



October 17/18, 2026

LIVING IN THE LIGHT THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

the Lord make his face **shine** on you and be gracious to you;

Numbers 6:25

SATURDAY (17)

SUNDAY (18)

MONDAY (19)

TUESDAY (20)

WEDNESDAY (21)

THURSDAY (22)

FRIDAY (23)

SATURDAY (24)

SUNDAY (25)

5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion

8:00 & 10:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion

8:00 & 10:30 AM Canticle Choir

9:15 AM Adult Bible Class

9:15 AM Blast/ Jr- Sr High

9:15 AM Women In the Word

2:00 PM Bible Prayer Journaling

4:00 PM Noodle Making

6:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

9:30 AM Friendship Board Meeting

10:00 AM Stitching Blessings

11:00 AM Church Staff Meeting

3:00 PM Thrift Store Board Meeting

4:30 PM Board of Evangelism Meeting

Shut In 4 Sid 1 Michelle

9:30 AM Women's Bible Study

1:00 PM Card Party

3:00 PM Noodle bagging

6:00 PM Weekday School

Newsletter Deadline

6:30 PM Council Meeting

6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice

7:30 PM Canticle Choir Practice

6:30 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study

5:30 PM Worship

8:00 AM Worship

10:30 AM Celebration Worship

9:15 AM Blast/ Jr-Sr High

9:15 AM Adult Bible Class

9:15 AM Women In The Word

3:30 PM Trunk or Treat

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: Sat: 54 Sun 8AM: 81 10:30AM: 85 = 220

GENERAL CHECKING CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK: \$7,107.00



Flowers are placed on the altar in celebration of Adam and Credence Werhane's 6th wedding anniversary on October 17th. May you feel God's love on your special day.

CHRISTIAN ONE-LINER "Ah! What a mercy it is that it is not your hold of Christ that saves you, but his hold of you!" – Charles Spurgeon

Living Stewardship

Stewardship of Talents- God has given each of us unique abilities and gifts. Some teach, some organize, some sing, some repair, some listen, some encourage, and some quietly serve behind the scenes. No gift is too small when it is used in service to God and our neighbor. Scripture reminds us that there are different gifts, but the same Lord. Rather than comparing our abilities with those of others, we can ask, "How can I use what God has given me to bless someone else?" Faithful stewardship means putting our God given talents to work with joy and humility.



St. John's Women's Society Quilt Raffle

This year we are raffling a Queen size quilt that was donated to the Women's Society by Mary Tessendorf. This beautiful quilt is called Farmhouse Cross. Our second prize is a lap quilt called Card Trick that came to us through the Thrift Shop. (Some great items come into the Thrift Shop – if you haven't stopped by lately – check it out.) These items are on display in the hallway near the office. Special thanks go to Mary Tessendorf for piecing and machine quilting the quilt for us. Tickets are available for a \$2.00 donation per ticket OR 3 tickets for \$5.00 on the table by the quilts. Drawing will be held on election day, Tuesday, November 3, 2026. Thanks for supporting the Women's Society and all the mission projects, high school scholarships and other projects they support.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING is October 22nd at 6:30 pm. All Board Chairman and Vice-Chairman are to be present and give a report as to past and present activity of their Board.

VOTER'S MEETING is October 26th at 7:00 pm. There will be reports from our Staff and our Board Chairman. We will also be voting on our 2026 Budget.

Additional Altar Flowers this week:

Flowers are given by Luise Schnoor in appreciation, thanks, and celebration of her birthday on Tuesday October 20th, and her baptismal birthday on November 17th. May you feel God's love and blessings on your special days.



ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL BAZAAR AND BEEF & NOODLE DINNER: Please plan

to attend this event November 3rd, 2026. The Bazaar opens at 8:30 a.m. and features a variety of homemade products: baked goods, noodles, candy, and crafts. The Bazaar will again feature a Hospitality Room with coffee and baked goods. Dinner will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Dine-in meals will include beef and noodles, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, Jello salads, relishes, dinner rolls, brownies, dessert, coffee, or milk – all for \$15. Drive-thru carry-outs will also be available. The carry-out meals will vary slightly and include applesauce instead of Jello. We also will raffle a beautiful quilt and a wall hanging (tickets \$2 each). Flu shots and blood pressure screenings will not be available. Hope to see you there!



Signup sheets will be posted soon! There are several ways you can help with this year's Bazaar and Beef & Noodle Dinner. Could you make a Jello salad or brownies for the dinner? Or maybe you could make items for the Bazaar. This event gives us an opportunity to connect with a lot of people in our local communities. To do this large project, we require many helping hands. We need volunteers for various tasks on Saturday (10/31), Sunday (11/1) and Tuesday (11/3) if you are available to help. Your time and talent are essential to the success of this fundraiser. Everyone has been blessed with something to give. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact one of the bazaar chairpersons: Anita Mau 815-541-9062 or Steve Levan 815-275-3606. Look for the sign-up sheet which will be in the Narthex.

The 2026 Bazaar is coming soon!! We are looking for our church community (including individuals, bible study groups, Blast, Kings Kids, etc.) to consider how they can help with making candy, crafts, or baked goods to donate to this event. We look forward to seeing the unique crafts and the talent of our church family. Candy Room - all your sweet treats are welcome! Examples and favorites include fudge (with and/or without nuts), barks, brittles, buckeyes, caramels, etc. Baked Goods Room – examples include breads, cookies, pies, cakes/cupcakes, snack mixes and anything else yummy. (If you are able, please package your items for sale and list any "food allergy sensitive" ingredients). Craft Room – Fall stuff, Christmas stuff, knitted/crocheted stuff, sewn stuff... be creative! Let's see how many great things we can have at our event for people to take home! Craft items can be dropped off at the church any time prior to the Bazaar. Candy and Baked Goods can be dropped off starting Sunday Nov 1.

FROM THE FAMILY OF JIM FERNSTAEDT – We would like to extend a HEARTFELT THANK YOU to everyone for the calls, prayers, food and donations to Dad's memorial. Your love and support, especially over the past few months, mean the world to us. We are extremely blessed by our church family and thankful for each of you. Deb Hamilton, Anita Mau and the Fernstaedt Family

Five down and one to go! We continued making noodles last Monday.

Additional opportunities will happen again on Monday October 19th. We start at 4:00 PM, but come whenever you can, and we will find a job for you. Help is needed for set-up, mixing the dough, turning the cranks on the machines, laying the dough on tables for the initial drying, then cutting it into noodles, laying them out to dry and of course, cleaning up. Everyone is welcome (male, female, child, or adult) and no previous experience making noodles is necessary. A light meal will be provided, and we are usually done by 7:00.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (OCC):

We are so grateful for your continued donations, love, and support for this ministry! **We THANK YOU!**



- In the month of OCTOBER, we are looking for SMALL TOYS: balloons, cars, card games, musical instruments/whistles, puzzles, jump ropes, balls, travel games, playdoh, stuffed animals, etc.
- Take a look at the thermometers for other needed supplies.
- Monetary donations can be labeled "OCC" and placed in the offering box or given to the church office.
- Check out our OCC AMAZON WISH LIST on our church website/Facebook!
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Our Shoebox Packing Party will be Wednesday, **November 11th at 6pm during Week Day School**. Join us in the fellowship hall as we pack the love of St. John's! All are welcome!

SAVE THE DATE: ST. JOHN'S TRUNK OR TREAT

- Join us for our annual community wide Trunk or Treat on **Sunday, October 25th!** Meet in the church fellowship hall at 3:30pm for a short devotion. Trunk or Treating starts at 4pm in our church parking lot. Bring your friends and family!
- **"TRUNKERS"**: WE NEED YOU! We are looking for people who are willing to decorate their trunk for our treaters during our community Trunk or Treat! Please line up in the church parking lot by 3:30pm and the treating will begin at 4pm. Please sign-up on the church office window or by calling the church office if you would be willing to decorate your trunk!

CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS NEEDED! We will soon begin our family Christmas shopping. If you are interested in being a shopper for a needy family please contact Michelle at the church office by October 23 (or ASAP). We'll fill you in on the details.



SAVE THE DATE: HALLOWEEN PARTY AT SERENITY ESTATES

- Sunday, October 18th, 1-3pm: All St. John's kids are invited to Serenity Estates-Lena (Lena Nursing Home) for BINGO, fun, and treats with the residents. Wear your costume! There will be a costume contest!

REMEMBERING OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Our college students are off and running with a new year at college. They have been busy signing up for classes, packing and moving, and settling in to their new schedule. We want to send a welcome to them as soon as we get their new addresses letting them know we continue to pray for them, and miss having them around. You can help us do that. The yearly goal is to send encouraging notes and care packages on a regular basis. There is a collection container in the Narthex for you to place your love donations. If you would be so kind, the next time you are out shopping, please add a little something extra to share with our college students. This will be an ongoing project for the school year so all seasonal items will be appreciated. Remember it should be easy to ship. Below is a list of suggestions:



Goldfish Life Savers Reese's Cheetos Gum Pringles Mentos

M&M's Peanuts Gift Cards—McDonald's, Starbuck's, Subway and the likes

Candy Cookies Beef Sticks Cheese and cracker packets

Packets that just need water added like "to-go" drinks, mac & cheese, Ramen noodles

Individual packets of just about anything!!!

If you have any questions, please talk to Brenda Offermann or Fawn Nolan. Thank you in advance!

The Lena American Legion Auxiliary will once again be putting up a window display of area veterans and currently serving military during the month of November. Pictures need to be submitted by October 28 and can be sent to PO Box 21, Lena, IL 61048 or dropped off at the Lena American Legion Home on Saturdays from 10 to 11 am. Pictures will not be returned.

Make sure you stop at Klein's Repair in Lena during November to see who has been added to the window this year.

- Julia Moore-815/369-4684

MAKE-A-SMILE CARDS FOR LENA LIVING CENTER – We would like to have **November Cards**, using a **Thanksgiving theme** donated next. If you are creative and are a card maker, please be a part of this wonderful venture and please include a sentiment or Bible verse inside the card. A basket will be placed on the table, outside the office, for your beautiful creations and we will get the cards to Good Shepherd Church who in turn will get them to the Activity Director at the Living Center around the 10th of each month. Thank you in advance for your willingness and being part of this venture. For questions, please contact the church office



Current needs for the Stephenson County VA Pantry:

The following items are very low for the VA Pantry: Cans of Soup, Cans of Vegetables, Cans of Fruit, Ramen Noodles, Shampoo and Conditioner, Body Wash, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, and Laundry Soap. We can also use some gas cards and food gift cards. These have become our most requested items. Donations can be brought to the Lena American Legion Home on Saturdays from 10:00 to 11:00 at 316 W Main St., Lena. This list is immediate needs; however other items will always be accepted. Questions call Deb Holmes at 815-233-5284

Directories are Available

Would you like a paper directory of those at St. John's Church? They are currently located on the table in the Narthex. We will keep printing them until needed. If one isn't available, keep checking the table because we will keep printing more.



Annual Ham Dinner and Country Kitchen

St. Wendelin Catholic Church, Shannon

Sunday, October 18th from 12:30- 4:00pm

Meal Includes: Ham, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy,

Green Beans, Coleslaw, Rolls, and Dessert

Tickets are \$15 for adults, Kids 6-12 are \$7, under 6 is free.

Northern Illinois Food Truck date

10/27- Orangeville - Jane Addams Trail

