

March 2026

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

Connections

The President's Perspective

Spring Into Growth: Preparing Your Business for a Strong Second Quarter

As the days grow longer and signs of spring begin to appear, March is the perfect time for businesses to refocus, recharge, and prepare for the opportunities ahead. The first quarter often sets the tone for the year, and now is the moment to evaluate what's working, adjust where needed, and lean into new strategies for growth.

At the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce, we believe that thriving businesses create a thriving community. Whether you are a small startup, an expanding manufacturer, or a long-established organization, staying connected and engaged is one of the most powerful tools for success.

Spring brings a renewed sense of energy across our business community. It's an ideal time to:

- Reconnect with customers and clients
- Invest in professional development
- Strengthen your workforce
- Explore new partnerships
- Refresh your marketing efforts

The Chamber is here to support you every step of the way. From networking events and educational programs to advocacy efforts and economic development initiatives, our goal is to provide resources that help your business grow and our region prosper.

If you've been waiting for the right moment to get more involved — this is it. Attend an upcoming event, join a committee, sponsor a program, or simply reach out to our team to learn how to maximize your membership benefits. The more you engage, the more value you'll see.

Let's embrace the momentum of the season and work together to make this a spring filled with progress, innovation, and continued investment in St. Joseph's future.

Because when local businesses succeed, our entire community blooms.



Natalie Hawn
President & CEO

NEW MEMBERS

The following businesses and individuals have been approved for membership in the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce:

A-Rite, Inc.
Jim Hoover
1605 Commerce Ave. (06)
(816) 364-2463
ariteinc@yahoo.com
Plumbing Contractors

Fuemmeler Holdings, LLC
Stephanie Steinman
12929 SE Bigham Road,
Stewartsville, MO 64490
(660) 728-2301
fhllc01@gmail.com
Real Estate Developers

Pho & Banh Mi
Kevin Bui
139 N. Belt Highway, Ste. K (06)
(816) 273-7389
phobanhmistjoe@gmail.com
www.phobandbanhmistjoe@gmail.com
Restaurants

Reid Woodbury
2635 Lafayette St. (07)
(816) 387-3526
woodburyreid@gmail.com
Civic Member

Pam Brock
505 E. Chestnut St.,
Troy, KS 66087
(816) 244-6265
pambrock53@gmail.com
Civic Member

Swope Health Kidscare St. Joseph
Bridget Locke
711 N. 36th St. (06)
(816) 279-7337
blocke@swopehealth.org
www.swopehealth.org
Health Services

Know a business that should be a Chamber member?

Ask them to join today!

Contact luke@saintjoseph.com
or send them to our website:
saintjoseph.com



March Calendar

For more information, call 816/232-4461. CREDIT CARD RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE, www.saintjoseph.com

4 & 25 Public Affairs Coffee

Presented by Farmers State Bank

The Chamber will host two political forums this month to help prepare voters for the upcoming election. Hear from candidates running for St. Joseph School Board of Education, City Council and Mayor.

Both events are from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center, 1201 N. Woodbine Road. Cost is \$15, breakfast included.

Wednesday, March 4
St. Joseph School BOE Forum

Wednesday, March 25
City Council and Mayor Forum

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461
or www.saintjoseph.com

4 & 18 12 & 26 Circle of Influence

Circle of Influence is a leads group composed of small business professionals looking to exchange direct client referrals and leads. The group also provides a forum for the discussion of issues which businesses commonly encounter. Only one member per profession/speciality in each group is allowed. Cost is \$100 to join. There are two groups, one that meets the first and third Wednesdays and another that meets the second and fourth Thursdays. (Holidays affect this schedule.) Contact Tony Luke for more information, luke@saintjoseph.com or (816) 364-4101. Meetings held at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center, 1201 N. Woodbine Road.

March 4 & 18 and March 12 & 26
11:30 a.m. to 1p.m., Guests Free

6 First Friday Power Lunch Bunch

Join us on our First Friday Power Lunch Bunch! This is a way to get to know different Chamber member restaurants throughout the year and another way to support local.

Friday, March 6
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Chaddy's
Buchanan County Courthouse
Basement, 411 Jules St.
Lunch cost is on your own

10 Lunch & Learn Seminar

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Topic -- BrandGPT: Harnessing the Power of AI for Marketing
Get a quick overview of a few tools you can use, while not letting the robots take over. This is a great topic for marketing and branding, but also for those interested in general workflow efficiency. Get a live demonstration from Miles Ramsay of 52Eighty Creative.

Tuesday, March 10
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$12
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461
or www.saintjoseph.com

12 DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc., Nodaway Valley Bank & Rogers Pharmacy

The Diplomats Club is a fun group that provides opportunities to promote your business and serve as a link between the Chamber and the community. Join them for their monthly meeting.

Thursday, March 12
7:15 a.m., \$12
Breakfast provided
Pizza Ranch
3007 N. Belt Highway, Ste. A
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

13 Farm City Breakfast

Presented by The LifeLine Group

This popular event recognizes the farmer/producer and the importance of agribusiness to the area economy. Proceeds benefit Agriculture Future of America (AFA) scholarships. Dan Meers, former KC Wolf for the Kansas City Chiefs, will be the guest speaker. The Scott Gann family also will be recognized as Farm Family of the Year.

Friday, March 13
7 to 9 a.m., \$12
Word of Life Church
3902 N. Riverside Road
Tickets available at
the Chamber or online

23 Women's Leadership Group

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc., BMS Logistics Inc., Candlewood Suites, Human Resource Management Association of Northwest Missouri, RitePack, Inc., Sealed Air Corporation, Top Property Realty

Women's Leadership Group is a monthly meeting where female business leaders gather to discuss topics important to women in the workplace. Bring your own lunch.

Monday, March 23
Noon to 1 p.m., Free
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.

25 SPECIAL BUSINESS after HOURS

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Don't miss this Special Business After Hours, limited to the first 50 to register. Enjoy a wine tasting, live music and snacks in this new private event space near Cafe Belle Epoque.

Wednesday, March 25
5 to 7 p.m., Free
Maison Du Vin
1923 Clay St.