

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## *March 2018 Newsletter*

### **ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

#### **CONTACT US**

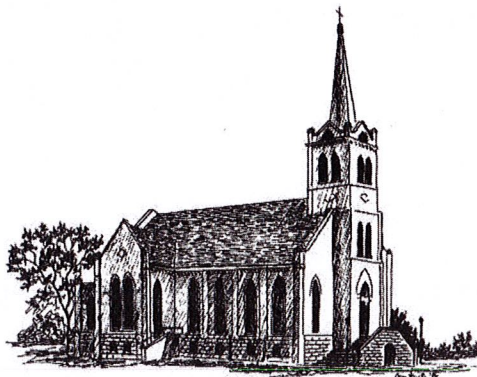
Church Office: 361-277-8653  
Office Hours: Tues - Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
stjohnevlutheran@juno.com  
Parsonage: 361-275-9895  
(Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373)  
jboor1@juno.com

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

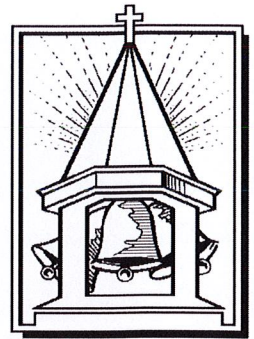
#### **WORSHIP**

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



March 2018

VOL. 42 NO. 3

Greetings,

We are currently in the season of Lent. Wikipedia tells us the purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer for Easter through prayer, doing penance, mortifying the flesh, repentance of sins, almsgiving, and self-denial. While this sounds easy, it isn't easy when you are the one doing it.

That's why I have chosen the two series I am preaching on during this Lent season. On Sundays I am preaching the series "Cries From the Cross." It is based, and parts are taken from, a book written by Erwin Lutzer. And on Wednesday nights I am preaching a series called facing the cross.

The series "Cries From the Cross" is a look at what our savior said while on the Cross. It shows us that even during the worst part of His life He was thinking of others. It gives us a model of how we should think and it also gives us insight as to what we can expect. There is no free ride.

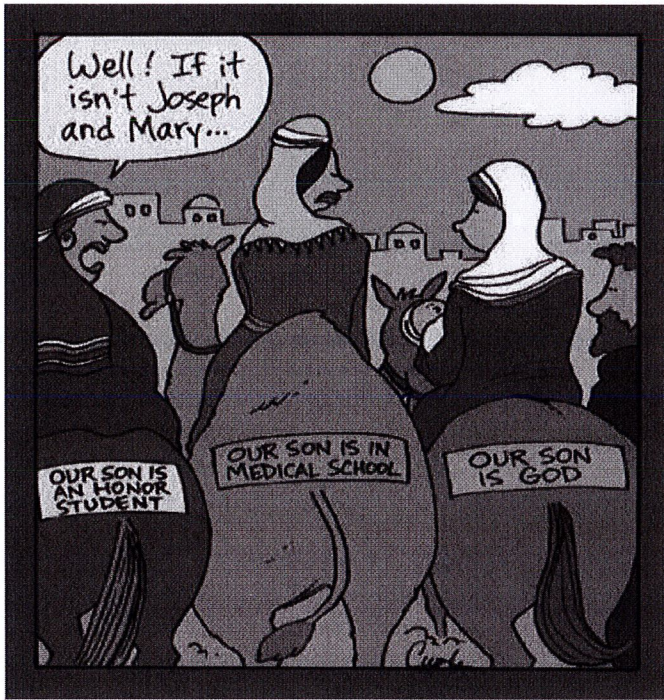
The other series is "Facing the Cross." When the days drew near for Jesus to leave this earth, Jesus "set his face" (Luke 9:51) to encounter the pain of the cross on our behalf. In the same way, in this Lenten Series, we set our faces on the cross of Christ that lies before us. As we face the cross during these Lenten days, we also face certain aspects in our lives which are not always in line with the cross. We come to terms with them in this series through the cross of Christ, who came to save us that we might see him face-to-face in heaven.

I pray that you will find these series to be useful during this Lenten Season as we reflect on our lives and prepare for Easter.

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.



Ding-a-ling  
Corner



**STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 2018**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Infant/Child	0												0
Adult	0												0
<b>Total Baptisms</b>	0												0
Confirmations	0												0
Weddings													
Members	0												0
Non-Members	0												0
Funerals													
Members	0												0
Non-Members	0												0
Counseling Sessions	3												3
Transfer Out	0												0
Transfer In	0												0
Home Visits	4												4
Hospital Visits													
Members	3												3
Non-Members	3												3
Private Communion													
Members	4												4
Non-Members	26												26
<b>PLEASE NOTE: LAST MONTH'S STATISTICS ARE TO DATE AS OF PRINTING TIME</b>													
Release of Membership													
Restore to Membership													

## ST. JOHN EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT NUMBERS

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor - John Boor            275-9895 (Cell) 243-0373  
 Council President - Marvin Sager            275-6029  
 Vice President - Brent Gohmert            649-4211  
 Secretary - Virginia Jank            575-6813  
 Treasurer - Matt Nelson            550-2602  
 Financial Secretary - M'Liss Moore            275-8069

Parish Education - Kathy Dunn            275-4322  
 Mission/Evangelism - Linda Ruschhaupt            275-2059  
 Property Team - Dickie Bettge            277-3096  
 Finance Team - Glenn Ruschhaupt            275-2059  
 Parish Life Team - Terri Jank            575-6816  
 Worship Team - Johnny Jank            575-6813



Notes from the 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.

*Need a Ride?*



### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The deadline for the April 2018 Church Bell is Friday, March 23, 2018 by 9 a.m. You can drop off your articles at the church office, or e-mail them to [stjohnevlutheran@juno.com](mailto: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 for 2018 in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed for the New Year.

### **ACOLYTES**



### **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, North Carolina  
 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  
 Kenny Jacob  
 Sandy Gohmert  
 Cole Ohrt  
 Carlton Migura

**Nursing Home:** Marjorie Ideus, Yorktown Nursing & Rehabilitation

### **Homebound:** 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 March**  
**Warrior's Weekend**



**Mission Statement**

Warriors Weekend - Victoria, Texas  
[www.warriorweekend.org](http://www.warriorweekend.org)

Founded in 2007, 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 veteran based causes. 500 Veterans from around the United States are selected to participate. Military bases around the country select those who come for the weekend. There are about 300 wounded vets who are flown in from these military bases.

One need is for funds before the event is so they have enough monies to purchase airline tickets. The average cost of an airline ticket is \$400.00 each and is paid for in March.

The Warrior's Weekend will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup> through May 20<sup>th</sup>. The youth of St. John's is selling flag sponsorship for the Field of Dreams display to honor veterans. For more ways you can get involved talked to Margie Swannack or Dawn Otto.

**BUSY BAGS IN CHURCH**

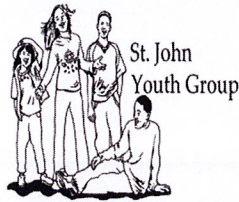
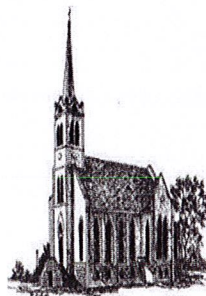


Busy Bags are available in the Narthex for all children to use. These bags have quiet activities for children to enjoy during

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.

**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.



Youth Group is still selling Warrior's Weekend Field of Honor Flags. Sales end Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Diane Chavez if you would like to purchase a flag @ (361)212-4438. Thank you for supporting our Veterans & Youth Group! Youth group will meet Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> right after church for their monthly meeting. Lunch will be served & we will have Easter Sunrise practice. On Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am we will have our last practice & decorate the cross with flowers. If you are participating in Easter Sunrise Service on April 1, 2018 be there at 7:00 am.

**Lenten Schedule**

St. John Mid-Week Lenten Services will be Wednesdays, February 21 & 28 and March 7, 14 & 21 at 7:00 pm.



**Easter Lilies**



If you would like to purchase Easter Lilies in honor or memory of someone. Please fill out the form in the bulletins. The deadline is **March 18<sup>th</sup>**. No orders can be taken after this day. They will be ordered March 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**Easter Schedule**

**Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>:** Youth Group lunch & sunrise practice after Worship.

**Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>:**

7:00 pm - *Maundy Thursday Service*

**Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>:**

7:00 pm - *Good Friday Service*

**Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>:**

10:00 am - Youth Group will practice and decorate for Easter.



**EASTER**

**Easter Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>:**

7:00 am - All Youth Group Members participating in the Sunrise Service, need to be at the Old Stone Church.

7:30 am - Sunrise Service/Pancake Breakfast

Youth Group will host a Pancake Breakfast in the Parish House after Sunrise Service, before Sunday School.

Everyone is welcome! During the Sunday School hour, we will have a Dramatic Re-enactment of the first Easter and the Empty Tomb. Parents are encouraged to see this exciting presentation.

9:15 am - Annual Resurrection Egg Hunt. Remember, eggs signify new life in Jesus! You can bring an Easter Basket or we will have some Easter bags.

10:15 am - *Easter Worship~HE is RISEN!*

*~Please come and help us celebrate Easter, the cornerstone of our Christian Faith. Bring a friend!~*



### Attention Altar Guild Members

The Bi-Annual Meeting for St. John's Altar Guild will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. Please, at least one member from each team is strongly encouraged to attend this meeting.

Thank you, Carol Ann

### Soup & Sandwich Supper

Join us for food and fellowship Wednesday March 21, 2018. We will be serving a soup and sandwich supper at 6:00 before the 7:00 Lenten Service. Hope to see you then!



### OLD STONE CHURCH RENOVATION UPDATE

#### February, 2018

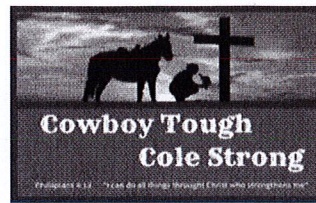
Were you able to view the Blue Moon, Eclipsed Moon, and Blood Moon the other week? It was a sight to behold and to marvel at the wonders of nature that God created. According to news reports these three events have not happened at the same time since 1866. The same year the Old Stone Church was built!



The Old Stone Church renovation is progressing well. In October, 2016, a new composition shingle roof was put on the Old Stone Church replacing the deteriorating wood cedar shake roof. The new roof weathered Hurricane Harvey well with no damage. In 2017 all the windows and window frames were rebuilt and restored. All cracked window glass was replaced with antique, period glass to match the original panes. All the windows and frames were repainted. The window shutters have been rebuilt replacing all the rotted wood and repainted. The original latching mechanism was in good condition and could be reused. The front doors and door frame/façade have been renovated and restored and repainted. All the door hinges have been replaced with identical antique, period hinges. All this work has been completed.

The eaves of the roof are currently being rejuvenated. The peeling paint has been stripped and no rotted wood was detected. Warmer weather is needed to repaint the eaves. The interior wall cracks have been repaired and replastered. Because of the cold weather and at the advice of the paint manufacturer, we are waiting for warmer weather to repaint the interior walls.

During Hurricane Harvey the steeple leaked badly. Fortunately, no items inside the Old Stone Church were damaged other than the paper copy of the Cemetery Directory. Since the Directory is entered and kept on the computer it can easily be replaced. The Historical Committee in consultation with the Texas Historical Commission in Austin is now planning the renovation and restoration of the steeple.



### Pray for Cole Ohrt Cowboy Tough Cole Strong

**UPDATE:** Cole has been moved to Houston to start his rehabilitation process. Praise God & everyone praying for him! As most of you know, Cole was in an ATV accident and has suffered many injuries. Cole is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at Meyersville School. He needs a lot of prayers, love and support. Cole is the Son of Garrett & Julie Ohrt, Grandson of Kenneth & Betty Diebel and Janice Ohrt & the Nephew of Brian & Feather Diebel. Many prayers are being said from all over and being answered by the Good Lord! This cowboy has a long journey ahead and he is Cole Strong! There are other ways we can help this sweet young man & his family out by donating to the many benefits/fundraisers for Cole. Below is a list of ways to help. Please join the "Cowboy Tough Cole Strong" Facebook page to see photos of the items mentioned below, see new fundraisers as they come up and keep up with Cole's progress. If you have questions on ways to help, you can call our church office during business hours. Thank you and God Bless. + + +

- "Cowboy Tough-Cole Strong" tshirts, caps, koozies - will be available January 3. Please contact Sarah Odem Rowlands or Donna M. Odem Nichols for more details.
- "Cowboy Tough-Cole Strong" bracelets - photo in comments - contact Jamey Carroll Muegge for more details.
- Cole's Benefit Account - New First National Bank - make checks payable to Garrett or Julie Ohrt. Can make deposits at the branch or pm me for an address to mail a check to and we will take care of depositing for you.
- PayPal account - [coleohrtfund@gmail.com](mailto:coleohrtfund@gmail.com) - Please send funds as friend or family and put a note on what money is for - donation, payment for raffle, football pots, or shirts (please do not send funds for shirts without ordering from Sarah Rowlands first).
- Gun/Louis Vuitton Raffle - photo in comments - contact Leslie Crews for more details. (Drawing on March 11<sup>th</sup>)
- Benefit with live auction, entertainment, meal - more details to come - May 5th - contact Leslie Hoff Crews for more details.

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

January 30, 2018

By: Virginia Jank, Church Secretary

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Marv Sager, Brent Gohmert, Dickie Bettge, Johnny Jank, Virginia Jank, Kathy Dunn, Linda Ruschhaupt and Glenn Ruschhaupt, Matt Nelson and M'Liss Moore

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Marv Sager called the meeting to order. Marv opened the meeting with a devotion based on James 4:14. Time is short---do we follow God's plan or the devil's plan? Marv welcomed new council members: Vice President Brent Gohmert and Treasurer Matt Nelson.

**MINUTES:** Reviewed. Motion to accept by Johnny Jank, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dickie Bettge, and approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Reviewed. Motion to accept by Linda Ruschhaupt, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dickie Bettge and approved.

### PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor John was not present. He is attending a Pastor's Conference in San Antonio.

**Old business:** It was noted that Pastor John, Glenn, Dickie, Johnny and Marv met earlier this month. They discussed having a chairman for the Safety and Awareness project. Daren Otto had previously shared interest in the project and said that he would chair the project and get a committee together to discuss and consider any ideas brought before the committee.

### FINANCE TEAM REPORT

The finance team did not meet this month.

It was clarified that both the pasture lease and any rentals on the church property will be deposited into the building fund.

At the annual meeting Matt Nelson was elected Treasurer of St. John. He was currently serving as Financial Secretary to fulfill the unexpired term of Tammy Blain Meyer. It is the duty of the Council to appoint a new Financial Secretary to fulfill the last year of Tammy Meyer's unfulfilled term. M'Liss Moore had agreed to serve in this position. Linda Ruschhaupt made a motion to appoint M'Liss as Financial Secretary, and it was seconded by Dickie Bettge. The motion passed.

M'Liss made a motion to authorize Brent Gohmert and Matt Nelson to be added to the approved signers on Church checks and any financial papers needed by the banks. Dickie seconded the motion and it was passed by the Council. Minutes on the election and the motion by council to approve their authorization will need to be presented to the banks to comply with their requirements.

### MISSION EVANGELISM TEAM REPORT:

February 2018 Mission

Campus Crusade for Christ

Missionaries: Andy and Natalie Swanson

Andy and Natalie Swanson and their three children have been serving in East Asia for the last 13 years. They currently work with Campus Crusade leading campus staff and students to reach a scope of 25 million students and help mobilize and send them to the world. They train students and churches in evangelism, discipleship, leadership training, and cross-cultural and international missions sending with a focus on college students in the 10/40 Window. Their mission is to start ministries on half the campuses in this country by the year 2020.

### PARISH LIFE TEAM REPORT:

There was no meeting this month. The council could not think of anything that Parish Life team needed to be aware of at this time.

### PARISH ED TEAM REPORT:

1-22-18

In addition to the Christmas Eve Program, The **Youth Group** put on a **Live Nativity Scene** before and after the program. There was a live sheep and donkey and a complete "hay barn." Special thanks to Doug and Wendy Bishop! Youth participating were: Jayme Rangnow, Cody Rangnow, Faith Chavez, Brighton Blain, Mason Nagel, Kyle Nagel, Caleb Nagel, Caden Jander, Cason Jander

**Total attendance at the Christmas Eve program was 131!! The Post Confirmation/High School Class** has been without a teacher since late August.

**The Junior Department** (ages 3 to 11 yrs) has not fared well either. We did not hold Sunday School again this Summer. During the rest of the year the average was 6 students (including visitors) per Sunday for the entire Junior Department (about 25 possible students). Wanda Hays and I are the only teachers right now. Attendance is very low:

Aug 13 (Rally Sunday) - 15  
Aug 20-6  
Aug 27-0  
Sept 3-5  
Sept 10-12  
Sept 17-6  
Sept 24-2  
Oct 1-3  
Oct 8-2  
Oct 15-4  
Oct 22-2  
Oct 29-5  
Nov 5-4  
Nov 12-7  
Nov 19-6  
Nov 26-4  
Dec 3-15 (program practice)  
Dec 10-12 ( " " )  
Dec 17-14 ( " " )  
Dec 24-no class  
Dec 31-2  
Jan 7-2  
Jan 14-1  
Jan 21-5

**Save Our Sunday School – What is the Future of Sunday School at St. John?** We held a Sunday School Meeting after church on January 21, 2018. The purpose of the meeting was due to the very low attendance at Sunday School. Laurie Pokluda led the meeting and began with a handout of possible options:

- 1) Children attend Sunday School at the regular time 9:00 am and their parents stay for an informal Bible Study and discussion of topics for raising kids in today's world.
- 2) Change the time of Sunday School (after church, during church, week night)
- 3) Have Sunday School only once a month
- 4) Disband Sunday School and have parents teach at home (Apostles Creed, Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, Books of the Bible, etc and as needed for Confirmation)

- 5) Part-time Youth Minister or INTERN
- 6) Other ideas? Provide transportation, Have Sunday School twice a month

Lots of good discussion was held. Johnna Gohmert Kethan would consider being a Part time Youth Minister, depending on job description. She and Brent Gohmert will co-teach a class, Summer Helms will be a substitute. Wendy Bishop and Leah will teach a class in the Fall of 2018. Johnny encouraged the Post Confirmation Youth to come to the Adult class, maybe with a special invitation.

We agreed to send this handout to all members and ask for their input. We will prepare a tentative Job Description for a paid or volunteer Youth Minister. Another meeting will be held on February 4<sup>th</sup> to make some decisions

Those attending were Wendy, Doug and Leah Bishop, Dorothy Fay Diebel, Lenzi Moritz, Joie Caskey, Johnny and Virginia Jank, Norrean Sager, Bruce Weise, Pastor John Boor, Summer Helms, Kathy Dunn, Wanda Hays, Obert and Carol Ann Sagebiel, Don and Seth Wendel, Stacey Nelson, Johnna Gohmert Kethan, Cheryl Bramlette, Pam Haun.

### PROPERTY TEAM REPORT

1/30/18

Meeting Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at 8:00 am.

Members Present: Dickie, Glenn, Marv, Clay, Vance, Pastor. Maintenance Schedule.

February: Oil the Bell.

Check attic in Church.

Check Bathroom & Kitchen Supplies – Clean and tidy up storage areas.

Plan work day.

Pay Country Club Dues

Items Complete:

- Liability insurance umbrella has been authorized and is in progress.
- A/C Filters checked and replaced as needed.
- Cattle panels were purchased and delivered to the church.

Old Business.

Architect progress. The architect's latest schedule is as follows:

Structural drawings complete: Friday 2/7/18

MEP drawing complete: Friday 2/7/18

Architectural drawings complete: Friday 2/7/18

Owner review of drawings: 1 week

Bids Time: 3 ½ weeks

Bids Due: Wednesday 3/7/18

The congregation was updated at the annual meeting.

- Insurance Quotes. The property team reviewed Employment Practices Liability, Employee Benefits Liability, Cyber Liability coverage's and decided that our exposure to these perils is minimal so we decided to pass on these coverage's. We also considered Earthquake coverage and feel that this coverage may be of value as our Church building is highly vulnerable to this type of event. With a 10% deductible, the premium is \$415/ year. The coverage is "replacement cost" insurance.
- Septic System: The bid has been let to SBV. Dickie signed the permit application and construction is scheduled for Jan. 29, 2018.
- Painting of Church doors. The estimated cost of \$200 per door for two colors was discussed and approved by Cheryl and Laurie. We will have Wendel Sandblasting split bill

and send directly to Cheryl and Laurie. Clay will schedule painting of the doors and will try and paint the door frame when the doors are being painted.

- Parish hall roof replacement. April 25 is the deadline to have roof replaced without extension. Dickie came up with a specification sheet for the roof replacement. We decided to get bids on the three tab shingles as well as the GAF high definition shingles. We also will require liability insurance as well as workers comp. insurance. Glenn will contact contractors and get the bids after we agree on specs.

New Business:

- Virgie Gohmert request for Memorial money for Reuben. Due to safety issues, we do not recommend placing concrete benches along the sides of the volleyball court, but do recommend placing benches under the trees between the volleyball court and parish hall. We felt that the shaded area would be a safe and pleasant area to sit and watch the game and cool off. Dickie will draw something up and present to the Gohmert family. From Double D Satauary, Inc. the C982 57" long bench with pedestals is \$94 each. Plaque cost \$98, 16"X16"X4" conc. Block \$5.25 each.
- The light fixtures on the end of the parish hall need to be reattached to the building and replaced. Pastor and Vance will tackle this.

Projects:

- Inventory of furniture and equipment & report to Church Council. Dickie
- Pressure wash & paint pump house.
- Seal concrete tables and benches with Thompsons Water Seal
- Install light bulb at cemetery
- Remove large overhanging limb in cemetery and repair broken tomb stones.
- Mark water lines on the cemetery plat and on the ground.
- Have card printed about computer security and place at computer. Pastor

Renovation Fund Balance: \$247,176 (1/21/18)

Items for Council Approval: None

Next Meeting: Feb. 11, 2018.

**DISCUSSION:** There was a discussion on Earthquake insurance. Dickie made a motion to cover the Church and the House, Linda Ruschhaupt seconded the Motion and it was passed by the Council.

### WORSHIP TEAM REPORT

30<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Worship Team met 8<sup>th</sup> of Jan, 2018. Pastor John, Virginia Jank, Carol Ann Sagebiel, Marv & Norrean Sager, and Bruce Wiese were present.

**Old Business –**

**Altar candles-** The need to refinish the Altar Candleholders was discussed. The Team agreed to send the two "Silver" candleholders to ALMAY after Easter to get two quotes to refinish them. One quote to keep the current "Silver" finish, and one quote to re-plate the surface in the brass finish. The Team also decided to investigate cost of new candleholders and then decide once they have all the information. There is some memorial money that may be available to cover this cost depending on the final numbers. In addition Dean Ohrt has offered to have the "Christ Candle" holder refinished and we would send that along with the Altar candleholders to save shipping costs.



**Organ repair:** As you all should know by now the organ is, and will continue to be an ongoing issue that Worship Team, Property Team, Council and ultimately St John, as a congregation are going to be dealing with over the coming years. Anything short of a major rework or total replacement, is just a Band-Aid on a severed artery. With pressure at key areas we may slow the bleeding but eventually this is going to take some major surgery.

In July of 2017 we were having concerns about Mike Morgan's (our current technician) ability to continue to keep our organ operating and possibly upgrade at some point in the future. We had Shawn Sanders with Pipe Organ Technicians come and give us an evaluation of our organ. He felt they could assist us, but two areas will definitely need to be addressed. The blower and the electronic system that controls the organ pipes from the keyboard needed to be replaced. As you recall since we were in the middle of our current building project we decided to continue with Mike Morgan and hope he could keep us going with normal maintenance and occasional repairs as needed to keep beautiful music coming out of the pipes as Bruce tickles the keyboard. So Mike came down to do his semi-annual maintenance in mid-December and was asked to specifically address a list of items Bruce had prepared in advance so all would be aware what needed to be fixed. Mike came fixed all the issues to Bruce's satisfaction. Unfortunately they didn't last. When the Team met on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January, Mike had been to St John to address those issues that he had repaired mid-December and a few more that Bruce Wiese had made me aware of during the Christmas services. His visit was a result of a phone call to let Mike know that we were concerned that the repairs were being done but they weren't lasting. Although he was able to fix a few things, the major problem the organ was experiencing, Mike said was unreparable with the current availability of obsolete parts.

This involved the 16' coupler which has stopped working properly. The problem is in the electronics of the system and specifically in the relays that activate and disconnect when one depresses and releases a key. This relay board is obsolete and the manufacturer, ICMI, is no longer in business. Mike left that day and told Bruce he was going to see what he could find and maybe he could fix this issue as well as the blower that needs to be replaced as well. Bruce reminded Mike that no repairs or parts are authorized without council approval. The church office had also received Mike's bill for the December repairs, which was supposed to be an itemized list of all the work completed and it only said "organ tuning \$850". The Team discussed the state of repair (or lack of) and the inability to get an itemized bill from Morgan and came to the consensus that we need to re-contact Shawn Sanders (the other organ technician) and see what he might suggest.

Additional information post Team meeting – I had not contacted Shawn Sanders yet or talked to Mike Morgan yet although I had attempted to and we had missed each other. Mike called Bruce and said he would like to stop by and take some pictures of our organ electronics and send them to a vendor he had found that acquired the inventory of the now defunct ICMI who made our obsolete relay system. Bruce told him he was not to do anything until he contacted me. So Mike called me and told me about his attempt to find parts for our system. I reminded him that we do not have budget for any major expenses to repair the organ but if he was willing to research and come up with some numbers we would entertain his suggestions. In the meantime we will still pursue contacting the second vendor and see what he might suggest. The only reason I am maintaining the church's relationship with Mike is he may be our only source to patch us up and keep us going as we already had an evaluation by Pipe Organ Technicians that

said we needed the \$5,000 to \$6,000 blower system replaced and the obsolete ICMI electronics replaced at an estimated \$20 – 25K. We can continue "as is" for now, but at some point we may be forced to cut our relationship with Mike Morgan, bite the bullet and find some way to pay for Sander's rework, or pay for some banjo lessons for Bruce so we might "Sing a New Song."

**Contemporary services**-everyone seemed like the contemporary Christian services with live praise bands of Broken Vessels and Clay Crockett's Nations of Believers. We are going to attempt to get them for the contemporary services for 2018. The Shiner Spirit (Polka) band had said they will do their service the Sunday after Thanksgiving, Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of Pentecost, before Advent starts.

**Security**-Marv gave a talk on the meeting with Jay Howard. Johnny, Marv, Dickie and Pastor John will meet and set goals for our church concerning safety and awareness. There was a suggestion that Property Team chair and Worship Team chair definitely be a part of this committee.

**New Business –**

**Services:** The committee discussed special services during 2018: Psalm Sunday will be a regular LBW service. Grave Decoration will continue to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Easter and Communion will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday that month because of Grave Decoration Sunday falling on a third Sunday of the month.

Service of the Word was discussed and it was decided to discontinue that particular format of worship at this time but continue with the songs in With One Voice when they complement our regular services.

The Worship Setting will change to Setting II on Feb 18, with the beginning of Lent.

The team picked songs for Jan 14 through March 4.

Next meeting Feb 6, 2018.

**ADDITIONAL Discussion:** 2018 Council Installation was set for Feb. 4.

The office lock/key needs some attention. There has been some difficulty in getting the door to open. Keys will be checked to see if there is some problems with how they were cut.

There was also a serious discussion and concern on what to put on our Facebook page. Church Services and special events will continue to be published.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.



Keep up with St. John online

St. John Meyersville

<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>  
Or visit our website at: [stjohnmeyersville.org](http://stjohnmeyersville.org)

## VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:

### March 4

- Greeters** - Beverly Bodden  
**Reader** - Mackenzie Blain  
**Acolyte** - Volunteer Needed

### March 11

- Greeters** - Dickie & Cathie Bettge  
**Reader** - Tammy Blain  
**Acolyte** - Volunteer Needed

### March 18

- Greeters** - Candy Cowley  
**Reader** - Johnna Kethan  
**Acolyte** - Volunteer Needed

### March 25

- Greeters** - Marvin & Norrean Sager  
**Reader** - Trish Hood  
**Acolyte** - Volunteer Needed

### March Communion Assistant

Brian Wendel

### March Altar Guild

Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

### March Nursing Home Visitor

Virginia Abrameit

## LOOKING AHEAD...

### April 1

- Greeters** - Cheryl Bramlette  
**Reader** - Beverly Bodden  
**Acolyte** - Volunteer Needed

### April Communion Assistant

Dickie Bettge

### April Altar Guild

M'Liss Moore & Carly Waters

### April Nursing Home Visitor

Carol Ann Sagebiel

**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:

- 1 - Crystal Eichhorn  
Garlan Moeller  
3 - Kathy Dunn  
Tabitha Johnson McConnell  
4 - Aubry Warwas  
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 Light  
28 - Heather Wendel  
29 - Leon Dohman  
30 - Cindy Egg  
31 - Milam Eckhardt



## Anniversary Greetings to:

- 2 - Fred & Rose Mueller  
Stanley & Donna Fuchs  
Ted & Pam Long  
6 - Sandy & Vicki Motley  
7 - Kenneth & Betty Diebel  
24 - Mike & Wanda Rangnow  
28 - Kyle & Melinda Nethery  
29 - Patrick & Meagan Oehlke  
30 - Glenn & Dionis Winsauer



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










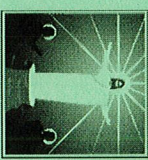
# March 2018

## St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Meyersville, TX

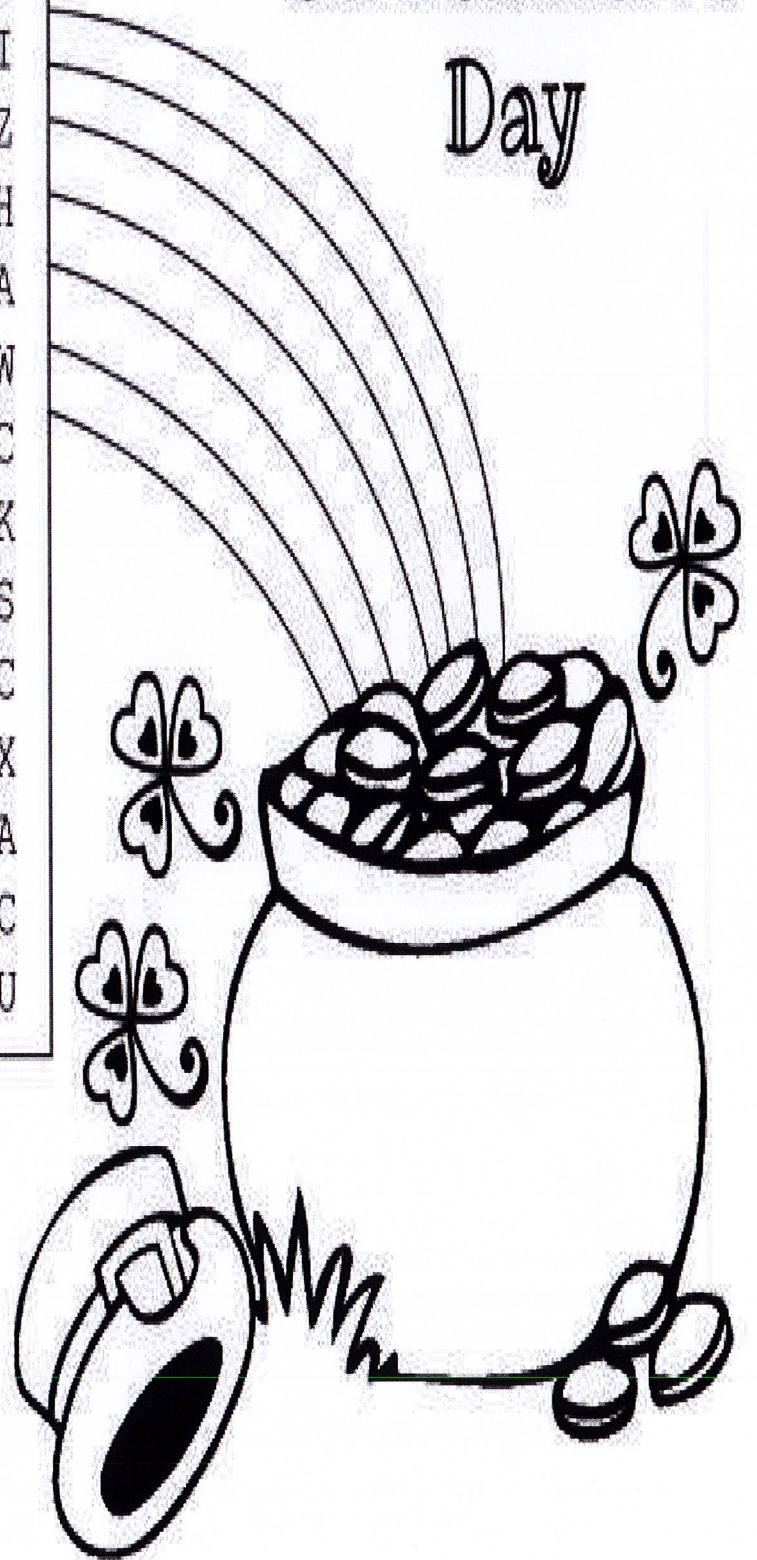
Church Office: (361)277-8653, Pastor John's Cell: (361)243-0373

Mission of the Month:  
Warrior's Weekend

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Office Hours: *Please see the Bulletins</p> 						
<p><b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b> 4 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship</p> 	5	6	7	8	9	10
<p><b>4th Sunday of Lent</b> 11 8:00 AM Property Team Meeting 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship *Daylight Savings Time Begins *Flag Sales End!</p> 	12	13	14	15	16	17
<p><b>5th Sunday of Lent</b> 18 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship *Deadline to purchase Easter Lilies</p> 	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p><b>Palm Sunday</b> 25 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship *Youth Group: Lunch &amp; Easter Sunrise practice following worship</p> 	26	27	28	29	30	31
			<p>10 AM Comm. Service CueroNursing&amp;Rehab. 1:30 PM Quilters 6 PM Supper before church 7 PM Lenten Service</p> 	<p>7 PM Council Meeting</p> <p>**Committee Reports Due, please email to Council Members.</p> 	<p>**Newsletter deadline. Please have all articles to office.</p> 	<p>10 AM Youth Group Easter Sunrise Practice &amp; Cross decoration</p> 

# Happy St. Patrick's Day

L D N H V T V R E V O L C H D  
V E I E X Q A G J S X Q R C H  
B Q P O E I F Q D H N K K R I  
Z B D R N R X X M A W J A A Z  
V D X B E V G B M M Y R A M H  
Q S O P L C R C G R G O L D A  
N W Q O Q U H W D O N G S W W  
O Z W T T N C A N C D J N C C  
W J A F Z Q I K U K B M J X K  
H P E S H I W Q W N G C D D S  
M X F S Q G D Z Z R Y X O I C  
D C I Z K T X B H C C X M O X  
D R A M O C Q L T V B O F Z A  
I K T K C U G I A Y E Q G D C  
O R H P I Q W P M G F K V V U



CLOVER	LUCK
GOLD	MARCH
GREEN	POT
IRISH	RAINBOW
LEPRECHAUN	SHAMROCK