

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## *January 2026 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 2026

VOL. 50 NO. 1

Greetings,

Once again, we are starting a New Year. I am looking forward to the new opportunities for new ministries in the New Year. We have been talking about several new ministries for the coming year and hope to have a positive response.

We will be implementing several ministries from the NALC Renew-Equip-Transform ministry. One of the ministries starting in January is Life-to-Life Discipleship. It will be led by Johnna Picard and Rachel Nessel.

This ministry is to help strengthen faith, build deeper relationships, and offer a welcoming space for both our members and the wider community. This group will include adult discipleship and child-friendly faith activities, creating a meaningful experience for families as well.

This ministry will have its first meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, in the Parish Hall. We welcome all and feel free to bring friends or relatives.

We will also be forming another group to establish a long-term plan for St. John. This will be led by Rachel Nessel. This group will help set a ministry direction for the near and long-term for St. John. This group will have its first meeting on the first or second Saturday in February. The first meeting will be an all-day retreat and will have a few one-hour meetings late February or early March.

If you would be willing to serve on this group, please contact Rachel or myself. We need members from all age groups to participate in order to plan for our future and to recognize and fulfill the needs of different age groups in order for our church to continue for generations to come.

We have also been discussing several other ministries that we hope will fill the needs of our congregation and will be discussing them in the near future. If you have any suggestions on how we can better serve our congregation and community please talk to Rachel or myself. We are open to any suggestions you may have.

I wish all of you a blessed and prosperous 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 – 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 February 2026 Church Bell is Friday, January 23, 2026 by 9:00 a.m. You can drop off your articles at the church office, or e-mail them to [stjohnevlutheran@juno.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 – 1<sup>st</sup> 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, Bobby Zengerle, CJ Constable, Kay Nagel; 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.

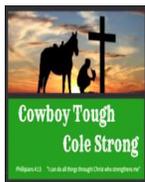


### **+ UPDATE + Special Prayers for Cole:**

#### **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 January** **Boys & Girls Club of Cuero**

Boys and Girls Club of Cuero is empowering kids by offering:

1. Safe Place with a consistent and welcoming environment
2. Workforce Readiness by developing their skills to apply to real-world experiences
3. Youth Advocacy to ensure safety, meals, and more
4. Mentorship with positive adult mentors
5. Mental Health building that equips them with skills to manage their emotions

### **Rosenberg Disaster Warehouse Collection**

During the month of January, our collection items will be **3 mL CONTRACTOR TRASH BAGS** 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 Meliss 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 12:30 PM at the Parsonage.

**Mens's Bible Study** will be meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

Watch bulletins for upcoming youth adventures! Can't wait for our new year of exciting activities!



## Portals of Prayer

Both pocket size and large print January-March 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

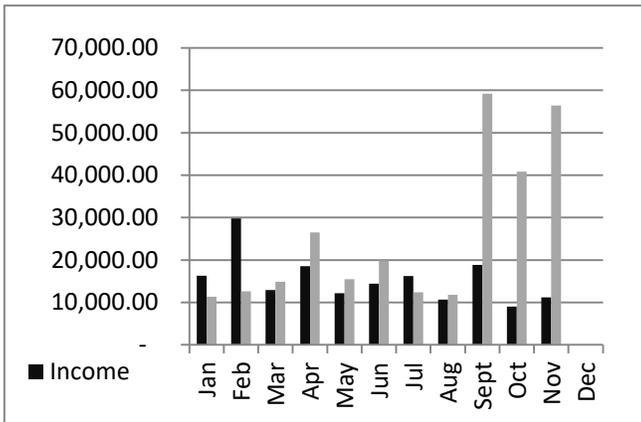
- January 1 – Happy New Year !!!
- January 2 – Community Movie Night @ 6:30 PM
- January 3 – Evening Worship Service—  
with Communion
- January 4 – Confirmation Class  
– ANNUAL REPORTS DUE
- January 6 – Epiphany of Our Lord
- January 8 – Audit Committee Meeting @ 5:30 PM
- January 10 – Evening Worshp Serive
- January 11 – Baptism of Our Lord  
– Property Team Meeting  
– Confirmation Class
- January 12 – 4- H Meeting @ 6:30 PM  
– Finance Team Meeting @ 7 PM
- January 14 – Women's Bible Study
- January 17 – Evening Worship Service—  
with Communion
- January 10 – Confirmation Class  
– Worshp Serive followed by Annual  
Congregational Meeting
- January 21 – Small Group Ministry Mtg. @ 6 PM  
– Mission/Ev. Team Meeting @ 6PM  
– Men's Bible Study
- January 22 – Committee Reports Due
- January 23 – Newsletter Articles Due
- January 24 – Evening Worship Service
- January 25 – Confirmation Class  
– Worship with Installation of Council
- January 27 – Council Meeting @ 7PM
- January 31 – Evening Worship Service



## Thank You Note Received

**Thank you for all of the well wishes and prayers for Bobby's surgery & recovery.**

**Bobby & Phillyce  
Zengerle**



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

**Church Council Minutes ~ November 25, 2025**

**Members Present:** Kathy Dunn, Archie Abrameit, Mike Cowley, Marv Sager, John Boor, Kyle Newman, and Rachel Nessel

**Call to Order:** Kyle Newman called the meeting to order

**Opening Devotion and Prayer:** Kathy Dunn gave an opening devotion

**Minutes of Previous Regular Meeting:** Archie Abrameit made a motion to approve the minutes. Kathy Dunn seconded. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Report presented by Archie Abrameit.

**Pastor Report:**

John Boor presented the following Pastor’s Report: Per our discussion at the last meeting, I am putting together a plan for developing a long-term plan. I will have it to present at our next council meeting.

I am also working on putting together a Life-to-Life-Discipleship program. It is a program from the NALC that they highly encourage all congregations to implement. It is part of the Renew-Equip-Transform program.

Effective January first we will have a new Dean and a new Bishop’s Assistant for this area. Jared Stillions, Pastor in Hallettsville, will be our new dean. Bobby Vitek, retired pastor from Fredericksburg, will be the new Bishop’s assistant replacing Pastor Braaten.

**Old Business:**

No old business

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Finance Team Report:**

The Finance committee did not meet this month. Budget is ready to be presented to the Congregation. Kathy Dunn.

Kathy Dunn made a motion to hold a Congregational meeting on December 14 for budget approval. Archie Abrameit seconded. The motion carried.

**Mission/Evangelism Team:**

Mission Ev Team decided via text message to designate: Samaritan's Purse as our December Mission of the Month.

The December Rosenberg Warehouse collection will be rubber gloves.

Boys and Girls Club of Cuero will be our January Mission of the Month.

The January Rosenberg Warehouse collection will be 3 mL contractor trash bags.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2026 @ 6 pm in the parish hall.

**Parish Life Team:**

Reformation Sunday, Mission Fest, was held October 26.

Our team met, set up, and decorated for the brisket meal with the congregation bringing the side dishes/desserts.

Pastor was presented with a cake for Pastor Appreciation. The extra brisket, not eaten, was sold to church members. The money collected covered the total expenses for this meal.

Bev reported that 3 Get Well Cards and 2 Sympathy Cards were sent.

**Parish Ed Team Report:**

Parish Ed did not meet in November.

Please see the following updates and action items for our upcoming council meeting:

- Camp Lone Star Summer Camp – interest in Camp Lone Star this summer is already very strong! Ten children (eight boys and two girls)—a mix of members and non-members—have committed to participating in the Pioneer Program scheduled for July 5–10, and each child has already sold or is currently selling at least one box of candy to help cover costs. We are requesting council approval to register our group and submit the required \$175-per-camper deposit as soon as possible. The full cost of camp is \$809 for ages 7–12 and \$879 for ages 13–18, with final payment due two weeks before camp begins. Our campers are eager and motivated, and they plan to continue fundraising through activities such as breakfast taco sales and spaghetti plate dinners to help offset these expenses.
- Small Group Ministry - We would like to launch a new Small Group Ministry at St. John to help strengthen faith, build deeper relationships, and

offer a welcoming space for both our members and the wider community. This group will include adult discipleship and child-friendly faith activities, creating a meaningful experience for families as well. We are requesting council approval to send the attached introductory letter and to begin this new ministry at St. John in January.

- Youth Group – Our Youth Group launched a new series in October centered around The Chosen, and the teens have really embraced the discussions and fellowship time. We continue to meet monthly and have a strong, engaged group attending each session.
- Christmas Program – Our Youth Christmas Program is scheduled for December 21 at 6 p.m. Letters inviting families to participate will be arriving in homes shortly. Practices have begun during Sunday School and will continue throughout December as we prepare for this special celebration.

Archie Abrameit made a motion to approve the down payment for 10 campers for a total down payment of \$1,750. Marv Sager seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Council also discussed a letter to be sent out announcing a new small group ministry. Kathy made a motion to approve the mailing of the letter. Archie Abrameit seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Worship Team:**

Worship Team did not meet.

Next meeting is December 2

#### **Property Team Report:**

Meeting Date – November 16, 2025

**Members Present** – Dickie Bettge, Mitchell Jank, Dennis Nagel, Vance Egg, John Boor, and Marv Sager

#### **Items Completed:**

Parsonage cleaned; Restroom and various kitchen supplies replenished; Various light bulbs replaced; New outlets installed at cemetery flag pole; Various door locks lubricated; Termite inspection by Orkin; Insurance adjuster storm damage inspection; Downed trees and limbs in church pasture cut in preparation for stacking and future burning; Basement cleaned

#### **Items Discussed:**

- **Main church exterior cleaning and repairs** – Painting operation completion anticipated by November 22nd. Significant repairs to window framing during painting process were also noted and approved.

- **Storm damage repairs** – Insurance adjuster meeting and inspection on November 12th summarized, along with discussion on related repair detail alternatives.
- **Playground Policy** – Policy reviewed along with plans for related signage. Thank you. Rachel!!

**Old Stone Church** – Meeting held on November 19th. Reviewed and discussed repair of storm damages.

**Items for Council Approval** – None

**Next Scheduled Meeting:** 12/14/25

#### **OTHER NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**Approval of Committee Reports:** Archie Abrameit made a motion to approve all reports that were presented. Rachel Nessel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Mike Cowley

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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.

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***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***

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May this New Year brings  
you a peace filled life,  
warmth and togetherness  
in your family and much  
prosperity!

**Happy New Year!**



The Worship Team, Church Council, and Pastor John are working diligently to provide different ways to meet the needs of our congregation.

One of those needs is to offer alternatives for worship. If you are not able to attend the regular Sunday morning service, or if you would just like a change, the Worship Team would like to invite you to give the Saturday evening service a try. The service is presented on a large Screen and includes all of the essentials of Lutheran Worship. The music selections are varied and include traditional hymns, Christian contemporary, and are accompanied by popular artists. We hope that offering this alternative, all members will have access to a weekly service and take part in the worship life of St. John here in Meyersville. It takes a strong, active congregation to build our church and keep it alive. Please consider attending one of the services. You never know what blessings you might receive with your attendance.

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### **Committee Annual Reports**

Just a friendly reminder. All annual reports from committees will be due by Sunday, January 4, 2026. Thank you!

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### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

**The annual congregational meeting will be held on  
January 18, 2026 after our worship service.**

**Please make plans to attend.  
Thank You!**

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*We wish everyone a very happy, blessed, prosperous new year!  
May the Lord continue to bless us all with His Love and Forgiveness!*

**Happy New year 2026**



**A New Year is like a blank book, and the pen is in your hands. It is your chance to write a beautiful story for yourself. Happy New Year 2026!**

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## VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:

### January 4

Greeters - Beverly Bodden  
Reader - Beverly Bodden

### January 11

Greeters - Trish Hood  
Reader - Trish Hood

### January 18

Greeters - Youth Group  
Reader - LaRae Kelley

### January 25

Greeters - Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt  
Reader - Kathy Dunn

### January Communion Assistant

Wanda Hays

### January Altar Guild

Betty Diebel & Virginia Jank

### January Nursing Home Visitor

Virginia Abrameit

## LOOKING AHEAD. . .

### February 1

Greeters - Archie & Virginia Abrameit  
Reader - Ayla Nessel

### February Communion Assistant

Johnny Jank

### February Altar Guild

Cathie Bettge & Brenda Boor

### February Nursing Home Visitor

Laurie Pokluda

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

## Happy Birthday to:

2 - Rose Mueller  
6 - Hayden Leist  
7 - Joan Wendel  
9 - Leon Wallace  
12 - Nick Picard  
13 - Feather Diebel  
14 - Jeff Zengerle  
21 - Julianne Stiles  
22 - Terri Jank  
23 - Nikki Carver  
24 - MacKenna Diebel  
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](http://stjohnmeyersville.org) for weekly bulletins & monthly newsletter.

# January 2026

## St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Meyersville, TX

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

**Mission of the Month:**  
**Boys & Girls Club of Cuero**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>*Please note: All events subject to change. Please look on our website: <a href="http://stjohnmeyersville.org/">http://stjohnmeyersville.org/</a> or our Facebook page: <a href="#">St. John Meyersville</a> for changes &amp; updates.</i></p>	<p>Office Hours: *Please see the Bulletins</p> 			<p><b>1</b></p> 	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>6:30 PM Community Movie Night <i>(youth fundraiser)</i></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Evening Worship Service</p> 
<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas 4</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Confirmation 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship</p>  <p><b>ANNUAL REPORTS DUE</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>Epiphany of Our Lord</b> 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>1:30 PM Quilters</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours 5:30 PM Audit Committee Meeting</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Evening Worship Service</p>
<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany 11</b></p> <p><b>Baptism of Our Lord</b> 8:00 AM Property Team Meeting 9:00 AM Confirmation 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>6:30 PM 4 – H Meeting 7 PM Finance Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Comm. Service Yorktown Manor 12:30 PM Women's Bible Study @ Parsonage 1:30 PM Quilters</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Evening Worship Service</p> 
<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany 18</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Confirmation 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship followed by Annual Congregational Meeting</p> 	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>1:30 PM Quilters 6:00 PM Small Group Ministry Meeting 6:00 PM Mission/Ev Team Meeting 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours</p> <p><b>**Committee Reports Due, please email to Council Members.</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>**Newsletter deadline. Please have all articles to office.</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Evening Worship Service</p>
<p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany 25</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Confirmation 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship – Installation of Council</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours 7 PM Council Meeting</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>1:30 PM Quilters</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>6:00 PM Evening Worship Service</p> 