

# the MESSENGER

**S+JL**  
BOERNE

St. John Lutheran Church

315 Rosewood Ave., Boerne TX 78006

Phone: 830-249-3651

Email: [info@stjohnlutheran.com](mailto:info@stjohnlutheran.com)

[www.stjohnlutheran.com](http://www.stjohnlutheran.com)



August 2020 • Volume 91-08

## Stay Connected

### Council Contacts:

President  
Scott Kramer - 512-914-3121

Vice-President  
Brad Allen - 210-232-4286

Secretary  
Lois Ruck - 210-473-7825

Treasurer  
Chris Gold - 210-363-6692

Congregational Care  
Shaun Danney - 210-213-8758

Congregational Life  
Teri Folkerts - 210-273-7245

Worship  
Shay Knippa - 830-522-1884

Stewardship  
Mark Danney - 210-610-2090

Outreach  
Frank Bush - 210-602-6220

Property  
Walter Stroman - 210-912-8453

Mission  
Janet Blackburn - 830-446-9258

Family<sup>3</sup> Ministries  
George Klein - 210-269-4620

Youth Representatives  
Bradley Morrison, Claire Murley

Pastors can be reached at  
830-249-3651

Pastor Eric Waters  
Pastor Mariola Bergquist  
Vicar Alliyah Greaver

## From the Pastor's Pen

This month marks the start of our new Sunday morning worship times. Beginning August 2nd, the Late Service will move 15 minutes from 10:45am to 11:00am. The Early and Praise Services will remain unchanged, so that our new worship times will be 8:00am, 9:30am, and 11:00am. That means our Livestream will start at 11:00am, too.

That extra fifteen minutes will give us much-needed time to make the transition between the Praise and the Late Services. Those of you who worship in either of those services have no doubt seen how tight that transition can be. It's not uncommon for early arrivers to the Late Service to come walking into the Sanctuary while the Praise Service is still going on. It's not unusual for the Praise Service to run a few minutes late and cause a back-up in the Lobby. The transition between the two services has always been tight, especially on Sundays with special rites like Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, or New Members, or when the Choir sings. It's even tighter now in this coronavirus season which requires extra time for pew cleaning and Communion preparation. This is the right time to make a change to our Sunday morning worship schedule that will make our Sunday mornings flow more smoothly. I'd like to get that new schedule in place before the school and church years start up once again.



Speaking of which, you may be wondering, "What other changes are coming down the pike?" I only wish I knew! As I write this in early July, one week after the Governor's mask mandate, I remain optimistic that schools will open up as scheduled and life will start to get back to normal. But if there's one thing we've learned in this coronavirus season,

it's how much things can change from one week to the next. I was hoping to have our Sunday Breakfasts back at this point, but that wasn't in the cards. I'm planning to start our church year activities—Sunday School, Bible studies, Wednesday

evenings, and the like—with the start of the school year. We'll see if that's possible come late August and early September. Time will tell what our church life will look like this Fall.

We do know that the coronavirus has given us an unexpected opportunity to reach people in Boerne and beyond. Sunday after Sunday, more people join us online than in our church. The livestream has become our "fourth service," and we should start treating it like one, moving more of our educational, discipleship, and worship resources online. This is the cutting edge of ministry coming out of the Covid Crisis. I'm eager to see where it leads.

*- Pastor Eric Waters*

# MESSAGE from the CONGREGATION PRESIDENT

Back on June 14, I spoke to all three worship services, giving an update on Council decisions during the pandemic. I remarked that we did not know what is ahead, only God knows that. But speaking for the Council, I also said that we were ready for whatever happens.

Sure enough, less than a month later we got another surprise. On July 2, Governor Abbott mandated face masks at all places of business in our county. That was a Thursday, and we adapted for Sunday services just three days later.

Kudos to the staff and Pastor Waters for being decisive and nimble, and getting the word out promptly. And by coincidence, that particular Sunday was Communion. Yet, the good people of St. John pitched in to make it all happen, thanks be to God. It was really a beautiful sight.

Well, we are confident there are more surprises ahead. But we are ready.

Meanwhile, the business of the church moves ahead. We have a Nominating Committee working on next year's leadership candidates. Our 2021 budget is being prepared for

Council review and approval. We will soon begin our Emergency Response Team Ministry.

Since the lockdown back in March, Council has been determined not to use it as an excuse for inaction. Deadlines are met, opportunities are seized, plans are developed and approved, and St. John's business continues. It's an important, essential business we are in. Know Jesus, Make Jesus Known.

St. John Congregation President,  
Scott Kramer

## A NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

### Our Duty and Delight Rests Upon Faith

The preface to the Holy Communion in the liturgy, "Now the Feast and Celebration" begins with "It is our Duty and Delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ...". Returning a portion of our time, talents, and treasures to the Lord are acts of worship, offering praise and thanksgiving for his steadfast love, grace and mercy.

Our stewardship to the Lord lies on a foundation with the four cornerstones of Faith, Hope, Love, and Joy. Our faith is a gift from God. (Ephesians 2:8) By faith we know that the universe was created by His word. (Hebrews 11:3). By faith whatever things we ask in prayer, believing, we will receive. (Matthew 21:22) By Faith we are justified in Christ Jesus (Galatians 2:16). The more we grow in faith, the more we feel a sense of duty to God. It deepens our delight in the Lord and His delight in us.

*So, you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, "We are unworthy servants; we have only done what is our duty."  
- Luke 17: 10*

As we walk with Jesus toward Consecration Sunday in November, when we will pledge portions of our time, talent, and treasures to the Lord, let us pray that we will reinforce the cornerstone of our faith for the stewardship to our God.

Your brother in Christ, Mark Danney,  
Chairman- Stewardship Committee

### INCOME COMPARISON

Monthly Operating Income	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Through Month
2020	\$122,065	\$96,801	\$122,637	\$98,491	\$99,604	\$97,070							\$637,291
2019	\$138,052	\$97,576	\$108,348	\$110,696	\$81,251	\$101,281	\$91,042	\$91,777	\$98,904	\$103,879	\$94,205	\$278,321	\$657,234
2018	\$98,403	\$105,044	\$92,291	\$137,611	\$90,598	\$83,467	\$104,972	\$91,490	\$105,934	\$88,848	\$148,672	\$170,212	\$600,283

### ATTENDANCE COMPARISON

Avg Weekly Worship	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average YTD
ONLINE				705	513	220							479
2020	449	408	331*		142	219							310
2019	416	410	384	512	434	347	377	391	385	421	382	574	419
2018	380	358	385	454	365	357	364	375	377	405	375	556	396

\*Online attendance information for March 22 and March 29, 2020 was not available.

## CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Happy Birthday!

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

Irene Alberti (08-24) Merle Olson (08-22)  
Mary Chapman (08-20) Ernie Serr (08-06)  
Roger Hemminghaus (08-27) Cert Sousa (08-08)  
Elizabeth Markell (08-22) Bernice Stolte (08-17)  
Lillian McConnell (08-2-07)

If you are turning 80 or are already 80+ and not listed, contact the church office.

Dear St. John Family,  
Many of you know that we moved from Texas in May and were unable to say good-bye due to social distancing and stay-at-home recommendations. We will miss your fellowship and the many ministries that we were involved in at St. John. We wish you all continued growth in faith and service. If you are ever passing through our new area, let us know! Our new address is: 8674 Tranquil Knoll Ln, Colorado Springs, CO 80927.

May the Lord watch over you and bless you now and always! Yours in Christ,

Dennis & Lois Ruck



If you or some one you know is in need of support, please contact us!

[www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org)

Connie: 512-779-5508,  
Barbara: 210-373-9070,  
St. John office: 830-249-3651.





# FAMILY<sup>3</sup> MINISTRIES

*Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.*

**FAMILY<sup>3</sup>**

Together, in our Home,  
Church and World  
Families

**GOD TALK** Sundays at 9:30am God Talk will begin the study of Psalms on August 30.

**PRECEPT** Thursday 9:15am-11:15am  
The "Precept" class is on break.

## Parents/Grandparents/Adults The Truth Project

Adult Sunday Morning Class via ZOOM: This class will be for both Adults as well as Juniors & Seniors in High School at both 8:00am & 9:30am on ZOOM and in room 117. Find the link on your "Week at a Glance," email that comes out every Tuesday.

### Sunday, August 2nd Science: What is True?

**(Part D)** A careful examination of molecular biology and the fossil record demonstrates that evolution is not a "proven fact." History shows that ideas, including Darwinism as a social philosophy, have definite consequences - consequences that can turn ugly when God is left out of the picture.

### Sunday, August 9 and 16 History: Whose Story? (Part B)

Does the past have an objective actuality and significance? Or does it, as postmodernist philosophy asserts, exist primarily inside our heads? This tour considers the meaning of history as God's story and shows us why remembering is so important.

### Sunday, August 23 and 30 Sociology: The Divine Imprint (Part A & B)

The order we observe in the natural realm is even more apparent in the social systems God has established: family, church, community, state, labor, and the union between God and man. Life is a series of relationships that flow out of and reflect the Trinitarian nature of the Creator.

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

Wednesdays 9am-10am • August 12 - September 30, 2020

*Is 2020 stretching and challenging you a little too much? Are you starting to want to run for cover? Do you feel the Lord is asking too much of you right now?*

Join us as we study the book of Jonah. In this study we'll learn how to follow God even when we'd rather run in the opposite direction, how to not let our anger get the best of us, and how to serve those God is calling us to serve, even when we'd rather not. This is not a video based study. We'll dive deeply into the short book of Jonah, using other Scriptures to inform our discussions as well. Notes and homework will be provided in class (\$5 materials fee). Please contact Michelle Waters for more info at watersmichellejoy@gmail.com

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

"Hope," is only one letter away. Replace the "p" with an "m". Covid-19 may be messing with our regular church, school, and friend gatherings, but it is at "home" that faith and love is best nurtured...then, sure enough..."hope," appears!

Family<sup>3</sup> Ministries wants to encourage and support you in this "hope" growing. Watch for specific grade / age information on Faith Formation resources that we will use whenever we can regularly gather again. These resources can also be used in your own homes when we can't gather as a church family.

**Dads and Moms:** Grow in confidence and Biblical understanding of the importance of nurturing faith in your household. Join a small group this fall (via Zoom or in person; 3-5 people / group). This small group will in turn bless your our 'family small group' at home.

- **Men's Small Group series:** Everyman a Warrior (Helping Men Succeed in Life)
- **Women's Small Group series:** Cultivating Holy Beauty

Let Matt know if you are interested in joining a small group or if you would like more information. Text or call: 830-388-1550; or email matt@stjohnlutheran.com.

## CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SERVICE TIME CHANGE

Late Service will begin at 11:00am  
beginning August 2



Beginning August 2 our Sunday services will be held at 8:00am, 9:30am, and 11:00am. The Late Service will move from a 10:45am start time to an 11:00am start time. The reason for the change is to allot additional time to wipe down the pews, make preparations for Communion, and allow people to move in and out of the church with a minimum of congestion. Our online service will also livestream at 11:00am,



St. John is establishing an **Emergency Response Ministry (ERM)** and is seeking volunteers to fill critical positions. Emergency Response Teams will provide assistance should a medical emergency arise or an armed intruder threaten our congregation during church services or other events. Both men and women are encouraged to apply; medical, law enforcement or military experience is welcomed but not necessary. Some team members will be armed; others will not.

If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please plan to attend an **ERM Informational Meeting in the Family Life Center on Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 6:30pm.**

If you'd like to attend this meeting, please RSVP to: David Depriest (210) 241-0277 or 1811@reagan.com

## Women's Retreat

**October 16-18  
Ebert Ranch**

St. John's **Women's Overnight Retreat** will be **October 16-18 at Ebert Ranch in Harper, TX.**

The retreat will be a great time to get to know one another and our best friend: Jesus.

**OVERNIGHT registrations will be limited to 16 women.**

**SATURDAY-ONLY participants will not be limited.**

Cost: \$100 overnight,

\$30 Saturday only.

*Social distancing will be followed.*

Questions? Contact **Peggy**

**Hoppes: heart2love4god@aol.com**

Registration will begin mid-August.

Watch for details!

St. John Lutheran Church  
315 E. Rosewood  
P.O. Box 1081  
Boerne, TX 78006  
Return Service Requested



NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Boerne, TX 78006  
Permit #7

Please note that all activities, events, dates and times are subject to change and/or cancellation.

## AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
8am Traditional Service 2 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Praise Service 10:45am Traditional Service 6pm Dominoes	9am Quilters 3 6pm Property Meeting 7pm AI Anon	9am Summer Program Food 4 Distribution Prep 6:30pm Congregational Care 6:30pm Worship Committee	9am Summer Program Food 5 Distribution 9am Women of the Word	6pm HCDB Study: When 6 Helping Hurts 7pm AI Anon	7	8
8am Traditional Service 9 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Praise Service 10:45am Traditional Service 12pm Family Committee Meeting	9am Quilters 10 7pm AI Anon	6pm Mission Committee 11 6:30pm Congregational Life	9am Women of the Word 12 4:30pm Growing Hope Distribution	6pm HCDB Study: When 13 Helping Hurts 7pm AI Anon	14	15
8am Traditional Service 16 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Praise Service 10:45am Traditional Service 6pm Canasta	7pm AI Anon 17	7pm Council Meeting 18	9am Women of the Word 19	6pm Friends N Faith Eat 20 Out Group 6pm HCDB Study: When Helping Hurts 7pm AI Anon	Parents' Night Out 21	22
8am Traditional Service 23 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Praise Service 10:45am Traditional Service 6pm Canasta	7pm AI Anon 24	25	9am Women of the Word 26 4:30pm Growing Hope Distribution	7pm AI Anon 27	28	29
8am Traditional Service 30 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Praise Service 10:45am Traditional Service 6pm Canasta	7pm AI Anon 31					

**Stay  
Up-To-Date!**

At this time, all of our usual day-to-day activities are uncertain and constantly changing. **We will do our best to offer frequent updates regarding our services, activities, etc. via email, on our website, and on social media. We encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram and check our website (stjohnlutheran.com) often to stay informed.**