

April 2026 Newsletter

St. John Lutheran Church 404 Jefferson St, Rochester, IN 46975 Rev. Curtis A. May,
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What's Happening at St John

Sundays

Worship Service 9:30 am

Sunday School/ Bible study 10:30 am

Tuesdays

Celebrate Recovery meetings 5-8pm

Wednesdays

Woman's Bible study 5pm

2nd Monday

Bible study at Hickory Creek 10:30 am

Meetings

4/6/26	Elders	6 pm
4/13/26	Education	6 pm
	Finance	6:30 pm
	Tech & Comm	7 pm
4/20/26	Church Council	7 pm
	Voters meeting	7:30 pm

Maundy Thurs April 2nd 7pm

Good Friday April 3rd 7pm

Easter Breakfast 8 am

Easter Sun April 5th 9:30 am



Bowling Sunday Funday

April 12th 12-2 pm

Church pays for lanes, shoes & pizza. Just pay for your drinks.

Birthdays

Glenda Bode 4/3, Jeri Kieninger 4/7,

Nick Brown 4/16, Pastor May 4/22,

Jaelynn Wert-Price 4/30

Why we practice closed communion.

What God says about Communion/Lord's Supper

John 6:52–56 ESV

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵ **For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.** ⁵⁶ **Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.** ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

1 Corinthians 11:23-32 ESV

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This **is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**" ²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This **cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.**" ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷ **Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord.** ²⁸ **Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.** ²⁹ **For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.** ³⁰ That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹ **But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged.** ³² **But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.**

Matthew 26:28 ESV

²⁸ **for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.**

Most people think that the Lord's Supper is sharing a meal with our Lord Jesus. After you have read "What God says about communion," I hope you now believe you are having a meal of our Lord Jesus who gave His Body and Blood to be food of forgiveness and remembrance of how and why Jesus Christ gave up His Body and Blood for us.

Our Lord Jesus Christ did not die on the cross to just give us food and drink. Christ gave Himself up to suffering and dying on the cross to forgive all of our sins. And this, Christ did out of the love of our God who brings salvation to all whom He calls. Though God calls all to be His adopted children, only those who listen to the Holy Spirit and believe will inherit eternal life. One also has to realize that eternal life is also eternal relationship with our benevolent and loving God.

The question that most people have is, "Why cannot everybody take communion?" First realize that one does not need communion to be saved and have eternal life and relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. There are serious qualifications in God's word before one can take the Lord's Supper. Again Read "What God says about communion."

These qualifications are why we (LCMS) have Catechism for our youth, new members who do not know Christ, and new members who come from different denominations. Not all denominations teach correctly the seriousness of taking the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior.

Without the proper knowledge and teaching of the Lord's Supper we would be allowing people to take it to their judgement. This is not in our hearts to see one be judged. This also brings judgement upon the pastor serving the Lord's Supper.

James 3:1 ESV *Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that **we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.***

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bowling party April 12th 12- 2 pm

Spanish Services

Junior Confirmation in May

APRIL 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Maundy Thurs 7pm	3 Good Friday 7pm	4
5 Breakfast 8am C-Worship 9:30 Sun school 10:30 Easter	6 Elders 6pm	7 CR 5-8pm	8 Conf class 5pm Women's Bible 5pm	9	10	11
12 Worship 9:30 Sun school 10:30 Bowling 12-2 pm	13 Hickory Creek 10:30am Educ 6pm Finance 6:30 Tech&Com 7pm	14 CR 5-8pm	15 Conf class 5pm Women's Bible 5pm	16	17	18
19 C-Worship 9:30 Sun school 10:30 Prayer walk/vigil	20 Church council 7pm Voters 7:30	21 CR 5-8pm	22 Conf class 5pm Women's Bible 5pm	23	24	25
26 Worship 9:30 Sun school 10:30 Sacrificial Sunday	27	28 CR 5-8pm	29	30		C-Communion +Sacrificial Sun- Extra giving opportunity