

This Week

Campus Maps available at the Information Ctr.
WC: Worship Center BR: Bride’s Room
KC: Kidz Connection OC: Off Campus
LCR: Large Conference Rm in Admin. Office
SCR: Small Conference Rm in Admin. Office
WCL: Worship Center Lobby
ECCR: Event Center Conference Room
EC: Event Center-North or South

Sunday, September 20

5:00 a.m. Zoom Prayer Meeting—
Pastor Marvin, 364-4960
9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
(In-Person & Livestream)
Sanctuary
Children’s Ministry Sunday
School—KC
10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study—ECCR
Bob Schneider
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
(In-Person & Livestream)
WC
Children’s Ministry Sunday
School—KC
6:00 p.m. SJ Students High School Night—
The Garage

Monday, September 21

3:00 p.m. Women’s Bible Study—OC
Shirley Darling/Jan Lundy

Tuesday, September 22

1:30 p.m. Women’s Bible Study—ECCR
Judie Fanucchi
6:30 p.m. Board of Director’s Meeting—
LCR

Wednesday, September 23

6:15 a.m. Men’s Bible Study—LCR
Pastor Ben
8:45 a.m. Women’s Wednesday Morning
Bible Study—WC Lobby
9:15 a.m. SJCC Morning Chapel—
Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Level One Yoga—Music Room
2:40 p.m. SJ Students Garage Hours—
The Garage
6:00 p.m. AWANA—KC
First Communion—ECCR
Confirmation—LCR
SJ Students Jr. High Night—
The Garage
Pastor Led Bible Study—
EC-North
Celebration Choir Rehearsal—
Music Room

Thursday, September 24

8:30 a.m. Men’s Bible Study—SCR
Dean Nulton
9:00 a.m. MOMCo Meetup—ECCR
10:00 a.m. Widower Bible Study—SCR
11:00 a.m. Golden Eagles—LCR
6:00 p.m. Bells of Praise—Handbell
Rehearsal—Music Room

Friday, September 25

8:30 a.m. SJLS Morning Chapel—WC
6:00 p.m. Oktoberfest—EC

Saturday, September 26

7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study—LCR
Lynn Wheeler

Prayers

We invite you to submit your prayer petitions using a Prayer Request card or by contacting Hailey Smidt, 665-7815, or by going online through the website or the SJLC App

PRAYER GUIDE

Health Concerns & Illnesses

*Hospitalized or Skilled Nursing/Rehab
Luke David Cooper, Pete Espinoza,
Phil Fee, Dr. Miguel Gambetta,
Steve H., Lance Hall, Muriel Hayward,
Randy Horne, Dave & Sally
Segesman, Brad Suburu, Paul
Williams, Scott Ziemann

Comfort & Strength

For the family & friends of Joann
Thomas at her passing
For Doris Williamson & family at
the passing of her sister-in-law,
Paula

Guidance & Strength in
Transitions, Travel & Faith

John Andrew, Alex Montgomery

Continued Concerns

Todd Albright, Michelle Braughton,
Cary Elliott, Judy Fritch, Annis
Gerner, Jeff Goossen, Kevin Green,
Nancy Green, Sheila Long, Julie
Martin, Michael Pennington, Dorothy
Sundberg, Lisa Vorhees

- Our Veterans & active serving military men & women, those with financial and employment needs, our community, A God fearing nation & world, our nation’s leaders, local and all nations, our military and their families, Law Enforcement, Emergency Services and their families, LIFEGroups, persecuted Christians, St. John’s church body, all staff, Children’s Center, School, Angaza Schools, families, teachers, pastors, leaders, spiritual & kingdom growth

Amount Needed to Meet Fiscal Year 2026-2027:
Budget—\$2,044,300
Last Week’s Giving—\$63,803.27
Budget to Date—\$414,584
Year to Date—\$347,747.18
Year to Date Variance—\$(66,837)

KNOWN
Fully Known. Fully Loved.

2026-2027 School Year!
Our theme for St. John’s
Lutheran School and
St. John’s
Children’s Center



NEHEMIAH: THE CUPBEARER’S PRAYER

Nehemiah 1 (1 Peter 1:3-9; Matthew 9:35-38)

September 20, 2026 - Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

When things are _____:

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for _____ and not for evil, to give you a _____ and a _____” (Jeremiah 29:11).

The _____

God always preserves a _____:

“...For when seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will _____ you, and I will fulfill to you my _____ and bring you _____ to this place” (Jeremiah 29:10).

_____:

“As soon as I heard these words I sat down and _____ and _____ for days, and I continued _____ and _____ before the God of heaven (Nehemiah 1:4).

_____:

_____ + _____ +
_____ + _____ + _____

Was Nehemiah a _____?

Adding a _____...

For next week, please read Nehemiah 2.



Didn't get all the blanks filled? Sermon audio and notes online at St. John’s website: sjlchurch.org/sermons. LIFEWork pages can be found at the Welcome Centers.

ST. JOHN'S
Lutheran Church

September 20, 2026

WWW.SJLCHURCH.ORG

LOVE. LEARN. LEAD.

Welcome!

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US, WE ARE SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU!

*Reminder: Please silence devices during worship.

PASTOR LED BIBLE STUDY

Starting September 23

I BELIEVE
IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

every Wednesday Night
6 WEEKS LONG

6PM-7:30PM
NO SIGNUP REQUIRED

Sunday School & Nursery

Nursery (0-35 months) and Sunday School (3 years old to 6th Grade) are available for both services.

*Please check your child into Sunday School before the start of service at the kiosk in front of the Nursery.

SAVE THE DATE
NOVEMBER 7TH

Zanzibar
BY CANDLELIGHT
A NIGHT TO LIGHT THE WAY

A BOUNTIFUL AFFAIR
2026

FOLLOW US @SJLCBAKERSFIELD



Events

For all events, scan here





St. John's Board of Directors
We are seeking nominations for Congregational members to serve on the Board of Directors. Nominees should be voting members in good standing who also display spiritual wisdom and discernment. Congregational members may submit names of possible candidates to the Chair, Scott Garrison or online at: www.sjlchurch.org/BOD. **Names need to be submitted by Monday, September 21.** The election will be at the Congregational meeting in December.





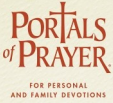
FOR ALL MOMS WITH KIDS BIRTH - ELEMENTARY!

Scan here to sign up and questions!





Prayer Requests
In August, we received a total of 112 prayer requests. Thank you for allowing us to pray for you.



The Portals of Prayer Devotionals for the months of October, November & December are available. Please stop by the Welcome Centers and pick up a free copy.

How Can We Pray For You?

Submit your prayer requests here and let us pray for you



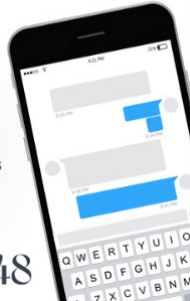
prayer requests



Stay in touch!

Text us prayer requests or questions about special events

Text 'Join' to 1(833) 420-7948



We are in the 'ber' months, which means Thanksgiving & Christmas are just around the corner!






St. John's SCRIP TODAY, you can purchase SCRIP, between services, at the School Kiosk, only on Communion Sundays. You can also purchase SCRIP at the school office during the week during the school year. SCRIP is face value gift cards you can purchase from local and national retailers and restaurants. Why use SCRIP? It is easy and a percentage of every purchase of SCRIP comes back to support our School and Children's Center. Questions, contact the school office, 664-8090.



COMMUNION SUNDAY

If you are physically unable to come to the front to receive communion, please let an Usher know and communion will be served to you at your seat.



The flowers this morning are given by Joyce Milburn in thanksgiving to her daughter, Patti, for her kidney transplant thirteen years ago.

LOVE • LEARN • LEAD

The people of St. John's LOVE God and others, LEARN to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ, and LEAD others to discover and live out their calling as God's people.

Bible Studies

FOR ALL BIBLE STUDIES



Women's

MONDAY 3:00PM CONTACT SHIRLEY DARLING FOR DETAILS (661)203-0483 LED BY: SHIRLEY DARLING	TUESDAY 1:30PM EVENT CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM LED BY: JUDIE FANUCCHI	WEDNESDAY 8:45AM WORSHIP CENTER LOBBY
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Men's

WEDNESDAY 6:15AM LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM LED BY: PASTOR BEN	THURSDAY 8:30AM SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM LED BY: DEAN NULTON	SATURDAY 7AM LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM LED BY: LYNN WHEELER
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Co-Ed

BI-WEEKLY THURSDAYS 11AM GOLDEN EAGLES (FOR SENIORS) LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM LED BY: PASTOR ERIC NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 24	SUNDAY 10:15AM EVENT CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM LED BY: BOB SCHNEIDER
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Widowed

WIDOW TO WIDOW 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH 11:45AM LED BY: DEB WOOD NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 24	WIDOWERS 4TH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH 10AM LED BY: PASTOR BEN NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 24
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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON A BIBLE STUDY, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 661-665-7815



STUDENTS
JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

WEEKLY STUDENT MEETINGS

JUNIOR HIGH NIGHT
WED • 6-7:30PM
MEETS IN THE GARAGE

HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT
SUN • 6-8PM
MEETS IN THE GARAGE



young adults group
every other Sunday night
follow us on instagram @sj.youngadults!
contact courtney for details: cjmerson@sjlchurch.org

SEPT 27 • 8PM • THE GARAGE

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL WAKE UP! WITH SJ STUDENTS
ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAYS:
OCT 25 • NOV 15
DURING 10:30 SERVICE | ENDS AT 11:50

HIGH SCHOOL COFFEE CHECK-IN
STARBUCKS ON STOCKDALE & ALLEN
SEPT 24 @ 6:30AM
FIRST THREE GET FREE COFFEE!

MORE INFO? CJMERSON@SJLCHURCH.ORG
INSTAGRAM/TIK TOK: @SJSTUDENTS_BAKERSFIELD
YOUTUBE: SJ STUDENTS BAKERSFIELD



HOLY BIBLE

Install You Version from your device's app store. Tap the menu button in the app (in the upper left corner). Tap "Live." If prompted, allow the app to use your current location.



MINISTRY

We want to be part of an ongoing conversation with you and your children, talking about the LOVE of God, how to LEARN about God, and how to LEAD friends to know God.

Join us every Sunday Preschool-6th during both services. Check-in your child at Kidz Ministry Kiosk.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

WEDNESDAYS
September-April 6:00-7:30 P.M.

AWANA
4 years old-4th grade
Kids will take part in weekly dress up themes, Bible stories, memorizing and reciting scripture. Earning them fun prizes and awards.

1ST COMMUNION
5th grade
Kids will explore ways in which their personal story and identity are rooted in Christ's story, preparing them to participate in communion.

CONFIRMATION
6th grade
Kids will take the next step in their faith instruction preparing them to become a member of the church.

KIDZ 56 OCTOBER 2 & 16
5th and 6th graders are invited to Kidz 56 Friday, Oct 2 and 16 6:00-8:00 pm drop off at Kidz Connection. We will have dinner, games, large and small group activities. Bring friends!!!
Questions contact: Lorraine Davis, 665-7815+
ldavis@sjlchurch.org



LCMS Foundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

Estate/Gift Planning

The best scenario when creating a Christian estate plan is to work in collaboration. When it comes to estates, many are very motivated by privacy concerns. These privacy concerns can sometimes isolate the individual from others who can offer vital help and support. It is essential to connect with others you trust, and especially those who share faith in Jesus Christ with you. Your LCMS Gift Planning Counselor is ready to help. Contact Brian Hyde of the LCMS Foundation who will help you address Wills, Trusts, Medical Care at life's end, Memorial/Funeral/Burial Planning and how to Leave a Legacy for the people and ministries you love. Questions, contact the church office, (661) 665-7815.

Thank you for worshiping with us! Come again soon.