

She will bear
a son.



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A North American Lutheran Church

1764 Meyersville Road

Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

CHURCH OFFICE: 361-277-8653

stjohnvlutheran@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 - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

Greeter This Week: Daren & Dawn Otto

Greeter Next Week: Alfred & Marlene Rangnow

Reader This Week: Johnny Jank

Reader Next Week: Marlene Rangow

Acolytes This Week: Carlie Parsons

Acolytes Next Week: Volunteer Needed

Altar Guild This Month: Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

Altar Guild Next Month: Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

Communion Assistant This Month: Obert Sagebiel

Communion Assistant Next Month: Brian Wendel

Large Print Bulletins are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher for a copy.

Busy Bags are available in the Narthex for all children to enjoy.

MISSION STATEMENT

We the members of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Meyersville, strive to be witnesses for Christ, a Christian family striving to be models and examples to others, loving one another and trying to be friendly to all; acknowledging that we are sinful, but being patient, faithful, giving, caring, forgiving, and forgiven believers.

HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to commune with us if, as a baptized Christian, you believe that you are a sinner and in need of God's forgiveness; that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the Sacrament; that this is more than a symbolic act, but a way God proclaims forgiveness to us who are repentant.

May your participation increase your faith and strengthen your love for God and one another.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Service begins with the first notes of the prelude. Please show your respect with silent meditation at this time.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISES AND CONCERNS

Lighting of the Advent Candle

HYMN: WOV #630 4th Verse "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

Stand p. 56: BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

HYMN: LBW #60 "*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*"

p. 57-58: KYRIE

p. 60: HYMN OF PRAISE "*This is the Feast*"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you,

C **And also with you. (*sung*)**

P Let us pray:

All: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. With your great might, give us your help, that whatever is hindered by our sins may be speedily accomplished by your grace; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-17

¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹"Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹²But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." ¹³And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah — the king of Assyria."

¹The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world and all who dwell therein.

²**For it is he who founded it upon the seas
and made it firm upon the rivers of the deep.**

³“Who can ascend the hill of the Lord?
and who can stand in his holy place?”

⁴**“Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,
who have not pledged themselves to falsehood, nor sworn by what
is a fraud.**

⁵They shall receive a blessing from the Lord
and a just reward from the God of their salvation.”

⁶**Such is the generation of those who seek him,
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**

⁷Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in.

⁸**“Who is this King of glory?”
“The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.”**

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in.

¹⁰**“Who is he, this King of glory?”
“The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.”**

SECOND READING

Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

CHOIR ANTHEM: *“It Was a Starry Night”*

by David and Bonnie Huntsinger

It was a starry night when Christ was born to earth.
It was a holy light that marked His lowly birth.
It shone down upon the infant son of God,
Emmanuel, Messiah.

The shepherds were alone beneath those starry skies,
But then the glory shone before their very eyes.
And the angel sang the sweetest song to them:
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to men.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.”

And so the shepherds fled to Bethlehem with joy,
And as the angel said, they found sweet Mary’s Boy.
They bowed down before the Promised Holy One,
Emmanuel, Messiah.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

It was a starry night when Christ was born to earth.
It was a holy light that marked his lowly birth.
It shown down upon the infant Son of God,
Emmanuel, Messiah.

Stand p. 62 GOSPEL VERSE “Alleluia”

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 1st chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.** (*sung*)

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³“Behold, the virgin shall

conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*sung*)

Sit SERMON

HYMN: LBW #54 *“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”*

Stand p. 65: APOSTLES’ CREED
p. 65: PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
p. 66: SHARING OF THE PEACE

Sit OFFERING

Stand p. 66: OFFERTORY: “Let the vineyards...”
p. 67: OFFERTORY PRAYER
p. 68: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
p. 70: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER #33 (right column)
p. 71: LORD’S PRAYER
p. 72: LAMB OF GOD

Sit DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION
SOFT HYMNS FOR MEDITATION

Stand p. 72: POST COMMUNION: “Thank the Lord . . .”
p. 74: PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn #565)

POSTLUDE

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

Today 12/18 Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Worship

**Christmas play practice after church until 1:00pm*

Mon 12/19 Office Closed

6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Tue 12/20 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

Wed 12/21 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

10:00 a.m. Comm. Service Cuero
Nursing & Rehab.

6:30 p.m. Christmas Play Dress
Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study

Thurs 12/22 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

**Committee Reports Due*

Fri 12/23 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours

**Newsletter Deadline*

Sat. 12/24 Christmas Eve

3:00 p.m. Comm. Service

6:30 p.m. Christmas Program

10:30 p.m. Comm. Candlelight Service

Next Sun Christmas Day ~ Merry CHRISTmas!

10:15 a.m. Worship

Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors. If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would consider St. John's.

Sunday, December 11, 2016

Offering: General \$5,055.00, MOM \$380.00, Sunday School \$52.00, Cemetery \$30.00, Church Reno. \$113.00, Building \$1,525.00 NALC \$20.00 Total: \$7,175.00

Attendance: Worship- 83 Sunday School- 9-Adults, 18-Children



Mission of the Month of December:

Mission Project



CAMAL House

Mission Statement

St. John's Mission of the Month of December is CAMAL House which is the local food bank. December is a busy month at the CAMAL House. Volunteers run this food bank.



4TH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Christmas Eve Program

St. John Lutheran Sunday School will be performing "Silent Night, Holy Night" on Saturday, Christmas Eve at 6:30 p.m. in the church. We need to know if your child will be able to participate in the presentation so that we can assign parts. We will have practice on Sunday:

December 18th after church

December 21st at 6:30pm-Dress Rehearsal

December 24th-Please be to the church by 6:00pm, program starts at 6:30.

Please call (361-275-4322 or 361-648-4033) or let us know at Sunday School or church. It is very important that we know as soon as possible, so that we can start giving out parts. We will serve a light lunch for the practices after church. We are looking forward to another wonderful Christmas Eve Program, as we celebrate Jesus' birth!

Yours in Christ,

Wanda Hays, Jackie Parsons & Kathy Dunn



Services:

Communion Service 3:00 pm

Christmas Program 6:30 pm

Candlelight Service w/ Communion 10:30 pm

Quilters

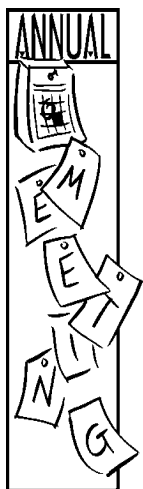
Quilting will resume to every Wednesday in January.



Attention Acolytes

Please see the acolyte sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed for the upcoming months!

Annual Congregation Meeting



Council has voted to hold the annual congregation meeting immediately following the service on Sunday, January 22nd, 2017. In addition to the usual agenda items, will be consideration of two proposed amendments to our constitution. One is per the recommendation by the NALC's legal staff regarding inclusion of a statement of doctrine on marriage and sexuality in the congregation's governing documents. The second is related to the council seat provision for the leader of The Women of the Church Team. Copies of the proposed amendments, together with additional related detail, are available in the narthex.

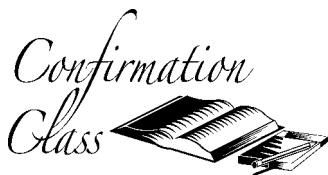
Church Renovation Fund

On August 28, 2016, our congregation voted to establish a fund for installation of the elevator and other church renovations. Anyone wishing to give to the renovation project may do so by designating "Church Renovation" or "Elevator Fund" on their check or on the pew giving envelope.



Confirmation

There will be no Confirmation classes on Sunday, December 18th, 25th or January 1st. Classes will resume on January 8, 2017.



Sunday School

There will be no Sunday school classes on December 25th or January 1st. Classes will resume on January 8, 2017.





In Memory of

Delmar Diebel by His Family

Clarence & Hertha Weise To the Glory of God by Bruce A. Weise

Carl & Annie (Lude) Weise To the Glory of God by Bruce A. Weise

Emil & Helena (Foerster) Dittfurth To the Glory of God by Bruce A. Weise

Julie Haun Arndt by Lucas, Molly, & Camille Turner

Julie Haun Arndt by Wade & Sarah Cooper

Julie Haun Arndt by Christopher & Carly Waters

Brad Haun by Bette Jo & Clifford Haun

LeAnn Denise Wendel by Paul & Shirley Wendel

Chad M. Boyer by Ray, Linda, Amy, Bailey & Corey

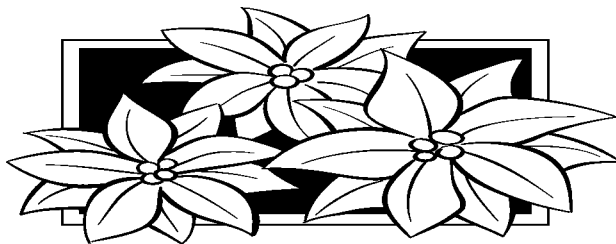
Bobby R. Fagg by Beatrice Fagg, Kevin, Carrie & Family

William Gras by Kenneth & Betty Diebel

J. Gus & Iris Jank by Kevin & Beverly Bodden and Family

J.G. Bodden by Kevin & Beverly Bodden and Family

*Edward & Lucille Ruschhaupt and Herbert & Martha Spinks
by Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt*



POINSETTIAS

In Memory of

Ruth & Charlie Moore by The Moore Family

Elvie & Walter Egg by The Robert Moore Family

Lizzie & Walter Mueller by The Robert Moore Family

Patty Ohrt by Dean Ohrt

J. Gus & Iris Jank by Johnny & Virginia Jank

Martin & Wilma Wolter by Johnny & Virginia Jank

Reuben Lee Gohmert by Joie & Jimmy, JoLeah & Brian, Julie

Tommy Gohmert by Sandy Gohmert & Family

Jerry Wendel by The Family

Reuben & Maud Wendel and Lewis Wendel by Family

Marla Hartman To the Glory of God by Her Family

Johnny & Jeffery Haun by Elizabeth Haun Beard

G.R. & Margene Wilke To the Glory of God by John & Margie Swannack

*Harry & Dorothy Swannack To the Glory of God
by John & Margie Swannack*

Jeffery Swanack To the Glory of God by John & Margie Swannack



In Memory of

Mike Burditt To the Glory of God by John & Margie Swannack

*Willie Robinson & Lucille Burditt To the Glory of God
by John & Margie Swannack*

Leonard & Kathyleen Jander by The Dwight Jander Family

Wanda Diebel Brown by Evelyn Diebel-Brown Children

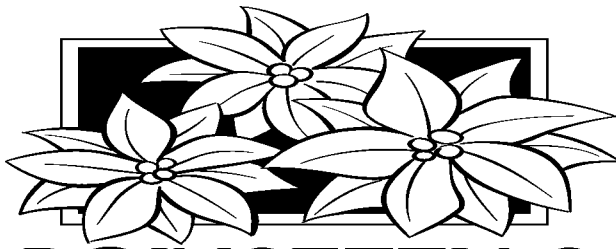
Fred Diebel To the Glory of God by Evelyn Diebel

*Michael Bartosh and Herbert & Martha Spinks To the Glory of God
by Dianna Bartosh*

Sonny Meyer To the Glory of God by Mike Meyer

Pa & Brandon Talkington To the Glory of God by Brighton Blain





POINSETTIAS

In Honor of

My Family, Clifton & May Dell Jacob, Pat & Tristan Hays by Wanda Hays

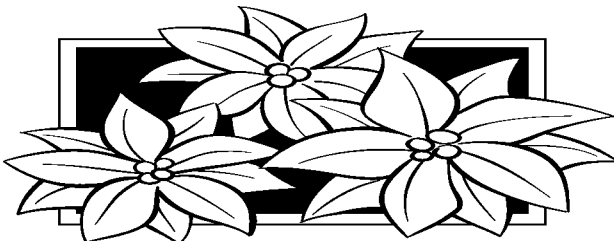
*Our Parents To the Glory of God by Laurie Pokluda, Kathy Dunn
& Joel Egg*

My Wife, Heather by Deacon Don

Pastor John & Brenda Boor To the Glory of God by Bruce A. Weise

Virgie Gohmert by Joie & Jimmy, JoLeah & Brian, Julie

John C. Otto by Grandma & Papa John



POINSETTIAS



PRAYER REQUESTS: 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 (361-275-5979)

Our Military and their families:

Nicholas Jacobs - U.S. Air Force,
Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada
Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves
John Otto - USMC, Norfolk, VA
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Germany
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy
Jennifer Cornett - U.S. Air Force



Please Pray for: Adam Womble
Nate Boehl
Hunter Jacob
Glynn Yurick

Homebound: Cleo Wendel, Helen Mae Egg, Bette Jo Haun

Prayer request cards are available in the pews and can be filled out and handed to an usher during the first hymn for your request to be included in the day's prayer. If you have a private prayer request please fill out the appropriate side and give to the pastor.



St. John Meyersville
<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>

Advent 4

December 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)



Faithfulness to the message of the Lord is lived out in human life first by listening and then by being obedient. God promised from of old to send a son, born of a virgin, to be the salvation of Israel and Judah. The very face of God would be seen in this child who would be called Immanuel. As followers of Christ, we, too, have received the message and are called to share the Good News of “God with us.”