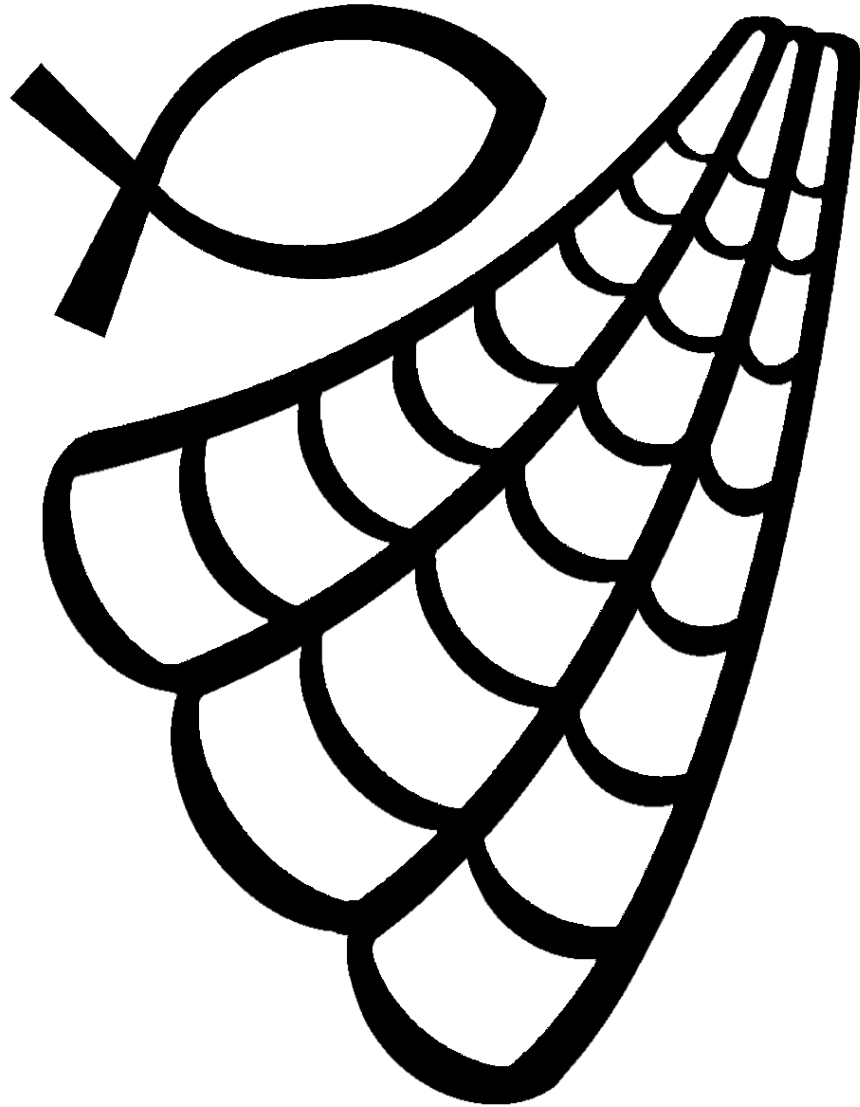


**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Meyersville, Texas
January 21, 2024**



**HE ALONE IS MY ROCK AND MY SALVATION.
Psalm 62:2**

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A North American Lutheran Church

1764 Meyersville Road

Meyersville, TX 77974-4143

CHURCH OFFICE: 361-277-8653

stjohnevlutheran@juno.com

(Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373)

jboor1@juno.com

Ministers - The People of St. John

Pastor - The Rev. John Boor

Organist - Mr. Bruce A. Weise

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024

Greeters This Week: Beverly Bodden

Greeters Next Week: The Hays Family

Reader This Week: Beverly Bodden

Reader Next Week: Johnna Picard

Acolyte This Week: Morgan Zengerle

Acolyte Next Week: Lane Moritz

Altar Guild This Month: Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

Altar Guild Next Month: Carol Ann Sagebiel & LeAnn Jander

Communion Assistant This Month: Brian Wendel

Communion Assistant Next Month: Jeff Zengerle

Busy Bags are available in the Narthex for all children to enjoy.

MISSION STATEMENT

We the members of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Meyersville, strive to be witnesses for Christ, a Christian family striving to be models and examples to others, loving one another and trying to be friendly to all; acknowledging that we are sinful, but being patient, faithful, giving, caring, forgiving, and forgiven believers.

Worship Notes Regarding Today's Service:

For those of you who would prefer to remain in your cars, we will continue to broadcast the service on FM 101.5. You can follow the service in the bulletin as the liturgy, the organ music, hymns with the lyrics by our song leaders, and Pastor John's message will be on the broadcast. Thank you!

HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to commune with us if, as a baptized Christian, you believe that you are a sinner and in need of God's forgiveness; that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the Sacrament; that this is more than a symbolic act, but a way God proclaims forgiveness to us who are repentant.

May your participation increase your faith and strengthen your love for God and one another.

(For those attending, please fill out a tan communion card.)

The Service begins with the first notes of the prelude.

Please prepare for worship with silent meditation at this time.

PRELUDE
RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL
ANNOUNCEMENTS PRAISES AND CONCERNS

Stand as you are able

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for Reflection and Meditation

L Most merciful God,

C We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN: *“Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”* **LBW #84**

¹**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, Dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.
Star of the East, the horizon adorning, Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

²**Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining; Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore him in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.**

³**Shall we not yield him, in costly devotion, Fragrance of Edom and off’rings divine,
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean, Myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?**

⁴**Vainly we offer each ample oblation, Vainly with gifts would his favor secure;
Richer by far is the heart’s adoration, Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

⁵**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, Dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.
Star of the East, the horizon adorning, Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

GREETING

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Let us pray,

Almighty and eternal God, graciously look down on our weakness. Reach out to us with your majestic right hand, and satisfy us with his glory. We ask through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The call of God is serious business. It is rooted in God's desire for all people to know Him and be in a loving relationship with him. Those who are called are sent out to fish for people, the people God loves. This call is an urgent one. It cannot wait. And it's not about us — it's about Jesus reconciling the whole world to the Father, who sent his Son to usher in the Kingdom of God in the here and now.

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

Responsive Reading Psalm 62

¹For God alone my soul in silence waits; from him comes my salvation.

²**He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall not be greatly shaken.**

³How long will you assail me to crush me, all of you together,
as if you were a leaning fence, a toppling wall?

⁴**They seek only to bring me down from my place of honor; lies are their chief delight.**

⁵They bless with their lips, but in their hearts they curse.

⁶**For God alone my soul in silence waits; truly, my hope is in him.**

⁷He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

⁸**In God is my safety and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.**

⁹Put your trust in him always, O people, pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

¹⁰**Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, even those of low estate cannot be trusted.**

¹¹On the scales they are lighter than a breath, all of them together.

¹²**Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.**

¹³God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.

¹⁴**Steadfast love is yours, O LORD, for you repay everyone according to his deeds.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 [32-35]

²⁹This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. [³²I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. ³⁵I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.]

Stand as you are able

GOSPEL VERSE

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:14-20

L The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (Sung)

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.” ¹⁶Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (Sung)

Please be seated

MESSAGE

Johnna Picard

¹”I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save,
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

²”I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?”

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

³”I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?”

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Stand as you are able

Let us confess our faith through the Apostles’ Creed

APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace!**

Each petition ends with "...Lord, in your mercy,"

The congregation responds with "**Hear our prayer.**"

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

L The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

L Let us share the peace.

OFFERING *(Please use the yellow envelopes for cash/coin offerings & include your name.)*

Stand as you are able

OFFERTORY

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
And give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

L Merciful Father,

C We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

L It is indeed right and salutary....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

L Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
That all those who believe in him should not perish,
But have eternal life.
We give thanks to you for the salvation
You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
That we may receive our Lord
With a living faith as he comes to us
In his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

L In the night in which he was betrayed
Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying;
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people
For the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Father remember us always and teach us to pray;

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation.
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

L Come for the Lord's Table is ready.

**C Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

HOLY COMMUNION *(For those attending, please fill out a tan communion card.)*

L May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

POST COMMUNION

C **Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Let us pray;

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

L Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

THE DOXOLOGY:

LBW #565

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN



Colossians 3:17

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Today 1/21	Third Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Adult Study 10:15 a.m. Worship with Communion Followed by Annual Congregational Meeting
Mon 1/22	Office Closed 6:30-7:30 p.m. 4-H Meeting in Parish Hall
Tues 1/23	8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office Hours 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
Wed 1/24	9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Office Hours 9:00 a.m. Old Stone Church Meeting 1:30 p.m. Quilters
Thurs 1/25	9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Office Hours 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Pastor's Office Hours
Fri 1/26	8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Office hours
Next Sun.	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Adult Study 10:15 a.m. Worship with Installation of Council



Have a Blessed Week!

Welcome Visitors! We would like to extend a special welcome to all visitors. If you are looking for a church home, we pray you would consider St. John's.

Prayer request cards are available in the pews and can be filled out and handed to an usher during the first hymn for your request to be included in the day's prayer. If you have a private prayer request please fill out the appropriate side and give to the pastor.

January 14, 2024 This week's offering was unavailable at the time of printing.
Look for it in next Sunday's bulletin. ~ Thank you!

Attendance: Worship – 65, Sunday School - 6 Children, 3 Teachers; Adult Study - 11

Sunday School continues throughout the year.
We'd love to see all the children every Sunday at 9a.m.!



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



Mission of the Month for January
The Boys' and 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.

For the month of January the collection is trash bags and cleaning rags.



Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting will be held TODAY, January 21, 2024 after worship service. Please plan to attend. Annual Reports are available in the narthex of the Church. Thank You!

Next Sunday, January 28, 2024

Next Sunday we will be planning to install our new Council Members. Please be here to show your appreciation to those who stepped up to fill or keep the positions. Thank you!

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON



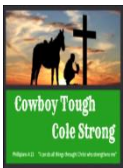
We need you to say YES! The Worship Team is "blowing the dust off" the reenactment of the "Living Last Supper." Please see the article in January's newsletter for more information and contact Johnny Jank and simply say, "How can I help?"



**WELCOME
to the world
little ONE**

We want to wish congratulations to Meliss & Morris Eckhardt on the birth of their grandson Madden Blane Eckhardt. Madden is the son of Milam & Kaitlin Eckhardt and little brother to Maisley Eckhardt. He was born on January 12, 2024 @ 2:06 PM weighing in at 6 lbs. 8 ozs. and 19 3/4" long. May God bless Madden and his family as they welcome him as a gift from God.

+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole 

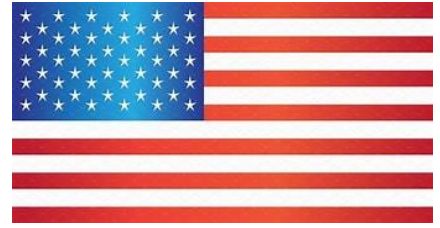


Taken from Facebook Cowboy Tough Cole Strong: Hi everyone!! It's been a long time! I hope you are all doing well! We are all doing good. Cole is healthy as a horse and doing well. He continues to amaze me with his drive to continue his therapy diligently. He is still waling on the Lokomat and uses the 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)***

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 - 1st LT, United States Army
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



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.

Please Pray for: Hunter Jacob, Cole Ohrt, Mrs. Stiles, Ryon Preslar, Joy Meadows, Evelyn Diebel, Dorothy Fay Diebel, Marlene Fromme, Debbie Webb, Steve Cusack, Pat Hays, Robert Moeller



Nursing Home:

Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Marjorie Ideus

A Special Space for you to take notes or write down prayer reminders! ☺



SOME WORDS FROM LUTHER

Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, in saying: "Repent Ye," wanted the entire life of believers to be a repentance... He does not, however, mean inward repentance only; in fact, such inward repentance is not real at all if it does not outwardly produce various mortifications of the flesh.

~Martin Luther~

95 Theses

DID YOU KNOW?

The color of the season is Green.

The word Epiphany refers to a "manifestation" or "appearance" of God. Throughout this season of the Church year, we hear many stories of how Jesus manifested the power of God in his earthly ministry, teaching with authority, performing miracles, casting out demons, and healing diseases. We celebrate this Season of Light by giving glory to Jesus Christ, the True Light who has come into the world. (Taken from our Sola Online Worship eResource.)



Keep up with St. John online
St. John Meyersville

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

Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org to view weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters.

For those on church premises wishing to worship in their vehicles, tune in to FM 101.5 at 10:15 a.m. Sunday mornings.

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