

# Weekly HAPPENINGS

Feb 22, 2026

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Purpose: Joyfully taking God's love into the world!*

## Palm Sunday & Easter Services Special Choir

We're forming a **Combined/Special Choir** to help lead worship on **Palm Sunday (March 29)** and **Easter Sunday (April 5)**. If you enjoy singing and want to be part of these meaningful services, we'd love to have you join us. **You don't need to be an expert—singers of all experience levels are welcome, and rehearsal tracks are provided to help you learn the music.**

**Rehearsals** will be held on Sunday afternoons from **2:00–4:00 pm** on:

\*March 1                      \*March 8                      \* March 22

On **Palm Sunday**, both services will be held in the **Sanctuary**, where the Combined Choir will present a **four-song cantata**.

On **Easter Sunday**, the choir will help lead **five songs** in the **Faith & Life Center** during the **9:30 and 11:00 am services**.

You can **sign up and pick up a packet of music in the Atrium** at the Welcome Center table.

For more information, please contact **Mike Best** at [music10@stjohncf.org](mailto:music10@stjohncf.org) or 360-930-4354.



## Welcome to ALL!

Please let us know any questions you may have or anything we can do for you. Our volunteers are ready to help!

[Pastor Brian Julin-McCleary](#) would love to meet up, in person or otherwise, and share more about St. John, chat about the Gospel or whatever else might be on your mind. He can be reached at 319-888-3814 or [PastorBrian@stjohncf.org](mailto:PastorBrian@stjohncf.org).

**RESTROOMS** are located on the main level near the Sanctuary.

**HEARING ASSIST DEVICES** are available for **both** worship spaces. Go to an usher or the soundboard for assistance.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Contact the church office or complete the form on the website found on the Membership page. A "Welcome to St. John" series is held each fall.

**CHILDREN** are welcome in worship. Our nursery is located near the F&LC and available for you to use with infants/toddlers under 3.

**WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED ON FACEBOOK**

**@STJOHNCF** OR watch CFU Channel 18 on **Sundays, 7:30am or Wednesdays, 6pm** (replay 10am service previous week)

**WIFI Password: [connectcaresharegrow](#)**

## For Information

- Online: [www.stjohncf.org](http://www.stjohncf.org)
- Call the office: 319-268-0165
- Follow us on Facebook: [stjohncf](https://www.facebook.com/stjohncf)
- WIFI: [connectcaresharegrow](#)**



**RECONCILING in CHRIST**

*Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here in the name of Jesus Christ. We celebrate that each person is loved by God. We affirm the gifts of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, and are committed to working for racial equity. Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church!*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

See the website for a complete listing of building use dates/times.

### Tuesday, February 24

10am Ladies Bible Study (Library)  
6pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Wednesday, February 25

7am Walking Wednesday @ Big Woods/south lot  
5pm **Meal: Chili & Chicken Noodle**  
5:30pm Handbell Rehearsal (Rm. 310)  
6pm **Lenten Worship (Faith & Life Center)**

### Thursday, February 26

Lutheran Day on the Hill @ DSM  
7:30am Men's Bible Study (Library)  
2pm NewAldaya / SJLC Gathering  
3:30pm Bible Study (Library)  
6:30pm Worship Band Rehearsal (F&LC)

### Saturday, February 28

9am-3:30pm Every Chapter Counts Film Festival @  
Grout Museum

### Sunday, March 1

8am & 10am Worship Services  
SJLC provides Communion Assistance @ NewAldaya  
8:45am Confirmation  
9am Perennials Bible Study (Library)  
9am Sunday School  
2pm Combined/Special Choir Rehearsal (F&LC)

## MARCH VOLUNTEER OPP



Provide Assistance to NewAldaya Residents wanting to attend worship AT the NewAldaya Chapel & needing someone to push their wheelchair or walk with them!

St. John is committed to providing 3 volunteers each Sunday in March. Sign up at the Welcome Center table. If you have not completed a background check form for NewAldaya, please take one to complete & return to the church office for Jenny to forward on.

Arrive at NewAldaya by 10:00 and meet Pastor Linda at the NewAldaya Chapel. Then you'll go around stopping at rooms with open doors asking residents if they would like to attend worship. It takes a half hour to move residents from their rooms to the Chapel. Worship goes from 10:30-11:30 and then it takes a half hour to return the residents to their room or to the dining room. You'll be done by 12noon!



## Order Easter Flowers at the Welcome Center Table

February 26, 2026  
9am - 3pm

**REGISTER NOW TO ATTEND:**  
[LSIOWA.org](http://LSIOWA.org)

**LUTHERAN DAY ON THE HILL**  
AMPLIFY · EMPOWER · ADVOCATE

Carpool to leave SJLC at 7am  
SIGN UP at the Welcome Center

## Men's 10th Annual Chicken Wing Event

FEB. 22 - 12:30PM  
LOCATION: GORDIE SORENSEN HOME  
4103 JAMES DR. CF  
BLUE HOUSE/END OF CUL. DE SAC

**SIGN UP**

Our 10th Annual "Lord of the Wings" Men's Chicken Wings and MORE Event for 2026 will be **TODAY / Sunday, February 22nd at 12:30pm at Gordie Sorensen Home.**

ALL Men are invited to bring any personally prepared chicken wings to share for all attendees for competition. All men present will BE the "judges" in determining the top wing and thus "Lord of the Wings" with a traveling trophy awarded. If you are not choosing to be in competition, no problem! Bring ANY other chicken wings, alternative snacks, dishes, desserts, etc to share, and your own choice of beverages. And, please wear ANY sports jersey or attire of any favorite team of any sport, college pro, whatever.

Come join us, don't BE a chicken, but EAT a chicken!



Every  
Chapter  
Counts

FREE ADMISSION!

# FILM FESTIVAL

FEBRUARY 28, 2026 | 9AM-3:30PM  
GROUT MUSEUM DISTRICT

Every Chapter Counts is a collective of diverse Cedar Valley residents who believe in sharing and engaging ALL PEOPLES history.

The film festival features the supplemental video teaching resources developed for *The 1619 Project* by Waterloo-native Nikole Hannah-Jones.

The program will feature six chapters: - Democracy - Race - Capitalism - Music - Fear - Justice.

Local leaders and community members will speak on each of the six chapters.

FOOD FOR PURCHASE AT THE FESTIVAL FROM RODNEY'S KITCHEN

FOLLOW EVERY  
CHAPTER COUNTS  
ON FACEBOOK



The ECC folks are :  
Reg Green, Bill Bass  
(SJLC), Pastor Johnny  
(Cedar Heights), Paul  
Greene and Pastor Bri-  
an (SJLC).

**9:00 AM — Opening Remarks**

**9:15 AM — Voter Disenfranchisement  
& Threats to Democracy**

*Speaker: State Representative Ras  
Smith*

*Affiliations: Jubilee United Methodist  
Church Freedom Center; Waterloo Hu-  
man Rights Commission*

**10:15 AM — The Black Maternal  
Health Crisis**

*Speaker: Dr. Karla Solheim, MD  
Obstetrics & Gynecology — Waterloo*

**11:15 AM — Racism in American Mu-  
sic & Pop Culture**

*Speaker: Chawne Paige  
Director, Waterloo Center for the Arts*

**12:15 PM — Impact of Capitalism in  
Black Communities**

*Speaker: Rev. Abraham L. Funchess Jr.*

**1:15 PM — Impact of Surveillance &  
Violent Control on Black Lives**

*Speaker: Former Officer Marvin Spen-  
cer*

Antioch Music & Fine Arts Ministry Presents:

**22 FEB 2026**  
4:00 p.m.

**BLACK HISTORY**  
*Celebration*  
"You Don't Know My Story"  
*a celebration of our history through song, dance & spoken word*

Practice & Participation Workshop Sessions:  
Friday Feb 20th 6-8pm  
Saturday Feb 21st 1-4pm

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!  
WE NEED YOU!!!**

*Donations are appreciated*

Sis Sharrie Wright MFA Director

## Jubilee Conference Annual Meeting: Sunday, 6pm

Did you know we (St. John) are a part of the Jubilee Conference of churches within the Synod? Please consider joining in the one-hour annual meeting at **6pm on Sunday, February 22 at St. Timothy Lutheran Church (1 Thelma St., Hudson)**. Carpool will leave SJLC at 5:30pm—sign up at the Welcome Center table.

Barb Prather, Executive Director of the Northeast Iowa Food Bank will be there to give us updates on what is happening at the Food Bank and with hunger in our area.

Dinner will be provided.

CEDAR VALLEY EMA  
NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK IA CHAPTER

**FEB. 22**  
6 P.M.

CITY WIDE  
*Black History*  
**SERVICE**  
CELEBRATING A TRAILBLZER

HONORABLE  
QUENTIN HART

LOCATION:  
PAYNE AME CHURCH  
1044 MOBILE STREET  
ATTIRE: HOODIES & SNEAKERS

REV. MARVIN D. JENKINS, EMA PRESIDENT  
REV. FRANTZ WHITFIELD, NAN PRESIDENT

CALL 319-429-8713 FOR MORE INFO

## SJLC Hobby Interest Survey

In an attempt to foster greater community in our congregation, our sermon on Sunday focused on "Friendship" and included the opportunity to complete a Hobby Interest Survey (designed by our Hospitality and Congregational Care Team).

*THANK YOU to everyone who completed the survey* — 184 individuals responded online & another 48 answered via a paper copy!! What an incredible response!

In the coming days we will enter in those paper responses so if you have not answered using the online link, we encourage you to do so soon.



Our hope is that through your answers, we can create opportunities for folks with similar interests to be "in community and relationship with one another" - just as Jesus was in community & relationship with his friends (the apostles) and then after his resurrection, the apostles continued this model!



deadline: March 5



This is a great opportunity for children and youth to experience God's work in and around them.

Qualified applicants must be members of St. John. Up to 10 scholarships of \$100 will be available. Based on number of applicants, notification of award and instructions will be communicated following the deadline/upon review of applications.



**FAMILIES**—Help us with planning this event by answering this short survey!



St John plans on providing scholarships to students attending schools of higher education, including ELCA seminaries, Lutheran colleges, universities, community, and technical schools.

St John scholarships will be awarded based upon the guidelines of the St John Mission Endowment Fund, availability of funds, and number of applicants. Preference will be given to those attending ELCA seminaries and colleges. Applicants must be members of St John Lutheran Church in good standing.



Formation CoOp members (Alison Frerichs, Sam Corro, Daniel Slaughter, Rose Lorenz, Meghan Bruns, Austin Gabel, Fergie, Pastor Brian) have been meeting monthly, conducting listening sessions around the congregation and have spent two weekends at EWALU with other leaders from two NE IA congregations.

This has proved to be a fantastic use of resources as it puts the mission of St. John and more importantly of Jesus right to work in the form of this team growing in leadership. When leaders grow everybody benefits! Through training conducted at Ewalu - facilitated at home by Pastor Brian, and through awesome feedback about our own youth ministry by several different groups and members within St. John and elsewhere in the community, we have gained fantastic insight as to things that we are already doing well as a ministry, as well as where we can improve. Improve by using tools we already have, trying new ideas, and maybe even adding some tools to our arsenal. All of this work is being done with the end goal of creating a sustained life of Love for Christ in the lives of our young people, so they may live their lives sharing the love of Christ with others.

**HEALING & CONCERN. . .** Jean Collins; Loy Walker (Brett's mom); Carol Ross; Helen Baines (Jennifer Kurtenbach's friend); Donald Christenson (Sarah Parson's dad); Chris Hartman; David (Diana Smith's brother-in-law); Molly Myron; Grant Gubbrud; Greg Guse (Jeff's brother); Brian Clark; Vince Gotera; Sue Larson; Marcie Hagge; Sara Syhlman; Paulo (Barb Feuerhak's son-in-law); Muriel Galloway (Charisse Folken's mom); Jennifer Kurtenbach; Goose; Dan Ott & Bart Peyton (Terry Phillips sons-in-law); John Morgan; Jeff Bowers; Eileene Katcher; Kelly (Kathy Taylor's sister); Abby Palsic (April Hannam's sister); Mary Kahl; Janelle Fereday (John's daughter-in-law).

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!**

*The Sanctuary altar flowers are given by Peg Smith.*

*The Faith & Life Center altar flowers are given by Jim & Darcy Dally to celebrate Jim's mom's (Patricia Crane) heavenly birthday..*

*Donuts are sponsored by Adelynn Behrends & Damian Tejrrell.*

**2025 YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

Contribution statements for 2025 have been distributed. Households with an email address on file were sent their statement electronically; those without an email address on file were sent a paper copy. If you did not receive your contribution statement, or need a paper copy, please send an email to [finance@stjohncf.org](mailto:finance@stjohncf.org) or call the office at 319-268-0165. *Thank you for your financial support of the ministries of St. John in 2025!*

	Jan-26			Fiscal YTD		
	Revenue	Expense	Net	Revenue	Expense	Net
<b>Church</b>	68,962.32	64,253.71	4,708.61	803,755.80	608,628.15	195,127.65
<b>Preschool/Childcare</b>	68,593.99	65,108.68	3,485.31	642,513.28	669,987.16	(27,473.88)
<b>Total</b>	137,556.31	129,362.39	8,193.92	1,446,269.08	1,278,615.31	167,653.77

**Submit A Prayer Request:**



**Visitor Connection Card:**



**Support Financially:**



**Pastoral Staff** Pastor Brian Julin-McCleary  
cell: 319-888-3814; email: [PastorBrian@stjohncf.org](mailto:PastorBrian@stjohncf.org)

**St. John Staff** Located on the St. John website

**Church Council** ([Council@stjohncf.org](mailto:Council@stjohncf.org))

John Kohagen. . . . . **Shawn Smeins, Treasurer**  
 Josh Green. . . . . **Jen Hartman, President**  
**Blake Borwick, VP** . . . . . Nick Frerichs  
**Linda Holm, Secretary** . . . . . Kathy Diehl  
 Andrew Bruns

**Ministry & Resource Team Leaders**

Hospitality & Congregational Care .....Robin Abraham  
 Serving & Discipleship.....Janelle Smeins  
 Worship & Celebration .....Brenda Truelsen  
 Faith Formation & Lifelong Learning .....Rose Lorenz  
 Human Resources.....Jim Denholm  
 Financial Resources.....Jim Langel  
 Property Resource Team.....Larry Prohaska  
 Technology & Communication.....Nick Frerichs

**Worship Attendance:**

Feb 15: 279 inperson & 35 online; Ash Wednesday: 212