

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

December 2025 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



December 2025

VOL. 49 NO. 12

Greetings,

Advent heralds the arrival of God with us. It is the time when God comes to earth to live as we live. It is the time when God shares his love with us as we should share our love with Him and among ourselves. Advent prepares us to welcome the arrival of God - The Teacher - who by example shows us how He would like us to live. How we should share His love between our Lord God and ourselves and, more importantly, between you and me, between our neighbors and ourselves.

Advent gives us four weeks to ponder where we are in God's creation of things. Advent can be the time when we, as individuals, as members of the whole family of God, should turn a mirror on ourselves. And we should look at that reflection of ourselves and ponder our place within this large and wonderful family.

Isaiah expresses Advent's hope: *would that God would come and find us mindful of him.*

In the Gospels, Jesus suggests that because of the demands our life can put on each one of us, it is very easy to forget what our life should be all about - that we are, because of God; that we have, because of God. We are the benefactors of a truly wonderful God. Without our belief in our God, this world would certainly be a different place in which to live. God is the best thing to ever happen to the people of this planet.

Advent is four weeks when we should balance our busy schedules with times for stillness and reflection.

Jesus is coming to Bethlehem this Christmas. Bethlehem is now located wherever we are: wherever we love, trust, laugh, cry, and take a stand, wherever we tell the truth, forgive, or just wait on God to teach us what to do. We are the new Bethlehem! That is God's gift to us or, rather God's challenge to us.

May all of you have a wonderful Holiday Season and remember the true reason for the season.

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 – Kyle Newman 361-220-1310
 Secretary – Mike Cowley 361-277-9862
 Treasurer – Archie Abrameit 512-922-0975
 Financial Secretary – Pam Haun 361-275-2146

Parish Education – Rachel Nessel 361-571-9228
 Mission/Evangelism – Cathie Bettge 361-550-7274
 Property Team – Marvin Sager 361-243-1166
 Finance Team – Kathy Dunn 361-275-4322
 Parish Life Team – Lloyd Copeland 361-827-6301
 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 January 2026 Church Bell is Friday, December 19, 2025 by 9:00 a.m. You can drop off your articles at the church office, or e-mail them to stjohnevlutheran@juno.com. Thanks!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A COPY OF THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER BEFORE IT EVER GOES IN THE MAIL AND SAVE MONEY AS WELL?



If so, contact the church office by email at stjohnevlutheran@juno.com or by phone (361-277-8653) by call or text with your email address and we will be happy to send you The Church Bell via your email. This will save the church money spent on postage, paper, and copying.

What a great stewardship idea!!!

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.



PHONE PRAYER CHAIN
(immediate or long term needs)

If you have a prayer request or wish to be on the prayer chain, please contact Mary Wagner (361)275-9500. We ask that when placing a name on the prayer chain, you would please call back weekly with an update on the person's condition. In case of long term prayer needs, please give monthly updates. 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 Cavazos
 Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, Florida
 Lee Magruder - U.S. Army, Fort Riley, Kansas
 Michael Petrash II – 1st LT, U.S. Army
 Andrew Washington, L CPL - USMC, Pensacola, FL
 Koltyn Mayhall - USMC, North Carolina
 Zach McBrayer – Captain, U.S. Air Force, Germany
 John C. Otto – Army, National Guard



CHURCH PRAYER LIST:

Please remember these individuals in your prayers:

Hunter Jacob, Cole Ohrt, Ryon Preslar, Evelyn Diebel, Dorothy F. Diebel, Fred "Sandy" Sanders, Ryler James Jacob, Billy Guenther, Glenn Ruschhaupt, Christy Johns, Beatrice Fagg, David Diebel, Obert Sagebiel, Elizabeth Beard, Ray Butler, Cathie Bettge, Nick Picard, Pam Ficklen, Stacey Nelson, MayDell Jacob, Caroline Blain, Nancy Butler, Robert Moeller, Jonathan Pokluda, Family of Lovel Blain, Margie Swannack, Bobby Zengerle, CJ Constable; also, remember to pray for our members who have fallen away from St. John.



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.

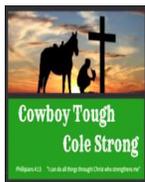


+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole:

Taken from Facebook Cowboy Tough Cole

Strong (October 10, 2025): It's that time of year again for the Annual Cowboy Tough Cole Strong team roping benefit. This is definitely one of Cole's favorite events of the year and he's so grateful to Justin Shelton and all those involved for doing this every year. Proceeds from this event go towards paying for Cole's care above and beyond what insurance won't pay for and as anyone with a disability knows it is a constant battle. We try to have a silent auction Saturday and Sunday depending on the number of items that are donated. So if you're interested in donating anything from baked/homemade goods, décor, or really anything please contact me at 361-550-8856. And we hope to see you there!♥

+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)



Mission of the Month of December

Samaritan's Purse

This organization has been busy helping all over the world. They were feeding desperate families in Gaza with over 1 million supplemental nutrition packets. Their medical teams provide first-aid care. Within Israel they continue to help build community centers and emergency medical stations. They went to Jamaica after the devastating hurricane helping to rebuild and provide medical care. And, of course, now Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes will warm the hearts of children and open the door for evangelism across the world. Your donation this month will go "where most needed" to equip Samaritan's Purse with the resources to fulfill their worldwide mission of relief and evangelism.

Rosenberg Disaster Warehouse Collection

During the month of December, our collection items will be **RUBBER GLOVES** for the warehouse in Rosenberg.

NALC WAREHOUSE & NALC WAREHOUSE-ROSENBERG

If you are giving a donation to one of these warehouses, please indicate which one. This designation must be made in order for the funds to be sent to your donation, national warehouse or Texas warehouse. *Rosenberg Warehouse checks need to be written out to Peace Lutheran Church with Rosenberg Warehouse on the memo line.*

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

Used Portals of Prayers are also being collected and delivered to Victoria Christian Assistance Ministries in Victoria. If you have questions, please contact Margie Swannack or Melissa Eckhardt. Thank you!

What's in a Flood Bucket?

- 1 five gallon bucket with lid (*check at schools, restaurants, donut shops*)
- 1 roll paper towels (*Walmart \$0.68*)
- 1 powder scouring cleanser (like comet) (*Walmart \$0.88*)
- 1 floor cleaner – small! (like Pine Sol, Fabuloso) (*Dollar Tree \$1.75*)
- 1 bottle bleach – small! (1/2 gal. or smaller) (*Dollar Tree \$1.75*)
- 1 scrub brush (*Dollar Tree \$1.75*)
- 1 pair rubber gloves (size L preferred, reusable) (*Dollar Tree \$1.75*)
- 1 pair leather gloves (size L preferred) (*H Depot 3pk/\$6.00*)
- 1 pair cotton gloves (size L preferred) (*H Depot \$1 ea. or Walmart 6pk/\$5.00*)
- 2 large contractor trash bags (3 mil)
- 2 rags (*cut up old bath or beach towels, dish towels, wash cloths*)

What's in a Heath Care Kit?

- 1 bath towel
- 1 wash cloth (optional)
- 1 shampoo (2 or 3 if travel size)
- 1 bar of soap (2 or 3 if travel size)
- 1 toothbrush (individually sealed) (*Dollar Tree 4pk/\$1.75*)
- 1 pack of floss (optional)
- 1 toothpaste (2 if travel size) (*Walmart \$0.77 to \$0.90*)
- 1 comb (*Dollar Tree 12 pk/\$1.75*)
- 1 deodorant (*Walmart \$1.18*)
- 1 nail clippers (optional)

Used Bibles/Prayer Books

- Gently Used Bibles in any language
- Prayer Books
- Children's Bible Stories

CHURCH & OTHER HAPPENINGS

Sunday School



Deepen your faith, connect with friends, and grow closer to God by joining us every Sunday at 9 am for Sunday School. All youth are welcome—see you there!

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."
~Proverbs 22:6~

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 be meeting on December 17th. Meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday monthly, unless otherwise noted.



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.

Youth Group

Youth group will be helping and participating in the Youth Christmas Program as well as decorating the church this month. Watch bulletins for further details. Please come join us!



Nursing Home Visitors

Virginia Abrameit would like to let everyone know that the list of Nursing Home Visitors will remain the same as last year unless someone would like to be added, removed, or moved to a different month. At this time, January is open if anyone is interested in filling this spot. Thank you for your time and effort in visiting our church members who are in the nursing home. You are each greatly appreciated.

Reader/Greeter Sign-Up Sheet

Please consider being a reader and/or greeter next year. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex or please call the office. Thank you!

Set Your Compass for Christmas with True North!

Join us on **Sunday, December 21** at **6 pm** in the sanctuary for a special Christmas celebration—**True North Christmas!** Our Sunday School youth will present the story of Jesus' birth through creative songs, skits, and audience participation, all woven with fun connections to this summer's True North wilderness adventure.

This meaningful program reminds us of the true reason for the season and highlights the talents and enthusiasm of our youngest members. After the program, stay for refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall as we continue celebrating this special time of year together. Mark your calendars and bring your family and friends. You won't want to miss this uplifting evening as we gather to follow our True North—Jesus—who leads us to the heart of Christmas!

Portals of Prayer

Both pocket size and large print October-December Portals of Prayer are available in the narthex.

To Our Church and Community Family,

We are excited to announce the launch of a new **Small Group Ministry** at St. John, and we would love for you to be part of it! Our first gathering will be **Wednesday, January 21, @ 6 PM** in the Parish Hall, and all adults—**men and women—are warmly invited.**

This group is open not only to our church family, but to **anyone in our wider community** who may be seeking connection, support, or a place to grow in faith. We encourage you to invite your friends, neighbors, and family members to join us. All are welcome, whether they regularly attend St. John or have never visited before.

Our time together will center around the *Life-to-Life Discipleship* curriculum, which guides us in meaningful conversations about faith and everyday life. This is a space for encouragement, learning, and fellowship—a place where we can walk alongside one another and strengthen our relationship with Christ.

To support families, **childcare will be provided**, and children old enough will enjoy their own *Life-to-Life Faith Formation* activities. They'll have fun, make friends, and explore God's love in a joyful, age-appropriate setting. It's important to us that this ministry nurtures not only adults, but our children as well.

We plan to meet **regularly** as we build this new ministry and discern the rhythm that best serves our church and community. To make our first gathering especially welcoming, **a meal will be provided** for all who attend. We hope you will join us for this exciting new chapter at St. John. If you have questions or would like to RSVP, please feel free to reach out.

With blessings and gratitude,
St. John

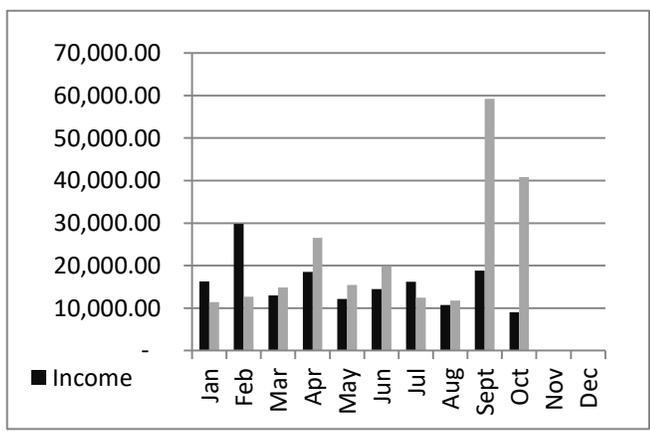
Altar Flowers

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.



SOME FYIs for YOU

- December 2 – Worship Team Meeting
- December 6 – Evening Worship Service-
with Communion
- December 7 – Confirmation Class
- December 10 – Women’s Bible Study
- December 13 – Evening Worhsip Srive
- December 14 – Confirmation Class
 - Property Team Meeting
 - Worship – Called Congregational Meeting ~ Budget
- December 15 – Finance Team Meeting @ 7 PM
- December 17 – Men’s Bible Study
- December 18 – Committee Reports Due
- December 19 – Newsletter Articles Due
- December 20 – Evening Worship Service-
with Communion
- December 21 – Youth Christmas Program
~ *True North Christmas* @ 6 PM
- December 23 – Council Meeting @ 7PM
- December 24 – Christmas Eve Service 3 PM
 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 10 PM
- December 25 – MERRY CHRISTMAS !!!
- December 27 – Evening Worship Service



General Fund – 2025 Income vs Expenses
General Fund chart without Designated Giving funds.

Church Council Minutes ~ October 28, 2025
Members Present: Archie Abrameit, Mike Cowley, Marv Sager, John Boor, Brenda Gohmert, Lloyd Copeland, Pam Haun, Kyle Newman, and Kathy Dunn
Call to Order: Kyle Newman called the meeting to order
Opening Devotion and Prayer: Opened with a prayer by John Boor
Minutes of Previous Regular Meeting: Brenda Gohmert made a motion to approve the minutes, Pam Haun seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Report presented by Archie Abrameit. Kathy Dunn made motion to approve. Marv Sager seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor Report:
 John Boor presented the following Pastor’s Report:
 I just returned from the Pastor’s retreat. Our topics were, Renew-Equip, Transform. The program was given by Rev. Amy Little, General Secretary of the NALC. Renew is a strategic and faithful planning which leads us to Equip leaders with practical teachings and pathways as we take the next step together. It starts with having a long-term plan for the congregation and we received a curriculum for starting a long-term plan. Renew is not about programs, it is about Spiritual Vitality, Missional Charity, and Relational depth. We also discussed the program from the NALC Life-to-Life discipleship which is a program that the NALC encourages churches to adopt and the manual for the program was distributed to those in attendance. On October 11, I baptized Wylder Garrett-Tyler Eichhorn. The parents are, Ryan and Abby Kay Eichhorn. I will be taking vacation 11/10/25 thru 11/15/25. Council also discussed developing a five year plan for the congregation and how to start that process. Will discuss further at future meetings.

Old Business:

NEW BUSINESS:

Finance Team Report:
 Kathy Dunn presented the following report:
 The Finance Committee met on Monday October 20, 2025 at 7 pm in the Parsonage. Those attending were Archie Abrameit, Pam Haun, Pastor John Boor, Kathy Dunn, Marv Sager, and M’Liss Moore. We reviewed the Financial Reports including the Year to date expenses and Budgeted amounts. We developed a Budget Proposal to be presented to the Council and later to the Congregation for consideration.

- Kathy Dunn
 Kathy Dunn presented the budget to council. Various changes and suggestions were made. The budget will be presented for congregational approval at the annual meeting.

Mission/Evangelism Team:
 Mission team did not meet in October.
 November Mission of the Month: At our September meeting we agreed to search for a Christmas family for November. In early October a Cuero family lost their home to fire. We chose the children, 14 year old boy and girl who are twins, to be our recipients for our Christmas gift giving this year.

November Collection: powder cleanser (ex. Comet) & scrub brushes.

I turned in the Mission Ev. Team budget request, finalized 2026 directory information, and turned in the needed information to council president for the Voting Roster as stipulated by our constitution.

Parish Life Team:

For October, our team plans to meet Friday, October 24 at 10:00 AM at the Parish Hall.

We will set up and decorate for our Mission Fest meal to be held on October 26. Lloyd and Karon will prepare the brisket with the congregation bringing the side dishes/desserts. A cake has been ordered for Pastor Appreciation to serve on that Sunday.

At this time, we will discuss and finalize additional needs for Mission Fest Sunday, our proposed budget for next year, and other upcoming events.

Bev reported that 4 Get Well Cards and 2 Sympathy Cards were sent.

Parish Ed Team Report:

Parish Ed did not meet in October.

We're very excited to share that the new playground is complete and ready for use! A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who helped make this project possible! Your support and hard work have created a space that truly shines as a beacon of welcome for families and children. We look forward to many years of laughter, smiles, and joyful giggles from our youngest members as they play and grow together in faith and friendship.

Attached are the draft Playground Use Policy (page 1) and Playground Rules Sign (page 2) for your review. If possible, I'd like to review and approve these documents at the upcoming council meeting.

Thank you! Rachel Nessel

Council discussed the playground use policy and playground rules. Marv Sager said he would get signage made to post in the playground area. Will include playground rules and liability statement saying that the playground is only for Church members and guests.

Worship Team:

Worship Team Minutes 10/7/25

The Worship Team met on October 7 at 7 in the Parish Hall. Everyone was present. We welcomed our newest member LeAnn Jander. We are excited to have a new face join us. We look at a sample of a different communion card, but after a lot of discussion, it was decided that we need to have a sample done in order to make decision. Pastor did state that he liked prayer request to stay separately. We also talked about Mission Feast and about Contemporary services/songs. It was

reminded to us that Contemporary Services are on the 5th Sunday but since we will have the polka service and just recently had a Advent. However, we will pick Contemporary songs every 4 to 6 weeks for the service. With no further discussion, we selected songs through December 7.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting December 2

Property Team Report:

Meeting Date – October 12, 2025

Members Present – Dickie Bettge, Glenn Ruschhaupt, Dennis Nagel, Vance Egg, John Boor, and Marv Sager

Items Completed:

Parsonage cleaned; Restroom and various kitchen supplies replenished; Various light bulbs replaced; Play Set installed; Various door locks lubricated; Orkin pest service quarterly application; Termite inspection by Orkin scheduled; Electrical outlets installed at flag pole light; New trees deep watered; Basement cleaned

Items Discussed:

- **Main church exterior cleaning and repairs** – Painting operation progress and anticipated completion date.
- **Cleaning church sign** – Cardenas Painting has agreed to wash rock surface.
- **2026 Property Team Budget** – Proposed draft reviewed without change.
- **Flagpole straightening**– Further investigation indicates that existing base bolts are insufficient in length to accommodate thick enough shims to achieve levelling the base. Possibility of increased base slope will be carefully monitored in event that moving the pole onto a new concrete foundation becomes necessary.
- **Flagpole Painting** - Cardenas Painting will paint while man lift is available for church painting.
- **Sanctuary roof and window leaks** – Cardenas has agreed to repair/caulk metal flashing and caulk various windowpane framing.
- **Playground Gate Locks** – Combination locks have been acquired and installed.

Old Stone Church – Motion to purchase new dehumidifier approved at September meeting.

Items for Council Approval – None

Next Scheduled Meeting: 11/09/25

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

Marv Sager made a motion for council to approve the donation for the mini-split unit in the office. Pam Haun seconded. The motion carried.

Marv Sager brought up the office computer again, and it was decided for Marv to go ahead a purchase a new computer with upgrades.

Tabled discussion on AED.

Discussed Christmas edition ad in Cuero record.

Approval of Committee Reports: Brenda Gohmert made a motion to approve all team reports. John Boor seconded. Motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Mike Cowley

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

All Is Miracle: Christmas Vespers 2025

Join us for one of TLU's most cherished traditions, the annual Christmas Vespers! This year's theme, All Is Miracle, promises an unforgettable service filled with the joyous spirit of the season. Vespers will take place on campus at the Jackson Auditorium, December 5-7, and at St. Martin's Lutheran Church in Austin on December 14. Tickets, which are free but required for the on-campus services, are available at the TLU Bookstore, online, and via telephone. No tickets are required for the Austin service. Service times for Friday and Saturday are 7:30 p.m.

Both the Seguin and Austin Sunday services are at 4 p.m.

CALLED CONGREGATION MEETING

There will be a called congregation meeting on December 14, 2025 after our church service.

On the agenda is the 2026 Budget.

JOIN ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH FOR OUR ANNUAL

Christmas Program



Sunday, December 21
6 pm

Celebrate Jesus' birth with creative skits, songs, & audience participation, all brought to life with a joyful True North adventure that points us to Christ.

Reception to follow in the Parish Hall

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1764 MEYERSVILLE RD, MEYERSVILLE, TX 77974



VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:

December 7

Greeters - Cheryl Bramlette
Reader - Dwight Jander

December 14

Greeters - The Hays Family
Reader - Wanda Hays

December 21

Greeters - Marv & Norrean Sager
Reader - Ayla Nessel

December 28

Greeters - Cathie & Dickie Bettge
Reader - Cathie Bettge

December Communion Assistant

Pam Haun

December Altar Guild

Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

December Nursing Home Visitor

Linda Ruschhaupt & Dianna Bartosh

LOOKING AHEAD. . .

January 4

Greeters - Beverly Bodden
Reader - Beverly Bodden

January Communion Assistant

Wanda Hays

January Altar Guild

Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

January Nursing Home Visitor

Virginia Abrameit

Volunteers: If you are down for a service, you are responsible for getting a substitute if you cannot make it. Please let the church office know if you have switched so the correct names can be in the bulletin.

Happy Birthday to:

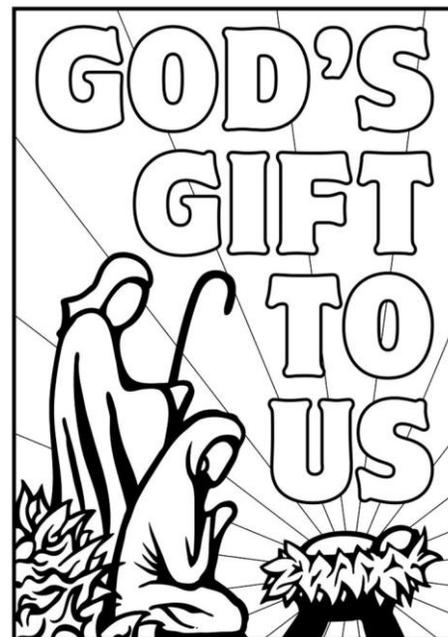
- 2 - Virginia Abrameit
- 3 - Peggy Guenther
- 14 - Carol Ann Sagebiel
Vance Egg
- 19 - Kaleigh Newman
Wanda Hays
- 21 - LaRae Kelley
- 24 - Nicole Bauer
Weston Ohrt
Morgan Goebel
- 27 - Randy Wendel
Richard Bettge
- 28 - Cathie Bettge



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

Anniversary Greetings to:

- 1 - Morgan & Sharon Goebel
- 8 - Patrick & Ashley Ohrt
- 22 - Charles & Susan Egg
- 30 - John & Margie Swannack



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 newsletter.



December 2025

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Meyersville, TX**

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

**Mission of the Month:
Samaritan's Purse**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>*Please note: All events subject to change. Please look on our website: http://stjohnmeyersville.org/ or our Facebook page: St. John Meyersville for changes & updates.</i></p>	1	2 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours 7 PM Worship Team Meeting	3 1:30 PM Quilters	4 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours	5	6 6:00 PM Evening Worship Service 
<p>2nd Sunday in Advent 7 9:00 AM Confirmation 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship </p>	8	9 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours	10 10:00 AM Comm. Service Yorktown Manor 12:30 PM Women's Bible Study @ Parsonage 1:30 PM Quilters	11 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours	12	13 6:00 PM Evening Worship Service
<p>3rd Sunday in Advent 14 8:00 AM Property Team Meeting 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship After Worhip – Called Congregational Mtg. – Budget</p>	15 7 PM Finance Team Meeting	16 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours	17 1:30 PM Quilters 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study	18 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours **Committee Reports Due, please email to Council Members.	19 **Newsletter deadline. Please have all articles to office.	20 6:00 PM Evening Worship Service 
<p>4th Sunday in Advent 21 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship 6:00 PM Youth Christmas Program </p>	22	23 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours 7 PM Council Meeting	Christmas Eve 24 3 PM Christmas Eve Service 10 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 	Christmas Day 25  MERRY CHRISTMAS	26	27 6:00 PM Evening Worship Service
<p>1st Sunday after Christmas 28 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship</p>	29	30 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours	31 1:30 PM Quilters			<p>Office Hours: *Please see the Bulletins </p>