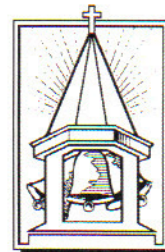
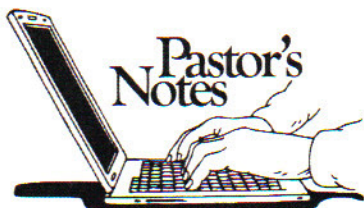


THE CHURCH BELL
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Member of North American Lutheran Church (NALC)
1764 Meyersville Rd.
Meyersville, TX 77974
361-277-8653
stjohnvlutheran@juno.com



March 2015

VOL. 39 NO. 3



Greetings,

Johnny Paul and I recently attended a preaching seminar. It is always uplifting to be present with other pastors and to hear what is happening throughout the NALC. We had two speakers from the NALC Seminary that were excellent speakers. I wish I would have had them when I was in Bible College.

Dr. David Yeago lectured on the *Authority of the Word of God in the Church*. He stated the scripture is God's Word in written form. However, he followed that up with the statement that no written text makes any difference if no one reads it. The first way to recognize the authority of the Bible in Church is to read it.

The Rev Dr. Jim Nestingen lectured on preaching for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. He was an excellent speaker. He went through the scriptures for Lent through Easter one at a time and elaborated on each. He was very enlightening.

On the last day we had a ministerial meeting with Bishop Bradosky. It is so encouraging to hear how committed the Bishop is to the standards and values of the NALC. He updated the pastors on several of the projects he is pursuing on behalf of the NALC which we will be hearing about in the near future.

Bishop Bradosky stands firm on our core values and the stated mission and vision of the NALC. He will walk away from a project before he will compromise our values.

In summary it was one of the best seminars I have attended and look forward to going next year.

God's Blessings

Pastor John

If you or a family member is in the hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please contact the Church office (361/277-8653) or Pastor John Boor at the parsonage (361/275-9895) or on his cell (361/243-0373).

Please Note: Due to the privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify pastors when a member is admitted or treated. If you know of anyone being taken to the hospital (emergency or otherwise), or who is seriously ill please call.



"We're hoping it will increase our giving."

Ding-a-ling
Corner



A woman decided to send the old family Bible to her brother in another state. When she arrived at the Post Office with her package, the postal worker asked her if there was anything breakable inside. "Only the Ten Commandments," she replied.

STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 2015

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Infant/Child	0												0
Adult	0												0
Total Baptisms	0												0
Confirmations	0												0
Weddings	0												0
Funerals	1												1
Counseling Sessions	4												4
Transfer Out	0												0
Transfer In	0												0
Home Visits	6												6
Hospital Visits													
Member	2												2
Non Member	0												0
Private Communion													
Member	4												4
Non Member	34												34
PLEASE NOTE: LAST MONTH'S STATISTICS ARE TO DATE AS OF PRINTING TIME													
Release of Membership	0												0
Restore to Membership	0												0

ST. JOHN CHURCH COUNCIL 2015

Pastor <i>John Boor</i>	275-9895 (Cell) 243-0373
Council President <i>Marvin Sager</i>	277-8674
Vice President <i>Obert Sagebiel</i>	275-5087
Secretary <i>Mitchell Jank</i>	572-9365
Treasurer <i>M'Liss Moore</i>	275-8069
Financial Secretary <i>Sandy Gohmert</i>	275-9117
Worship Team Leader <i>Johnny Jank</i>	575-6813
Parish Education Team Leader <i>Kathy Dunn</i>	277-9592
Mission & Evangelism Team Leader <i>Linda Ruschhaupt</i>	275-2059
Property Team Leader <i>Dickie Bettge</i>	277-3096
Finance Team Leader <i>Glenn Ruschhaupt</i>	275-2059
Parish Life Team Leader <i>Terri Jank</i>	572-9365
Women of the Church Liaison <i>Cathie Bettge</i>	277-3096
Trustee <i>Vance Egg</i>	277-5937
Deacon <i>Don Wendel</i>	277-9862

Office hours are:
Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m.-
1p.m. Check the calendar
for any changes to the
schedule.



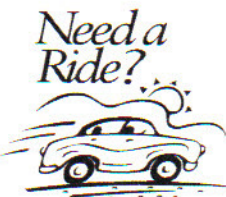
From the Church Office



ADDRESS/PHONE
 NUMBER/NAME CHANGES.

Please notify the Church Office by leaving a recorded message at 277-8653 as soon as possible of any change in mailing addresses, and/or phone numbers, and/or name changes.

Thank you!



If any elderly person, or youth, needs a ride to Church events or youth events, please notify the pastor so arrangements can be made to accommodate these needs.

If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, contact Evelyn Diebel. And please update your request at least once a month so the list can be kept current and up to date. If you wish to receive the Prayer Chain requests, please contact Evelyn Diebel (275-5979).



Nursing Homes : Ruth Moore
 Homebound: Cleo Wendel, Janie Rangnow & Helen Mae Egg



Pray for our Military and their families, especially for: Nicholas Jacobs and Russell Copeland

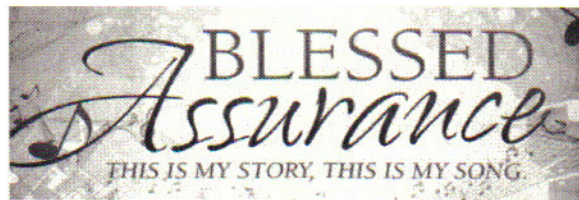
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for the April 2015 Church Bell is *Thursday, March 19, 2015 by 9am. Please have all your articles into the church office by then.* You can e-mail your article(s) and photos to the office at stjohnlutheran@juno.com. Thank you!

St. John's Mission for the Month:



Warrior's Weekend is a non-profit, 501 (c) 3 Corporation dedicated to the support of veterans of The United States of America with an emphasis on those wounded in The Global War on Terrorism. This is accomplished through holding an annual fishing event for wounded military personnel in May in Port O'Connor, Texas as well as donations to veterans and veterans-based causes.

Warrior's Weekend VIII will be held on Saturday 17 May, 2014. The troops will arrive Saturday morning around 9:00AM, by chartered buses from Brooke Army Medical Center, joining other wounded soldiers who arrived earlier from other military installations across the country. After a grand welcome rally, they will immediately board their boats and begin fishing between 9 & 9:30AM. There will be a friendly competition with an official weigh-in and awards presented at a dinner that evening around 5:30p.m., accompanied by music and addresses by military dignitaries and from our heroes themselves. Join us in this, our fourth annual event, to put into action the fact that you really support our troops!



The 2015 Spring Gathering for the Women of the NALC in the South Texas Mission District will be held at First English Lutheran Church in Victoria on Saturday, April 18th.

The theme for the day will be "This is My Story, This is My Song". The day will include lots of fellowship, food, fun, and laughs as well as a Worship service with Holy Communion and an afternoon Bible study led by Mrs. Barbara Jean Reinhardt. There will also be a special presentation by Theresa Klacman, founder of Restoration House Ministries in Victoria.

A monetary offering will be taken during the Worship service and is designated for Restoration House Ministries and the WNALC. There will also be a collection set up for undergarments and socks of any size for men, women, and children, to be given to the Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry.

The cost for this event is \$20 and includes morning refreshments and lunch. Please consider attending this fun-filled and spiritually uplifting gathering.

If you would like to attend, please see Margie Swannack by April 1st. (Checks should be made payable to FELCW.)



Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour as you go to bed on Saturday, March 7th. It's Daylight Savings Time again, and you wouldn't want to run the risk of being an hour late to church the next day!



Please join us for our mid-week Lenten Worship series "Restored in Christ". We will be alternating with St. Andrew's in Weesatche. Each service will begin at 7 p.m. The mid-week schedule is as follows:

March 4	2 nd Week in Lent	St. Andrew's
March 11	3 rd Week in Lent	St. John's
March 18	4 th Week in Lent	St. Andrew's
March 25	5 th Week in Lent	St. John's



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 29 Palm Sunday

Sunday School @ 9 a.m.
Worship with Palm Processional @ 10:15 a.m.

April 2 Maundy Thursday

Worship Service with Living Last Supper & Holy Communion @ 7 p.m.

April 3 Good Friday

Worship @ 7 p.m.

April 5 Easter Day

Sunrise Worship @ 7 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast @ 8 a.m.
Sunday School @ 9 a.m.
Worship @ 10:15 a.m.



St. John Youth Group

Daren & Dawn Otto

I would like to send a special thank you to Leroy & Beth Reinecke, Will & Heather Roeske, Jackie Parsons, & Toi Rangnow. Due to an injury, I was unable to attend the Quake with the Youth Group in February. We had 12 youth attend and these parents stepped up and handled everything for me. Leroy, Will, Jackie & Toi chaperoned the trip, Beth & Heather gathered the groceries and other necessities for the trip, and Beth made 52 (I believe this was the number) breakfast tacos so the group would have a protein filled breakfast at the hotel. I thank each one of these great parents for making this a great adventure for the kids. Youth Group is definitely a group effort.

Though I was not at Quake, I received reports from all the youth that attended and they had a spectacular time. The message, the speaker, the music, and all other events had an amazing impact on them. Please ask the kids about this event so that they can share their experience.

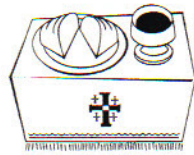
Also, remember that the Youth Group is selling the flag sponsorships for the *Field of Honor*. We will conduct the sales after Church on February 22nd and March 1st, but the Youth can sell these at any time. March 1st will be the last opportunity to purchase these. This is a wonderful way to honor those that sacrifice their time, some their health, and some their lives for the great USA! We had great results with this event last year and are hoping to honor even more men and women this year.

I will contact the youth regarding our March meeting. Due to Spring Break & stock shows, it will not be at our regular time. We will be doing the Sunrise Service on Easter morning, so there will also be other times we need to meet to practice for the service.

Good Luck to all our stock show participants and may you all have a safe spring break..

Attention Altar Guild Members:

The Bi-Annual Meeting for the St. John's Altar Guild will be held on Monday, March 9th at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. At least one member from each team needs to attend this meeting.



Altar Guild

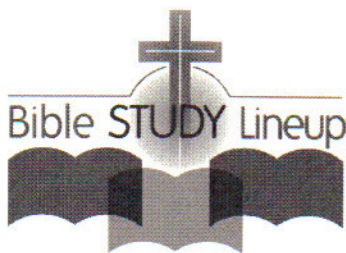
Lenten Devotionals from the NALC

Print or Text, pick what works for you.

Are you looking for a Lenten devotional? The NALC has a daily Lenten devotional available for you to print online. Another option is now available for receiving the 2015 Lenten devotional material as a daily text message. If you would like to receive your daily Lenten devotionals via text message, please text **LENT** to 614-230-0193.

In addition to the Lenten devotional, a Lenten discipline "action guide" has been developed that can be used in conjunction with the devotional.

More information can be found on the NALC website: <http://thenalc.org>.



BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE DURING LENT:

Women's Bible Study will meet on Monday, March 16th at 7 p.m.

Men's Bible Study will not meet during March.

Youth Group Meeting TBA.



SAVE THE DATE:

APRIL 11, 2015

8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

Spring Workday

We are planning a spring workday and encourage everyone to participate. There are a lot of odd jobs around the Church, parish hall, parsonage, and grounds that are hard to contract out, but need to be done. Please consider giving one Saturday morning of your time to help us care for God's House. The following are jobs that need to be done:

- Re-grade area along the garage to provide better drainage.
- Propane tank leaning.
- Clean storage rooms in basement and parish hall.
- Place concrete pads for concrete bench placement under trees at cemetery and old stone church.
- Trim established trees at cemetery.
- Trim crepe myrtles.
- Replace sheet metal on cattle shed.
- Dust fans in parish hall and sanctuary.
- Paint/refurbish the unsightly roofing on the garage.
- Check sills under the stage that could cause termite problems.

If anyone has noted other areas around the church, parish hall, parsonage, and grounds that need our attention, please contact someone on the property team. Property team members are as follows:

Dickie Bettge, chm, Marv Sager, Pastor John, Clay Haun, Vance Egg, Glenn Ruschhaupt, and Will Roeske.



CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

January 27, 2015

By Church Secretary, Mitchell Jank

Members present: Pastor John Boor, Marvin Sager, M'Liss Moore, Linda Ruschhaupt, Dickie Bettge, Cathie Bettge, Kathy Dunn, Mitchell Jank, Terri Jank, Obert Sagebiel, Sandy Gohmert, Johnny Jank and Glenn Ruschhaupt.

CALL to ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Marvin Sager at 7:00 PM.

DEVOTION: Led by Marvin Sager

MINUTES: Minutes were reviewed and approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Reviewed. Motion was made by Linda and seconded by Johnny to approve. Motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Baptism scheduled for 2/22, Garrett/Brandy Egg son Brieson. Erin Cornet wedding 2/21. Feb. 9-12 Pastor Conference. Vacation scheduled April 19-26

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Old Business

- No Old Business

Finance Team Report

- No Finance report. Team will meet in February.

Mission/Evangelism Team report

Members: Pastor John, John Swannack, Cheryl Bramlette, Pam Haun, Candice Cowley, Lloyd and Karon Copeland and Linda Ruschhaupt, Team Leader.

- St. John's Mission for the Month of February – Gideons.

Parish Life Committee Report

Parish Life team did not have a meeting in January. We do have the following events on the calendar.

- Refreshments following Lenten Services held in Meyersville.
- Planning a 'Fill the Church Sunday' in May. Possible the Sunday after Mother's Day.
- Pot Luck lunch following 'Church Under the Trees' in April.
- Next Meeting February 8 after church service.

Parish Education report

- Kathy Dunn presented a proposal for new curriculum for Spring session. Reviewed by all council members. Linda Ruschhaupt moved and Glenn seconded to approve this for use. Motion passed.

The Property Team

- Maintenance Schedule:
Feb.
Oil the Bell. Clay & Will.
Check attic in Church. Clay and Will.
Pasture Lease due Mar. 1. Rental amount \$506/ Yr

Items Complete

- Architect's contract was signed and returned.
- Keith Corporon cut and treated the stumps in the church pasture and along the creek bank. Keith furnished the chemicals. Cost-\$1365.
- The proposed rental fees for the Church for weddings were approved by the council.
- Bonnie Warwas was hired to do the weekly cleaning of the church and parish hall as an hourly rate of \$15.00/ hr.

Old Business

- The asbestos renovation/demolition survey has been revised concerning liability and referred to our insurance agent (Cory Anders) for his review and concurrence. The property team feels that we need to have liability coverage of \$1,000,000 or the limits of liability recommended by our insurance agent. We are still waiting on a response from our insurance companies' attorneys. Patrick is working on getting the \$1,000,000 wording added. Patrick is also working on finding a structural engineer to look at the church to assist with the cracks in our walls.
- The congregation approved the Sign Works bid on our church sign at our congregational meeting on 1/25/15.

New Business:

1. Some windows in the parsonage are fogged. Dickie will find out the brand of windows installed from our records or by talking to Delvin Arndt. The warranty will be checked to determine our options.
2. Dumpster problems. Marv is pricing dumpsters.
3. Community service hours. Joel Egg will work with Chance to cut brush from fence lines. After the fence lines are cleaned, he will trim the low hanging limbs on the Live Oak trees.
4. Work day is planned for April 11, 2015.

Project List:

- A. Volley ball poles and crosses have been sand blasted and primed. Glenn will work with Wendel Sandblasting to get them painted.
- B. New light fixtures at church entrance.
- X. Meeting with Surface Burial concerning cemetery issues. Dickie and Pastor will meet with Surface Burial to discuss and determine what is expected to maintain our cemetery. The grave lines were staked and Dickie will schedule a date to meet.
- Δ. Revision of cemetery rules. We discussed downloading cemetery rules used by the Catholic Churches as a guide to revising our rules. Dickie will download.
- E. Parsonage rodent problem. Pastor will build covers out of hardware cloth to insert into the access holes to prevent animals from entering. Hardware cloth will be installed in the ground to prevent rodent access.

1. Cemetery graves needing attention: Willie Mae and Erwin Brandt. Clay found that Beverly Hartman was a relative of Willie Mae and Erwin Brandt. He found out that the last close heir has died. Dickie will get cost estimate from Surface Burial for repairs to the grave. Alfred and Bertha Albrecht. Dickie made another contact with Ray Albrecht concerning the graves. Surface Burial will fix the Albrecht graves when they do the work on the Ralph Egg grave. Surface Burial also noted that they will fix the Hartman grave at that time.
2. Eagle Scout Project, Dylan Ohrt. We met and Dylan is working on a plan. When he has the plan we will review. He is looking for input from us as to what we would like to have at the creek. He is scheduled to meet with the property team at their next meeting to review his plans.
- X. Two sills under the stage could provide a pathway for termites. These sills may need to be removed or modified.
- Δ. Conversion of one of the basement walls to a chalk board wall. Glenn
- E. Dan Dentler Memorial.
Cost Estimate for items remaining:
4 Name plates
300.00
- Φ. Signage to close cemetery at night. Clay had pictures of signage at a Victoria cemetery. Will continue to investigate.
- Γ. Inventory of furniture and equipment & report to Church Council. Dickie

Workday Items:

- α. Re-grade area along the garage to provide better drainage.
- β. Propane tank leaning.
- χ. Clean storage rooms in basement and parish hall.
- δ. Clean out the lawn mower building.
- ε. Place concrete pads for concrete bench placement under trees at cemetery and old stone church.
- φ. Trim established trees at cemetery.
- γ. Trim crepe myrtles.
- η. Replace sheet metal on cattle shed.

Items for Council approval:

- A Dell computer built to the specifications recommended by the IT specialist at school will cost \$1,586.34. Wireless speakers will run an additional \$60.61.

Dickie moved and Kathy seconded to approve this proposal. Motion passed.

Women of the Church report.

Submitted by Cathie Bettge

1. All committees for 2015 have been filled
2. Request to add a Monthly Kitchen Check list to refrigerator. Checklist already posted will be modified adding some items.

3. Helping with the Women of Faith gathering in Cuero, Feb. 21, 2015

Worship Team

Worship team met at the parish hall at 7:00PM on 6th January 2015. Members in attendance were Johnny P Jank, Virginia Jank, Dawn Otto, Noreen Sager, Carol Ann Sagebiel, Bruce Weise, and Pastor John Boor.

Old Business –

- Usher program - Working on revising the deacon responsibilities and work with Don Wendel to decide who needs to do what.
- Communion card visit request- Another visit request slipped by during the Christmas holidays and by the time Pastor John got the information it had delayed the contact by an extra week. Pastor John requested help in getting a quicker turn on reviewing the communion cards. Finance members counting the collection will collect the cards and put them in Pastor John's inbox, the church secretary will confirm his receipt of them when they get to the office on Tuesday. We will try this for awhile as we consider other possibilities to address this need.
- Communion/Loose offering/Prayer request Cards – Need to check that pew supplies of each of these cards are replenished regularly as they are being used weekly.

New Business –

- Bulletin covers - It has been suggested several times in 2014 that we explore a different source for the bulletin covers we currently use for Sunday services. We currently have a standing open order to purchase these from Augsburg Publishing on a quarterly basis. We are supplied with 3 packs of 50 each for a total of 150 each Sunday service and have supplies through March 2015. SOLA publishing, the publishing house for our NALC, offers bulletin covers online only at a lower cost but we have the additional printing expense to do this in-house. Concordia Publishing offers a bulletin cover which follows our 3 year lectionary with a more traditional picture and a short verse from the morning's Gospel lesson. If we continue to use the 8 ½" x 14", legal size cover, the cost would be less than \$2.00 more per Sunday. If we would use the smaller 8 ½" X 11, letter size, covers we could actually save \$1.35 per Sunday. We discussed this possibility with the church secretary, Heather Roeske, and she produced a sample of the "letter size" bulletin. It appeared to not be too cramped and still have all the same information for the order of worship as well as announcement information. Heather also relayed that since all the sheets, cover and inside pages would all be the same size it would cut considerable time out of the printing and folding process because that is a function of the copier. This option would also make the complete Sunday morning bulletin more like a booklet. After

further discussion the Team agreed to cancel the standing order with Augsburg Publishing and place an order with Concordia for the letter size, 8 ½" X 11", bulletin covers and begin using them as soon as the current supply expires, which should be in March.

- **Lectionary Readers** – Some additional volunteers for reading the lessons for services have come forward. The Team discussed asking for others that might be interested as well to involve more lay participation in the service. We agreed to announce the opportunity in the bulletin, news letter, and in church, as well as a sign up sheet. Then we will have a short, “after church” training to inform new volunteers as well as current readers, what to do when. This will also let other volunteers know who else they can call to “fill in” should they be unable to read when scheduled. This may also help minimize those “uneasy pauses” when no one comes forward to read and we make an impromptu substitution. Also once a list is established we need to share that with the church office and Heather may be able to put “next week’s” reader in the bulletin as a reminder.

Pastor John also recommended to encourage our youth to do all or part of the readings, as one of the acolytes stepped up on zero notice and filled in quite well on a recent Sunday. Watch for these opportunities as they are announced.

- **Ash Wednesday & Lenten Services** – February 18th is Ash Wednesday. Team discussed having a Communion service as well as “Imposition of Ashes” as we have in the past. Mid week services will be alternated with Weesatche with the 25th February service being held here in Meyersville. Holy week services will be in each congregation’s respective “home” church.
- **Calendar** - Team was reminded that the calendar of St John services for 2015 which we reviewed last meeting is incomplete with some services still unassigned. Homework for next month is to look this over and come back with suggestions to “fill-in” the gaps in special events and plug in the unassigned services so we can plan towards those dates.
- **Other New Business**- Continuing the offering of grape juice as an alternative at communion was discussed. Team agreed this was something we should continue. It was also agreed we should put some announcement in the bulletin on communion Sundays.
- **Hymn Selection** for 18th January through 15th of February 2015 was completed.
- **Next meeting** – scheduled for 3rd February 2015.

Meeting was adjourned and closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

To All,

First of all I would like to thank the congregation for allowing me to attend the NALC conference on the 10th, 11th and 12th of February. This was a very interesting conference, and as I had not attended any other NALC events, it gave me a very encouraging perspective on the NALC. We had presentations by professors from our seminary and talks from Bishop Bradovsky. I attended a preaching practicum (practice session) were pastors volunteered their sermon and then had it critiqued by their fellow pastors and the dean of the seminary. I heard several different ways that the message can be presented. We attended a social dinner our last evening there and I got to speak with a pastor who has a congregation in Miami. He is “escaped” from Cuba 15 years ago and had to wait more than 18 months to get his wife and daughters out of Cuba. His opinion of the recent changes in the US and Cuba relations was quite different than I expected!

There was a lot of information in a short amount of time but two things really struck me about all that I heard at the conference. Three years ago, I wondered as many did, if all this change and leaving one church body for a brand new one was the right decision. This conference bolstered my faith that the move we made was the right one. All the information we received was positive reinforcement that the NALC is establishing the norm for the Lutheran faith in America and beyond. As other bodies of our Lutheran faith try to “tweak the Word of God” to fit their attempts to increase their numbers, the NALC is staying true to the precepts of the Lutheran Confessions and the Word of God. In Matthew 5:17, Jesus says, “I did not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it.” That’s what I heard in the message from the leadership of the NALC. They are standing firm on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ being the one and only true way to salvation, but standing with open, caring arms waiting to accept all who profess that common faith. The second uplifting revelation was concerning our seminary and the product of them, our future pastors. After hearing the lectures and words from the dean of the seminary, I truly believe the prospect of having pastors who are remain faithful to the Word of God is in good hands.

Once again thank you for allowing me to attend the conference. The national convention of the NALC will be in Dallas this year, so I strongly recommend anyone interested in learning more about the NALC and our future in it try to attend.

YBIC

Johnny P Jank



A Note From the Worship Team:

We are looking for some interested volunteers to assist on Sunday morning service with reading the scripture lessons. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Our goal is to give additional folks the opportunity to take part in the service. Please consider this chance to share God's word.

Your Brothers & Sisters in Christ
The Worship Team



Dear Parents With Young Children in Church,

*(An excerpt from "I am Totally *That* Mom" by Jamie Bruesehoff, www.huffingtonpost.com)*

You are doing something really, really important. I know it's not easy. I see you with your arms overflowing, and I know you came to church already tired. Parenting is tiring. Really tiring.

I watch you bounce and sway trying to keep the baby quiet, juggling the infant car seat and the diaper bag as you find a seat. I see you wince as your child cries. I see you anxiously pull things out of your bag of tricks to try to quiet them.

I see you with your toddler and your preschooler. I watch you cringe when your little girl asks an innocent question in a voice that might not be an inside voice let alone a church whisper. I hear the exasperation in your voice as you beg your child to sit and be quiet as you feel everyone's eyes on you. Not everyone is looking, but I know it feels that way.

I know you're wondering, is this worth it? Why do I bother? I know you often leave church more exhausted than fulfilled. But what you are doing is so important.

When you are here, the church is filled with a joyful noise. When you are here, the Body of Christ is more fully present. When you are here, we are reminded that this worship thing we do isn't about bible study or personal, quiet contemplation but coming together to worship as a community where all are

welcome, where we share in the Word and Sacrament together. When you are here, I have hope that these pews won't be empty in 10 years when your kids are old enough to sit quietly and behave in worship. I know that they are learning how and why we worship now, before it's too late. They are learning that worship is important.

I see them learning. In the midst of the cries, whines, and giggles, in the midst of the crinkling of pretzel bags and the growing pile of crumbs, I see a little girl who insists on going two pews up to share peace with someone she's never met. I watch a child excitedly color a cross and point to the one in the front of the sanctuary. I hear the echos of "Amen's" just a few seconds after the rest of the community says it together. I watch a boy just learning to read try to sound out the words in the worship book or count his way to Hymn 672.

I know how hard it is to do what you're doing, but I want you to know it matters. It matters to me. It matters to the congregation to know that families care about faith, to see young people... and even on those weeks when you can't see the little moments, it matters to your children.

It matters that they learn that worship is what we do as a community of faith, that everyone is welcome, that their worship matters. When we teach children that their worship matters, we teach them that they are enough right here and right now as members of the church community. They don't need to wait until they can believe, pray or worship a certain way to be welcome here, and I know adults who are still looking to be shown that. It matters that children learn that they are an integral part of this church, that their prayers, their songs, and even their badly (or perfectly-timed, depending on who you ask) cries and whines are a joyful noise because it means they are present.

I know it's hard, but *thank you for what you do when you bring your children to church*. Please know that your family -- with all of its noise, struggle, commotion, and joy -- are not simply tolerated, you are a vital part of the community gathered in worship.

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:

March 1

Greeters - Cheryl Bramlette
Acolyte - Austin Chavez

March 8

Greeters - Brenda Boor
Acolyte - Caden & Cason Jander

March 15

Greeters - Beverly Bodden
Acolyte - Mackenzie Blain

March 22

Greeters - Dickie & Cathie Bettge
Acolyte - Will Green

March 29

Greeters - Marvin & Norrean Sager
Acolyte - Will Green

March Communion Assistant

Johnny Jank

March Altar Guild

Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

March Nursing Home Visitors

Candy Cowley

LOOKING AHEAD...

April 5

Greeters - Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt
Acolyte - Bryant Roeske

April Communion Assistant

Glenn Ruschhaupt

April Altar Guild

Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

April Nursing Home Visitors

Candy Cowley

Greeters: Please give visitors any current newsletters that may be on the table in the narthex.

Volunteers: If you are down for a service, you are responsible for getting a substitute if you cannot make it. *Please let the church office know if you switch so the correct names can be in the bulletin.*



Happy Birthday to:

- 1 - Crystal Eichhorn
Garlan Moeller
- 3 - Kathy Dunn
Tabitha Johnson
- 6 - Dee Moeller
- 7 - Buck Blain
Daniel Macon
- 8 - Cody Bishop
Michele Motley
- 10 - Beth Reinecke
Donna Gohmert
- 11 - Tammy Blain
Kyler Leist
- 14 - Gary Moeller
- 15 - Richard Egg
- 17 - Henry Lee Rangnow
- 19 - Alfred Rangnow
- 25 - Marvin Sager
Melanie Moore
- 28 - Heather Wendel
- 29 - Leon Dohman
- 30 - Cindy Egg
- 31 - Milan Eckhardt

Anniversary Greetings to:

- 2 - Fred & Rose Mueller
Stanley & Donna Fuchs
- 6 - Sandy & Vicki Motley
- 7 - Kenneth & Betty Diebel
- 18 - Alfred & Marlene Dreier-Rangnow
- 24 - Mike & Wanda Rangnow
- 28 - Kyle & Melinda Nethery
- 29 - Patrick & Meagan Oehlke

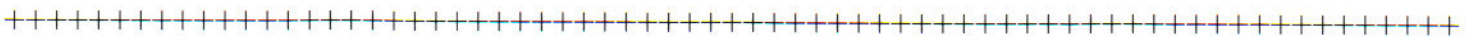
St. John Ev. Lutheran Church
1764 Meyersville Road
Meyersville, Texas 77974-4143
Pr. John Boor
Phone #361-277-8653

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A North American Lutheran Church
1764 Meyersville Road
Meyersville, TX 77974-4143
stjohnmeyersville.org

CONTACT US

Church Office: 361-277-8653
Office Hours: Tues - Fri, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
stjohnevlutheran@juno.com
Parsonage: 361-275-9895
(Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373)
jboor1@juno.com

Ministers - The People of St. John
Pastor - The Rev. John Boor
Organist - Bruce A. Weise

WORSHIP

Sunday School for All Ages 9 a.m.
Worship 10:15 a.m.

Holy Communion celebrated on the first and third Sunday of each month.

