

St. John Lutheran Church

Senior Pastor, Robin E. Caldwell
Associate Pastor, Evan Mayhew



One in Christ

FAITH MILESTONE CELEBRATION

May 18th, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435
815-439-2320 | contact@stjohnjoliet.org | stjohnjoliet.org

Faith Milestones



Nourishing your family in faith



Learning The Lord's Prayer (Pre-Kindergarten)

Evelyn Haring

Jack Kasper

Sophia Rose Karambelas

Laila Marcum

Learning About Prayer (Kindergarten)

Olivia Bulin

Remington Farkasch

Colton Dwyer

Rowan Koenig

Preston Ellis

The Ten Commandments (First Grade and up)

Kelsey Hoffman

Landon La Porte

Bella-Irene Karambelas

Brynnley Linko

Macy Jakusz

Jack Nulicek

Donovan Jones

First Bible (Second Grade and up)

Avery Adams

Chase Legault

Jackson Farkasch

Allison Smith

Landon La Porte

Zachary Spero

Luke Larisey

First Communion (Third Grade and up)

Daniel Bartleman

Chase Legault

Addison Batura

Madden Linko

Sydney Dwyer

Charlie Nulicek

Parker Ellis

Avery Olson

Kaylee Hoffman

Owen Olson

Annasophia Incaudo

Jack Shafer

Max Jakusz

Zachery Spero

Aubree Johnson

Sydney Sweder

The Lord's Prayer (Fourth Grade)

Anthony Jones

Phoebe Stateman

Robert LaPorte

Truman Thomas

Lila Quiaoit

Apostles' Creed (Fifth Grade)

Kenzie Bartleman

Henry Nulicek

Evan Bloomquist

R.J. Specht

Jordan Heinrich

Faith Milestones



Nourishing your family in faith



Exploring Worship (Sixth Grade)

Kelsey Aincham
Arden Bay
Sam Florez
Aiden Henry
Charlotte Jones

Logan Matkowich
Alison Morris
Connor Schlosser
Elsie Thomas

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

Beginning Sunday, May 24th

5:30 PM Saturday & 9:30 AM Sunday

Congregational Forum & Meeting

Meeting is TODAY

Sunday, May 18th at 9:45 AM, Sanctuary

Men's Ministry invite you to



**PUB
THEOLOGY**

at Catcher's Tap

1723 N. Center St. Crest Hill, IL

SUNDAY

MAY

18TH

1 PM - 4 PM

Are you ready for a night of Cubs/White Sox,
fellowship, and informal faith discussion?
Join us for Pub Theology Night!

Men of the congregation and their significant
others are welcome!

Questions? Contact Mark Frost, 815-353-5002

We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church as we gather for this time of worship and reflection on God's love for the world.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Pam Atkinson in honor of granddaughter, Samantha's 17th birthday.



Worship Leaders – Sunday, May 18, 2025 (11:00 am)

Deacon	Heather Favale
Communion Assistants	Grace Aincham
Greeters	Bella & Kelsey Aincham, Kaylee & Kelsey Hoffman
Acolytes	Grace Egly, Lilith Schlosser
Ushers	Joe Aincham, Erik Hoffman, Marge West
Organ & Piano	Janet Blomquist
Music Director	Tori Hicks
Audio Board	Tim Caldwell
Livestream Team	Jenelle Lambert
Counters	Jan Drish, Pat Block-Hay
Altar Guild	Joan Fry, Marge West
Welcome Center	Janel Eaton
Support Staff	Judy Wierman
Coffee Hour	Church Council

Contact Information

Pastor Robin Caldwell	robincaldwell@stjohnjoliet.org	630-408-1402
Pastor Evan Mayhew	evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org	262-366-3132
Tori Hicks	torihicks@stjohnjoliet.org	815-355-3205
Alyssa Rosas	operations@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Pam Kornaus	pamkornaus@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Jenelle Lambert	communications@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
Jonathan Adams, President	council@stjohnjoliet.org	815-295-4092

St. John Lutheran Church
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 **St. John by the Mall – Joliet, IL**
 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

Prelude

“Four Short Prelude”

Trevor

Welcome and Announcements

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

P In the name of ✠ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

C **Amen.**

P Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

C **make us one as you are one.**

P We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

C **make us one as you are one.**

P Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

C **Amen, amen, and alleluia!**

*Opening Song

#526, Vs. 1, 3, 4

“God Is Here”

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000; Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991; Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Co.; Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Co.
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- Verse 1** God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.
- Verse 3** Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
What it means in daily living to believe and to adore.
- Verse 4** Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt,
Keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

*Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Dear God, you have given these families as a gift to each other for this short time we call the growing years, and you have given us your Holy Word for life together. You heard the promises made before you at baptism. Grant the wisdom, power, and patience to keep them. And as they keep your Word in their homes, may your Word keep them safe, close and together. In Jesus' name, we pray.

C **Amen.**

First Bible Faith Milestone *(Second Grade)*

P May this Word of God....
Be a lamp to your feet....
And a light to your path...
And may the Living Word of God....
Shine in our family....
In what we do and say....

C **Amen.**

Reading *(Inclusive Translation)*

Galatians 3:6-9, 23-29

D A reading from the book of Galatians, the third chapter.
Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our hearts are open.**

Recall that Abraham “believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” Realize, then, that those who believe are the children of Abraham. Because scripture saw in advance that God would justify the Gentiles through faith, it foretold this Good News to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed in you.” So then all who believe are blessed along with Abraham, who believed first. Before faith came, we were under the constraint of the Law, locked in until the faith that was coming would be revealed. In other words, the Law was our monitor until Christ came to bring about our justification through faith. But now that faith is here, we are no longer in the monitor’s charge. Each one of you is a child of God because of your faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. In Christ there is no Jew or Greek, slave or citizen, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus. Furthermore, if you belong to Christ, you are the off-spring of Abraham, which means you inherit all that was promised.

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Ten Commandments Faith Milestone *(First Grade)*

P Dear God, you gave the 10 Commandments to Moses so your people may know how to love one another. Bless these children, their families, and this faith community as we practice living out your commandments. Give us your patience when we find them hard to follow, your grace to begin again, and your resolve to be the example of love we all need.

C **Amen.**

***Celtic Alleluia**

“Celtic Alleluia”

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***Gospel**

Luke 1:68-79

D The gospel according to Luke, the first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty savior for us
in the house of his child David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who
hate us.

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors
and has remembered his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us, that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness
in his presence all our days.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.

Because of the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

D The gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Special Music “Praise Him Praise Him, All the Little Children”
Joyful Singers

Traditional

Children’s Message

Sermon

Sydney Basham, Youth Preacher

"You Are Mine"

Text by: David Haas. Music by: David Haas. © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.
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- Verse 1** "I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice,
I claim you as my choice.
Be still and know I am here.
- Verse 2** "I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light.
Come and rest in me.
- Refrain** Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine."
- Verse 4** I am the Word that leads all to freedom,
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name, embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk and live! **Refrain**

Apostles' Creed Faith Milestone (Fifth Grade)

- P** Let us pray. Father, you create all that is. Your Son, Jesus, redeems it. And the Holy Spirit sustains it. Make us like you, in all three ways, creating a better world for all living things, forgiving one another with your grace, and caring for everyone in love.
- C** Amen.

*Apostles' Creed

- C** I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
- I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

In the hope of God's grace and salvation, the church prays for all the great needs of the world.

Your prayer requests may be spoken when invited during today's prayers, by filling out a green prayer request card in your pew or completing the Prayer Request form at stjohnjoliet.org.

P God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Congregation speaks this response:

P Lord, in your mercy

C **Hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C **Amen.**

***Sharing the Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*You may share the peace of Christ with others with a handshake.
Those who choose to stay in their pew may wave or give signs of peace.*

Offertory

"Give Thanks"

Smith

Commitment to Community

In this Easter season, we remember the generosity of our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave his life for our salvation. In gratitude for this gesture of grace, we offer what we have to share the Good News of God's love with the world. May new life be born through these gifts we offer!

Your offering of any amount fosters God's grace for the world through the ministry of St. John, in service to God, to people in need in our neighborhood, across the country, and around the world. Thank you!!

Financial gifts, attendance sheets, and prayer requests may be placed in the offering plate.



Now Accepting



*Offertory Response

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"Be Not Afraid"

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community. Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994. © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted & streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-712815. All Rights Reserved.

Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia! **Repeat**

*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. Risen One, **you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.**

First Communion Faith Milestone *(Third Grade)*

P Let us pray. Loving God, Jesus ate meals with all kinds of people. Some were joyful and some were crabby, but Jesus welcomed them all. Bless these kids receiving this sacrament, as they take their place at the table today. Forgive us, feed our faith, and be present among us as we share this meal, just as you promised your disciples. In the name of Jesus, who calls and welcomes us.

C **Amen.**

P Let us welcome our friends to Holy Communion.
C **Welcome to Jesus' table! We rejoice with you and thank God for you!
Enjoy this meal that strengthens us to live as Jesus did.**

***Great Thanksgiving** *(spoken)*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

***Words of Institution**

The Lord's Prayer Faith Milestone *(Fourth Grade)*

P Dear God, we ask for your blessings on these children as they learn the simple prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. We pray that you hear these children when they pray and that they know you are always listening. Strengthen them when they talk to you and give them words when they don't know what to say. In Jesus' name we pray,
C **Amen.**

***The Lord's Prayer**

C **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

***Invitation to Communion**

P Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Distribution

*We believe Jesus Christ is the host of this table,
his true presence is in this meal,
and you are welcome to receive the bread and wine of resurrection.*

*If you prefer your child to receive a blessing,
place your hand upon their head or their hands.*

Communion Instruction

- You will be invited forward by the usher or pastor.
- Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when at the rail.
- Red wine is on the outer rings of the tray; white grape juice is on the inner rings of the tray.
- After receiving communion, place the used communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.
- If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, communion pods are available at the entrance to the sanctuary. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

“Borning Cry”

Text by: Herbert F. Brokering. Music by: David N. Johnson. © 1968 Augsburg Fortress Publishing House.
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- Verse 1** I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.
- Verse 2** When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.
- Verse 3** In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.
When evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been, with just one more surprise.

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Text & Music: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934, text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration
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- Verse 1** I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.
- Refrain** In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
- Verse 2** I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**
- Verse 3** I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. **Refrain**

“Jesus Loves Me!”

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915; alt.; Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868; Public Domain
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Verse 1 Jesus loves me! This I know for the Bible tells me so,
Little ones to Him belong. They are weak but He is strong.

Refrain Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Verse 2 Jesus loves me! He who died heaven's gates to open wide;
He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. **Refrain**

Verse 3 Jesus loves me! He will stay close beside me all the way;
When at last I come to die, He will take me home on high. **Refrain**

***Blessing**

C Amen.

***Prayer after Communion**

D Let us pray. God of the mountain, the valley, and every step in between,
make this meal a fresh start. Make this moment, the start of something
new. And, may your love cling to us as we leave here, that we may share it
with your wounded world. In the name of the living one, we pray.

C Amen.

***Benediction**

C Amen. (*spoken*)

Exploring Worship Faith Milestone (*Sixth Grade*)

P Let us Pray. Dear God, we pray that all your children encounter your Holy
Spirit in word and worship, so that everyone knows your forgiveness and all
may share your grace. Bless these children, that they may look forward to
offering you praise and prayer with all your beloved people. In Jesus' name

C Amen.

“This Little Light of Mine”

Text: African American spiritual; Music: African American spiritual; arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935, Public Domain
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Verse 1 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Verse 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;
 Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;
 Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

*Sending

D Go in peace. Live in love.
C Thanks be to God!

Postlude “This Little Light of Mine” (reprise)

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**MAY SPECIAL OFFERING**
HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

Adopt a Youth!



Help our high school youth make it to Kentucky this summer by supporting our Mission Trip financially! We will be building new houses for those who lost their homes in the Kentucky floods this Spring, and any amount you can donate will help make this trip affordable!"

Any amount adds up!
\$150 - 1/3 of cost.
\$225 - Half of cost
\$450 - Full scholarship

Donate by using the blue envelopes located in the Narthex or use the QR code to donate online!





MUSIC

Celebration Sunday

June 1st
9:30 AM



3RD ANNUAL CHURCHWIDE PARKING LOT PICNIC

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP
BAGS, BINGO, & A BOUNCE HOUSE
FUN FOR ALL AGES!!!

JUNE 8TH, 2025
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
AFTER CHURCH

SIGN UP



**B.Y.O.BEVERAGE
& CHAIR!**



St. John
Lutheran Church

HOSTED BY THE 4:12 MINISTRY

HONORING OUR NEIGHBORS FAITH



A Joint Conversation with
Local ELCA Churches

Please join us for a series of joint conversations between the ELCA churches of the Joliet area, as we learn more about the different faith traditions of our neighbors and reflect together on what it means for us, as ELCA Lutherans, to be good neighbors in faith.

St. John Lutheran Church,
2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435

**Mondays: June 2nd, June 9th,
June 16th, June 23rd**

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Free Snacks Provided

Free!

Questions? Contact the St. John Lutheran
Church Office at 815-439-2320



St. John
Vacation Bible School

**Different Bodies,
Different Gifts**

Free
Event!!

Volunteer
Here!



Register
Here!



"I praise you, for I am fearfully
and wonderfully made"

Ages 4 through entering 6th Grade.
Snack will be served.

**Sunday, June 22nd
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Interested in sponsoring Altar Flowers?

Altar flowers bring the beauty of God's creation into our worship space. They can be purchased in honor of your loved ones and you are welcome to take them home when services are over.

- 01 Anniversaries
- 02 Birthdays
- 03 Baptisms
- 04 Special Occasions and more!

Signup in the church office or online at stjohnjoliet.org



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday	9am - 4pm
Tuesday	9am - 4pm
Wednesday	9am - 4pm
Thursday	9am - 4pm
Friday	Closed
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	During Worship



WORSHIP

Saturday	5:30pm
Sunday	9:30am*

* YouTube Livestream at
St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet

815-439-2320
contact@stjohnjoliet.org

May

SUNDAY, MAY 18

(Monthly Special Offering: High School Mission Trip)

8:30am - 9:30am	Worship: Sanctuary
9:45am - 10:15am	Congregational Meeting: Sanctuary
10:15am - 10:45am	Sunday School: Sanctuary
11:00am - 12:00pm	Worship: Sanctuary <i>(Sunday School Sings & Faith Milestones)</i>
1:00pm - 4:00pm	Men's Ministry Pub Theology: Off Site
4:30pm - 7:00pm	Girl Scouts: Karin Johnson Hall

MONDAY, MAY 19

11:00pm - 1:00pm	Staff-Robin Trueblood Farewell Luncheon: Trinity Room
1:00pm - 3:00pm	Staff-Calendar Meeting: Trinity Room
5:30pm - 7:00pm	4:12 The Next Chapter
5:30pm - 8:00pm	A.A. Woman's Group: Karin Johnson Hall
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Monday Night Small Group: Trinity Room
7:00pm - 8:00pm	Al-Anon: West Wing 3 & 4
7:00pm - 8:00pm	Handbell Choir: Sanctuary
8:00pm - 8:30pm	Handbell Ensemble: Sanctuary

TUESDAY, MAY 20

1:00pm - 3:00pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry: Youth Room
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Council Meeting: Trinity Room

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

8:30am - 12:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
7:00pm - 8:15pm	Confirmation: 9 th Grade Writing Workshop: Trinity Room
8:15pm - 9:15pm	High School FIRE: Youth Room

THURSDAY, MAY 22

9:00am - 11:30am	Coffee with Friends (Women): Youth Room
9:00am - 1:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
2:00pm - 7:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
7:00pm - 8:00pm	A.A. Men's Group: Zoom
7:00pm - 8:00pm	St. John Chorale: Choir Room
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Praise Team: Sanctuary

FRIDAY, MAY 23

8:30am - 12:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
9:00am - 11:00am	Quilters: West Wing 5
9:00am - 10:30am	Meals on Wheels: Senior Services of Will County, Mark Frost

SATURDAY, MAY 24

7:00am - 11:00am	Food Pantry Volunteer Shifts: Narthex/Karin Johnson Hall
8:00am - 10:00am	Food Pantry Distribution Drive-Thru: Parking Lot
5:30pm - 6:30pm	Worship: Sanctuary

SUNDAY, MAY 25

9:30am - 10:30am	Worship: Sanctuary <i>(Lambert Baptism)</i>
10:45am - 12:30pm	Lambert Baptism Party: Narthex/Trinity Room

MONDAY, MAY 26

(Memorial Day: Church Office Closed)

*Check "stjohnfood.org" for Food Pantry distribution times and volunteer opportunities.