephew of Anita Garito) – Out of ICU and on long road to recovery
- Larry Siegmann – Health issues
- For Marshall
- Profé Maria (Spanish teacher at St. John) - Dealing with ongoing health issues.
- Carol (sister of Mary Salefske) – Caring for husband with Alzheimers
- Chris O'Lay (friend of Estella Bullwinkle) – Recovering at home
- Gail Gadomski – General health
- Jim Garito



- † For the lost, that they may hear the Word of God.
- † For peace in our community, state, nation, and world. For our new President and leadership team.
- † For families who continue to be impacted by the pandemic; physically, emotionally, financially, and spiritually.

### Long Term Prayers

Richard Siegmann, Bill Andrees, Jay Siegman, Menerva Calvaneso, Pat Barber, Wayne Herman, Elsbeth Kaus, Doris Wollaber, Vilma Green, Estella and Taylor Bullwinkle, Paul Greinert, Ken Musall, Owen Arizmendi, Kim Snell, Genevieve Jakubek

**In the U.S. Military:** Rick Skorik, David Hoppe, Stephen Marshall

