

the MESSENGER



S⁺JLC
BOERNE

St. John Lutheran Church

315 Rosewood Ave., Boerne TX 78006

830-249-3651

www.stjohnlutheran.com



January 2018 • Volume 89-01

Stay Connected

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Sara Moldenhauer - 210-219-3031

Youth Members
Brooks Klutts and Claire Lowrie

Pastors can be reached at
830-249-3651

Pastor Eric Waters
Pastor Mariola Bergquist

From the Pastor's Pen

A New Year has started! It's that time of year when many of us resolve to try new things and start new habits. Why not make your walk with Jesus one of them?

If you've been thinking about joining the church, now's the time. Our next New Members class starts Sunday, January 7th with a Newcomers' Lunch, continues with four Next Step classes on Sunday mornings, and ends with the New Member Rite on Sunday, February 11th. We'd love to have you join us.

If you've been thinking about diving into the Bible, now's the time. Michelle and I will lead an in-depth discussion of First Corinthians to coincide with our sermon series "God in/and the flesh." God's Word is always relevant. Let's talk about what God says about how we should treat the bodies He's given us.

If you've been thinking about being a better parent, now's the time. Matt and Shantell Olson will lead a 6-week study on parenting and marriage called "In the Luther Household." We recently

celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, and Matt recently moved into his new role as Director of Family Ministries. This Sunday morning study combines them both in a way that will bless you and build up your family.

If you've been thinking about getting away, now's the time. The Women's Retreat is coming up on January 26th. The theme is "Resting in the Blessings of the Good Shepherd." Jesus invited his disciples to "Get away by yourselves and rest awhile" (Mk 6:31). You take Him up on the invitation, too.

If you've been thinking about getting rid of those antlers or animal heads cluttering up the walls, now's the time! We spend hours every week in Room 128 – a white-walled room without a hint of decoration. I'd like to turn it into the Trophy Room and welcome whatever mounts you'd like to donate.

It's a New Year and a time for a new thing. Come take that next step with us,

- Pastor Eric Waters



A Note on Stewardship

Just Do It

¹³ “When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” ¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod.”

Matthew 2:13-15

Shortly after Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, Joseph and Mary were instructed by an angel to move again – this time to another country. They got up right away and left during the night.

Put in a similar situation, I can imagine my response would have been quite different. You want me to go where? Right now? But I haven't planned for this. We're not prepared. It will be too hard with an infant

to care for. What will we do when we get there? How will I find a job? Where will we live?

The excuses, questions, and stall tactics are endless. We can come up with all the reasons in the world not to follow God's calling. But all we really have to do is listen and obey. God will handle the rest. This takes faith in God and trust that He will provide. The same principle applies to

much smaller tasks like: volunteering at church, tithing, and sharing your faith with others. God calls us to do all these things, but again, we can find reasons not to follow his instructions. The next time you are confronted with a similar decision, I challenge you to Just Do It and see what happens.

Your Brother in Christ
Kyle Gass, Chair
St John Lutheran Stewardship Committee

INCOME COMPARISON

Monthly Operating Income	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Through October
2017	\$128,517	\$88,428	\$82,191	\$106,327	\$89,970	\$82,431	\$103,660	\$94,282	\$102,681	\$101,656	\$103,012		\$1,083,155
2016	\$116,162	\$83,342	\$83,889	\$73,044	\$80,790	\$72,368	\$81,646	\$87,909	\$70,448	\$91,671	\$135,927	\$162,050	\$977,196
2015	\$113,882	\$78,825	\$97,094	\$88,662	\$85,710	\$78,144	\$76,808	\$108,019	\$83,790	\$76,649	\$98,797	\$169,592	\$986,380
2014	\$79,577	\$80,376	\$91,001	\$83,972	\$69,069	\$85,906	\$71,314	\$93,774	\$69,963	\$72,021	\$97,063	\$181,124	\$894,036

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON

Average Weekly Worship	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average YTD
2017	380	411	414	462	389	373	353	352	329	386	354		382
2016	421	386	477	370	341	376	357	420	383	375	359	527	388
2015	380	403	390	521	370	464	309	367	349	347	364	463	388
2014	439	419	419	509	420	381	378	378	392	398	383	425	411

4 WAYS TO GIVE!



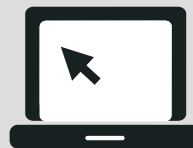
IN PERSON

Drop your gift into the offering plate on Sunday morning.



BY MAIL

Mail your gift to:
St. John Lutheran Church
315 Rosewood Ave.,
Boerne TX 78006



ONLINE

Go online to:
www.stjohnlutheran.com,
click 'Give' and follow the instructions to give online.



BY TEXT

Text your donation amount to: 830-264-1518 to get started!

QUESTIONS? Contact the church office or visit our website at: www.stjohnlutheran.com



ADULT Faith Formation News

Ladies' Bible Study

PRECEPT

BIBLE STUDY CLASS

Thursdays 9:15-11:15 am

Precept resumes January 4, 2018. Led by Pastor Mariola Bergquist

Women of the Word (W.O.W.)

BIBLE STUDY CLASS

Wednesdays 9-10:30 am

Studying "No Other Gods" by Kelly Minter. Led by Michelle Waters



Mens' Bible Study

Mens' Breakfast

Every other Tuesday 6:30 am

"Master Builders Bible For Men" is the foundation for discussion topics

Contact the Church Office for dates

Monday Night Group

Mondays 7-8:30 pm

Monday Night Group will take a break in December and resume January 10, 2018.

Sunday School Classes - 9:15 am - 10:15 am

"God Talk" Room 119: We talk about God - His character and His promises - as He is revealed through the Bible and manifested in Jesus Christ. Led by Peggy Hoppes

"Logos" Room 118: Studying "The Life of Martin Luther. An Historical Journey and Bible Study". This study is written in honor of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. It takes us through the circumstances and events of the life of Martin Luther as it reflects on the biblical themes underlying the Lutheran Reformation. Led by Richard Wagner

"Seekers" Room 216: "Graying in Grace:

Assisting adults in clinging to the faithful promises of God and 'Walking alongside' those who want to grow". Led by Lanne Brehmer

"The Bible in a Year" Room 217.

Led by Patsy Shields

"Faith Steps" Room 215: "Four Portraits, One Jesus" by Mark Strauss, a study of the Gospels. Led by George Klein

"Christianity and the Controversies"

Do you enjoy discussing relevant ideas and topics? Are you looking for ways to apply your Christian faith in the modern world?

Each week, we discuss how the Bible relates to a variety of historical and current modern issues. Past topics include free speech, public prayer, the Inquisition, capitalism, music, war, and slavery.

This class meets in the sanctuary after the early service. Led by TJ Bazzoon



God in the Flesh: God and the Flesh

**Wednesday Evenings
Dinner at 6 pm
Discussion 6:30-7:30 pm**

God in the flesh: the story of Christmas and Epiphany.

What does the Bible have to say about God and our flesh? Our news feeds are full of the flesh. Does the Bible have anything relevant to say about current events? Especially the most troubling headlines of our day: redefining marriage, sexual immorality, the right to refuse to bake a wedding cake for a same sex couple, controlling our most basic appetites? The apostle Paul dealt with all of these issues in his first letter to the Corinthians.

Join us on Wednesday evenings (January 10 - February 7) as Pastor and Michelle Waters discuss what it means to be followers of Jesus for such a time as this.

Strengthen Your Family: January Study

Strengthen Your Marriage, Your Parenting or Grandparenting skills as we learn from Luther & Katie how this is the MOST Important calling of God!

**January 7-February 11
9:15 am - 10:15 am
in the Shepherd House
Holy Families Study: "In the Luther Household"**

A series on the biblical Lutheran understanding of the vocation of marriage and family, this Bible study addresses biblical texts and theological themes, featuring anecdotes and writings from Martin and Katie Luther as case-study examples. Please sign-up at the Info Desk. Cost \$6. This study will be led by Matthew Olson - newly assigned St. John's Director of Family Ministries - and his wife Shantell Olson, Licensed Counselor-LPC, LCDC, NCC.

Free Daily Scripture and Prayer Resources for the Home: www.holyfamilytime.com

"The Masculine Mandate" New Men's Bible Study

Mondays 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

"The Masculine Mandate: God's Calling to Men" written by Richard D. Phillips is the focus of this study.

In this book, the author cuts through the cultural confusion, highlights God's mandate for men, and encourages readers to join him on a journey of repentance and renewal. This is teaching that reaches into all aspects of life. **Christian men today need to examine their hearts and embrace their God-given mandate.** Only then will they be able to recognize their higher calling, and serve faithfully in whatever context God has placed them.

This will be led by Jim Roy, a past Men's Retreat speaker with a Masters of Divinity degree through Dallas Theological Seminary and Matthew Olson, who is slowly working on his degree through the Institute of Lutheran Theology.



FAMILY MI

Together, in our Home, Church and World Families -

Youth Faith Formation

S³HEEP: students, seeking & serving HIM everywhere, everyday, passionately

Matt Olson, Director of Family Ministries
Email: matt@stjohnlutheran.com
Cell: 830-388-1550



Mark your Calendars

First Communion Preparation

for 5th graders and parent/s will be
Sundays: February 18, 25 & March 4.
These classes will be for students and parents from 9:15 - 10:20 a.m. First Communion celebration will be at the late services on March 4th.

February 23-25 Quake Event

in San Antonio for Middle & High School.
It's time to sign up.. Go to St. John's website to get the form. Return it to the church office along with \$45 to reserve your spot.

To see some more details, go to:
<http://quakeevent.com/events/sanantonio/> The theme is **OVERCOME!**
(John 16:33)

Please don't register online. We will do that together as a group. Thanks!

Sundays in January

6th & 7th Graders: Confirmation *The Sacraments (part I)*

Led by Brad & Gretchen Allen • Grace Place

JAN 7: "The Right Tool for the Job" JAN 21: "A Stain-Fighting Guarantee?"

JAN 14: "The Stamp of Authority" JAN 28: "Putting on a Life Jacket"

8th Graders: Students wanting to Affirm their Baptism

Confirmation *The Spiritual Disciplines*, Led by Phyllis Ripkin • Historic Chapel

JAN 7: "What & Why of Spiritual Disciplines"

JAN 21: "Solitude & Silence"

JAN 14: "Worship & Confession"

JAN 28: "Fellowship & Celebration"

9th & 10th Graders: Bible Study: The Gospel of John

Led by Mindi Accord & Emilie Rogers • Galaxy Theater

Moving Through the Final 1/3 of the Gospel of St. John "So that you may know..."

11th & 12th Graders: Apologetics Study: Why We Believe What We Believe!

Led by Frances Rutherford & Nathan Accord, Room #213

Dealing with Science & Creation & Logical Fallacies

Wednesdays in January • OVERFLOW (6th - 12th Graders) 4:30pm-7:30pm

January 3 - NO overflow

January 10 - Fellowship Focused Night

January 17 - Service Focused Night:

Projects to be Announced

January 24 - "Church Family" Meetings
Night (Fellowship & Service)

January 31 - Fellowship Focused Night





Children's Faith Formation



LAMBS³: learning and memorizing Bible staories & songs, and how to serve

Sundays in January

This month students will be getting to know Jesus better by getting to know the Holy Spirit.

9:00 a.m. Breakfast in Luther Hall

9:15 a.m. Sunday School / Feeding Time Opening*

9:30 a.m. Rotational Class time

*Note that this month we will be starting out with a new look, new songs & a new send off as we gather in Jesus' name within Luther Hall!

Wednesdays in January

January 3 - NO overflow

January 10 - Fellowship Focused Night:
Activity to be Announced

January 17 - Service Focused Night:
Projects to be Announced

January 24 - Fellowship Focused Night:
Activity to be Announced

January 31 - Fellowship Focused Night



First Communion Preparation

Preparation for 5th graders and parent/s will be Sundays, February 18, 25 & March 4. These three consecutive classes will be for both students and parents during the Sunday School hour, 9:15 - 10:20 a.m. First Communion celebration will be at the late service/s on March 4th. Meet in Luther Hall.

Parents'
**Night
out!**

**Friday, January 19, 2018
6pm - 10pm**

**\$10/child \$30 max/family
Dinner included! Nursery through Age 12**

**CONTACT:
tiffanyjureczki@hotmail.com**

Important Announcements

It's Summer Bible Camp Registration Time!

Be on the lookout for information for getting on board!

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who participated in Operation Christmas Child in December! Along with time, money and energy, approximately 75 boxes were gifted from St. John alone and just about 1,600 from the Hill Country area.



Welcome Aboard Leslie Dominguez

Leslie will be helping to start our Family Ministry Team by fulfilling the needed role of part time Children's Ministry Coordinator.



With a Bachelor of Arts degree in Administration from the University of the Incarnate Word, as well as being a mother of five, she and her husband Jeremiah are parents who not only want their children to know Jesus, but all young people to know Him. We welcome you and your family to our church family! May we together grow in Him!

Church News & Events

Visitation MINISTRY

Pastor Mariola Bergquist
pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com

Nursing Home Visits: Cibolo House –
2nd Tuesday of the month

Care Choice and Town and Country –
2nd Wednesday of the month

Cibolo Creek:
4th Wednesday of the month

Homebound Visits:
Tuesdays: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th,
Wednesdays: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th

Worship services: Menger House
3rd Sunday of the month at 3:30 p.m.



Senior Member BIRTHDAYS

Honoring our Senior Members (80+)
With Birthdays In December

Burleigh Arnecke	Lorraine Massey
LeRoy Bartman	Elaine Moore
Ron Beath	Dixie Pfeiffer
Charles Kuentz	Leroy Rittmann

If you are turning 80 or are already 80+ and
you do not see your birthday please, contact
the church office.



Thank you to everyone who
prayed for me...

Thanks to everyone who prayed for me
over the past months. It was a long
journey to become qualified for a new
Aortic valve replacement procedure.
This procedure was less invasive and
only available for someone who has
no other choice (is not a candidate for
open heart). I finally had the surgery
on November 30th. After surgery I
went to CVICU. I did so well I was
home by noon the next day, less than
24 hours after surgery. This is all due
to the prayers of everyone. I have my
strength back and feel great. Thank
you for the calls, cards, texts and
e-mails. A special shout out to pastor
Bergquist for sitting with us until time
for me to go to surgery.

Blessings, Al Tschirhart

BEREAVEMENT CLASSES

Two new bereavement classes will
begin in January. Anyone age 17 and
older who has had a recent loss in
their family or close circle is more
than welcome to join one of the small
groups. The program, GriefShare, is
highly acclaimed and unabashedly
faith based.

Mondays beginning Jan. 15, 2018, a
class will meet from 1:00 to 2:30 PM
in the Kronkosky Senior Center.

Tuesdays beginning Jan. 16, 2018, the
class will meet at St. John Lutheran
Church from 10:00 to 11:30 AM.



Betty Steubing, Bereavement
Coordinator for Alamo Hospice of
Boerne, facilitates both groups. There
is no cost to participate. Just come if
you feel the need for compassionate
care during your grief experience.

Call Betty at 830.446.9713 or the Alamo
Hospice office (830.816.5024) to
register or for more information.

WOMENS RETREAT • JANUARY 26-28

The women's retreat will be January 26-28 at Camp Chrysalis.

THEME: "Psalm 23: Resting in the Promises of our Good Shepherd."

COST: The cost is \$100 per person which includes all programming cost, 4 meals, and lodging
at Camp Chrysalis. If you choose to attend on Saturday only, the cost is \$30 and includes lunch
and dinner.

For more information and to register, pick up a brochure at the information desk or go online to
stjohnlutheran.com and find the "Women's Retreat" page under 'Events'.



Happy Hearts

"Happy Hearts" will meet on
Monday, January 8th
in Family Life Center.

We will begin with a potluck dinner
(bring a dish) at 6:pm, followed by a
special presentation. Our speaker will
be Mark Danney, M.D who will present
the topic "Heart, Mind and Diabetes."
Diabetes is an illness more and more
common especially in older adults.
Dr. Danney will discuss preventive
measures and treatments currently
available. Please join us for this
informative meeting.

Opportunities to Serve

Hurricane Relief Trip - January 12-15

We continue with monthly relief trips to help with the rebuilding and clean up in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. Our next trip is scheduled for January 12-15. We are always looking for volunteers to help with our efforts!

If you would like to volunteer to go on one of our weekend trips to the area, please email Lance Folkerts at lance@lfcconstruction.com.

If you are interested in making a monetary donation, please make the check out to St. John Lutheran Church and write disaster relief in the memo line. You can also donate online directly through our website at: www.stjohnlutheran.com.

HURRICANE RELIEF

JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	New Years Day Church Office Closed 1	6:30am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 6:30pm Congregational Care Committee 6:30pm Worship Committee 2	6:30pm Choir Practice 3	9:15am Precept Bible Study 7pm Handbell Practice 4	Hill Country Cares Counseling 9am Fabulous Folders 5	6
8am Traditional Service 7 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional Service 10:30am Praise Service 11:30am Newcomers Lunch - LH 6pm Dominoes	9am Quilting Group 5pm Hermann Sons Dance Classes 6pm Happy Hearts 7pm Mens' Bible Study 8	6pm American Heritage Girls 6pm Mission Committee 6:30pm Congregational Life 7pm Outreach Committee 9	9am Bible Study Fellowship Team 9am Women of the Word 6:30pm "God in the Flesh" Bible Study 6:30pm Choir Practice 10	9:15am Precept Bible Study 12pm Lunch Bunch 6:30pm Finance 7pm Handbell Practice 11	Hurricane Relief Trip 12 Hill Country Cares Counseling 9am Fabulous Folders 6pm Parents Night Out	Hurricane Relief Trip 13
Hurricane Relief Trip 14 8am Traditional Service 9:15am Sunday School 9:15 Next Step Class 10:30am Traditional Service 10:30am Praise Service 12pm Youth Committee Mtg	11:30am Men's Lunch at Mamacitas 12pm Book Review 12pm Lit N Lunch 5pm Hermann Sons Dance Class 7pm Mens' Bible Study 15	6:30am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10am Alamo Hospice Bereavement 12pm Around the Bend Sewing Group 12pm Painting with Roberta Buckles 6:45pm Council Meeting 16	9am Bible Study Fellowship Team 9am Women of the Word 6:30pm "God in the Flesh" Bible Study 6:30pm Choir Practice 17	9:15am Precept Bible Study 6:30pm Eat Out Group 7pm Handbell Practice 18	Hill Country Cares Counseling 9am Fabulous Folders Parents Night Out 19	20
8am Traditional Service 21 9:15am Sunday School 9:15 Next Step Class 10:30am Traditional Service 10:30am Praise Service 6pm Hand & Foot	12pm Book Review 5pm Hermann Sons Dance Class 7pm Mens' Bible Study 22	10am Alamo Hospice Bereavement 12pm Painting with Roberta Buckles 6pm American Heritage Girls 23	9am Bible Study Fellowship Team 9am Women of the Word 6:30pm "God in the Flesh" Bible Study 6:30pm Choir Practice 24	9:15am Precept Bible Study 7pm Handbell Practice 25	Women's Retreat at Camp Chrysalis 26 Hill Country Cares Counseling 9am Fabulous Folders	Women's Retreat at Camp Chrysalis 27
Women's Retreat at Camp Chrysalis 28 8am Traditional Service 9:15am Sunday School 9:15 Next Step Class 10:30am Traditional Service 10:30am Praise Service 6pm Hand & Foot	12pm Book Review 5pm Hermann Sons Dance Class 7pm Mens' Bible Study 29	6:30am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10am Alamo Hospice Bereavement 12pm Painting with Roberta Buckles 30	9am Bible Study Fellowship Team 9am Women of the Word 6:30pm "God in the Flesh" Bible Study 6:30pm Choir Practice 31			

St. John Lutheran Church
315 E. Rosewood
P.O. Box 1081
Boerne, TX 78006
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JANUARY		January 7		January 14	January 21		January 28
Acolytes	8:00	Gabe Cook		Logan Klein	Jake Pearson		--
				Mallory Kleiin	Will Pearson		
	10:30	Trevor Agarwal		Serena Ross	Valen Barthel		Tanner Lee
		Hayden Allen		Elle Nicholson	Tanner Lee		Luke Wyle
		Zachary Gold			Mayah Morrison		
		Zane Gold			Jaclyn Purchatzke		
Assisting Ministers	8:00	Doris Beath		James Meckel	Pastor Waters		Doris Beath
	10:30	Barnie Gavin		Bruce Hoppes	Barton Graves		Chuck Baldwin
Lector Readers	8:00	Susan Huber		Steve Garnsey	Jennifer Kuentz		Debbie Holman
Bread Servers	10:30	Frank Bush		Jim Richmond	Richard Wagner		Richard Wagner
Wine Servers	8:00	David Depriest	Randy Evans	Jean Leslie	Debbie Jordan	Scott Kramer	Patsy Brehmer
		Vi Depriest	Patricia Evans	Marci Schneider	Hannah Jordan	Diane Kramer	Jennifer Kuentz
	10:30	David Blackburn	Ann Peters	William Mayo	Skip Stefansen	Sherry Speir	Beverly Wagner
		Janet Blackburn	Gene Roeder	James Meckel	Linda Stefansen	Stan Walden	Bob Rogers
		Jim Peters	Janet Roeder	Emilie Rogers	Jack Speir	Carolyn Walden	Marcy Voss
Altar Guild	8:00	JJ Johnson		JJ Johnson	JJ Johnson		JJ Johnson
		Deborah Jordan		Deborah Jordan	Deborah Jordan		Deborah Jordan
	10:30	Deanna Crist		Deanna Grist	Deanna Grist		Deanna Grist
		Patricia Hitch		Patricia Hitch	Patricia Hitch		Patricia Hitch
		Danna Kohleffel		Danna Kohleffel	Danna Kohleffel		Danna Kohleffel
		Sara Moldenhauer		Sara Moldenhauer	Sara Moldenhauer		Sara Moldenhauer
Ushers	8:00	Richard Wahl Team		Richard Wahl Team	Richard Wahl Team		Richard Wahl Team
	10:30	Johnny Moldenhauer Team		Johnny Moldenhauer Team	Johnny Moldenhauer Team		Johnny Moldenhauer Team