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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

#### August 2023 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: see weekly bulletin stjohnevlutheran@juno.com Pastor's Office Hours in the Parish Hall: Tues. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Thurs. 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373) jboor25@yahoo.com

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

#### WORSHIP

Sunday School for All Ages9:00 a.m.Worship10:15 a.m.

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first & third Sunday of each month. Welcome to all new members!



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

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

#### August 2023

#### Greetings,

A few weeks ago, my message was: "Even the smallest, seemingly insignificant act of love or mercy could have a lasting impact upon someone else." An act of love or mercy results from kindness.

The message of kindness has been on my heart. The New Testament stresses that kindness is very important attribute of a Christian. In 1 Corinthians 13:4 Paul says, "*Love is kind*." Paul is saying that kindness is a primary virtue and part of the image of God in man. That there is no kindness superior to that of the fruit of the Spirit kindness. This kindness is not merely man produced, but is God produced fruit.

Throughout the Gospels Jesus went about doing good and showing kindness to everyone in need because He loved people. It is hard to be kind if you do not love. Love is kind by its very nature and is a fruit of the Spirit.

If a Christian is not unusually kind, he or she will not make much of an impression on the world, where people experience kindness from others whom they know are worldly. We need to make a commitment to magnify rather than minimize this fruit of kindness. Henry Frederic Amiel said, "Life is short and we have never too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are traveling the dark journey with us. Oh, be swift to love, make haste to be kind!" The opportunities to be kind are very numerous we can show kindness almost every day, and often several times a day. Seneca, the Roman philosopher, whose brother Gallio set Paul free in Acts18, said, "Wherever there is a human being, there is a chance for kindness."

When someone cuts you off, or grabs your parking place which you are waiting for, that is your opportunity to be a Christian. Anybody can say thanks and be kind when people are being nice. But the Christian is to be kind when others are being jerks and treating you badly. This does not mean you do not fight injustice and discrimination, but you do it with kindness toward your foes, even when they will reject that kindness, and respond with more negative behavior. This is a step up from the previous fruit of patience. Patience is passive and puts up with a lot, but kindness is more active and goes out of its way to return good for evil.

I pray that we will all strive to make kindness a primary attribute in our lives.

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 (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.

#### VOL. 47 NO. 8

By Bil Keane

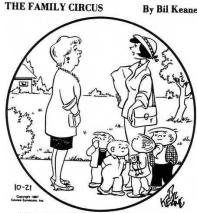


#### Bible Verses to Start the School Year With

Proverbs: 1:7: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Ephesians 4:32: "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."



"How do you divide your love among four children?" "I don't divide it. I multiply it."

		STA	TIST	ICA	L RE	POR	RT FO	<b>DR 2</b> (	023				
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Infant/Child	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Adult	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Baptisms	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
C C	0		0	0		2	0		0	0		0	2
Confirmations	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Weddings													
Members	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Members	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Funerals													
Members	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Members	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Counseling Sessions	4	2	4	3	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Transfer Out	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer In	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	U	U	0	U	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0
New Members													
Adults	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Children	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Home Visits	3	2	2	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Hospital Visits													
Members	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Non-Members	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private Communion									1				
Members	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Members	-	14	14	12	14	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	82
PLEASE NOTE: LAST	MO	NTH	'S STA	ATIS	TICS	ARE	TO	DATI	E AS	OF I	PRIN	ГING	TIME
Release of Membership													
Restore to Membership				1			1						
I													

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

#### CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor - John Boor	361-243-0373
Council President-Glenn Ruschhaupt	t 361-275-2059
Vice President - Mitchell Jank	361-649-8681
Secretary - Trish Hood	361-212-7322
Treasurer - Archie Abrameit	512-922-0975
Financial Secretary - M'Liss Moore	361-564-4467



Office hours are now posted in the weekly bulletins and on the website. For immediate office assistance, call Meliss Eckhardt at 361-649-0413.

#### **ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER/NAME CHANGES**

*Please* notify the Church Office as soon as possible of any change in mailing addresses, and/or phone numbers, and/or name changes. Thank you!

If any elderly person, or youth, needs a ride to Church or youth events, please notify

the pastor so arrangements can be made to accommodate these needs.



#### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The deadline for the September 2023 Church Bell is Friday, August 18, 2023 by 9:00 a.m. You can drop off your articles at the church office, or e-mail them to

stjohnevlutheran@juno.com. Thanks!

If you'd like to receive your monthly church newsletter via email, call or text the church office at 361-277-8653.



#### 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!

#### **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 prayer request or wish to be on the prayer chain, please contact Mary Wagner (361)275-9500 or Pastor John (361)243-0373. We ask that you would update the prayer request

regularly. If we do not have an update, in an effort to keep our list current and up to date, we will presume the situation has improved and remove the request after 30 days. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Parish Education – Rachel Nessel	361-571-9228
Mission/Evangelism - Cathie Bettge	361-550-7274
Property Team - Marvin Sager	361-243-1166
Finance Team - Charles Egg	281-844-3358
Parish Life Team - Beverly Bodden	361-570-3393
Worship Team - Brenda Gohmert	361-649-1606

#### **Our Military and their families:**

Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Fort Hood Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, 2-4 CaB, Charlie Company, Black Hawk Medevac Pilot, Fort Carson, Colorado Katrina Moritz - U.S. Air Force Michael Petrash II - Iraq Andrew Washington, L CPL - USMC, Pensacola, FL Jacob Redmond - USMC, San Diego, CA Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, North Carolina Zach McBrayer - U.S. Air Force, San Antonio

Hunter Jacob, Cole Ohrt, Mrs. Stiles, **Please Pray for:** Ryon Preslar, Rylan Caskey, Joy Meadows, Evelyn Diebel, Dorothy F. Diebel, Glenn Ruschhaupt, Kay Ohrt, Marlene Fromme.

#### **Nursing Home:**

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ 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 Requests and give to the pastor.



#### NALC Warehouse -

We will be collecting deodorant/combs in August for the warehouse in Rosenberg.

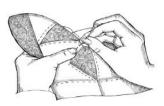
We are on the search for a Sunday School teacher for 1-2 grade! If you are interested, please contact Rachel Nessel or Kathy Dunn.

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

**Rosenberg Disaster Response Warehouse** 

The Rosenberg Warehouse needs your help! Hurricane season is here and Michael and Pat Dittrich are working hard in the warehouse to increase the number of supplies so they will be more prepared when the need arises. Through your giving you are serving and being the hands and feet of Jesus when families lose everything in a disaster. Please consider giving these items for the NALC collection for the month of August.

Women's Bible Study will now be meeting monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 12:30 PM at the Parsonage.



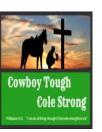
The Quilters will be meeting in the parsonage each Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. Come and join the bee!

Donations of clean used sheets & pillowcases can be used. Please leave on the table on the stage.



#### <u>+ UPDATE + Special</u> Prayers for Cole

Hello everyone! Happy Mother's Day to all you beautiful mothers out there! Hope you all had a blessed day with your



families. I'm always behind but want to send out a huge heartfelt thank you to everyone who came out to support the Cole Ohrt Walk Strong Bingo benefit on May 4<sup>th</sup>. It was an amazing event with around 600 people attending! God was all over this event blessing us in so many ways. I don't have a final count on how much we raised for the foundation but it was a lot! This community is the most supportive and loving of any I've ever known. We are truly grateful. I also want to thank all of those that helped organize, set up, work, or donate toward this event. Without all of you this would not be possible. Cole had such an amazing time and looks forward to this event every year. So if you didn't get to join us this year we'll be doing it again next May! Hope to see you then. And as always thank you all for your continued prayers for Cole- keep praying!

#### +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)

St. John office hours will be posted in the weekly bulletins. If you would need immediate assistance outside of office hours, text or call Meliss at 361-649-0413. Please do not leave a

message as her voice mail is not working at this time. Stop by and say Hi!

#### Church Council Minutes ~ June 27, 2023 Trish Hood, Secretary

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Pastor John Boor, Mitchell Jank (Vice-President), Trish Hood (Secretrary), Archie Abrameit (Treasurer), Charles Egg (Finance), Beverly Bodden (Parish Life), Rachel Nessel (Parish Ed), Marvin Sager (Property), Brenda Gohmert (Worship Team).

CALL TO ORDER: Mitchell called the meeting to order.

**OPENING DEVOTION:** Archie led us in a devotion based on Matthew "Eyes to see, Ears to hear", and we should always use our senses to see, hear, smell, touch, and taste God's wonderful creation. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** Reviewed, a motion to accept was made by Charles, seconded by Bev. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Reviewed, a motion to accept was made by Marv, seconded by Bev. Motion carried.

#### PASTOR REPORT

Debbie Glawson has requested to have her membership transferred to St John from First English in Victoria. We sent a letter to First English and they responded that she was no longer a member due to self-exclusion. I request that we accept her as a transfer-in since she has a Lutheran background.

On Sunday, June 25, we welcomed the Newman family into our family at St. John. Kyle and Sara were welcomed through confirmation of faith, and their children, Kaleigh, Shelby, and Kaleb were welcomed by baptism. We are blessed that God led them to our church family.

Lutheran Week, (NALC Convocation) will be August 7-11 in Oklahoma City. The cost is: Bratten-Benne lecture in theology (Tue-Wed noon) is \$150. The Convocation, Wed noon – Fri 5PM, is \$275. The hotel cost is \$154 a night, for 5 nights. I will drive and request that the church pay for my attendance at the Lutheran Week.

**DISCUSSION:** Council discussed Debbie Glawson's request to rejoin us as a member of St. John. Council agreed to accept her as a confirmed Lutheran.

Council discussed Pastor's request to attend the Lutheran Week (NALC Convocation), and Brenda made the motion to pay his fees and Motel room, for him to attend the Lutheran Week, Rachel seconded, Motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Rachel brought a copy of the scholarship application from her work, and council discussed using it with a few alterations.

Council also discussed a recent scheduling conflict that arose between a baptism/accepting new members, and the date that had been set for "Church Under the Trees". After much discussion, it was agreed that more attention needs to be used by all Team Members when dates for events or services are being scheduled. Additionally, any changes to scheduled events or services should be discussed with the Team Leader. Council , also approved the purchase of a new copier for the office through emails from Mitchell, and it was delivered and is in working order.

**FINANCE TEAM** Finance Team did not meet in June. Marv made a motion to authorize Archie Abrameit (Treasurer), and Mitchell Jank (Vice-President) to change the St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church's Scholarship, Seminary, and Intern Accounts to Certificates of Deposit. They are also authorized to renew the Cemetery CD for a new term. Bev seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **MISSION EVANGELISM TEAM**

Mission Ev. Team did not meet in June. Cathie sent this report: For the 3 Newman children Baptisms on Sunday, June 25, 1 Baptism banner to 4 year old, Kaleb, and Baptism keychains with Jeremiah 29:11 verse for Kaleigh, and Shelby., and 3 Baptismal napkins. Mission of the Month for July will be St. John Church. Monthly collection for Rosenburg Disaster Warehouse will be deodorant. Next meeting: July 19, 2023 at 6 p.m.

#### PARISH LIFE TEAM

Parish Life gave Confirmation cards with pocket crosses inside to Luke Moritz, and Cord Hanson on June 18, 2023. We bought chocolate and vanilla ice cream for VBS on June 22, 2023. We gave a welcome card to the Newman family on Sunday, June 25 with a cookie and lemonade reception after church. Sincerely. Bev Bodden

**PARISH ED** Parish Ed did not meet this month, but Rachel reported that VBS was well attended with 24 children attending through the five days, with 4 children getting perfect attendance awards.

**PROPERTY TEAM** Meeting Date: JUNE 11th **Members Present**: Richard Bettge, Glenn Ruschhaupt, Dennis Nagel, John Boor, Vance Egg, Mitchell Jank, and Marv Sager

**Items Complete** Restroom supplies replenished; AC filters checked/ replaced; Parsonage cleaned by Calvo's; Bacteria added to septic systems: Bid solicited for Parish Hall painting; Defective Sanctuary light bulb replaced; Annual fire extinguisher inspection; Approval of proposal for new office copier

**Renovation Progress:** Work to mitigate construction errors still awaiting contractor availability

**Ongoing Discussion Items:** Parsonage inspection and plan for necessary repairs- Still pending consultation with applicable contractors; Basement Restoration – Awaiting contractor availability; Parish Hall painting – Meeting with painting contractor scheduled; Church window frame repair and painting - (Note "Parish Hall painting" above); Sanctuary steeple repair – Discussions in progress with potential contractor; Awning bird issue resolution – Soffit installation planned along with construction error repairs. Still awaiting contractor availability.; Repair of broken tombstones in cemetery – Initial repairs to two headstones performed on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Currently awaiting estimates for additional work.; Flagpole painting – Awaiting probable utilization of manlift for steeple repair.

**Other:** Discussed items for Property Team mini-workday; Discussed potential alternative contractors for current repair projects; Reviewed current status of elevator issues and ongoing communications with manufacturer and service entity; Discussed possible installation of glass barrier on elevator landing to block rainwater; Discussed moving piles of dirt behind Parish Hall out to location in pasture; Discussed Dewitt Poth & Son proposal for new copier for church office

**Old Stone Church:** Next Old Stone Church Committee meeting is scheduled for September

**Items for Council Approval**: Acceptance of DEWITT POTH & SON proposal for new copier (achieved via email) **Next Scheduled Meeting:** 7/09/2023 **WORSHIP TEAM** Worship Team did not meet this month.

There being no further business to come before council, the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Trish Hood, Secretary

**Sunday School** will continue through the summer. We'd love to see all the children every Sunday at 9AM!



#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup> 2023

There will be a called congregation meeting on Sunday, August  $6^{th}$  immediately following the service, to discuss exterior painting of the parish hall. Please plan to attend.

#### Rally Sunday & Backpack Blessing



On Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Rally Sunday will be held during Sunday School hour at 9:00 am. Our theme will be Armor of God. Please join us as we prepare our children for a

new school year. Continue joining us

during worship service at 10:15 am by having your children bring their backpacks to church to have them



blessed during our special Backpack Blessing. We hope to see you at both events as we send our children into a new school year with their Armor of God!



#### Here is a short prayer for safe travel that you can say before any trip or vacation.

Lord, I know that You watch my coming and going. Today, I pray for You to watch over me as I travel. Keep me safe in Your

loving arms. Let no harm come upon me during my trip and cover me under Your mighty wings. As I step out and start on my journey, I will choose to trust you and not give in to fear. Help me get to my destination and get home safely. Help me to experience Your greatness and love during this trip so that I may draw even closer to You. In Jesus' name, I pray, Amen.

Psalm 121:7-8 The Lord keeps you from all harm and watches over your life. The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go, both now and forever.



For those going on vacation this summer, pick up your copy of **Vacation Devotions for The Family** in the narthex. Use these little daily devotions in the car, on a plane, at the beach, on a boat, in the hotel, or wherever you find yourselves. It only takes a few minutes to pause and connect the whole family with God. Safe travels!

#### Lutheran Week 2023 Oklahoma City, August 7-11, 2023

Please pray for enrichment and safe travels for Pastor John Boor as he travels to this convocation.



We invite you to experience the vibrant flavors and fresh produce that our community has to offer. Discover the incredible diversity and quality of regionally grown food while supporting our local economy. Our Farmers' Market is open every Wednesday & Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. until October when the hours change. On Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>, Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>, and Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>, for every purchase you make your name will be entered into a drawing for a Farmers' Market Prize Basket to be given away on Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>. The Farmers' Market is located at 2805 N. Navarro, Victoria, TX in the Patty Dobson Public Health Center Parking Lot. Please join us as we celebrate our local farmers and growers during our market hours this week.

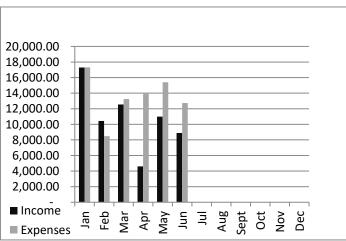


**Cross Trails Ministry Fall Festival** Fredericksburg Marktplatz September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 9 am – 3 pm More information to come!

**Just an FYI**: There are still three pairs of sunglasses in the narthex who are looking for their owners. If you have misplaced yours, please check these pairs out. Who knows they may be yours! Thank you!

#### Hello Friends,

Thank you so much for your donation of funds to the Rosenberg Disaster Response Warehouse! It is hurricane season and we are busy gathering supplies. The funds will be used to purchase items not donated. We appreciate your continued support!! God Bless You! Michael & Pat Dittrich.



**General Fund – 2023 Income vs Expenses** General Fund chart without Designated Giving funds. The **CONSTITUTION FOR St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church** will be available in the near future in the Narthex or from the church office. Pick up your copy. One copy per family please.

The following explains how to become a member of St. John and retain that membership throughout the years.

#### BYLAWS of ST. JOHN EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH PART III – MEMBERSHIP

A. Baptized Members 1. A child, one or both of whose parents or guardians are members of the congregation, shall, upon receiving Baptism, become a baptized member. 2. A child, neither of whose parents or guardians is a member of the congregation, shall upon receiving Baptism, become a baptized member of the congregation; unless for good reason he is to be a baptized member of another congregation, in which case his membership shall be transferred to that congregation. 3. A child baptized in another congregation shall be received as a baptized member in the congregation when a transfer has been received. 4. An un-baptized adult who has received instruction and has given evidence of an adequate understanding and acceptance of the teachings of the work of God as confessed by the Lutheran Church, shall upon confession of faith and Baptism, become a baptized member of the congregation. 5. When one or both parents of baptized children are received into the membership of the congregation, such children should be received as baptized members with the consent of the member parent or parents. 6. Where a baptized child is an orphan or ward of someone and these people move into the area served by this congregation, the child may be received as a baptized member when it is commended to the care of this congregation by the congregation which baptized the child. 7. When the parents of a baptized child are not themselves members of the Lutheran Church but move into the area served by this congregation and desire to have their child put within the pastoral care of this congregation, the child may be received as a baptized member.

B. Confirmed Members 1. A baptized adult, not previously a confirmed member of a Lutheran congregation, shall become a confirmed member of this congregation after having received instruction, having given evidence of adequate understanding of the teachings of the Word of God as confessed by the Lutheran Church, and having publicly affirmed their faith. 2. A baptized member of the congregation shall become a confirmed member through the rite of confirmation; except that an adult who has become a baptized member in accordance with the provisions of Section A, (4), of this part of the bylaws shall be considered a confirmed member without participation in the rite of confirmation 3. An applicant for membership who presents a Letter of Transfer which certifies that he is a confirmed member in good standing of a Lutheran congregation shall become a confirmed member of the congregation upon approval by the Church Council. The acceptance of the applicant shall be reported to the congregation. 4. An applicant for membership who presents evidence of confirmation in a Lutheran congregation but does not have a Letter of Transfer shall be admitted to confirmed membership when the Church Council had determined that he meets the standards of Christian faith and life indicated in the constitution and bylaws, and when he has affirmed his faith. **C. Voting Members** The Church Council shall determine the roster of voting members of the congregation in accordance with the provisions of the constitution and bylaws. The roster of voting members shall be available at all regularly called meetings of the congregation.

**D.** Associate Members A person holding membership in other Lutheran congregations but who wish to participate in the life and mission of this congregation as outlined in this congregation's constitution.

E. Discontinuance of Membership 1. The congregation shall, in the event that a member moves from the community it serves, except those in the Armed Services or those enrolled in an institution of higher learning, encourage the member to request a transfer to a Lutheran congregation which can serve him effectively. Should the member fail to request a transfer, a Lutheran congregation in the community of his residence shall be notified. 2. A confirmed member in good standing desiring to change his membership to another Lutheran congregation shall, upon request, receive a Letter of Transfer. 3. A confirmed member who does not, for a period of one year, partake of Holy Communion, support the church with his offerings, and does not appear to desire to participate in the life and worship of the congregation shall be visited by the pastor and a member of the congregation's council and encouraged by them to active membership. If during the second year, the confirmed member does not actively participate, his name shall be removed from the confirmed membership roster of the congregation, but shall be retained on a responsibility list as one who is in special need of the congregation's prayer and concern. Members outside the community shall be contacted by letter and encouraged to transfer membership to a church in their community. If that has not been accomplished in one year and the member has not fulfilled the previously mentioned criteria the person's name shall be removed from the confirmed membership roster. Extenuating circumstances may be considered on an individual basis by the church council.

#### FRIENDLY REMINDER:

#### PLEASE HELP TO KEEP OUR CEMETERY AND ADJACENT GROUNDS LOOKING THEIR BEST....

#### **CEMETERY DECORATIONS**

In respect of those buried in this cemetery, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church feels responsible for keeping our cemetery presentable and well maintained into perpetuity. In order to accomplish this at a sustainable cost, all users must abide by the following rules concerning decorations:

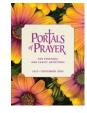
A. In-ground vases, ornaments, figurines, statues, pictures, glass or other breakable containers, trellises, shepherd

hooks, loose flowers, solar lights, or any commemorative articles of non-degradable materials are not permitted and will be removed and discarded without notice.

- B. All vases shall be attached permanently to the headstone or slab or be of sufficient weight to resist windy conditions. All flowers shall be adequately secured in the previously described vases to keep them from blowing out. Loose flowers on graves will not be permitted.
- C. White solar powered decorations are allowed (one per grave) if they are attached to the headstone or base and not placed in the grass.
- D. Funeral flowers and wreaths placed on fresh graves shall be removed within two weeks of the funeral.
- E. Flags look impressive on a cemetery, but they fade quickly and usually do not stay upright long if placed directly into the ground. If flags are used, they shall be placed in a small diameter pvc plastic pipe driven into the ground next to the headstone as to not impede mowing. Only one flag per grave is permitted.

The cemetery committee at their discretion shall remove and discard any decorations that they deem inappropriate.

#### THANK YOU



#### **Portals of Prayer**

July-September Portals of Prayer are available for pick-up in the narthex.



We continue to need volunteers to acolyte on Sunday mornings. Anyone willing to help out, please let the church office know by Tuesday prior to the service. We will include your name in the church bulletin.

#### Altar Flowers

If you would like to bring fresh flowers to church for the altar on the first Sunday of any month, please let the church office recognize you in the bulletin. Flowers can also be given in memory or honor of someone. Flowers can be put on the pedestals any Sunday as long as they are not being used for



another purpose. Flowers DO NOT have to be purchased from a florist. Summer garden flowers are beautiful and adorning. The Altar Guild does have a few guidelines as to the size and placement of the bouquet(s) and vases so just contact one of the members or call the church office.



PLEASE PRAY FOR RAIN! Having heard Wanda Hays' announcement Sunday, July 23, 2023 and just retiring myself, I decided to share some prayers that I found for our educators and students. Please take the time to pray for them as they start a new school year. We live in uncertain times and educators and our students need these prayers to place the Armor of God on them as they discussed in Sunday School. Here are some prayers for teachers and students that I found:

#### A Prayer for Our Teachers

Dear God, Thank you for the amazing teachers who have given their lives to serve our children. As they prepare for the new year, fill them with strength to lead, grace to guide and hope to thrive in their classroom. Bless them beyond measure for their willingness to pour into the next generation through education. Amen (From FB – Funny Teacher Memes)

#### Prayers for Teachers: Praying for Strength

Lord, I pray for teachers everywhere, that they may receive strength and stamina to continue in the work that you have called them to. The role of a teacher is of great importance, and many work countless hours each year to provide the best learning experience for their students. It is a deeply rewarding occupation that also comes with challenges and hardships. Give teachers the strength to continue on, knowing that their work is not in vain. Amen. (From www.garmentsofsplendor.com)

#### A Prayer for the Start of the School Year

Lord, as a new school year begins, bless the teachers and students to start the year strong. Give teachers renewed energy and enthusiasm to teach with passion and purpose. I pray for smooth routines and procedures to be established within the school. May the new year bring new hope, excitement, and readiness to learn and grow. Amen. (From www.garmentsofsplendor.com)

#### Prayers for Teachers: For Safety & Protection

Lord, I pray for the safety of our teachers and students. Unfortunately, we are often reminded on the news that we live in a cruel and harsh world. Protect our teachers and students from harm and danger. While they are in class, may they teach freely without fear of outside threats or intruders. Provide each school with high levels of security that will ward off evil offenders. Surround your teachers and students with your hedge of protection, that they may teach with joy and peace of mind. In Jesus' name, Amen. (From www.garmentsof splendor.com)

#### Prayer for Teachers: A Prayer for Perseverance

Lord, I pray for perseverance for the teachers in my community. As the school year continues, give them the diligence to perform each day with excellence. Help them to pick up where they left off, and continue to teach with joy, patience, and perseverance. **Prayers for Teachers: For Wisdom & Direction** Lord, I pray for wisdom and direction for teachers. There is so much that they must accomplish at the end of each school year. Give them the wisdom to know how to best meet the needs of each of their students. May they be able to receive help from parents, support staff, and volunteers to help run their classrooms smoothly and effectively. Give them direction and guidance to accomplish the tasks they need to do each day. Amen.

(From <u>www.garmentsofsplendor.com</u>)

#### Prayers for Teachers: Unity with Staff and Administration

Lord, I pray for unity among the staff and administration of the schools in my community and around the world. May everyone work together with the common goal of serving their student body with excellence and diligence. I pray against quarrels and negative attitudes among the school community, and that conflicts and disagreements in school policy and practice may be handled with utmost respect and professionalism. May the unity among the staff spread within the entire school, cultivating a positive learning environment. Amen.

(From www.garmentsofsplendor.com)

#### **Prayer for Teachers**

Heavenly Father, what a gift you've given in our teachers, the ones you've anointed to speak knowledge and wisdom into our ears. Bless our teachers and fill them with unending patience, compassion, and love. Surround each classroom with your protections. Lord, creating a space that is safe to learn, filled with kindness, and full of your love. Clothe each teacher in strength and dignity, confident in their calling to prepare our children for the future. Help them to speak with wisdom, act with compassion, demonstrate kindness, and be a blessing to each student in their classroom. Amen. (From www.prayerandpossibilities.com)

#### **Prayer for Teachers**

Heavenly Father, Thank you for all teachers. Thank you for the way in which they give of themselves each day serving your children. Father, please fill their hearts with courage and optimism this week by your mighty Spirit. Fill them with your strength, so they may rise to every challenge and not grow weary. Fill them with your wisdom, so that they may be able to make good judgment when guiding and helping others. Fill them with your peace, so that when stress and anxiety comes it would not overwhelm them. Father, fill them with your joy and protect them and their families. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen. (From Reflective Thinker)

**Back to School Prayer for Teachers Safety & Protection** Father, thank you for giving us people with the gift of teaching our children. I ask you to wrap your arms around each one of them with an armor of protection against all threats and dangers they may face throughout the school day. Watch over them and protect them from violence. Protect their bodies and minds from sickness. Father, keep them safe so they can be there for the students throughout the day. Amen. (From www.bloggersforthekingdom.com

#### **Back to School Prayer for Students**

Father, I pray for each and every child of every age that will be heading away from home to attend school this year. I pray that you cover them in your full armor so they may repel the enemy's tactics. I pray for their health and safety and that school administrators are able to prepare a healthy and safe environment for them to learn in. I pray that each child is able to put aside their fear and worry so they may fully enjoy the resources in learning that they'll be provided. I pray for the parents who may be home worrying. I pray they trust that you will be watching and protecting their children during this time away from home. And I pray that you will destroy any tactic the enemy wishing to use to do harm or cause temptation to these young, innocent souls. And I pray that each day, each and every child will come home, safe and fully of joy, ready to share in the excitement of everything they learned. Amen.

(From www.bloggersforthekingdom.com)

#### Back to School Prayer for Joy & Passion

Father , I pray each child finds some form of joy as they come to school each day. And that they become passionate about something. It could be science, art, music, math, reading—anything. I just pray that each child is provided an environment that promotes and fosters a joyful and passionate outlook for each student. In Jesus Name, Amen! (From www.bloggersforthekingdom.com)

#### **Back to School Prayer for Wisdom**

Father, I pray for every child to have the wisdom to make good decisions and to understand right from wrong. I pray they always seek to glorify you in their words and actions and to know when the enemy is trying to trick them into something. I pray they have control over their words and always use them to build others up and not get pulled into gossip or other types of things that the enemy may tempt them towards. In Jesus' Name, Amen. (From www.bloggersforthekingdom.com)

#### **Back to School Prayer Against Bullying**

Father, please prepare the children to be strong and confident against the bullies they may face at school. Help them to understand that the person bullying them is lost and hurting and needs forgiveness and prayer. I pray they are able to avoid these situations, but if they do encounter them, I pray that you are right there with them to guide them in handling the situation. Amen. (From www.bloggersforthekingdom.com)

#### **Back to School Prayer for Protection**

Father, I pray that each child is surrounded by the full armor of God as he or she walks through the doors of school each day. I pray that they are able to avoid danger in any form and that each day, please keep them same from harm and bring them home at the end of each day safely. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

(From www.bloggesforthekingdom.com)

#### Prayer for Safety in the Classroom

Heavenly Father, I lift up all teachers who are working in classrooms today. I pray that you would surround them with Your protection as they teach. That You would keep them safe from harm's way and help them to always be aware of potential dangers. I ask that your angels would be around about the school and classrooms. That no weapon formed against these teachers and students would prosper. In the mighty name of Jesus, Amen.

(From www.thinkaboutsuchthings.com)

#### **Back to School Blessing**

Dear Heavenly Father, For all the children returning to school, send your Holy Spirit as their guide and protector. Keep them free from danger and unnecessary harm. Put our sons and daughters in the right place, at the right time, to receive your grace. Let them learn and grow strong. May the presence of your Spirit fill their hearts. Help us to mature as parents and caregivers. Bless every family, oh Lord. We entrust our children to you, dear God. Since from the beginning, they are yours to keep. In the name of the greatest Son of all, Jesus Christ. Amen. (From www.prayerforanxiety.com)

#### **Prayer for Students**

God of Life. . . I ask you to be with me today as I enter my school. Help me to learn all that you would have me learn. When I get frustrated, remind me to say a prayer to you for peace. When I get weary, give me energy to continue. When I don't understand give me courage to ask for help. Let your light shine through me so that my classmates, teachers, and all who work in my school may see your love. Fill me with the fruits of your Spirit and bless my interactions with others so that your name may be known in all the earth. Amen.

I truly hope that you will find use of these prayers that I found and shared. These are just a few that are available on the world wide web, but your own are just as valuable for our students, teachers, staff, administrators, etc. As a newly retired teacher, I know that prayers are appreciated at all times of the year, not just the beginning/end of the school year or during teacher appreciation. Teachers and students are faced with many challenges. They don't just face the challenges of learning, but the worry of their safety and the safety of their loved ones. Having been in the education world, this is something I'm sure you can see I feel strongly about. Please continue to pray for them all throughout the school year. Thank You and May God Bless You! Meliss Eckhardt

<b>VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:</b>	Happy Birthday to:
August 6	3- Shelby Newman4- Glenda HenrySydney Schaefer
Greeter - The Hays Family	4 - Glenda Henry
Reader - Johnna Picard	Sydney Schaefer
	5 - Jaymee Rangnow
August 13	Madyx Blain
Greeters - Beverly Bodden	8 - Jo Beth Caskey
Reader - Beverly Bodden being the	9 - LeAnn Jander
Church.	10 - Lane Moritz
August 20 or are you	11 - Caleb Nagel & Kyle Nagel
Greeters - Trish Hood going to	Kaley Coker
Reader - Wanda Hays church?	14 - Sandy Motley
Reauci - Wanua Hays	16 - Marjorie Ideus
August 27	Kay Nagel
Greeters - The Hays Family	19 - Linda Ruschhaupt
Reader - Neal Moritz	20 - Crosson Rains
	Kyle Newman
	21 - Rick Garrett
August Communion Assistant	Ryan Eichhorn
0	22 - Jonathan Albrecht
Wanda Hays	23 - Betty Diebel
August Altar Guild	24 - Clifford Diebel
Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden	25 - Dianne Moeller
-	Paul Wendel
August Nursing Home Visitor	29 - Jaxon Egg
Patricia Hood	Sara Newman
LOOKING AHEAD	Anniversary Greetings to:
September 3	8 - Lloyd & Karen Copeland
<b>•</b> •	15 - Paul & Shirley Wendel
Greeters - Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt Beader Kathy Dunn	Robert & M'Liss Moore
Reader - Kathy Dunn	Rick & Kally Garrett
Santambar Communion Assistant	18 - Jeff & Tamara Zengerle
September Communion Assistant Wanda Hays	24 - Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt
September Altar Guild	
Carol Ann Sagebiel & LeAnn Jander	
September Nursing Home Visitor	
Margie Swannack	
Volunteers: If you are down for a service, you ar responsible for getting a substitute if you cannot make it	$\circ$
Please let the church office know if you have switched s	

Please let the church office know if you have switched so the correct names can be in the bulletin.Our apologies if we have missed your special date. Please contact the church office to help with corrections. Thank you

church newsletter via 61-277-8653.

Keep up with St. John ~ Meyersville online https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org for weekly bulletins & monthly newsletters.

## August 2023

### Mission of the Month: Rosenberg Disaster Response Warehouse

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# John Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Office Hours: *Please *		<b>31</b> 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's Office Hours	<b>30</b> 1:30 PM Quilters *	<b>29</b> 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's Office Hours	28	13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 27 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship
26	25	<b>24</b> 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's Office Hours	<b>23</b> 1:30 PM Quilters *	<b>22</b> 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's Office Hours AM-Camal Board Meeting 7 PM Council Meeting	21	12th Sunday after Pentecost209:00 AM Sunday School9:00 AM Confirmation ParentsMeeting in Sanctuary10:15 AM WorshipHowCommunion
19	18 **Newsletter deadline. Please have all articles to office.	17 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's Office Hours **Committee Reports Due, please email to Council Members.	<b>16</b> 1:30 PM Quilters * 7PM Men's Bible Study	<b>15</b> 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's Office Hours	14	<ul> <li>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</li> <li>8:00 AM Property Team</li> <li>9:00 AM Sunday School</li> <li>10:15 AM Worship</li> </ul>
12	11	10	9 12:30PM Women's Bible Study* 1:30 PM Quilters* First Day of School	∞	<b>7</b> Pastor John will be attending the NALC Convocation in Oklahoma City on the 7 <sup>th</sup> thru the 12 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost       6         9:00 AM Sunday School – Rally Sunday         10:15 AM Worship-Backpack Blessing         Called Congregation Meeting         after service         Beckparting         Beckparting         Beckparting         Communic
<b>5</b> Church Reserved for Wedding	4	<b>3</b> 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's Office Hours	<b>2</b> 1:30 PM Quilters*	<b>1</b> 9AM – 12PM Pastor's Office Hours 7PM – Worship Team Meeting	*meet at the parsonage	Please look on our website: <u>http://stjohnmeversville.org/</u> or our Facebook page: <u>St. John Meyersville</u> for changes & updates.
Saturday	Friday	y Thursday		lay Tuesday Wednesda	Monday	Sunday