

OCTOBER 11, 2026

The Crossbeam

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S PARISH MEMBERS
AND FRIENDS



Sunday, October 11, 2026
20th Sunday after Pentecost,
Year A

IN ISAIAH WE ARE GIVEN A VISION OF THE GREAT FEAST TO COME, WHEN GOD WILL WIPE AWAY DEATH FOREVER. IN JESUS' PARABLE ABOUT A GREAT BANQUET, THOSE INVITED DO NOT COME, SO THE INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO OTHERS. IN OUR LITURGY GOD SPREADS A TABLE BEFORE US. EVEN AMID ANXIETY AND HARDSHIP WE REJOICE IN THE PEACE OF GOD WHICH SURPASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING. WITH GREAT JOY WE FEAST AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD, AND WE GO FORTH TO SHARE THE WONDERFUL INVITATION WITH OTHERS HUNGERING AND THIRSTING FOR THE ABUNDANT LIFE OF GOD..



From the Pastor's Desk

PSALM 23

1 THE LORD | IS MY SHEPHERD;
I SHALL NOT | BE IN WANT.
2 THE LORD MAKES ME LIE DOWN | IN GREEN PASTURES
AND LEADS ME BE- | SIDE STILL WATERS.
3 YOU RESTORE MY | SOUL, O LORD,
AND GUIDE ME ALONG RIGHT PATHWAYS | FOR YOUR NAME'S SAKE.
4 THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I
SHALL | FEAR NO EVIL;
FOR YOU ARE WITH ME; YOUR ROD AND YOUR STAFF, THEY | COMFORT ME.
5 YOU PREPARE A TABLE BEFORE ME IN THE PRESENCE | OF MY ENEMIES;
YOU ANOINT MY HEAD WITH OIL, AND MY CUP IS | RUNNING OVER.
6 SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS | OF MY
LIFE,
AND I WILL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE | LORD FOREVER.

"MY LORD GOD, I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE I AM GOING. I DO NOT SEE THE
ROAD AHEAD OF ME. I CANNOT KNOW FOR CERTAIN WHERE IT WILL END.
NOR DO I REALLY KNOW MYSELF, AND THE FACT THAT I AM FOLLOWING
YOUR WILL DOES NOT MEAN THAT I AM ACTUALLY DOING SO. BUT I BELIEVE
THAT THE DESIRE TO PLEASE YOU DOES IN FACT PLEASE YOU. AND I HOPE I
HAVE THAT DESIRE IN ALL THAT I AM DOING. I HOPE THAT I WILL NEVER DO
ANYTHING APART FROM THAT DESIRE. AND I KNOW THAT IF I DO THIS, YOU
WILL LEAD ME BY THE RIGHT ROAD THOUGH I MAY KNOW NOTHING ABOUT
IT. THEREFORE I WILL TRUST YOU ALWAYS THOUGH I MAY SEEM LOST AND
IN THE SHADOW OF DEATH. I WILL NOT FEAR, FOR YOU ARE EVER WITH ME,
AND YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE ME TO FACE MY PERILS ALONE."

—THOMAS MERTON, "THE ROAD AHEAD," A REFLECTION ON PSALM 23, FROM
THOUGHTS IN SOLITUDE, CITED BY TRENT T. GILLISS.

PEACE AND BLESSINGS THIS DAY.

PASTOR V.



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

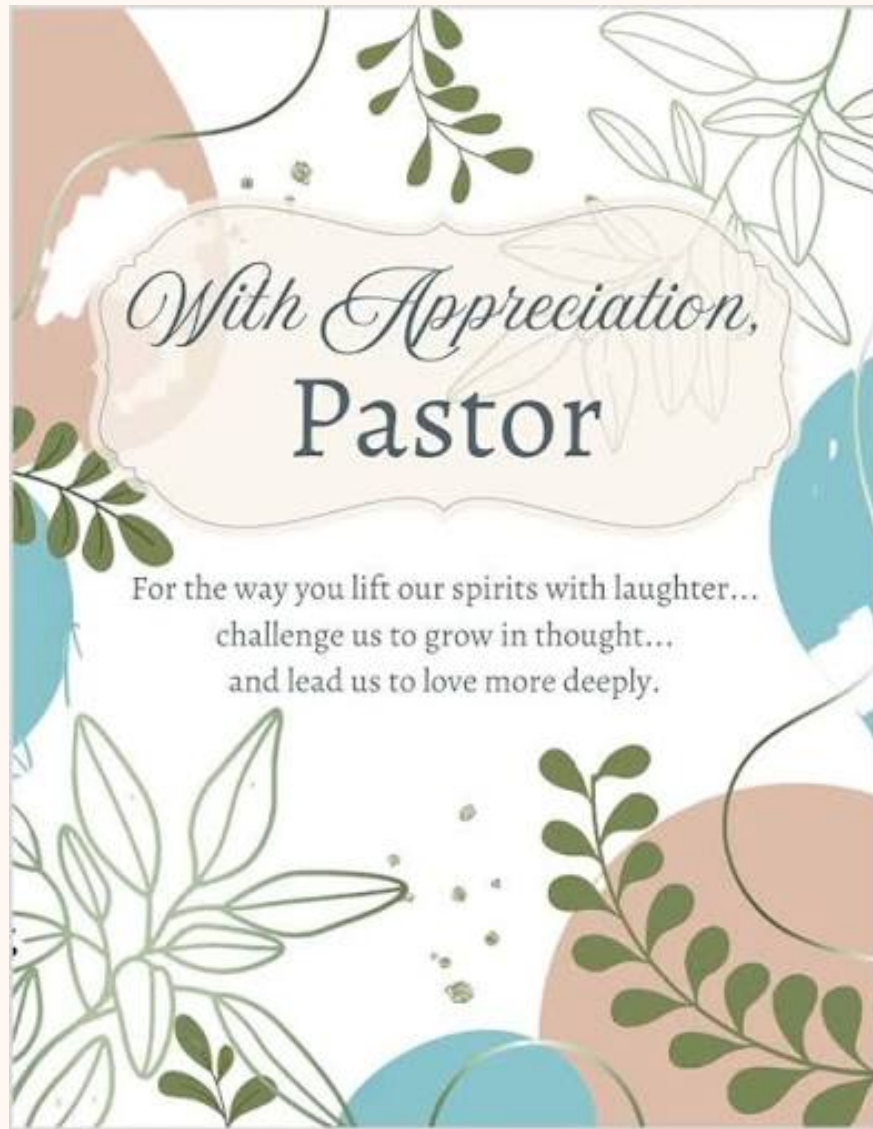
THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS PEOPLE AROUND THE MEANS OF GRACE—
THE SAVING WORD OF GOD AND THE SACRAMENTS.

FEATURED THIS WEEK:
SATURDAY SPOKEN WORD
5 P.M. - IN-PERSON

THE SUNDAY ASSEMBLY
9 A.M.- SERVICE W/ SCS AND LIVESTREAM
10:30A.M. - IN-PERSON SERVICE AND LIVESTREAM
BROADCAST ON OUR [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



[This Weeks Bulletin \(click here\)](#)



***DEAR PASTOR VALERIE,
THANK YOU FOR BEING SUCH A WONDERFUL SHEPHERD TO OUR
CHURCH FAMILY. YOUR FAITH, DEDICATION, AND KIND HEART
INSPIRE US EVERY DAY.
WE PRAY GOD BLESSES YOU ABUNDANTLY TODAY FOR ALL THE
WAYS YOU BLESS OTHERS.***

HAPPY PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY!



SATURDAY OCTOBER 10 @ 5PM
VICKY WIENKE- ASSISTING MINISTER



SUNDAY OCTOBER 11 @ 9A.M.
LEE DELANEY- USHER

SUNDAY OCTOBER 11 @ 10:30A.M.
SAM REILLY- ASSISTING MINISTER
SANDY STANGO - USHER

ALTAR GUILD FOR OCTOBER:
SYLVIA DELANEY
BARBARA KWIECINSKI

OCTOBER IS ALL ABOUT STEWARDSHIP

WHAT IS PASSION? IT IS THAT WHICH DRIVES AND MOTIVATES US, OR SIMPLY ENTHUSIASM. ASK YOURSELF: DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR JESUS? DO YOU GET EXCITED WHEN YOU HEAR THE GOSPEL AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, DO YOU PUT IT INTO YOUR LIFE BY LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOR, BY BEING GENEROUS, BY "WALKING THE TALK?" IF YOU RECEIVE AN INVITATION TO GOD'S BANQUET, IS IT A RESOUNDING YES? OR DO YOU SAY: I CANNOT COME.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS &
UPCOMING EVENTS**

BIBLE STUDY @ 6PM

OCTOBER 15TH

OCTOBER 11TH

SOUP/ CHILI SALE

**NEW MEMBERS CLASS AFTER 2ND
SERVICE**

OCTOBER 15TH @ 7PM

PENNY SALE

**OCTOBER 25TH @ 10AM
REFORMATION SUNDAY
ONLY 1 SERVICE**

BIBLE STUDY @ 6PM

NOVEMBER 5TH & 19TH

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN COMING TO THE NEW
MEMEBERS CLASS, PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW
716-668-2152 OR SJLCWS@GMAIL.COM

ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?

IF SO, WE ARE IN NEED OF ACTION TEAMS. THIS PROVIDES \$250,
FREE TO YOU, FOR VARIOUS MISSION PROJECTS. EACH THRIVENT
MEMBER IS ALLOTTED TWO ACTION PROJECTS PER YEAR. THAT'S
\$500 THAT CAN GO TOWARDS A MISSION PROJECTS OF ST. JOHN'S.

PLEASE, CONTACT NANCY KESSLER IF YOU'RE A THRIVENT MEMBER
AND WOULD LIKE TO HELP.

THIS WEEK 10/11 - 10/17

TODAY:

9 A.M. WORSHIP W/ SCS
10:15 A.M. YOUTH GROUP MEETING
10:30 A.M. WORSHIP
NEW MEMBERS CLASS
11:30 A.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL
7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

MONDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS WALKING GROUP
6:45 P.M. ZUMBA
7:30 P.M. AL-ANON

TUESDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. TAI-CHI
2 P.M. WELCA
6 P.M. ROCK VOICES
6 P.M. LABYRINTH GROUP
6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

WEDNESDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP

THURSDAY:

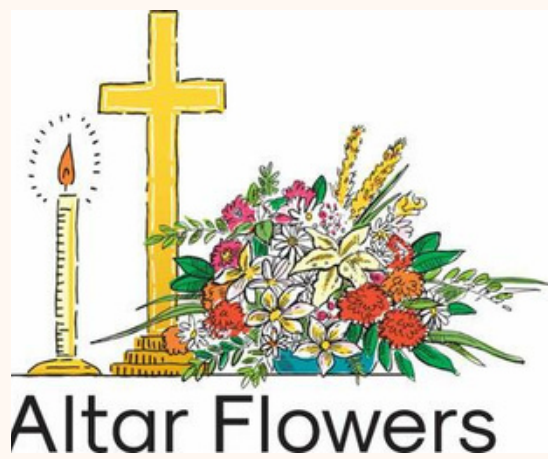
9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. NA
5 P.M. NA BOOK CLUB
6 P.M. BIBLE STUDY
7 P.M. PENNY SALE
7 P.M. NA

FRIDAY:

10 A.M. ENJOY LIFE (NA)
7:30 P.M. GARDENVILLE GROUP (AA)

SATURDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
5 P.M. WORSHIP



IN MEMORY OF OUR LOVED ONES

BOB AND RHONDA DREZEK

IN HONOR OF FINDING MY CHURCH FAMILY

KRISTEN HOCHULSKI

IN MEMORY OF ALICE PFEIFFER

ARLENE AND MARGIE LICKFIELD

YOU CAN REMEMBER OR HONOR A LOVED ONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION BY ORDERING A FLORAL ARRANGEMENT USING THE ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE IN THIS NEW SECTION , PLEASE SEND A PICTURE AND FEW SENTENCES ABOUT WHAT MAKES YOUR LIGHT SHINE.

EMAIL THE OFFICE SJLCWS@GMAIL.COM



IT'S BACK!

THE (NOT SO WORLD FAMOUS) ALTAR GUILD PENNY SALE WILL BE HELD
HERE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15.

DOORS OPEN AT 6:15, SALE STARTS AT 7.

TICKETS ARE \$5.00 PER SHEET WHICH INCLUDES YOUR ADMISSION, LIGHT
REFRESHMENT AND DRINK

(CUPCAKES, COFFEE, TEA, LEMONADE, AND WATER).

DOOR PRIZE CHANCE ALSO INCLUDED.

EXTRA TICKETS ARE \$3.00 PER SHEET

THERE WILL BE A DRAWING FOR 5- \$10.00 GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE AT 2/ \$1.00.

SO, WHAT IS A PENNY SALE-

IT IS SIMILAR TO A BASKET RAFFLE (WITHOUT THE BASKET)

EXCEPT THAT THE ITEMS OFFERED ARE NEW OR GENTLY USED ITEMS
THAT YOU TAKE A CHANCE ON WINNING.

EXAMPLE, KNICK-KNACKS, HOLIDAY ITEMS, GLASSWARE ETC.

THERE ARE LOTS OF GOODIES TO BE WON!

IT WILL BE A FUN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP, SO MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND
BRING A FRIEND OR TWO ALONG AND MAYBE A BAG TO TAKE YOUR
WINNINGS HOME.

SEATING IS LIMITED TO 100.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THEN!

QUESTIONS , CALL OR SEE CONNIE 716-674-2409

OR ANY ALTAR GUILD MEMBER.

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME AND CAN BE BROUGHT IN ANY TIME AND LEFT IN
THE PARISH HALL OR BETWEEN THE FOYER DOORS LABELED "PENNY SALE ".

PLEASE, NO CLOTHES OR LARGE ITEMS.

PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS ALTAR SUPPLIES.



4TH ANNUAL HARVEST HOUSE BABY SHOWER

ST. JOHN'S WILL AGAIN FOR THE 4TH YEAR BE PARTICIPATING IN THE ANNUAL HARVEST HOUSE BABY SHOWER.
PLEASE HAVE ALL ITEMS IN BY OCTOBER 25TH.

LAST YEAR, HARVEST HOUSE SERVED APPROXIMATELY 800 CHILDREN EACH MONTH; IN 2026, THAT NUMBER HAS GROWN TO AN AVERAGE OF 850 CHILDREN PER MONTH. THIS INCREASING DEMAND STRETCHES OUR RESOURCES AND MAKES THE SUPPORT OF FAITHFUL COMMUNITY PARTNERS ESPECIALLY MEANINGFUL.

AS IN PAST YEARS, WE ARE ASKING CHURCH PARTNERS TO CONSIDER
COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING HIGH-NEED ITEMS:

DIAPERS (SIZES 2-5)

BABY WIPES

NEW OR GENTLY USED CHILDREN'S CLOTHING (NEWBORN-5T)

NEW CHILDREN'S SOCKS

BOTTLES AND FEEDING SUPPLIES

BABY HYGIENE PRODUCTS

WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CHURCH'S PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION AND PARTICIPATION IN THIS YEAR'S BABY SHOWER OUTREACH.
THANK YOU FOR HELPING US EXTEND PRACTICAL CARE, DIGNITY, AND HOPE TO FAMILIES IN NEED.

EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

ST. JOHN'S HAS APPLIED FOR A SPECIAL THRIVENT GRANT TO
RESTOCK THE EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY AT SENECA STREET.
WE NEED TO COLLECT 500 ITEMS IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE
FOR AN EXTRA \$500 FOR THE FOOD PANTRY.

PLEASE HAVE ITEMS INTO THE CHURCH BY OCTOBER 25, 2026

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR
SENECA STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

*NOTE: ITEMS NEEDED ARE CANNED,
NOT FRESH OR FROZEN*

STRAWBERRY JELLY/JAM
PEANUT BUTTER
BBQ SAUCE, CONDIMENTS
CHILI
BAKED BEANS
CARROTS
CORN
KIDNEY BEANS
SPAGHETTI SAUCE
TOMATO SAUCE, TOMATOES (CRUSHED DICED ETC.)
CANNED PASTA - RAVIOLI, SPAGHETTIOS, ETC.
SOUPS ESPECIALLY CHICKEN NOODLE
RAMEN NOODLES
TUNA, CANNED CHICKEN
GRAVY, INSTANT POTATOES
PASTA, RICE, CRACKERS
FRUIT
SINGLE SERVING CEREAL BOWLS
LEMONADE MIX
SNACKS

THANK YOU!