

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

January 2020 Newsletter

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

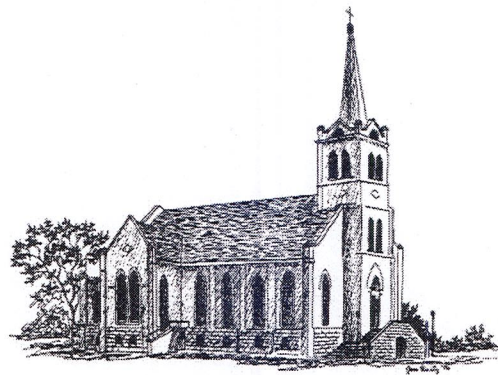
CONTACT US

Church Office: 361-277-8653
Office Hours: Tues - Fri, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
stjohnnevlutheran@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

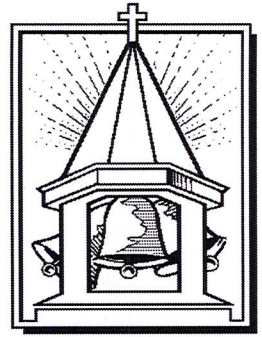
WORSHIP

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



January 2020

VOL. 44 NO. 1

Greetings,

I want you to think back to one year ago, December 29, 2018. At that point in time, what were you expecting or hoping 2019 would bring? Maybe you were hoping that it was going to be the year to lose a few of those unwanted pounds, to start exercising more, to eat healthier. Maybe you hoped that it was going to be the year where you saved a little more money, eating out less, building up your nest egg. Maybe you simply were hoping that it was going to be a better year than the previous one. So how did it go? What did 2019 bring? Each of us could probably do a personal year-in-year recalling what happened in the last 12 months in your life: big events like births, baptisms, confirmations, graduations, weddings and funerals, relationships formed or ended, people met, places you went, experiences you had. You might do more of a national or global year-in-review like those you find in magazines and TV shows as they recall both the good and the not-so-good. Whatever the case may be, I think that we can confidently say that life is filled with change, ups and downs, some of what we hoped for and some that we didn't. Life is turbulent.

There are plenty of events in our lives, that while not making the headlines of the news, have left a lasting impression on us, events that have left us feeling devastated, sad, afraid and angry. The diagnosis of a disease that is going to rob you of your independence. The loss of a job when you get the news that work is downsizing. The letter notifying you that you didn't get into the school you had applied to. The team you didn't make, the part in the play you didn't get. Life doesn't always go exactly as we had planned or hoped for.

How does God help us through? First, we must always remember that God is always with us and that He will bring us through whatever happens in our life. That God adopted us and calls us His children. We became His when the Holy Spirit brought us to faith in Jesus. The Apostle Paul described that citizenship in these words, ***"Therefore, remember that formerly...you were separated from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise... But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ"*** (Ephesians 2:11-13). By faith in Jesus, we have been adopted by God, and there are certain benefits that come from being a child of God.

There may be times when we look at what is going in our lives or through the world and it appears to us that it is just out of control. But what I think we actually mean is that it's out of OUR control. When things are out of OUR control, we feel helplessness, fear and frustration. Just look Jesus' disciples who found themselves in the middle of a life-threatening storm, out on the Sea of Galilee. They were sure that they were going to drown. Where was Jesus? He was with them in the boat – sleeping! Didn't he care that they were going to drown! They woke up Jesus and scolded him. And do you remember what Jesus' response was? He told the storm, ***"Quiet. Be still!"*** (Mark 4:39). While we might wish that Jesus would do the same with the "storms" of our lives, we can be sure that he not only knows about them, but that he will also deliver us from them when and in the way he knows is best for us.

That peace which prevails in God, leads us to these words, ***"Be still and know that I am God;"***. Maybe we could summarize these words with just two words, "Trust me." While it might at times appear to us that this world is spinning out of control, the Lord says, ***"Be still and know that I am God."*** God reminds us that just because we were not the ones in control, that does not mean that it is out of control. He says, "Trust me. I've got this." Our God does not look at the future with uncertainty nor is he surprised by anything that happens. Instead, he sees the future perfectly and knows even now how he is going to use it for the blessing of His children.

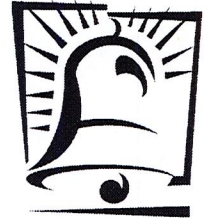
God's blessings

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 2019														
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	
Infant/Child	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0		2	
Adult	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	
Total Baptisms	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0		2	
Confirmations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	
Weddings														
Members	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	
Non-Members	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	
Funerals														
Members	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	
Non-Members	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	
Counseling Sessions	3	4	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	2		28	
Transfer Out	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0		10	
Transfer In	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		2	
Home Visits	5	4	4	2	3	3	3	4	3	4	3		38	
Hospital Visits														
Members	0	2	3	0	0	1	2	2	1	2	0		13	
Non-Members	2	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		13	
Private Communion														
Members	3	3	4	3	2	2	3	4	3	3	3		33	
Non-Members	22	21	26	18	19	10	5	0	23	22	16		182	
PLEASE NOTE: LAST MONTH'S STATISTICS ARE TO DATE AS OF PRINTING TIME														
Release of Membership	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	

ST. JOHN EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT NUMBERS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor - John Boor 275-9895 (Cell) 243-0373
 Council President - Brian Wendel 564-4627
 Vice President - Mitchell Jank 649-8681
 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 - Brent Gohmert 649-4211
 Finance Team - Glenn Ruschhaupt 275-2059
 Parish Life Team - Beverly Bodden 570-3393
 Worship Team - Johnny Jank 575-6813



Office hours are Tuesday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 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!

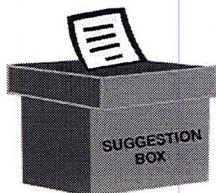
If any elderly person, or youth, needs a ride to Church or youth events, please notify the pastor so arrangements can be made to accommodate these needs.

Need a Ride?



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the February 2020 Church Bell is Friday, January 24, 2020 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.

ACOLYTES



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.



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, Japan
- 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 - Iraq
- Andrew Washington, PFC - USMC San Angelo, TX
- Jacob Redmond - USMC, San Diego, CA



Please Pray for:

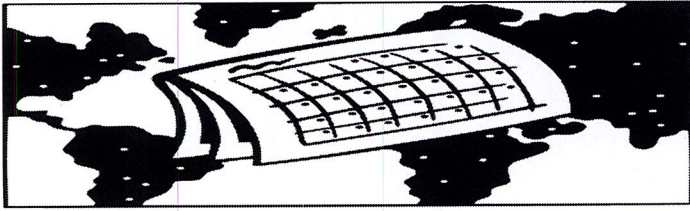
- Adam Womble
- Nate Boehl
- Hunter Jacob
- Glynn Yurick
- Kenny Jacob
- Cole Ohrt
- Carlton Migura
- Carly Waters
- Joy Hoy
- Marie Liner
- Slade Doehrman

(Slade likes to receive cards, his address is: 11049 FM 236, Cuero 77954)

Nursing Home: Elmcroft-Victoria ~ Bette Jo Haun
 Yorktown Nursing & Rehab. ~ Barbara Mueller
 Stevens Healthcare of Yoakum ~ Marjorie Ideus

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 January



Mission of the Month

Boys & Girls Club of DeWitt County Mission Statement

In our community there are hundreds of boys and girls left to find their own recreation and companionship in the streets, or who, in increasing numbers, spend many hours at home with no adult care or supervision.

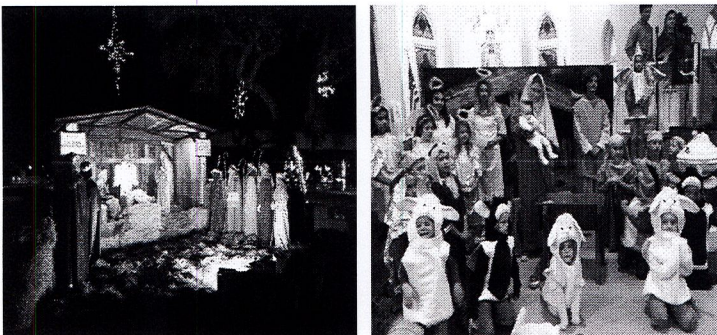
These youngsters often form groups or gangs and risk getting involved with the wrong leaders, eventually finding themselves in serious trouble.

The Boys and Girls club mission is to work with youth of all backgrounds, with a special concern for those from disadvantaged circumstances, to help them develop the skills to become productive citizens and leaders.

The DeWitt county community has needed something like this for a number of years. It has been well accepted by the school districts, the City of Cuero and area church leaders. St. John's own Laurie Pokluda sits on the board of this club. If you have questions Laurie will be glad to answer them.

Youth Group

There were 10 youth that participated in the live nativity scene at Christmas in the Park in Cuero on December 19th. They did a wonderful job & have already been invited back for next year! Our Christmas program was wonderful & we had 30 youth participate as well as numerous adults that assisted in the program! Thank you all for your hard work & dedication! Youth group will meet Friday, January 10th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. They will have a meal, take down church Christmas decorations & play some fun games with prizes.



January Sunday School Calendar

January

2020

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Sunday School Calendar

New Year, New Me

After the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, a new year and a new decade has begun. Sunday School classes will start their studies into the New Testament and learning more about Jesus's time here on among us. All lessons and youth activities will be listed each month. We look forward to a great new year for 2020!

January Baptism Anniversaries: Waylon Gohmert (1/17/16), Scott Molley (1/22/08), Carle Parsons (1/30/05), Abbey Creier (1/18/04), Mackenzie Blain (1/12/03).

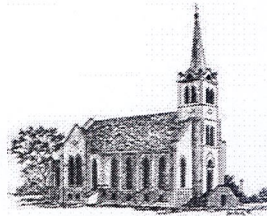
Baptism anniversaries are celebrated the first Sunday of every month with a pancake breakfast provided by the youth group.

PLAN A NEW CREATION

WINTER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
John 1:19-34 John the Baptist Points to Jesus						Youth Group 6:30-8:30 At the Church
Luke 10:38-41 Mary Listens to Jesus						
Luke 10:25-37 Parable of the Good Samaritan						
John 11:17-44 Lazarus is Raised from the Dead						

View and edit this document in Word on your computer, tablet, or phone. You can edit text, easily insert content such as pictures, shapes, and tables; and seamlessly save the document to the cloud from Word on your Windows, Mac, Android, or iOS device.



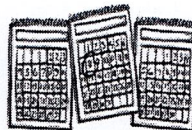
Church Renovation Update

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 is \$599,553. 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 December 29, 2019: \$513,726



Annual Congregational Meeting

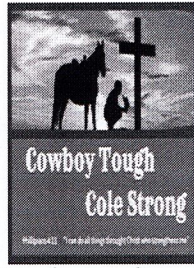
The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 26, 2020** immediately following worship. The regular Council Meeting for the month will be held, **Tuesday, January 28, 2020** at 7:00 pm.

Annual MEETING

**Annual Reports Due by Sunday, January 12, 2020.*

GOD
is Listening

Special Prayers for Cole
~NEW UPDATE~



Cole has returned from China after a six month treatment program for his injury. This included surgery, stem cell injections, and extensive therapy. He has also recently recovered from a surgery done in New Jersey on his diaphragm to help him eventually get off the ventilator. Cole has now returned to TIRR Rehabilitation Hospital in Houston for continued therapy.

God has been with Cole every step of the way through this very long and difficult journey and by faith we know He will continue to carry him through. We want to thank each and everyone for all your prayers, concerns, and support for Cole and his family. We ask for your continued prayers for Cole's healing and for strength and patience as he continues forward. Thanks again and God bless you.

+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)*



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.



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

Thank You

St. John would like to extend a special Thank You to Carl & Crystal Eichhorn for providing our beautiful Christmas tree again this year! The trees have always been beautiful to look at during the holiday season! Also, Thank You to Terry Haun, for getting the tree & setting it up in the church! Your generosity & time is greatly appreciated!

A sincere thank you to all of the participants in the children's Christmas Eve program and to all of the adults who gave their time and efforts to make it a success!!! God's Blessings!!!

***Have a Happy & Prosperous
New Year!!!***

**HAPPY
NEW
YEARS!**

Begin
the
Year
with
God

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

November 26, 2019

By: Virginia Jank, Church Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor John Boor, President Brian Wendel, Vice President Mitchell Jank, Virginia Jank (Secretary) M'Liss Moore (Financial Secretary) Glenn Ruschhaupt (Finance) Linda Ruschhaupt (Mission and Evangelism) Beverly Bodden (Parish Life) Kathy Dunn (Parish Ed) Brent Gohmert (Property) Johnny Jank (Worship)

CALL TO ORDER: President Brian Wendel called the meeting to order. M'Liss Moore opened the meeting with a devotion, asking "what is the true meaning of life". Many things complicate our lives: worldly things, sin, and even our own thoughts leading us to lose sight of God. We need to learn to trust God and let him lead us.

MINUTES: Reviewed, Motion to accept by Mitchell Jank, 2nd by Kathy Dunn, and approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Reviewed, Motion to accept by Mitchell Jank, 2nd by Johnny Jank and approved.

OLD BUSINESS: The Safety and Awareness Committee did meet. Darren Otto is stepping down as chairman of the Committee but would still like to be a part of the team. Any suggestions as far as a new chairman can be brought to Brian Wendel's attention.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Confirmation is going well. I have 11 youth attending. I would like to attend the NALC disciple life 2020 for Pastors in February. It is joint between the NALC and the Anglican Church. It is Feb. 13-15, 2020 in Orlando Florida. It does count as CEU.

The cost would be: Registration - \$249 (Includes meals) Hotel - \$149 per night, Flight - \$256, Rental car - \$168

There was a motion made by Linda Ruschhaupt to allow Pastor to attend the NALC gathering in February. M'Liss seconded the motion and it was passed by members present.

DISCUSSION: There is still some concern with not having candle lighters for the Sunday Services. Some of the youth are not attending church except when they have to and that is usually on the Sunday when there is confirmation. Council members had a discussion on what they feel families are looking for in our church services. It was agreed that a committee should be formed to talk with the families to see what our church is lacking and what needs to be done to encourage growth of our church family.

FINANCE TEAM REPORT (CALLED MEETING)

Meeting Date – November 14, 2019

Members Present- Glenn Ruschhaupt, Pastor John, M'Liss Moore, Matt Nelson, Laurie Wendel, Brian Wendel, Archie Abrameit and Marv Sager

Opening Prayer - Given by Pastor John

The meeting was called to address the Pastoral section of the proposed 2020 St. John budget. Following review and determination of recommended amounts for line items unrelated to compensation, Pastor John excused himself from the meeting.

Salary compensation and Pastor John's request for additional compensation in lieu of occupying the parsonage were then discussed. Regarding salary, it was pointed out in the discussion that the national COLA rate for 2019 is currently at 1.6 per cent.

Lengthy discussion regarding Pastor John's request then followed. Discussion items included terms of the original call documents, average general fund giving vs average general fund operating expenses, the remaining current financial obligations for the renovation project, basement restoration, and an approximate cost of needed painting and repairs on the Parish Hall.

Following the conclusion of that discussion, a motion was made that the Finance Team recommend total related compensation of a two per cent salary increase plus continued payment of the \$1790 annual home equity line item amount, even though Pastor would no longer be residing in the parsonage. The motion was seconded and passed.

The meeting then adjourned.

(REGULAR MEETING)

Meeting Date – November 18, 2019

Members Present - Glenn Ruschhaupt, Pastor John, Laurie Wendel, Brian Wendel, M'Liss Moore, Archie Abrameit, Matt Nelson, Marv Sager

Opening Prayer – Given by Pastor John

Proposed budget figures submitted by Teams, along with the Budget vs Actual YTD Report were reviewed and discussed in detail. A proposed St John Budget for 2020 was drafted for presentation to Council. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

DISCUSSION: A short discussion with questions and answers was had concerning the church's financial reports.

MISSION EVANGELISM TEAM REPORT:

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 operates 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.

DISCUSSION: 140 Samaritan's Purse boxes were prepared

and taken to the collection station by Glenn and Linda Ruschhaupt. The youth group is also getting together two gifts for each child of the Christmas family chosen by the committee to be the November project.

PARISH LIFE TEAM REPORT:

Parish Life helped with the Missions Feast on October 27, 2019. We had Brisket BBQ, beans and sausage donated by Kevin and Beverly Bodden and BBQed by Mumphord's BBQ in Victoria. Attendance was slim, but all the food was very good. Table decorations were done by Virginia Jank and me. Thanks to all who helped with set up and clean up.

We also held a Bake Sale on 11-10-19 with proceeds to benefit the Shoe Boxes for Samaritans Purse. We had wonderful baked goods and we sold out fast. We made \$276.00 which helped with making more boxes and with the shipping. Thoughts and ideas about next year are already in progress.

Thanks again to all who helped with both festivities.
Beverly Bodden

PARISH ED TEAM REPORT:

The children's Christmas Program will be held on the Sunday before Christmas, December 22nd at 6 pm. Wendy Bishop has agreed to be the Director and has already sent out the program, and a mail out participation form. Practices will be during the Sunday School hour, 9 am on December 8, 15 and 22.

We are looking for someone to coordinate the Live Nativity on December 22nd. I have asked two people and am waiting for a response.

Sunday School attendance has improved significantly since the Youth Group Leaders challenged the youth to attend at least 50% of Sunday School and Church services from now till this Summer.

Some have expressed concern that Lutheran Summer Camp is not a requirement of the Confirmation experience. Another suggestion was that we send the students to a Missouri Synod Camp such as Lone Star Camp in LaGrange. Camp Chrysalis and Luther Hill are ELCA synod affiliated.
Kathy Dunn

PROPERTY TEAM REPORT

Meeting Held 11.17.19

Members Present: Brent Gohmert; Dickie Bettge; Brian Wendel; Marv Sager; Pastor John; Vance Egg

Maintenance Schedule

November

- Check parish hall classrooms for burned out lights, etc.
- Change time on Thermostats & check program.
- Check Bathroom & Kitchen Supplies— Clean and tidy up storage areas — **Restocked in October**
- Check AT&T easement area for vegetation. Contact AT&T as needed.

- Carpet cleaning – **Before Christmas and Easter**
- Church Insurance
- Budget Recommendations

December

January

- Check/clean filters to a/c in church, church office, Pastor's office, parish hall.
- Check with maintenance employee for items needed on the grounds.

Items Complete:

- Property Team met with counsel on 10.30.19. Any further action pending November's meeting
- Toilets fixed by Glenn
- Discussed 2020 budget

Renovation Progress:

- Meeting to discuss chipping and concrete topping took place 11.7.19.
- Meeting to discuss concrete topping took place 11.14.19
- Property Team chose to proceed with slab topping option based on a series of terms
- RMA to mark-up drawing with elevations to send to Roth and contractors

Old Business:

- Crown molding strip on stage coming off. Need to remove, clean debris from underneath, and replace existing strip.

New Business:

- Roth Invoice: Retainage pending project completion
- Schedule cemetery work day
- Solar lights for nativity scene or outlet at marquee
- Check sump pump
- Clean carpets – Christmas program December 22nd
- Moon to address leaking ducts in parsonage
- Parsonage to be thoroughly inspected following vacancy

Projects:

- Painting of church doors (after restroom renovation)
- Repair broken headstones.
 - a. Cemetery Committee.
 - i. Headstones analyzed during Church Workday. One area fixed. Need to schedule date to address remaining issues.
- Have water tested at Church
 - a. Marv to meet with Pecan Valley – retest pending

Renovation Fund Balance: \$477,029.00 as of 11.17.19

Next Meeting: 12.8.19 – Christmas party

WORSHIP TEAM REPORT

Worship Team members Beverly Bodden, Pastor John Boor, Johnny P Jank, Virginia Jank, Carol Ann Sagebiel, Marv Sager, Norrean Sager, and Bruce Weise were present at the rescheduled Worship Team meeting, held 6th of November at the St John Parish hall at 7:00 PM.

Ongoing Business discussed included:

The need for new **Altar Candlesticks** is still a reality so that remains, "Still on the Wish List".

Altar Candelabras still not holding the candlesticks very well was once again a topic for discussion. Virginia is trying to fashion a fix, Johnny had another idea that might work and Pastor John added another potential to the list of ongoing attempts to solve the "leaning candles of St. John". So, this is indeed still a Work In Progress.

New Business discussed included:

Worship Team portion of the **Budget** was discussed. A chart submitted by Marv Sager was reviewed. This showed that most line items of the Worship Team were operating pretty close to the 2019 Budget. The only line that varied by a good amount was the line for Organ and piano tuning which was considerably under the budgeted amount. This figure was set higher due to the poor state of repair of the organ and the looming need for major repairs. A motion was made by Carol Ann to leave all 2020 budget line items with the same values as 2019 budget with the exception of the lines for Organist salary and FICA, which the Finance Team can adjust to be consistent with other Finance Team 2020 wage and salary recommendations. The motion was seconded by Beverly. The motion passed unanimously.

The Worship Team discussed a suggestion of only lighting the **Altar Candelabra** candles on Communion Sundays. The suggestion was due to current oil usage of the candles, requiring refilling candles every other Sunday. The added expense and extra work to accomplish this task led to the suggestion to alter the usage. After some discussion it was agreed to continue to utilize the candelabras for all worship services and to search for ways to try to get more service from the candles.

Mission Sunday and Reformation Sunday has been celebrated on the same Sunday the last few years. The Worship Team, in an effort to allow more highlighting of the Reformation Sunday, voted to approve a motion by Pastor John and seconded by Carol Ann to celebrate Reformation Sunday and Mission Sunday on separate Sundays and to suggest to Mission & Evangelism Team to celebrate Mission Sunday on the 2nd Sunday of October.

After some discussion it was agreed to opt not to attempt a contemporary service on the 29th of **December** which is a **Fifth Sunday**, but instead to have a Service of Lessons and

Carols.

There being no additional **New Business** the Team assembled to pick songs for 1st December through 26th January.

The Team closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting – Schedule as necessary **Next scheduled meeting 7th January 2020 @ 7:00PM**

After committee reports were reviewed and discussed, Council began a line by line discussion of the proposed 2020 budget. It was unanimously decided to begin the process and leave the Pastoral section till the end. After certain concerns were addressed by the team's leaders assigned to particular line items and resolved, Council went on to discuss the Pastoral section of the budget. During that discussion a motion was made by Glenn Ruschhaupt to approve the proposed budget and seconded by M'Liss Moore. After a considerable discussion a motion to amend the original motion to approve the budget as proposed was made by Johnny Jank to increase the Pastor's salary and seconded by Kathy Dunn. After discussion, question was called to vote on the amendment. The vote was 7 for and 2 against the amendment. The amendment passed and the consideration of the amended motion to approve the budget began. The vote was called for and the amended motion passed.

The next item discussed was the Audit Committee. Brenda Gohmert, Cheryl Bramlette and Hannah Gohmert have agreed to serve on this committee.

"Sharing of the Peace" during the church service was brought to the attention of the council. Some felt that it might be a good idea to suspend this action during the flu season. Initial discussion led to this item being referred to the Worship Committee. Then additional discussion highlighted the fact that Worship Team will not meet until January and council should take action at the current meeting. Beverly Bodden made a motion to suspend "Sharing of the Peace" until Worship Team meets. M'Liss Moore seconded the motion. Pastor voiced his concern with it being a part of the church service. Others emphasized keeping our members healthy (especially those more susceptible, and with compromised immune systems). A vote taken ended in a tie (5 for and 5 against) and President Brian Wendel voted for the motion: to suspend the "Sharing of the Peace" until Worship Team meets to address the matter. Council passed the motion Johnny Jank reminded council that we have had a "Pastoral Care" committee and this might be something to consider reestablishing. The purpose of that committee was to meet occasionally with the Pastor to discuss ideas of our ministry here at St. John and to give feedback of concerns that might arise.

Updating the website and thoughts on the Old Stone Church Rededication were brought up. This will need to be referred to members of the Old Stone Church committee with recommendation to be presented to the Council.

The date for the December meeting was set for December 18, 2019 to keep from interfering with the Christmas holidays. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:

January 5

- Greeters - Candy Cowley
Reader - Dickie Bettge
Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

January 12

- Greeters - Marvin & Norrean Sager
Reader - Caden Jander
Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

January 19

- Greeters - Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt
Reader - Kernell Moritz
Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

January 26

- Greeters - Kernell & Elaine Moritz
Reader - Dawn Otto
Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

January Communion Assistant

Johnny Jank

January Altar Guild

Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

January Nursing Home Visitor

Norrean Sager

LOOKING AHEAD...

February 2

- Greeters - Cheryl Bramlette
Reader - Dwight Jander
Acolyte - Volunteer Needed

February Communion Assistant

Pam Haun

February Altar Guild

Carol Ann Sagbiel & Cathie Bettge

February Nursing Home Visitor

Laurie Pokluda

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:

- 2 - Rose Mueller
5 - Merti Joy Giles
6 - Hayden Leist
7 - Crayton Rains
Joan Wendel
10 - Virgie Gohmert
12 - Brandon Blain
13 - Feather Diebel
Meagan Oehlke
Patrick Oehlke
14 - Jeff Zengerle
Toi Rangnow
15 - Ryan Diebel
18 - Dianna Hoy
21 - Julianne Stiles
22 - Terri Jank
23 - Alanna Baros
Joy Hoy
Clarence Gohmert
24 - Colton Wayne Eckhardt
28 - Ron Dreier
John Swannack
Susan Egg
30 - Stanley Fuchs



Anniversary Greetings to:

- 2 - Daren & Dawn Otto
3 - Joel & Cindy Egg
12 - David & Martha Diebel
17 - Mitchell & Terri Jank
20 - Doug & Wendy Bishop
22 - Richard & Missy Randle
Terry & Pam Haun
29 - Ernest & Carla Metting







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

January 2020

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Meyersville, TX

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

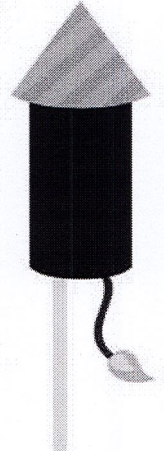
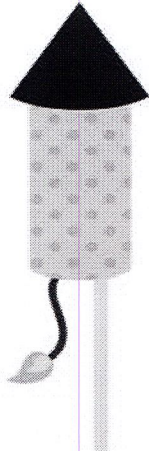
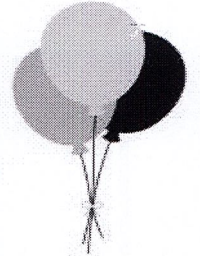
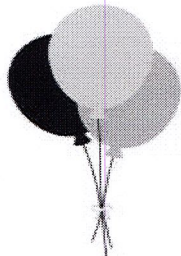
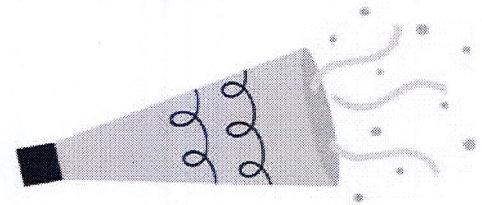
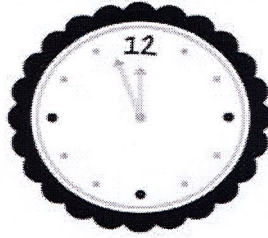
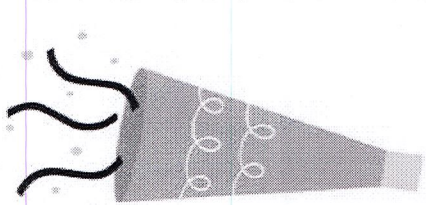
Mission of the Month:
The Boys & Girls
Club of DeWitt County

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2nd Sunday after Christmas 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 	Feast of the Epiphany 6	7 PM Worship Team 7	<i>New Year's Day</i>  <i>Happy New Year!</i> 10 AM Comm. Service Yorktown Nursing & Rehab. 1:30 PM Quilters 7 PM Women's Bible Study 8	9	10	11
Baptism of Our Lord 8:00 AM Property Team Meeting 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship *Annual Reports Due to the Church Office *2:00-4:00 Confirmation Class 12	7 PM Finance Team 13	14	10 AM Comm. Service Cuero Nursing & Rehab. 1:30 PM Quilters 6 PM Mission Evangelism Team 7 PM Men's Bible Study 15	16	17	18
2nd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 	20	21	9 AM Old Stone Church 1:30 PM Quilters 22	23	24	25
3rd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship *Annual Congregational Meeting Following Worship *2:00-4:00 Confirmation Class 26	27	7 PM Council Meeting 28	1:30 PM Quilters 29	30	31	Office Hours: *Please see the Bulletins 

**Committee Reports Due, please email to Council Members.

**Newsletter deadline. Please have all articles to office.

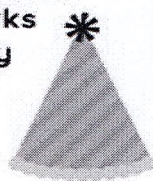
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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

Countdown
 Confetti
 Midnight
 Balloons

Celebration
 Fireworks
 January
 Happy



New Year
 Clock
 Cheers
 Goals

Party Poppers
 Noisemaker
 Resolution
 Sparklers



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2020-2021