

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 6

- 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

Monday, September 7 Labor Day Holiday
All schools & offices closed

Tuesday, September 8

- 11:45 a.m. Widow to Widow Bible Study &
Luncheon—LCR
- 1:30 p.m. Women’s Bible Study—ECCR
Judie Fanucchi

Wednesday, September 9

- 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
- 6:00 p.m. AWANA Volunteer Training—
KC
Celebration Choir Rehearsal—
Music Room

Thursday, September 10

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

Friday, September 11

- 8:30 a.m. SJLS Morning Chapel—WC

Saturday, September 12

- 7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study—LCR
Lynn Wheeler
- 12:00 p.m. Faithful Friends Lunch
Meeting—ECCR

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, Lance
Hall, Brad Suburu, Paul Williams,
Scott Ziemann

Comfort & Strength

For Sara Wickensheimer & family at
the passing of her mother, Cary
Sayre, on 8/28

For the family & friends of Laurel
Brann who passed away on 9/1

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—\$22,961.21
Budget to Date—\$352,846
Year to Date—\$252,622.91
Year to Date Variance—\$(100,223)



CHOOSE FAITHFULNESS & GENTLENESS

Joshua 24:14-21 [Galatians 5:16-21; John 15:11-17]

September 6, 2026 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

“You did not choose Me, but _____” -Jesus (John 15:16).

“_____ whom you will serve...” (Joshua 24:15).

“Be _____ unto _____, and I will give you the crown of life” (Revelation 2:10).

“Well done, good and _____”
(Matthew 25:21).

The Gospel with _____ and _____

_____ – _____ – _____

God attaches _____ purpose to what we do in our _____ life.

Faithful: the response of one fully _____ of the _____ of God.

Gentleness: one who is cared for by God Himself, and who lives in quiet, _____ under that care.

The Eyes of Christ:

1. See Christ working in this world in a _____ and _____ way.
2. See the world and its _____ as Christ would.
3. See who you are and the _____ of who God made you to be, as Christ _____ you in His work.

There is too much going on to remain _____.



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 6, 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.



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.

BAPTISM

This week we celebrate the baptisms of
Asher Robert Albertson, son of Luis & Julianne Albertson.
He will be baptized during SJLS Chapel on Friday,
September 4. Also, Cora Ann Chernenko, daughter of
Jami Cummings and Cayce Chernenko. She will be
baptized at the 10:30 a.m., service this morning.
We give thanks as we welcome them into God’s Kingdom.

FOLLOW US @SJLCBAKERSFIELD



Events

For all events, scan here



GO BEHIND THE WALLS

THE MISSION

To take the Good News behind the walls of a men's correctional facility

REGISTER TODAY

Join us for Behind the Walls in Bakersfield
November 19 - Training 5:30pm
November 20 - 7am-3:15pm
Registration Deadline: September 13th



WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM'S JERSEY TO CHURCH!

SEPT. 13TH

WEDNESDAYS 6PM-7:30PM

KICK OFF SEPTEMBER 16

Awana Clubs

VOLUNTEER MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9 @ 6PM



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

TIME: 9AM - 3PM
LUNCH AND SNACKS PROVIDED

LOCATION: EVENT CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM

SJLCHURCH.ORG/NEWMEMBER FOR MORE DETAILS



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.

SAVE THE DATE
NOVEMBER 7TH

Zanzibar
BY CANDLELIGHT
A NIGHT TO LIGHT THE WAY

ABOUNTIFUL AFFAIR 2026



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 September 21.** The election will be at the Congregational meeting in December.

GO SJ FAITHFUL FRIENDS

SJ Faithful Friends is having a debrief meeting on **Saturday, September 12**, at 12:00 noon in the Event Center Conference Room. Please bring your own lunch. Questions, contact the church office, 665-7815.

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.

St. John's Lutheran School Kindergarten Readiness Night

This event is for parents of incoming Kindergarten students (any school). We'll discuss Kindergarten expectations, how to help prepare your child, and have samples of fun activities to do with them at home. Join us on **Monday, September 14**, at 6:00 p.m., in the St. John's Event Center. Questions, contact Kelly Pudiwitr, kpudiwitr@sjlschool.org or contact the school office, 664-8090.

Thank you for worshipping with us! Come again soon!

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 MEETING: SEPTEMBER 10 & 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 BEGINS: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8	WIDOWERS 4TH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH 10AM LED BY: PASTOR BEN NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, 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
 STARTS SEPT 9
 WED • 6-7:30PM
 MEETS IN THE GARAGE

HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT
 STARTS SEPT 13
 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 13 & 27 • 8PM • THE GARAGE

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL WAKE UP! WITH SJ STUDENTS

ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAYS:
SEPT 13 • OCT 25
 DURING 10:30 SERVICE | ENDS AT 11:50

JH NIGHT KICK-OFF WATER WARS
 PREPARE TO GET WET!
 WED, SEPT 9 • 6-7:30PM
 IN THE GARAGE

HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT KICK OFF! PAINT NIGHT
 SUN, SEPT 13 • 6-8PM
 canvas painting, dirty soda bar, and charcuterie board

MORE INFO? [CJMERSON@SJLCHURCH.ORG](mailto:cjmerson@sjlchurch.org)
 INSTAGRAM/TIK TOK: @SJSTUDENTS_BAKERSFIELD
 YOUTUBE: SJ STUDENTS BAKERSFIELD

Wifi password: Welcome2SJLC

SJ Kidz 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 KICK OFF SEPT 18
 5th and 6th graders are invited to Kidz 56 Friday, Sept 18 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

LCMSFoundation Estate/Gift Planning

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

The best scenario when creating a Christian estate plan is to work in collaboration. The original thoughts for your plan should come from you. God has made you stewards of His gifts, so it isn't appropriate that the main goals come from someone else. But, once those goals are identified, you need to refine those goals, so they are clear and achievable. Your LCMS Gift Planning Counselor can help with this clarification process. 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.

SEPTEMBER