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

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### August 2017 Newsletter

### 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, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 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

9:00 a.m.

Worship

10:15 a.m.

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



# THE CHURCH BELL St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Member of North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

1764 Meyersville Rd. Meyersville, TX 77974 361-277-8653



August 2017

VOL. 41 NO. 8

Greetings,

I recently read an article by Jeff Clarke that I believe addresses what is happening in our world today. I am sharing part of the article as I believe we can all benefit from his message.

"One of the primary reasons we struggle with differing views on any subject is that we believe acceptance equals agreement. As a result, we conclude that we cannot accept the person for fear of being seen as agreeing with them. However, there is a better way.

"Acceptance does not equal agreement. When we confuse the two we withhold acceptance in order to show disagreement. Jesus shows us a better way."

When we withhold acceptance in order to show disagreement, we immediately create an Us versus Them situation. In this scenario, our position is defined by what side we stand on. As a result, our arguments will tend to be shaped more by the things we're against, than the things we are for.

An Us versus Them mentality will always create this polarizing effect, never <u>bringing people</u> together, but only separating people more and more. Healthy conversation will never happen in such a context.

Us versus Them is ultimately rooted in fear. When we do not understand something or someone, we tend towards fear. Fear of the unknown, then, can often lead to anger and anger to hate. And, from the place of hate flows fear-based rhetoric that pushes the other further and further away.

Love will <u>draw people</u> together, even when they disagree, because it sees in the other someone created in love by God, fashioned as God's image-bearer. We have this in common.

Love gives us eyes to see people as they really are, past the externals to the core of their humanity. Love becomes the catalyst that enables us, not to ignore differences, but to see past them to the person who holds them. Polarizations disappear when love, not fear, is allowed to take centre stage in our lives.

Love sees and accepts the faults of others. And, rather than allow those faults to separate us, we should allow them to form a common bond that pulls us toward one other as we strive to move towards Christ who offers forgiveness and reconciliation for us all.

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you now love one another. By this all people will know that you are my followers, by the love you have for one another." (Jesus in John 13:34-35).

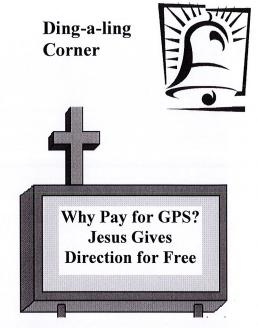
"Perfect love casts out all fear."

I pray that this excerpt will help us all become better Christians.

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). 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.





		STA	TIST	'ICA	L RE	POF	RT F	OR 2	017				
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Infant/Child	0	0	0	0	1	0	4				-		5
Adult	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Total Baptisms	0	0	0	0	1	0							1
Confirmations	0	0	0	0	9	0							9
Weddings													
Members	0	0	0	1	0	0							1
Non-Members		0	0	0	0	0							0
Funerals													
Members	0	0	0	1	0	0							1
Non-Members	0	0	0	0	0	0	1			pen sy			1
Counseling Sessions	3	4	5	4	2		3						21
 Transfer Out	0	0	0	0	0	0	1						1
Transfer In	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
							Ů						
Home Visits	5	6	5	6	5	4							31
Hospital Visits													
Members		0	1	0	1	0	0						13
Non-Members	12	4	3	1	1	1	0						22
Private Communion													
Members	6	7	6	6	5	4							34
Non-Members	28	24	28	26	12	16							134
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PLEASE NOTE: LAST	M(	JNTI	TS ST	ATIS	STIC	SAR	EIC	) DA	IE A	S OF	PRI	NTIN	IG TIME
Release of Membership	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Restore to Membership	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1													

### ST. JOHN EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT NUMBERS

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor - John Boor	275-9895 (Cel	1) 243-0373	Parish Education - Kathy Dunn	275-4322
Council President - Mar	vin Sager	275-6029	Mission/Evangelism - Linda Ruschhaupt	275-2059
Vice President - Obert S	agebiel	275-5087	Property Team - Dickie Bettge	277-3096
Secretary - Virginia Jank	ζ.	575-6813	Finance Team - Glenn Ruschhaupt	275-2059
Treasurer - M'Liss Moor	re	275-8069	Parish Life Team - Terri Jank	575-6816
Financial Secretary - Ma	tt Nelson	550-2602	Worship Team - Johnny Jank	575-6813



Church Secretary

Office hours are Tuesday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Please see bulletins for any changes.

### ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER/NAME CHANGES

**Please** notify the Church Office 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 or youth events, please notify the pastor so arrangements can be made to accommodate these needs.



### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The deadline for the September 2017 Church Bell is Friday, August 18, 2017 by 9 a.m. You can drop off your articles at the church office, or e-mail them to stjohnevlutheran@juno.com. Thanks!



### Do you have an idea?

Is there something at the church that you think needs fixing or changing? The Church Council and Committee Members would like to have your input. Please

feel free to use the 'suggestion box' in the Narthex to pass on your ideas, suggestions, and concerns. Remember, this is your church and your opinion matters. We are eager to hear from you!

### **ATTENTION ACOLYTES**

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





### 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. If you wish to receive the Prayer Chain requests, please contact Evelyn Diebel (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, Cuba

Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army,

Kentucky

Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy

Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy

Jennifer Cornett - U.S. Air Force

Lee Magrauder - U.S. Army, Afghanistan

Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force

Please Pray for: Adam Womble

Nate Boehl

Hunter Jacob

Glynn Yurick

Mike Meyer

Kenny Jacob

**Nursing Home:** Arlen Mueller, Yorktown Nursing & Rehabilitation

Homebound: Helen Mae Egg & Bette Jo Haun

Prayer requests 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.

### **Mission of the Month of August**



### MILITARY BIBLESTICK: HOPE FOR OUR HEROES

Around the world the men and women of the U.S. military are defending our freedom and helping to fight the war on terror.

Many of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines live in cramped quarters with other personnel, in very uncomfortable and challenging circumstances, working hard and putting in long hours every day — too tired to read a Bible, even if they have one.

The Military BibleStick reaches these service men and women, deployed in some of the most dangerous areas of the world, with God's Word in audio — It can go with them and sustain them in even the most difficult circumstances.

It contains the entire Audio Drama New Testament and selected Psalms chosen specifically for "warriors," yet it's only about the size of a pack of chewing gum.

Designed to military specifications for safe and discreet use in low-light conditions, it features a matte black finish and red-light-only operation — and runs on a single AAA battery!

Each service member who receives a Military BibleStick also has the option to request a free Audio New Testament or Kids Bible for family back home — although they may be separated from loved ones, they know they are listening through the Word together.

Military BibleSticks provide real hope for our heroes!

Military service is dangerous — not only physically, but emotionally and spiritually. Many servicemen and women come home with "mental shrapnel."

- 400,000 have been diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- 22 commit suicide every day

We must help them before the battlefield takes its awful toll. God's Word offers peace, comfort, strength, balance — real help and real hope. This is why we're dedicated to providing Military BibleSticks, real hope for our heroe

Each Biblestick cost \$25.00. If we could raise money for 100 that would be an entire company of servicemen. Military Biblestick is a ministry of Faith Comes by Hearing and has an excellent rating from Charity Navigator.



### St. John Youth Group

We are still looking for new Youth Group Leaders. Please let us know if this is something God is calling you to do. Thank you.



### Save the Date for Summer Day Camp July 31<sup>st</sup> through August 4<sup>th</sup>

Four Camp Counselors from Luther Hill in LaGrange will lead our youth in Worship, Music, Activities and lots of fun. Day Camp is open to youth ages 6 through 12 (5 year olds can sign up if they will be 6 by

the time school starts or by September 1<sup>st</sup>). All older youth are needed to help as Junior Counselors. Contact Kathy Dunn for more info: 361-275-4322.

\*\*Please note: Your child should bring a sack lunch each day & wear play clothes.

The family of Hunter
Jacob would like to
express their sincere
gratitude to Pastor John,
Brenda and everyone who
cheered Hunter home. It
was a magical day for
him, Gary and Debbie.



You have been there for us through every step of Hunter's journey. Your support, love and most of all prayers have given him a new life with a new heart.

Keep those prayers going! Cliff & May Dell Jacob Pat, Wanda & Tristan Hays

Dear Members of St. John's:

We appreciate your
continuing support of the
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
OF DEWITT COUNTY. With

your help we are serving approximately 50 club members every day. They are enjoying many new programs including gardening, sewing, learning manners, and swimming lessons. I enjoy doing art projects with them. Please feel free to stop by the club at any-time and see all the activities. We are developing good character and skills for these future citizens. Thanks again for your support.

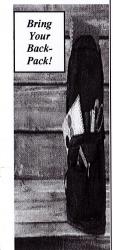
Sincerely,

Laurie Pokluda, Secretary BGCDC



Meyersville Lutheran Church will celebrate Rally Sunday, the beginning of our Sunday School year, along with Backpack Blessings for School, on August 13, at 9 am. We will have a Bounce House and explore Fruits of the Spirit with games and prayer stations. All youth three years and older are invited!

Kathy Dunn (361) 275-4322 & Wanda Hays (361)-648-4033



We keep the family of Mike Meyer in our Prayers, whose Mother Helen passed away on July 8<sup>th</sup>. May God comfort you at your time of loss.



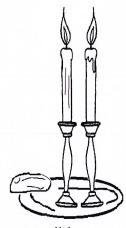


We keep the family of Pruce A. Weise in our Prayers, whose Aunt Alice Potcinske passed away. May God comfort you at your time of loss.

### In Search Of

The Worship team is asking/looking for information about the two "silver" altar candlesticks/candleholders.

Specifically who donated them and/or approximately when. We are considering having them refurbished and the idea was mentioned that we also consider having them changed to a brass



finish, if this is financially feasible or possible. Please let someone on the team, Pastor, or the office know of your information or your thoughts on these matters-especially when and how, etc. the "silver" altar candlesticks/candleholders were given to the church. Thank you!



MISSION FEAST

Save The Date!!!

Save the Date for September 10<sup>th</sup>! We will be having a meal following church. The church will provide brisket, beans and potato salad. Each family is asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please join us for fun and fellowship!

### Quilting

There will be no quilting on Wednesdays during the month of August.





**SAVE THE DATE!** 2017 IS THE 500<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION AND HERE AT ST JOHN EV LUTHERAN CHURCH WE INTEND TO CELEBRATE IN A BIG WAY ON OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup> WITH A REFORMATION SERVICE FOLLOWED BY A POT LUCK MEAL. SAVE THE DATE AND KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR ADDITIONAL EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE CELEBRATION!

### **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.

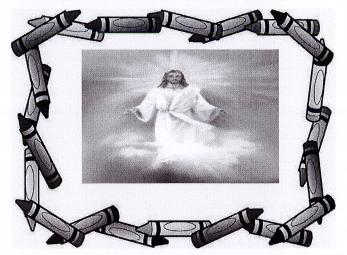


### **BUSY BAGS IN CHURCH**

Busy Bags are available in the Narthex for all children to use. These bags have quiet activities for children to enjoy during Worship. The tote bags have items that younger children might be more interested in while the zipper bags have items for slightly bigger kids. Grab a bag on your way in to church, but please "bee" sweet and return it after the service.

### St. John Back to School Blessings!

STUDENTS KEEP IN MIND TO.....



LET **JESUS** BE THE



OF YOUR LIFE!

### **Back to School**





backpack bus cafeteria cravons

language arts learning markers math music natebaok pencils

reading recess school science

### CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES June 27, 2017

By: Virginia Jank, Church Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor John Boor, President Marv Sager, Obert Sagebiel, Dickie Bettge, Virginia Jank, Kathy Dunn, Linda and Glenn Ruschhaupt, Matt Nelson and M'Liss Moore

CALL TO ORDER: President Marv Sager called the meeting to order. Dickie opened the meeting with a short devotion on 5 finger prayers: the thumb (those closest to you), the pointer (those who teach), the index/tallest (the people in authority), the ring finger (those who are weak and in trouble), the pinkie (our smallness in relation to God's greatness-the needs of all God's people).

MINUTES: Reviewed, Motion to accept by Linda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dickie, and approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Reviewed, Motion to accept by Dickie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathy and approved.

### **PASTOR'S REPORT**

**DISCUSSION:** There was nothing new to report. Pastor is working with potentials to lead the youth group.

### FINANCE TEAM REPORT

Meeting Date – June 12, 2017 Members Present- Glenn Ruschhaupt, M'Liss Moore, Laurie Wendel, Matt Nelson and Archie Abrameit Opening Prayer - Given by Glenn

REVIEW OF LATEST FINANCIAL
REPORTS - Reports and Memorials Status
were reviewed and various details discussed.
OLD BUSINESS - None
NEW BUSINESS - Renovation fund status

was discussed as related to current
Undesignated Funds balance, should

congregation soon elect to move ahead with starting actual work on the project.
The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 14<sup>th</sup> AT 7:00 PM.....

## MISSION EVANGELISM TEAM REPORT:

Present at the Meeting were: Linda Ruschhaupt, Team Leader. Members Cheryl Bramlette, Obert Sagabiel and Pastor John We discussed the upcoming Mission Feast on September 10, 2017. Our speaker was going to be the bishop of the NALC but his secretary had overbooked his dates and we just recently found out. We discussed speakers and hope to have one in the near future.

We also discussed the Ice Cream Social. **DISCUSSION:** Les Rabke and Pastor

Wanda will be guests on Sept 10 at the

Mission Feast. Their main ministry is at the

Prison and Les Rabke has also volunteered to
do a Temple Talk the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Sept.

Also there is a survey on the ice cream social
that will be going out to the congregation to
evaluate the interest, support and help needed
to host this community event.

### PARISH LIFE TEAM REPORT:

There was no report available.

### **PARISH ED TEAM REPORT:**

Youth Group – still waiting for new leaders VBS Day Camp – July 31 through August 4<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are still needed Rally Sunday with BackPack Blessing – set for August 13<sup>th</sup>. Material has been ordered. Wanda and I met Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup> to make plans for this. The Bounce House has been approved and confirmed with credit card.

Our Liability Insurance will cover this per Cory Anders, Representative, Church Mutual Insurance Company.

Wanda and I also discussed the curriculum for next year and teachers. We have asked LeAnn Jander and Jackie Parsons if they are willing to continue.

I can't tell if the basement has been cleaned up anymore; Wanda and I will make plans to "stage" it for the kids. Kathy Dunn

**Discussion:** There are some window blinds that need repair or replacement in the Sunday School rooms. Marv will see if the basement can be cleaned up when it gets closer to VBS time. There is a possibility that the double room down the hall can be used for the confirmation class starting in the fall.

### PROPERTY TEAM REPORT

Team Members: Dickie Bettge, Marv Sager, Pastor John, Clay Haun, Vance Egg, Glenn Ruschhaupt, Will Roeske.

The property team did not meet this month. Patrick Ohrt indicated that he will prepare the plans for the church renovation in the near future. The renovation balance is \$ 218,074.

### WORSHIP TEAM REPORT

Worship Team did not meet in June. This is an update to some ongoing items.

Confirmation Service – Seemed to be very well received and certainly was a meaningful service. New robes looked nice, the red personalized stoles were awesome, the interaction of Marvin, the parents, the students, and the Pastor really tied it all together.

Hearing impaired aid — We have them ready to go and I will announce them as soon as I can disperse one and get someone using it.

Organ repair and maintenance — We have Shawn Sanders with Pipe Organ Technicians

coming to St John on Friday July 7th to

inspect and evaluate the state of our organ and make suggestions for future maintenance. He will meet with Bruce Weise and then give us a written report of his findings. This will cost us \$200.00.

Contemporary/SOTW – A suggestion was made to possibly add some more contemporary services, maybe replacing a few of our 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Service of the Word services. We did this last Sunday and I had two positive comments. We will see what kind of input we continue to receive.

**Next Worship Team** meeting is scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

**DISCUSSION:** Council felt the last Service of the Word service went well with the introduction of some contemporary songs.

ADDITIONAL Discussion: The window frames are almost done on the Old Stone Church. The doors are finished and waiting for fair weather to be installed. Rough cedar is being used on the shutters. Publicity is being given to the Old Stone church during this renovation and it hoped that a major news story will be published whenever the work is completely finished.

Council Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Note was made that this meeting was only 30 minutes long and possibly the shortest ever.



Keep up with St. John online St. John Meyersville https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

### **VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:**

August 6

Greeters - Beverly Bodden
Reader - Dickie Bettge
Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

August 13

**Greeters** - Dickie & Cathie Bettge

Reader - Mackenzie Blain Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

August 20

Greeters - Candy Cowley Reader - Marlene Dreier Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

**August 27** 

Greeters - Marvin & Norrean Sager

Reader - Caden Jander Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

**August Communion Assistant** Brian Wendel

August Altar Guild Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

August Nursing Home Visitor Candy Cowley

LOOKING AHEAD...

September 3

Greeters - Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt

Reader - Kernell Moritz Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

**September Communion Assistant** Dickie Bettge

**September Altar Guild**M'Liss Moore & Carly Waters

September Nursing Home Visitor Margie Swannack

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 have switched so the correct names can be in the bulletin.

### Happy Birthday to:

4 - Glenda Henry Sydney Moore

5 - Jaymee Rangnow Madyx Blain

6 - Charles Baros

8 - Carol Bluntzer Jo Beth Caskey

9 - LeAnn Jander

10 - Cali Cram Dionis Winsauer

11 - Caleb Nagel & Kyle Nagel Kaley Otto Nicholas Jacobs Ruth Peters

12 - Caleb Reinecke Dawn Euton

14 - Sandy Motley

16 - Marjorie Ideus Marlene Dreier-Rangnow Wiley Moritz

17 - Madeline Hoy

18 - John York Graham II

9 - Linda Ruschhaupt

20 - Brett Hoy Lauren Haun Crosson Rains

21 - Lee Haun Rick Garrett Ryan Eichhorn

22 - Jonathan Albrecht

23 - Betty Diebel

24 - Clifford Diebel

25 - Dianne Moeller Meta Bennett Paul Wendel Wendy Bishop

27 - Kaysa Wunsch Zachary Hoy

28 - Jason Hoy Lesley Diebel-Brandes

31 - Bruce Brown

### **Anniversary Greetings to:**

7 - John & Melinda Brewer

8 - Lloyd & Karen Copeland

15 - Paul & Shirley Wendel Robert & M'Liss Moore Rick & Kally Garrett

16 - Vance & Cindy Egg

17 - Leroy & Beth Reinecke

18 - Keith & Kim Pare

24 - Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt

Our apologies if we have missed your special date. Please contact the church office to help with corrections. Thank you.



# August 2017

# St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Meyersville, TX

Mission of the Month: Military Biblestick

Church Office: (361)277-8653, Pastor John's Cell: (361)243-0373

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Fridav	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
	VBS 8:30am-3:30pm	VBS 8:30am-3:30pm	VBS 8:30am-3:30pm	VBS 8:30am-3:30pm	VBS 8:30am-3:30pm	
		7 PM Worship Team				
9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 6 10:15 AM Worship	7	8	9 10 AM Comm. Service	10	11	12
10:15 AM Worship Holy Communion			10 AM Comm. Service Yorktown Manor 7 PM Women's Bible Study			
10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8 AM Property Team Meeting 9:00 AM Rally Sunday & Backpack Blessing 10:15 AM Worship	7 PM Finance Team		10 AM Comm. Service Cuero Nursing&Rehab. 6 PM Mission Evangelism Team 7 PM Men's Bible Study	**Committee Reports	**Newsletter deadline.	
		St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord		Due, please email to Council Members.	Please have all articles to office.	
11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 20 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	21	7 PM Council Meeting	23	24	25	26
Hoiy				St. Bartholomew, Apostle		
12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 27 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship- <i>SOTW</i>	28	<b>29</b> The Martyrdom of St.	30	31		Office Hours: *Please see the Bulletins *Please See the Bulletins *CHURCH Office Hours
		The Martyrdom of St.  John the Baptist				



# How to Pray for your Kids as they start the New School Year.....



- 1. PRAY that they treat all their classmates in a way that would be pleasing to God.
- 2. PRAY for focus and dedication; that they may <u>give their best</u> at everything they do, in order to glorify God.
- 3. PRAY for physical, emotional, and spiritual safety.
- 4. PRAY that they <u>enjoy school and learning</u>, and see the benefit in an education.
- 5. PRAY that they may be a living example of God's love.
- 6. PRAY for their <u>teacher(s)</u>, that they find joy in their work, and strive to give their best every day.
- 7. PRAY that they discover what they enjoy, and <u>encourage them</u> in the pursuit of their dreams.
- 8. PRAY for *patience*. For the parents, kids and the teachers.