

*"Behold, your king
is coming to you"*



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

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

Greeter This Week: Dickie & Cathie Bettge

Greeter Next Week: Candy Cowley

Reader This Week: Cathie Bettge

Reader Next Week: Wanda Hays

Acolytes This Week: Mckenna & Kendra

Acolytes Next Week: Grace & Ella

Altar Guild This Month: Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

Altar Guild Next Month: Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

Communion Assistant This Month: Brian Wendel

Communion Assistant Next Month: Dickie Bettge

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

Stand – *Throughout the service you may remain seated or stand as you are able.*

Lighting of the Advent Candle

HYMN: WOV #630 1st Verse “*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*”

Stand p. 56: BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

HYMN: LBW #35 “*Hark, the Glad Sound!*”

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, that by your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by your mighty deliverance; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Justice and Peace Will Prevail

In the last days, the Messiah will come and bring peace to warring nations. Swords will be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks as weapons are replaced with instruments of peace and productivity. War will be no more, and Israel will be a great blessing to all nations. Oh how we yearn for such a time!

Isaiah 2:1-5

(Page 587, RSV Pew Bible)

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, ³and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

RESPONSIVE READING

Peace Be Within Your Walls

In this pilgrimage psalm, the psalmist sang of peace within the walls of Jerusalem and for all those who love the Lord. There is joy in the house of the Lord, among God’s faithful people. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

¹I was glad when they said to me,
 “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

**²Now our feet are standing
 within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³Jerusalem is built as a city
 that is at unity with itself;

**⁴To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**

⁵For there are the thrones of judgment,
 the thrones of the house of David.

**⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
 “May they prosper who love you.**

⁷Peace be within your walls
 and quietness within your towers.

**⁸For my brethren and companions’ sake,
 I pray for your prosperity.**

⁹Because of the house of the Lord our God,
 I will seek to do you good.”

SECOND READING

Love Fulfills the Law

St. Paul instructed the Christians in Rome to refrain from owing anyone anything, but instead to practice loving each other. In this way they would be fulfilling the whole law of God. True love is characterized by doing no wrong to one’s neighbor. He goes on to remind them that they are closer now to salvation than they have been at any time previous; therefore, they are called to walk in the light of Christ.

Romans 13:[8-10] 11-14

(Page 987-988, RSV Pew Bible)

[⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.] ¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

(Page 859-860, RSV Pew Bible)

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 24th chapter.

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

³⁶{Jesus said,} “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴²Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit SERMON

HYMN: WOV #744 “*Soon and Very Soon*”

Stand p. 65: APOSTLES’ CREED

p. 65: PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

HYMN: WOV #775

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

Lord, listen to Your children praying,

Lord, send Your spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to Your children praying,

Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace!

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 12/1 First Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
10:15 a.m. Worship
*2:00 - 4:00 p.m. *Confirmation Class*
*3:00 p.m. *Church Christmas Decorating*
*Youth Group T-Shirt Design Due

Mon 12/2 Office Closed

Tues 12/3 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
7:00 p.m. Worship Team

Wed 12/4 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

Thurs 12/5 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours

Fri 12/6 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Office Hours
5:45 p.m. Meyersville 4-H Meeting,
Caroling & Christmas Party

Next Sun Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Property Team Meeting
9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
9:00 a.m. Christmas Play Practice
10:15 a.m. Worship ~ Teen Challenge
Speakers

**Poinsettia Due Date*

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.



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.

Sunday, November 24, 2019

General \$967.00, MOM \$295.00, Sunday School \$66.00, Youth \$120.00,
Church Reno. \$267.00 **Total : \$1,715.00**

Attendance: Worship - 76 Sunday School - Children - 8 Adults - 15

Mission of the Month of December



Teen Challenge of Texas

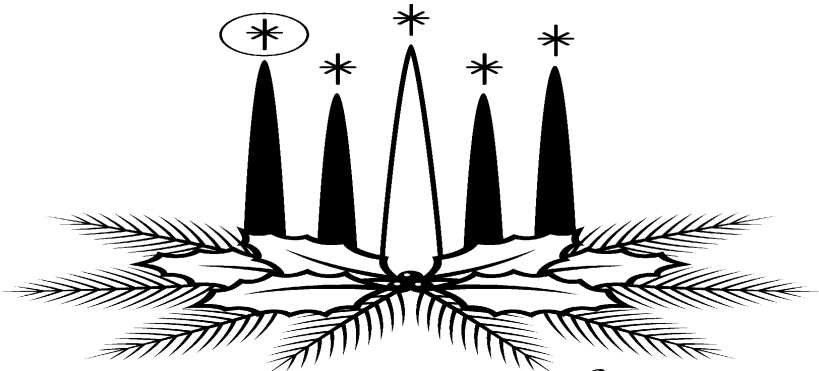
Mission Statement

Teen Challenge is a faith based SOLUTION for the drug epidemic. The scope of Teen Challenge has grown over the years, and now serves adults as well as teenagers. There are 200 Teen Challenge campuses across the United States and 1,000 world- wide in 80 countries, which provide Christian recovery services to individuals of every age and social background.

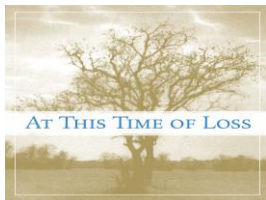
Teen Challenge came to Texas in 1968 with the opening of the San Antonio campus. Teen Challenge of Texas now operated five campuses in Texas in the San Antonio, Houston and Dallas/Ft. Worth areas. Their mission is to provide an effective and comprehensive Christian faith-based solution to life-controlling drug and alcohol addiction. By applying biblical principles, Teen Challenge of Texas guides people to become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well, and spiritually alive!

TCOT is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation and all donations and gifts are tax deductible.

Teen Challenge of Texas will be at St. John's on December 8 at our worship service to give testimony on how the Love of Christ through their program has turned lives around. They will have a table of hand- made crafts from their students to sell after our service.



1ST SUNDAY *OF* Advent



*We keep the family of Michael Martin,
brother of Pat Hays, in our Prayers. May
God comfort them at this time of loss.*

Church Christmas Decorating

Anyone who would like to help decorate the church for Christmas can join us **today** at 3:00 pm.



Youth News

The T-shirt design contest for Youth Group is still going on. All T-shirt design ideas need to be turned into Wendy Bishop by today, December 1st. Can't wait to see some creative ideas!



Called Congregational Meeting

A called congregational meeting will be held immediately following the service on Sunday, December 15th. The sole agenda item will be consideration of the proposed St. John Budget for 2020, as approved by Council.



CALLED
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Christmas Program

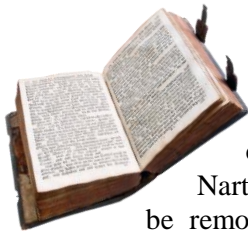
Plans are underway for this year's Christmas Program at St. John's. We are very excited to share the Christmas Story about our Lord and Saviour's birth with our congregation and community on Sunday December 22nd at 6:00 p.m. A participation form was mailed out, please fill this form out & return it to the church office. It can be placed in the box outside the church office as well. Program practices will be held in the church during the Sunday School hour from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on December 8th, 15th, and 22nd. Please let us know if your child(ren) will be able to participate and help us share the good news of Christ's birth! Yours in Christ, Wendy Bishop (361)935-2123



Poinsettias

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone during Christmas time, please fill out the insert in the bulletin. Place it in the offering plate with payment. They are \$11.00 each & will be in a gold tin with a Christmas bow. The deadline to purchase poinsettias is Sunday, December 8th.





Readers & Greeters



If you would like to become a reader or greeter for the upcoming year please contact the office or sign-up on in the Narthex. If you are currently a reader or greeter & would like to be removed, please contact the church office by phone or email: stjohnevlutheran@juno.com. Thank you!



ATTENTION:

ALL CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERS

YOU (lady or gentlemen) have the opportunity to become the second member of an awesome Altar Guild Team. Please prayerfully consider serving in this way. If needing more information, please contact any Altar Guild member or Carol Ann Sagebiel. Thank you.

ATTENTION – ALL ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS

On all station communion set-ups (eg. 3rd Sunday, Easter, etc.) Place the CHALICE with a small amount of wine on the table with; Ciborium with wafers, paten with large wafer, 3 purificators, Missal on Stand and 4 trays.



Thank you, Carol Ann

NALC Disaster Relief



We will continue collecting **Health Kits** and **Flood Buckets** for the **NALC Disaster Relief** indefinitely. Because the Texas warehouse was totally depleted of all the disaster relief items during the recent tornadoes and flooding in the midwest we will continue to try to stock it for the next need. The instructions for building them are in the back of the church in a folder. Norrean Sager has made about 30 bags for the health kits and Norrean or Linda will be glad to get as many as you need from storage. If you just want to purchase some of the items, Linda will put it together. Leave the items in the kitchen at church. Linda will collect them if you let her know - (361) 275-2059.



Services:

Communion Service 3:00 pm

Candlelight Service w/ Communion 10:00 pm



Church Renovation Update

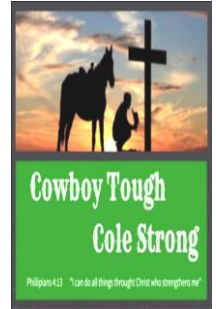
Remaining items for the construction progress are to complete the canopy and final grade the site. After completion, a final walk through will be held to address any items that need to be touched-up. The estimated costs for construction, change orders, materials testing, architect, and incidentals are \$599,553.00. We are required to pay as construction progresses so the bills are coming in on a regular basis. This project received almost unanimous support so we ask that you prayerfully consider giving generously to this project.

GOAL: \$599,553 RECEIVED AS OF November 24, 2019: \$497,366

GOD
is Listening

Special Prayers for Cole ~UPDATE~UPDATE~UPDATE~

Cole will be returning from China on September 22nd after six months of treatment for his injury. God truly blessed Cole with many outstanding doctors, nurses and therapist that took care of him while he was in China. Cole has shown some improvement since he's been in China.



Even though he is still on the ventilator he is able to take nine deep breaths on his own off the ventilator with very little difficulty. He is also able to hold his head on his own for at least sixteen minutes or more. He is getting stronger every day. We pray for continued healing for Cole each and every day. God has been with Cole every step of the way and by faith we know he will continue to do so.

When Cole leaves China he will be going to New Jersey for a surgery on his diaphragm that hopefully will help get him completely off the ventilator. After about one week in New Jersey he will be returning to TIRR in Houston for continued rehab. It will be so great to have him so close to home.

We want to thank each and every one again for all your prayers, concerns and support for Cole and his family while they were in China. They have truly been a blessing. We ask for those continued prayers as Cole and his family continue on this slow and difficult journey. Thank you again and may God bless each and every one.

+Please pray at 12:00 PM daily for Cole+

At his request, these are the prayers he has on his list:

Healing- physical, emotional & spiritual

To help family stay strong

Patience

Stay positive

The drive to keep trying (perseverance)

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 at (361)275-5979.

Our Military and their families:

Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves

John Otto - USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC

Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Kentucky

Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy

Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy

Jennifer Cornett - U.S. Air Force

Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, Staff

Sergeant, Fort Rucker, AL, going to Warrant Officer Candidate School then to Army Aviation Flight School

Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force

Michael Petrash II - 1st LT, United States Army

Andrew Washington, PFC - USMC, Camp Pendleton, CA



Please Pray for:

Adam Womble

Nate Boehl

Hunter Jacob

Glynn Yurick

Kenny Jacob

Cole Ohrt

Carlton Migura

Carly Waters

Joy Hoy

Marie Liner

Slade Doehrman

(Slade likes to receive cards, his address is:

11049 FM 236, Cuero 77954)

Nursing Home: Yorktown Manor ~ Marjorie Ideus, Barbara Mueller
Elmcroft-Victoria ~ Bette Jo Haun



Keep up with St. John online

St. John Meyersville

<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>

Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

Advent 1

December 1, 2019

First Sunday of Advent (Year A)



This is your wake-up call! The Lord will come and he will come at a time you do not expect, so be ready and stay awake. While you wait for the Lord, be diligent in loving your neighbor. St. Paul taught the Romans that brotherly and sisterly love is the fulfillment of the law of God. As disciples of Christ, we are called to out-do one another in service and love. When we are focused on love, how can there be war?

