

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

April 2026 Newsletter

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A North American Lutheran Church
1764 Meyersville Road
Meyersville, TX 77974-4143
stjohnmeyersville.org

CONTACT US

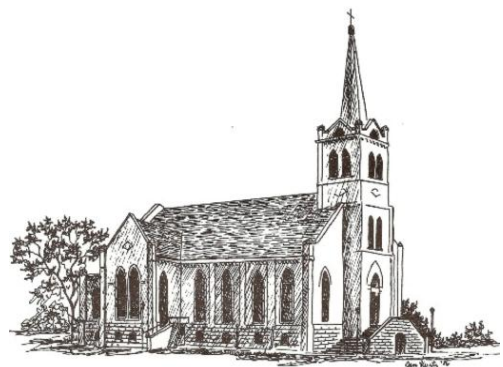
Church Office: 361-277-8653
Office Hours: see weekly bulletin
stjohnnevlutheran@juno.com
Pastor's Office Hours in the Parish Hall:
Tues. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Thurs. 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Pr. John's Cell: 361-243-0373)
jboor25@yahoo.com

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!





Greetings,

I would like to thank the members who participated in creating a Roadmap for the future of St. John. This group met all day on February 7th to discuss the Future of St. John and put together a plan for the next 3 years.

The group discussed many issues and obstacles that we at St. John face regarding the future of the Church. The listed the strengths of our congregation as well as the weaknesses and threats to the survival of our church.

The Executive Summary they arrived at states: St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church stands on a rich heritage of faith, deep community roots, and a welcoming spirit. Through the Renew Retreat, our congregation identified a shared desire to strengthen intergenerational relationships, increase engagement, expand outreach, and ensure our traditions remain meaningful while embracing thoughtful growth.

It is encouraging that this group took a serious look at where we are as we represent God in our community and how we can improve who we are and how we move forward as we grow God's Kingdom.

The council will review it in the near future and then it will be presented to the congregation. It is the first step toward our future and I hope that our congregation will be as excited about our future as I am and will join our efforts to grow and improve not only our church but God's kingdom.

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 – M'Liss Moore 361-564-4497
 Financial Secretary – Pam Haun 361-275-2146

Parish Education – Kathy Dunn 361-275-4322
 Mission/Evangelism – Cathie Bettge 361-550-7274
 Property Team – Marvin Sager 361-243-1166
 Finance Team – Laurie Wendel 361-564-6319
 Parish Life Team – Lloyd Copeland 361-827-6301
 Worship Team - Brenda Gohmert 361-649-1606



Notes from the Church Secretary

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 May 2026 Church Bell is Friday, April 24, 2026 by 9:00 a.m. You can drop off your articles at the church office, or e-mail them to stjohnelutheran@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 stjohnelutheran@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, Pam Ficklen, Stacey Nelson, MayDell Jacob, Caroline Blain, Nancy Butler, Robert Moeller, Jonathan Pokluda, Kay Nagel, Kevin Bodden, John Swannack, Carol Ann Sagebiel, Feather Diebel; also, remember to pray for our members who have fallen away from St. John.



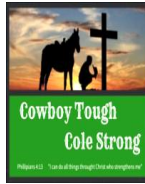
Nursing Home: Cuero Nursing & Rehab. ~ Marjorie Ideus

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 (March 22, 2026): Hello everyone! Well over due for an update on Cole so I figured I'd post something. Cole is staying healthy and doing well. He did take the spring semester off for college but plans to get back at it in the fall. He still faithfully walks on his machine and uses his robotic arm machine twice weekly as well as working at home. He has been helping his Dad get his spraying business off the ground and helping me with billing which has been such a huge help. I know he'd much rather be out there working side by side with his Dad but until then I'm grateful he can contribute in this way. Cole is very sharp and organized so he's been a blessing. I also wanted to share the flyer for the annual fundraiser for Cole's foundation coming up in May. As a lot of you know this is one of Cole's favorite events of the year. The mission of this foundation is to raise funds to help pay for therapy for those with no insurance or limited insurance. We are also branching out to help pay for medical equipment, supplies, or care for those who need it as well. This is a cause close to our hearts and we'd like to personally invite all of you to this amazing event! I'll include the flyer but if you'd like to come and are having trouble booking online just message me. With that I'll close and thank you all dearly for all your continued prayers for Cole's healing. Keep praying-his miracle is coming.♥



+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)*

6th Annual Kickin' It For COWS
Couples Purse and Camo Bingo
Friday, May 8, 2026
 Anne Friar Thomas Homemaking Building • Friar Ag Center
 Martin Luther King Drive, Cuero, TX

Doors Open at 5:00 PM Bingo Begins at 6:30 PM
 Individual Tickets \$50.00
Round Table of 8 \$400.00 or Two Round Tables of 8 - \$800.00
Two Rectangle Tables for 14 - \$750.00
 Extra Cards for \$20.00
 Decorate your own table from 12 PM to 4 PM (if you want)
 Top 3 Prize to the most creative tables
 Pork Fajita Meal and Beverages Provided

COLE OHRT WALK STRONG

- All tables and tickets must be paid for in advance
- PayPal • Cash or Check only
- Mail and In person payments • No tables or tickets will be sold at the door

Make checks payable to: Cole Ohrt Walk Strong
 COWS Benefit c/o Amanda Luddeke
 4208 Retama Circle Victoria, TX 77901
 For more information at (361) 648-6147, Julie: (361) 550-8856
 Leslie: (361) 645-4808 • Buildingkidsteps@gmail.com

SCAN ME

Mission of the Month of March
NORTH TX DISASTER
WAREHOUSE IN TYLER

We chose the North Texas Disaster Warehouse in Tyler in response to a letter received from Bob Tardiff, the coordinator. They want to insulate their metal building to maintain moderate temperatures to house the large amounts of liquids along with bleach and other requested cleaners. It is important they don't freeze. This request has been issued to every congregation in the North TX/OK Mission District. The cost of the closed cell foam insulation is \$4,527. Should they receive above this amount those funds will only be used for disaster response.

Rosenberg Disaster Warehouse Collection

During the month of April, our collection items will be **RUBBER, COTTON, OR LEATHER 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 Cathie Bettge 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 2nd Wednesday at 12:30 PM at the Parsonage.

Mens's Bible Study will be meeting on April 15th. 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

Next meeting is planned for Wednesday, April 29, 2026 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. We will be have Raising Canes & Tea for dinner. Youth members will have a devotion and then a challenging game of volleyball.



Portals of Prayer

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

Note from Pastor: There will be **NO EVENING SERVICE** on Saturday, April 4, 2026 and **NO CONFIRMATION CLASS** on Sunday, April 5, 2026.

SOME FYIs for YOU



- April 1 – Quilters @ 1:30 PM
- April 2 – Maundy Thursday Service @ 7 PM
- April 3 – Good Friday Service @ 7 PM
- April 4 – NO EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE
- April 5 – Easter Sunday
 - Sunrise Service @ 7:30 AM
 - Easter Sunrise Breakfast @ 8:00 AM
 - NO CONFIRMATION CLASS
 - Sunday School/Easter Egg Hunt @ 9 AM
 - Easter Service @ 10:15 AM
- April 7 – Worship Team Meeting @ 7 PM
- April 8 – Comm. Service @ Yorktown Manor @ 10 AM
 - Women's Bible Study @ 12:30 PM
 - Quilters @ 1:30 PM
 - Life-to-Life Discipleship Meeting @ 7 PM
- April 11 – Evening Worship Service @ 6 PM
- April 12 – Property Team Meeting @ 8 AM
 - Confirmation Class @ 9 AM
- April 15 – Quilters @ 1:30 PM
 - Men's Bible Study @ 7 PM
- April 18 – Evening Worship Service- with Communion @ 6 PM
- April 19 – Confirmation Class @ 9 AM
 - Grave Decoration Day~ Church Under the Trees @ 10:15 AM
- April 20 – 4-H Meeting @ 6:30 PM
 - Finance Team Meeting @ 7 PM
- April 21 – Pastor @ CAMAL House
- April 22 – Quilters @ 1:30 PM
- April 23 – Committee Reports Due
- April 24 – Newsletter Articles Due
- April 25 – Evening Worship Service @ 6 PM
- April 26 – Confirmation Class @ 9 AM
- April 28 – Council Meeting @ 7PM
- April 29 – Quilters @ 1:30 PM
 - Youth Group @ 6:30-8:00 PM

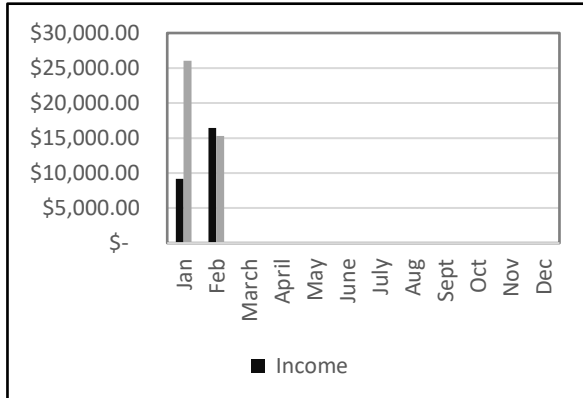
UPCOMING EASTER SUNDAY EVENTS @ ST. JOHN

On Easter Sunday, our Youth Group will lead the Sunrise Service at 7:30 am in the church. A Pancake Breakfast will be served in the Parish House between the Sunrise Service and Sunday School—everyone is welcome!

During Sunday School at 9 am, we will have our Annual Resurrection Egg Hunt for 3rd graders and younger. Eggs signify new life in Jesus! Children should bring an Easter basket. 4th graders and older will help hide the eggs and/or work on Easter crafts, including a special painting activity, giving our youth a creative way to celebrate the day.

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.



General Fund – 2026 Income vs Expenses
General Fund chart without Designated Giving funds.

Church Council Minutes ~ February 24, 2026

Members Present: Lloyd Copeland, Mike Cowley, Marv Sager, Glenn Ruschhaupt, John Boor, Kathy Dunn, Brenda Gohmert, Laurie Wendel, M'Liss Moore, and Pam Haun

Call to Order: Glenn Ruschhaupt called the meeting to order

Opening Devotion and Prayer: John Boor provided an opening prayer.

Minutes of Previous Regular Meeting: Pam Haun made a motion to approve the January council minutes. Marv Sager seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Financial Report: Report presented by M'Liss Moore.

Pastor's Report:

The planning team met and are working on a final report. We hope to have the report completed for the March council meeting.

The NALC has drawn new districts for the Bishop assistants. The new maps are available on the NALC website.

Old Business:

No old business

NEW BUSINESS:

Finance Team Report:

The committee met on February 16, 2026.

Attendees were Pastor John Boor, Marvin Sager, M'Liss Moore, Pam Haun and Laurie Wendel. The financial report was discussed. Marvin reported that the insurance money should cover the repairs needed for the stained-glass windows and the damages to the parish house and parsonage. The cancellation of the weekly ad in the Cuero Record was also discussed. New repairs are needed to the elevator that should cost around 2,500. We discussed the memorials and counting the money for the weekly services.

The next meeting will be April 20, 2026.

Respectfully submitted, Laurie Wendel

Mission/Evangelism Team:

Mission Ev Team did not meet this month.

MISSION of the MONTH: CAMAL HOUSE of CUERO

Rosenberg Warehouse collection item: straw brooms

Parish Life Team:

Our team met, via texting on February 6, to discuss our committee's needs and responsibilities for February. None was communicated.

Bev reported that 4 Get Well Cards and 2 Sympathy Cards have been sent at this time.

Parish Ed Team Report:

The Parish Ed committee met on 2-15-26. Attending were Joie Caskey, Laurie Pokluda, Trish Hood, Kathy Dunn. Pastor John Boor, and Rachel Nessel. We opened with prayer.

We discussed plans for the year:

Palm Sunday March 29th: We discussed the children processing into church with palm branches and singing. We need to discuss with the Worship Committee- Johnny Jank.

Easter Sunday April 5th: Sunrise Service is usually led by the Youth Group. We will ask Sara Newman about plans and how we can help. Usually the Youth Group has a drama.

Pancake Breakfast: Usually, Brian Diebel and Jeff Zengerle bring their cooking grills. And we could ask Lloyd Copeland (Parish Life) to help or purchase the ingredients. Joie will talk to these individuals. Daren and Dawn Otto have helped a lot in the past.

Camp Lone Star July 5-10th: 10 campers, composed of some members and other future members, are signed up. We need to ask Johnna Picard if she will be able to serve as their leader like last year.

Vacation Bible School: We decided on the week of July 27-31, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 12 noon. We have chosen the Group Curriculum, "Rainforest Falls – Exploring the Nature of God." This is a very popular curriculum and we hope to share some

of the materials with or from other churches. There's lots of information about it on Facebook Page "Rainforest Falls VBS". Joie will work the kitchen and Laurie Pokluda will handle the Art in the Parish House. Rachel's mother can also help with the Art. Trish Hood will help with Music. Rachel will help where she can depending on their summer schedule; she will know more later in the summer. We will reach out to Youth helpers from last year – Shelby and Kaliegh Newman and Morgan Zengerle and Carson. LaRae Kelley has also volunteered to help all week. Kally Wendel Garrett also plans to be involved.

Rally Sunday August 2: This date will be two weeks before most schools start.

Sunday School Attendance continues to be low.....

FCS Youth Gathering: Kaleigh Newman went to this last year and they have invited her to be a part of the leadership this year. She was very impressed with it last year!

Kathy Dunn ~ Team Leader

Worship Team:

WORSHIP TEAM MEETING: 3RD FEBRUARY 2026

Attended by: Pastor John Boor, Carol Ann Sagebiel, Johnny Jank, Virginia Jank, Bruce Weise, and Candace Cowley.

The meeting was opened in prayer.

Existing business items discussed:

- Pastor John & Johnny will renew effort to get the training setup and scheduled with the six new Communion Assistant volunteers so we can get them in the rotation.
- Discussed continuing to remind congregation about alternative Saturday evening service if they are unable to make the Sunday morning service.
- We are in need of getting more communion cards made and it will need to be from a new source since the current ones were printed by Standard Printing, which has now closed. Johnny Jank volunteered to get prices from vendors in Victoria and get them made. This has been completed and cards are available to place in the pews as needed.
- Programing the organ for playing liturgy and some of the more popular hymns was discussed. Bruce and Pastor John will get the organ technician to assist Bruce in working through this process.

New Business items discussed:

- Ash Wednesday service discussion – Pastor John shared the theme of the mid-week services and

the Sat/Sunday services as well. We will have communion and imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday.

- Lenten services discussion included plans for Maundy evening service and a Tenebrae service on Good Friday
- Discussion about how encouraging it is to see youth assisting in the service including reading of the lessons and picking up offering, as well as giving the Children's message. It was suggested we remind all readers to speak clearly and slowly to effectively deliver the lessons.
- We also discussed additional ways to "advertise" our services. One method that needs an update is the website. It was mentioned that was a goal at our planning session and is being worked on getting a website and application we can work with.
- There being no additional items to discuss the team moved to picking songs for Sunday's from 22nd of February through May 3rd. March 29th is a 5th Sunday which is typically reserved for a contemporary service. Since that is during Lent the team decided to use the Country Gospel service format for the 12th of April service. Johnny will work on that and get a draft back to the team for their approval.

The team closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Property Team Report:

Meeting Date – February 22, 2026

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

Items Completed: Parsonage cleaned; Restroom and various kitchen supplies replenished; Various light bulbs replaced; Parish Hall commode repaired; New trees deep watered; Additional meetings with insurance adjuster and potential contractors; Water line leak repaired; AC filters checked/replaced; Basement cleaned; Congregation approval for Property Team's discretionary spending of insurance funding for storm damage repairs; Various elevator repairs

Items Discussed:

Spring congregation workday – Scheduled for Saturday, March 21st at 9:00 am. Proposed tasks include rutting repair, tree trimming, etc.; **Storm damage repairs** – Communications with insurance adjuster along with potential repair contractors continue. Specific bids being solicited for parsonage roof replacement, parsonage ceiling repair and sanctuary nursery ceiling repairs.; **Elevator repairs** – Proposal will be executed for repair of hydraulic cylinder fluid

leak. Small sign discouraging attempted use without operator present will be posted at elevator doors.; **Open pasture gates at cemetery** – Applicable gates will each be secured with chain and combination lock.

Old Stone Church – Next meeting in April of 2026

Items for Council Approval – None

Next Scheduled Meeting: 03/08/26

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

AED Follow up: Council discussed the proposal of the AED for \$126 per month, and was generally in favor. Council wants to confirm the duration of the agreement (is it for one year or longer?) or see a draft version of the agreement. Lloyd Copeland will have the details at next council meeting so a decision can be made.

Computer update: Council already approved a new computer, and it sounds like it is ready to be delivered and have the old files transferred to the new computer.

Approval of Committee Reports: Laurie Wendel made a motion to approve all reports that were presented. Brenda Gohmert seconded the motion. The 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

Altar Guild

If you would like to participate in the Maundy Thursday STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR, please meet at church at 6:00 to rehearse carrying out all the items.

~Carol Ann Sagebiel~



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.

Scholarships for 2026

NALC Continental Youth Gathering

This summer the NALC will be hosting its second Continental Youth Gathering. It will be July 7-10 in Roanoke, Virginia.

The first Youth Gathering in 2024 was an incredible event.

We are hoping to have many of our Texas youth in attendance for this one! Our Texas Region Missions Team is going to help with this. We will again be offering scholarships for youth in our Region that would like to attend the gathering. Our hope is to particularly support youth who otherwise might not be able to attend.

If you would like to apply for a scholarship, or would just like more information, please contact Pastor Mark Braaten at mbraaten@oslctyler.org

Applications must be received by April 15.



Letter from Johnna Picard

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Words cannot express the depth of my



gratitude for the unwavering love, prayers, and support you showed Nick and our family during his battle with leukemia. Throughout our difficult journey, you were the hands and feet of Jesus, wrapping us in your care. Thank you for the countless prayers, cards, meals, and comforting words that lightened our burden. Your presence at his service was a tremendous comfort, and I am so blessed to be part of such a caring, compassionate community. Knowing that he is now at peace, free from pain, and in the arms of our Savior brings comfort to my heart, but I will miss him dearly. Thank you for walking alongside us through it all.

With love and appreciation, Johnna Picard

THRIVENT CHOICE NOTICE

Congratulations! In 2025, St. John Ev. Lutheran Church received \$561 through the Thrivent Choice® program — and that's worth celebrating! 🎉 Your work strengthens communities, and we're grateful for the impact you make every day. With the March 31, 2026 deadline approaching, now is a great time to remind your supporters to direct any remaining 2025 Choice Dollars® before they expire.

Just a friendly reminder: Thrivent clients with membership: Don't forget to direct 2025 Choice Dollars® by March 31 at thrivent.com/thriventchoice.



2026 Vacation Bible School - Rainforest Falls

Join us at St. John for Vacation Bible School July 27-31 from 8:30 a.m.-noon! Children ages 4-12 will journey into the misty rainforest to discover the wonder of God's creation and learn how God is our Creator, our refuge, and our forever friend through Bible stories, music, games, and hands-on activities. Registration is now open: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/3GMyD0KA4>.

We are also looking for volunteers to help bring VBS to life! Help is needed with planning, decorating, organizing, teaching, leading activity rotations, and cleanup. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Rachel Nessel or Kathy Dunn.

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:

April 5

Greeters - Beverly Bodden
Reader - Beverly Bodden

April 12

Greeters - Trish Hood
Reader - Trish Hood

April 19

Greeters - Archie & Virginia Abrameit
Reader - Kathy Dunn

April 26

Greeters - The Newman Family
Reader - Shelby Newman

April Communion Assistant
Obert Sagebiel

April Altar Guild
Dawn Otto & Kaley Coker

April Nursing Home Visitor
Carol Ann Sagebiel

LOOKING AHEAD. . .

May 3

Greeters - Jo Wieland, LaRae & Jessie Kelley
Reader - LaRae Kelley

May Communion Assistant
Brian Wendel

April Altar Guild
Dee Moeller & Beverly Bodden

April 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:

- 4 - Trish Hood
- Jannette Lynn Rhoton
6 - Letha Blain
- Britton Blain
Pastor John
13 - Brooke Wendel
J Burns Cowley
Ray Boyer
14 - Levi Moritz
19 - Karon Copeland
21 - Jacob Dreier
M'Liss Moore
22 - Pam Ficklen
23 - Trandon Leist
26 - Emily Iselt



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

Anniversary Greetings to:

- 6 - Pastor John & Brenda Boor
9 - Ty & Emily Iselt
14 - Aaron & Sydney Schaefer
30 - Keaton & Marsha Wendel



Prayer For April

Dear Lord,

As April unfolds with signs of spring and renewal, we ask for Your guidance to rejuvenate our spirits and strengthen our faith. Help us to embrace the promise of new beginnings and the joy of the Resurrection with open hearts. Teach us to reflect Your love in all that we do, to offer kindness and support to those around us, and to appreciate the beauty of Your creation that surrounds us this season.

Bless our paths, protect our loved ones, and inspire us to live each day in gratitude and grace. May this month be filled with moments of reflection, growth, and deeper connection with You.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.



CoffeeWithStarla.com

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.







April 2026



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Meyersville, TX

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

Mission of the Month:
NORTH TX DISASTER
WAREHOUSE IN TYLER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 1:30 PM Quilters	2 Maundy Thursday 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours 7 PM Maundy Thursday Service	3 Good Friday 7 PM Good Friday Service	4
Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Sunday 7:30 AM Sunrise Service 8:00 AM Easter Sunrise Breakfast 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship 	6 	7 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours 7 PM Worship Team	8 10:00 AM Comm. Service Yorktown Manor 12:30 PM Women's Bible Study @ Parsonage 1:30 PM Quilters 7:00 PM Life-to-Life Discipleship Meeting	9 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours	10	11 6:00 PM Evening Worship Service
2nd Sunday in Easter 12 8:00 AM Property Team Meeting 9:00 AM Confirmation 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship 	13	14 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours	15 1:30 PM Quilters 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study	16 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours	17	18 6:00 PM Evening Worship Service 
3rd Sunday in Easter 19 9:00 AM Confirmation 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship – Grave Decoration Day Church Under the Trees 	20 6:30 PM 4 – H Meeting 7:00 PM Finance Team Meeting	21 Pastor @ CAMAL House	22 1:30 PM Quilters	23 1 PM-4 PM Pastor's office hours **Committee Reports Due, please email to Council Members.	24 **Newsletter deadline. Please have all articles to office.	25 6:00 PM Evening Worship Service
4th Sunday in Easter 26 9:00 AM Confirmation 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship	27	28 9 AM-12 PM Pastor's office hours 7 PM Council Meeting	29 1:30 PM Quilters 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM Youth Group	30	Office Hours: *Please see the  Bulletins	*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.