

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

January 2024 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
stjohnnevlutheran@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 Ages 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:15 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



January 2024

VOL. 48 NO. 1

Greetings,

Almost every culture has a New Year's celebration. The ancient Romans celebrated the new year with the birth of Janus, the two-faced god who could look back into the past and forward into the future. They exchanged gifts, not because they were overjoyed with each other, but as a method of bribery so that your friends would forgive you for the stuff that you had done wrong that past year. Chinese New Year is typically celebrated with fireworks to scare off evil spirits from years past, so that you can start your New Year with a fresh start. Judaism celebrates Rosh Hashanah, the "head of the year," and then looks for forgiveness on Yom Kippur, the day of atonement, one week into that New Year.

In the Lutheran Church, the new church year begins four weeks before Christmas, on the church calendar it is Advent. Many believe that the New Year should begin with the celebration of the birth of Christ. There are others that feel the New Year should begin on Easter as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ. Ultimately the Christian community decided to follow the Gregorian calendar and to celebrate the New Year on January 1st.

I know that many make New Year's Resolutions but, I also know that few achieve them. So, I have a few suggestions that I read in an Ann Landers article several years ago, and are easy to achieve and will hopefully make 2024 be better than all the others. I suggest that we all practice what we have learned about life during the last 12 months. Do some of the things you've always wanted to do but couldn't find time. Vow not to make a promise you can't keep. Encourage a youth to do his or her best, and then offer support, young people need role models.

Give compliments, it may give someone a badly needed lift. Forgive an injustice. Try to understand a point of view that is different from your own. Few things are 100% one way or another. Don't abandon your principles. Smile more. And above all, Be Kind.

May you all have a blessed and Happy New Year.

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.

ST. JOHN EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT NUMBERS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor - John Boor 361- 243-0373
 Council President-Glenn Ruschhaupt 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

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



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.

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 February 2024 Church Bell is Friday, January 19, 2024 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 interested in. 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.



Our Military and their families:

Russell Copeland - U.S. Army Reserves
 Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army, Fort Hood
 Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Florida
 Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, stationed overseas (location unknown)
 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



Please Pray for: Hunter Jacob, Cole Ohrt, Ryon Preslar, Rylan Caskey, Joy Meadows, Dorothy F. Diebel, Marlene Fromme, Steve Cusack, Debbie Webb, Laura Whitson, Pat Hays, Robert Moeller

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 and give to the pastor.

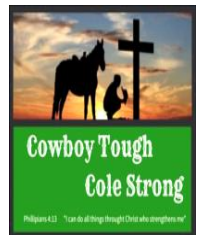


+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole+

Taken from Facebook

Cowboy Tough Cole Strong:

Hi everyone!! It's been a long time! I hope you are all doing well! We are all doing good. Cole is healthy as a horse and doing well. He continues to amaze me with his drive to continue his therapy diligently. He is still waling on the Lokomat and uses the Armeo robotic arm machine twice weekly as well as working hard at home with me and his nurses. God definitely blessed him with a hardheadedness that he may or may not have gotten from his mother. For those of you who didn't know last weekend was the 6th annual Cowboy Tough Cole Strong Team roping benefit. It was an awesome weekend with a very well run 3day team roping thanks to Justin Shelton as well as two days of silent auction items including some delicious homemade goods and fall décor. We also had a gun raffle board that is still going



on until we fill all the squares on the board for a nice rifle and as always shirts for sale with Cole's logo. For those of you who know Cole this is one of his favorite events of the whole year. He so looks forward to it each year. So a special thank you to Justin and all those who helped him as well as all the donors and sponsors. You all make this a wonderful event each year. Also want to send out a special thank you to Amy Burnet for announcing and keeping the books all weekend and to Shelly Marbach and Penny Pence for all their help with the shirts and silent auction. Special thank you to Britney Lesikar and KC Hats for donating her services throughout the weekend also. She does an amazing job. Special thank you to all who donated and or purchased the silent auction items and t-shirts as well. We sincerely appreciate all of you. This year was really special with one of Cole's brothers winning one of the trophy saddles! All in all it was an amazing and blessed weekend. Asking for continued prayers for Cole's health and healing as well as his and our faith. Also asking for prayers that Cole will be granted a meeting with the Governor soon to fight for changes in state funded care for the handicapped. I'll post later with more details. Thank you all and God Bless. 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)***



Portals of Prayer

Both pocket size and large print January –March Portals of Prayer are available in the narthex.



Another FYI: A set of keys was found outside the Parish Hall. Please contact the office if you've lost yours.

Mission of the Month of January

Boys & Girls Club of Cuero

The Boys and Girls Club of Cuero is a wonderful place for children to become members and to learn and grow in a healthy, safe environment. Our programs continue to enrich our youth. We have implemented a new online educational reading and math curriculum called Exact Path. Our members are progressing fantastically with this new initiative. We have many safety policies in place to ensure our club environment is secure. We appreciate the wonderful community and generous donors that support our organization. Our annual play, Gospel Brunch, and golf tournament continue to help raise funds for our daily operations.

NALC Warehouse –

We will be collecting trash bags and cleaning rags in January for the warehouse in Rosenberg.

Are you in need of a home for gently used prayer materials?

Our church will be collecting new and gently used Bibles and prayer books. If you have any questions, please contact Cathie Bettge or Meliss Eckhardt.

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



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

Mens's Bible Study will continue to be meeting monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at 7 PM in 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.

Important Dates

Annual Reports are due to the church office no later than January 7, 2024.

January 21, 2024 - Annual Congregational Meeting following worship

January 28, 2024 - Installation of Council Members



Camp Lone Star

Parents - if your child is interested in attending Camp Lone Star this summer, please contact Rachel Nessel. Early registration ends February 1.

Tax Tips for Traditional IRA Owners



If you have a traditional IRA and you are 70 ½ years old and older, you are required to take a RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) annually. There is a provision in the regulations that allow you to have this distribution made directly to a qualifying non-profit (church, etc.) and not be liable for income taxes on that amount. Consult your tax advisor or financial planner for more details.

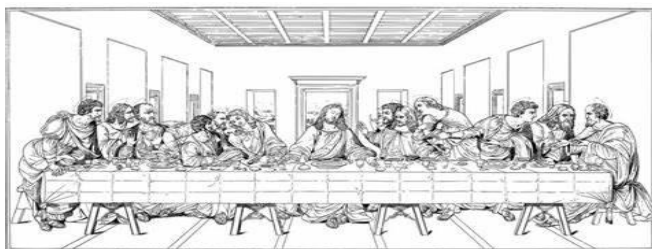
Please Notice This



TIME TO PLAN AHEAD

The **FIRST NALC NATIONAL YOUTH EVENT** will be held July 1-4, 2024 in Boerne,

TX! St. John's Lutheran Church in Boerne will Host this first ever Continental Youth Gathering (CYG). This four-day gathering will provide opportunities for NALC youth to grow in faith and relationship with others as the Body of Christ. They will dig into the theme "We Belong: I Know My Own and My Own Know Me." Registration opens October 13th. For more information visit the NALC website (thenalc.org) and click on Upcoming Events



STEP RIGHT UP!



Calling all thespians, set designers, costume designers, makeup artists, sound and lighting specialists, musical directors, and anyone who has ever thought they might like to make a try at the bright lights and red carpets of Hollywood or Broadway. Unfortunately, answering this call will most likely, NOT further your career or move you any closer to the goal of being discovered or getting your big break toward stardom. But if you are willing to portray a disciple of Christ or assist in the production of a moment in time on the night of Christ's betrayal, as depicted by Da Vinci's painting, "The Last Supper", we need you.

As the Worship Team announced earlier we are planning to revive the production of the "Living Last Supper." This is the reenactment of the moment Jesus announced that "one of you will betray me," and the depiction of the thoughts that may have raced through the minds of each disciple as they contemplated those words. This scene was first done by men and women of St John here in Meyersville during Holy Week in 1994 and was produced again in 1995, 1996 and 1999. The play went dormant and then was revived for production in 2003 and again the following year. This year, 2024, will be the 20th anniversary of the final production in 2004.

Some of you have already said yes and some have said you would consider a role. I will be contacting each of you to shore up the final cast. The one cast member we are still needing someone to consider is the role of Jesus. Please consider this calling. In addition, we will need a narrator, a sound and lighting person, numerous props and costume persons and various other support staff to make this awesome event take place. Give it prayerful consideration a say yes when you may be called to "follow me." Contact Johnny Jank and simply say, "How can I help?"

Church Council Minutes ~ November 28, 2023

Trish Hood

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Boor, Glenn Ruschhaupt (President), Mitchell Jank (Vice-President), Trish Hood (Secretary), M'Liss Moore (Financial Secretary), Charles Egg (Finance), Cathie Bettge (Mission and Evangelism), Beverly Bodden (Parish Life), Rachel Nessel (Parish Ed), Marv Sager (Property), Brenda Gohmert (Worship).

CALL TO ORDER: Glenn called the meeting to order.

OPENING DEVOTION: Rachel led a devotion about how a hen takes care of her chicks, but if they don't respond to her, they will pay the consequences, in the same manner God takes care of us.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Marv Sager moved and Brenda Gohmert 2nd the motion to approve minutes as presented. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Charles reported in Archie's absence. Cathie made the motion to accept the financial report, and Beverly seconded. Motion passed.

PASTOR REPORT: I gave communion to the Rangnow family at Hospice on 11/10.

I presided at the funeral of Kathy Rangnow 11/14.

The NALC is having a Clergy Retreat and Gathering of the Ministerium in Florida January 16-18, 2024.

The NALC Summary is: This year we're transforming our usual Pastors' Conference into a tranquil Clergy Retreat & Gathering of the Ministerium from Jan. 16-18, inviting you at a haven of rest and spiritual health amidst the daily grind of parish ministry. Set against the serene backdrop of Lake Buena Vista, this retreat embodies a gently pace, offering a cherished pause from the daily ministry duties. Immerse in a journey of soul care, enveloped in daily prayer, reflective solitude, and heartfelt community interactions. Engage in spiritual practices, find solace in confession, and draw closer to Christ through thoughtful large- and small-group sessions. It's not merely a retreat; it's a sacred space of healing and support, fostering a deeper bond within our ministerial community as we together seek rejuvenation in the Lord's presence. \$125 Registration Fee: includes select meals; Attendees pay Hotel Costs. The guest speakers and topics will be: Pastor Ken Hohag; Spiritual Health as a Grounding for ministry in the Church. Pastor Brad Hales; Spiritual Health as a Grounding for Ministry in the Community. Spiritual Health as a grounding for ministry in times of joy and crisis. I would ask that council approve paying the expenses for me to attend this meeting.

God's blessings, Pastor John

DISCUSSION: Charles made a motion to pay Pastor's way to the NALC Clergy Retreat. Beverly seconded, and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussed the 2024 proposed budget. Marv suggested that the insurance budget needs to go up due to inflation. Motion made by Charles, and seconded by Marv to recommend that the congregation accept the proposed budget at a congregational meeting after church on December 17. Motion passed.

FINANCE TEAM:

Did not meet this month.

MISSION EVANGELISM TEAM:

November 15, 2023\Cathie opened the meeting with prayer.

Members present: Pastor Boor, Pam Haun, Obert Sagebiel, Linda Ruschhaupt, Glenn Ruschhaupt, and Cathie Bettge, leader.

Old Business: We reviewed the following items: 1) the reformation service was a success with Rev. Amy Little as speaker, 2) St. John Lindenau request for disaster buckets—decided to continue giving to the Rosenberg Warehouse as we do and would help when notified of local need, 3) Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes-had ordered 50, 6 were remaining from last year, and 53 were delivered to First Baptist Church in Cuero, and 4) December Christmas Families.

January Collection: contractor trash bags and cleaning rags
January Mission of the Month: Boys & Girls Club of Cuero

Service Projects: the 2024 list was presented.

New Business: new ideas for Mission of the Month were discussed for the new year.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting: January 17, 2024 in Parish Hall at 6 p.m.

PARISH LIFE TEAM:

Parish Life sent out 3 Get Well cards and one sympathy card. We organized the luncheon for Fill the Church/Reformation Sunday and the funeral luncheon for Kathy Rangnow. We are also going to have hot chocolate and cookies after the Sunday School Christmas Program on December 17th. Thank you to all who helped and brought food for these events Sincerely, Bev Bodden

PARISH ED:

November 2023 Present: Pastor Boor, Joie Caskey, Kathy Dunn, and Rachel Nessel.

Parish Ed meeting was held November 6, 2023 at 7 p.m. We will hold our Christmas Program (Stellar Christmas on December 17 at 7 p.m. This program will be presented in the church. The program includes 10 songs. The committee agreed that this might be too many, so 3 of the songs were removed. With this change, the program should be approximately 45 minutes. Rachel will talk to Bev about helping us with a cookie/hot chocolate reception in the Parish Hall following the program. Rachel provided a draft of a letter to send to parents inviting their children to participate in the program. We're requesting RSVPs so we can assign parts to practice. We

will practice a couple of songs each week during Sunday School. The program flyer was also reviewed and approved. Kathy will coordinate the printing/ mailing of these two items. Rachel will also send the information to Melissa for the December newsletter and upcoming bulletins. Pastor John will begin making announcements about the program after Thanksgiving.

There are some decorations/costumes in the program. Kathy will reach out to Tamara, Feather, and Lindsey to see if they might be able to help with these costumes. Rachel will purchase the fabric wall hanging to be the main backdrop for the church. We plan to use risers from the Parish Hall for the children to stand on during the performance.

Rachel will begin working on a program that will include the names/roles of the children participating in the program.

Meeting concluded at 7:38 p.m. Sincerely, Rachel Nessel
Practice for the Christmas Program will be the next 3 Sundays during Sunday School.

PROPERTY TEAM REPORT:

Meeting Dates: NOVEMBER 12th; NOVEMBER 14th
(Called Meeting)

Members Present: Richard Bettge, Dennis Nagel, Vance Egg, Glenn Ruschhaupt, John Boor, Mitchell Jank, and Marv Sager

Items Complete: Restroom supplies replenished; AC filters in Parish Hall replaced; Parsonage cleaned by Calvo's; New elevator travel cable installed; New screws in sanctuary door handle plate; New AC thermostat installed in parsonage; Church heating system checked

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

Ongoing Discussion Items: Parsonage inspection and plan for necessary repairs- List of major items includes releveling/blocking, correction of potential wall movement in master bedroom, exterior stucco repair together with related painting, and potential AC ductwork.; LED lighting in sanctuary – Consensus for installation of LED bulbs paired to dimmer switches; Basement Restoration – Still awaiting contractor availability; Sanctuary steeple repair – Discussions in progress with potential contractor; Awning bird issue resolution – Soffit installation planned along with construction error repairs. Awaiting potential contractor availability.; Repair of broken tombstones in cemetery – Initial repairs to two headstones performed on March 9th. Estimates for additional work acquired; awaiting Mortise Stone technician availability.; Flagpole painting – Awaiting probable utilization of man lift for steeple repair.

Other: Discussed current memorial requests for planting 2 additional trees. Team met on Tuesday, November 14th to review potential suitable locations, and drafted plan for location of up to 4 additional live oak trees, to be

presented for Council approval. Team consensus was to also recommend replacement of the large tree in the parsonage/garage area with a new live oak tree located a bit farther from the parsonage septic tank and sewer line to and to take out the deteriorating magnolia tree from the parsonage back yard to preempt potential roof damage from falling limbs. Both would also serve to help prevent potential roof damage in the event of a severe storm. ~ Discussed additional potential alternative contractors for current repair projects ~ Reviewed current status of elevator issues . Travel cable installation made elevator usable. Additional programming of door operating units was done on November 20th. Elevator currently appears to be working properly .~ Discussed church insurance and pending results of recently submitted application for coverage with new carrier. ~ Discussed timing for organ tuning and other potential organ maintenance/repair items.

Old Stone Church: Old Stone Church Committee met on Wednesday, November 15th.

Items for Council Approval: Recommendations regarding planting and removal of trees

Next Scheduled Meeting: 11/12/2023

DISCUSSION: Motion made by Trish, seconded by Pastor to allow the Property Team to do what they feel is appropriate for the tree problem at the parsonage, and with the new tree line. Motion carried. ~ Marv also informed council that we will need to install lighted Exit signs at all doors as needed because of our new insurance. ~ Marv moved to accept the Liability insurance that was recommended to council. Brenda seconded and the motion carried.

WORSHIP TEAM:

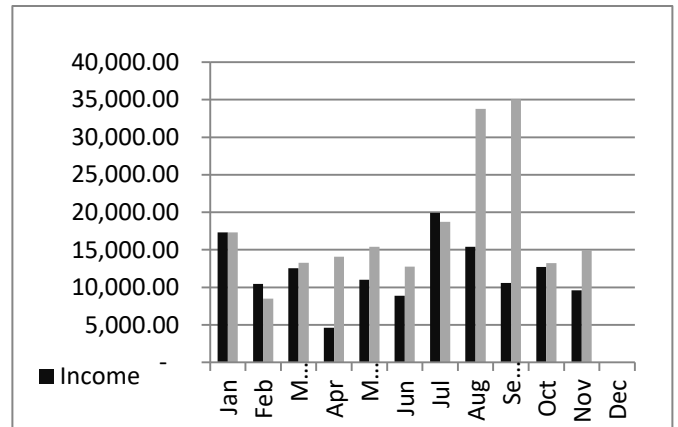
Worship Team met on Wednesday, November 8 with all present except the Sagers.

Old Business: We discussed how well Mission Sunday went and how wonderful the food was. We also continued to discuss the Last Supper Reenactment.

NewBusiness: We discussed the Children’s Christmas Program will be held on December 17 in the church at 6:00 p.m. We also discussed that the polka service that was to be held on Sunday, November 26 will not be held because the band can not make it. So we decided to have a Good Ole Country Christmas service. Also we talked about Christmas Eve since it falls on a Sunday. We decided to have Church at 10:15 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. No 3:00 service. On December 31, we will have the congregation to pick songs. With no further business, we selected songs through January 14. We closed with the Lord’s Prayer. Next meeting will be Tuesday January 9. Brenda Gohmert

There being no further business to come before council, the meeting was closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Trish Hood, Secretary



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

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.



NEW YEAR'S

WORD SEARCH

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

AULD LANG SYNE COUNTDOWN FRIENDS MUSIC
 CALENDAR DECEMBER HAPPY PARTY
 CELEBRATION FAMILY HOLIDAY RESOLUTION
 CLOCK FESTIVITIES JANUARY TRADITION
 CONFETTI FIREWORKS MIDNIGHT YEAR
 ACOB21FAMILY.COM

Created by



www.gettyimages.com

Amelia © Myt Graphics 2017. All rights reserved. Reproduction for personal use only is permitted.

A New Year's Blessing

May God make your year a happy one.
 Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
 But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
 Not by making your path easy,
 But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
 Not by taking hardships from you,
 But by taking fear from your heart;
 Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
 But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
 Not by making your life always pleasant,
 But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,
 and by making you anxious to be there to help.

Gods love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.

- Unknown

Reminders of the Quarry

FOR THE NEW YEAR

- Hold fast to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)
- Assemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25)
- Pray earnestly every day (1Thessalonians 5:17-18)
- Pray for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)
- Yield not to temptation (1Thessalonians 5:22)
- Neglect not your talents and opportunities (Galatians 6:10)
- Examine yourself daily (2 Corinthians 13:5)
- Work diligently for the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)
- Yield your members to righteousness (Romans 6:11, 16)
- Exercise yourself in godliness (1 Timothy 4:7)
- Aim for a perfect, mature faith (Hebrews 6:1)
- Redeem the time (Ephesians 5:15-16)

-----Gus Nichols

Behold

I make
all things

NEW

Revelation 21:5

May God bless you
this New Year!

NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
 The brand new year ahead.
 Help me live the way I should
 As each new day I tread.
 Give me gentle wisdom
 That I might help a friend,
 Give me strength and courage
 So a shoulder I might lend.
 The year ahead is empty,
 Help me fill it with good things
 Each new day filled with joy
 And happiness it brings.
 Amen.

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:

January 7

Greeter - M'Liss Moore
Reader - Dwight Jander

January 14

Greeters - Trish Hood
Reader - Trish Hood

January 21

Greeters - Beverly Bodden
Reader - Beverly Bodden

January 28

Greeters - The Hays Family
Reader - Johnna Picard

January Communion Assistant

Brian Wendel

January Altar Guild

Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

January Nursing Home Visitor

Open

LOOKING AHEAD...

February 4

Greeters - Margie & John Swannack
Reader - Cathie Bettge

February Communion Assistant

Jeff Zengerle

February Altar Guild

Carol Ann Sagebiel & LeAnn Jander

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

Happy Birthday to:

- 2 - Rose Mueller
- 6 - Hayden Leist
- 7 - Crayton Rains
Joan Wendel
- 9 - Leon Wallace
- 10 - Jennifer Cornett
- 12 - Nick Picard
- 13 - Feather Diebel
- 14 - Jeff Zengerle
Toi Rangnow
- 17 - Haven Cornett
- 21 - Julianne Stiles
- 22 - Terri Jank
- 23 - Nikki Carver
- 24 - MacKenna Diebel
Lily Cornett
- 26 - Billy Guenther
- 27 - William Ohrt
- 28 - John Swannack
Susan Egg



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

Anniversary Greetings to:

- 2 - Daren & Dawn Otto
Nick & Johnna Picard
- 12 - David & Martha Diebel
- 17 - Mitchell & Terri Jank
- 22 - Terry & Pam Haun
- 29 - Ernest & Carla Metting



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

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

January 2024



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Meyersville, TX

Mission of the Month:
Boys & Girls Club of Cuero

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2 9AM – 12PM Pastor's Office Hours	3	4 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's Office Hours	5	Epiphany of Our Lord 6
Baptism of Our Lord 7 9:00 AM Confirmation Class 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 3:00 PM Take down Christmas decor Annual Reports Due 	8	9 9AM – 12PM Pastor's Office Hours 7PM Worship Committee Mtg.	10 10AM Comm. Service Yorktown Manor 1:30 PM Quilters 7 PM Women's Bible Study	11 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's Office Hours	12	13
2nd Sunday after Epiphany 14 8:00 AM Property Team Meeting 9:00 AM Confirmation Class 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	15 7 PM Finance Team	16	17 1:30 PM Quilters 6 PM Mission Evangelism Team 7 PM Men's Bible Study	18 <i>**Committee Reports Due, please email to Council Members.</i>	19 <i>**Newsletter deadline. Please have all articles to office.</i>	20
Pastor John @ Retreat in Buena Vista, Florida						
3rd Sunday after Epiphany 21 9:00 AM Confirmation Class 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship followed by Annual Congregational Meeting 	22 6:30-7:30PM 4-H Meeting In Parish Hall	23 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's Office Hours 7 PM Council Meeting	24 9:00 AM OSC Mtg. 1:30 PM Quilters	25 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's Office Hours	26	27
4th Sunday after Epiphany 28 9:00 AM Confirmation Class 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Contemporary Worship Installation of Council	29	30 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's Office Hours	31 1:30 PM Quilters	<i>Here's to the blessing of the year, Here's to the friends we hold so dear, To peace on earth, both far and near.</i>		<i>Please look on our website: http://stjohnmeyersville.org/ or our FaceBook page: <u>St. John Meyersville</u> for changes & updates.</i>