

# the MESSENGER

**StJLC**  
BOERNE

St. John Lutheran Church

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## Stay Connected

### Council Contacts:

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Family<sup>3</sup> Ministries

George Klein - 210-269-4620

Youth Representatives

Zach Gold, Mallory Klein

Pastors can be reached at  
830-249-3651

Pastor Eric Waters

Pastor Mariola Bergquist

Vicar Alliyah Greaver

## From the Pastor's Pen

Summer is here at last! It's been a long year, and it's time to unwind. If, like me, you like to unwind by watching movies, have I got a show for you! Michelle and I recently began watching *The Chosen*. It's the first-ever multi-season series about the life of Christ. Michelle and I are almost done with the first season, and it's incredible! The acting is top-notch, the script is well-written, the proclamation is faithful and biblical—and did I mention the first season was filmed in Texas? I feel like I know the Gospels well, but *The Chosen* has helped me to see and understand them in a whole new light. It's brought tears to my eyes a time or two. If you're looking for a good show to watch this summer, try *The Chosen*. It's free to watch, you don't need to create an account, and you can find it online at <https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen>

Michelle and I are going to take a week to unwind at the lake, too. The whole family is heading up to Wisconsin and will be gone for two Sundays. I've asked a member of our church to preach at one of them. Pastor Ron Walter will preach and preside on July 11. We'll host two more guests a few weeks after that.

Pastor Kamiso Boru will visit us on August 1 with a delegation from the Houston Oromo Evangelical Lutheran Church. StJLC has supported that church for years, most recently with funds to help purchase property for a new building. I'll preach at all services that day, but Pr. Boru and a delegation will be here at the 11:00 service to say thanks, tell us about their church, and serve a meal of Ethiopian food afterwards. Come to learn about this Lutheran mission church and share a time of fellowship.

The week after that, August 8, Pastor Jordan Long will be with us from the Lutheran Church of South Sudan, a mission partner we've sponsored now for the past few years. Pastor Long will preach at all three services that day and share the story of how God is at work even in one of the most war-torn corners of the world. You don't want to miss his inspiring testimony!

The Good News is good news no matter how it's told; but sometimes it helps to hear it told in a different way. May you hear the Good News in new ways this summer.

- Pastor Eric Waters

## Want to keep up with everything that is happening at St. John?

Find us on **Facebook**, **Instagram**, and **YouTube**, check out our **website**, and subscribe to our **weekly email** 'Week-at-a-Glance' here: <http://eepurl.com/X4f4X>



# A NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

## True Freedom

Freedom. There is perhaps no word more integral to our identity as Americans than freedom. And yet, if you asked a dozen people what freedom means you would get a dozen different answers. God calls us to a special kind of freedom - a freedom from the world while still caring for the world. This is not a freedom we have earned in ourselves. Christ set us free through his sacrifice on the cross, and we now have the choice to accept and live in that freedom or allow ourselves to once more be yoked to the slavery of the world.

God wants the best for us, but what is best for us is often not what we strive for. We toil and stress over obtaining money or distract ourselves seeking constant enjoyment. These are temporary pleasures with worth that fades over

time. Paradoxically, when we give up our time, money, and possessions to God and use them to help our neighbors,

**It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.**

*Galatians 5:1 (NIV)*

we gain greater freedom. In sacrifice to others, we see the joys God has given us

in our own lives. In returning our money and talents to the Lord, we learn that we should not grasp so tightly to worldly pleasures. Paul says in 1 Corinthians:

"I have the right to do anything,' you say—but not everything is beneficial. 'I have the right to do anything'—but not everything is constructive. No one should seek their own good, but the good of others."

Don't be yoked to the slavery of the world, which wears down your spirit and inhibits your growth. Find true freedom in following Christ and in helping your fellow man by giving your time, talent, and treasures to the Lord.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Michael Hoeppe, Chairman  
Stewardship Committee

### INCOME COMPARISON

Monthly Operating Income	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Through Month
2020	\$149,464	\$92,893	\$119,933	\$110,256	\$120,505								\$593,051
2020	\$122,065	\$96,801	\$122,637	\$98,491	\$99,604	\$97,070	97,859	116,881	101,328	94,725	99,757	254,232	539,598
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	535,923

### ATTENDANCE COMPARISON

Avg Weekly Worship	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average YTD
2021 ONLINE	223	151	122	124	88								142
2021 IN-PERSON	289	276	328	346	317								311
TOTAL	512	427	450	470	405								453
2020 ONLINE						220	220	241	233	170	143	256	300
2020 IN-PERSON	449	408	331*	705	142	219	148	210	243	247	220	367	271
TOTAL	449	408	331	705	655	439	368	451	476	417	363	623	571
2019	416	410	384	512	434	347	377	391	385	421	382	574	419



### Check it out!

Seven St. John Ladies took a field trip to Kerrville in June to visit the Coming King Sculpture Prayer Gardens and have lunch at Cafe at the Ridge.

In order from left to right: Jackie Blackman, Linda Stefansen, Anna Miltenberger, Gloria Williams, Barbara Rogers, Linda Bush, and Connie Harbers.







# FAMILY<sup>3</sup> MINISTRIES

*Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.*

**FAMILY<sup>3</sup>**  
Together, in our Home,  
Church and World  
Families

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION NEWS

### Ladies' Bible Study

#### PRECEPT

**Thursday 9:15am-11:15am** Precept class will be on break until Fall. For more information, email [pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com](mailto:pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com). Led by Pastor Mariola Bergquist.

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

**Wednesdays 9am-10am**

Women of the Word are continuing to study, live, and pray some of the Psalms in Six Psalms for Summer. Wednesday mornings, 9am - 10am, June 16-July 28.. \$5 materials fee. For more info or to reserve childcare, please contact Michelle Waters at [watersmichellejoy@gmail.com](mailto:watersmichellejoy@gmail.com)

### Adult Sunday School Classes

#### 9:30am "God Talk"

Studying the Psalms. Room 128.  
Led by Peggy Hoppes.

#### 9:30am "Seekers" Room 216.

Led by Lanne Brehmer.

#### 9:30am "Logos"

Studying Acts. Room 118  
Led by Richard Wagner.

### Mens' Bible Study

#### Mens' Breakfast **Every other Tuesday 6:30am**

"Master Builders Bible For Men" is the foundation for discussion topics. This group is currently studying Ephesians and meets in the Family Life Center.

### We Need Volunteer Teachers for this fall!

If you are interested in learning more about being a Sunday school teacher this fall, please contact Tiffany or Mark!

### HAPPY HEARTS • Monday, September 13

(This is a new date!)

Happy Hearts will start meeting again in the fall. The first get together is scheduled for **September 13 at 6pm in the Family Life Center.** Please note that this is an updated date!

We will begin with a potluck followed by a presentation from our own Pat Blackman. Pat will speak about the exploits of the 442 regimental Combt Team during WWII which consisted almost 100 % of Japanese Americans. It will explore their origins, their struggle for acceptance and their bravery, including their rescue of members of the Texas 36 Division who were surrounded and cut off for days, all of which combined to make them the most decorated unit in the history of the U.S. Army. Join us!



### For Parents, Grandparents, Adults and Young Adults:

#### 'The Pilgrim's Progress' • Sundays at 9:30am in the Shepherds Cave (Room 117)

Go through the classic Christian book, "Pilgrim's Progress." Bible Study and discussion group will happen at 9:30am in the Shepherds Cave, Room 117.

Understand this Christian Journey better with a deeper look at this story of Pilgrim. Determine what part of the journey you are currently facing and find strength to face it.

All our children and youth will be going through the book as well via an animated movie.

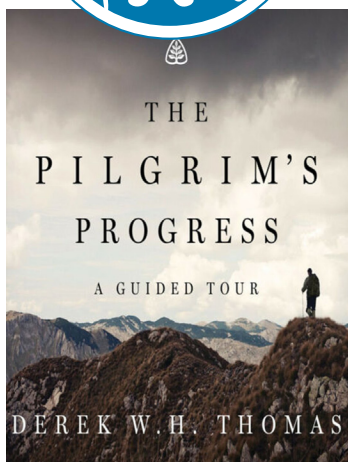
Join in the discussion with your kids or grandkids by walking alongside them in this Sunday morning class. Facilitated by Matt Olson.

**July 4:** No Class

**July 11:** Timorous and Misrust, The Palace Beautiful, Battle with Apollyon

**July 18:** The Valley of the Shadow of Death, Christian Meets the Faithful

**July 25:** Talkative, Vanity Fair





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Together, in our Home,  
Church and World  
Families

## Our Family<sup>3</sup> Ministries Team:

Matt Olson, Director of Family<sup>3</sup> Ministries, Email: matt@stjohnlutheran.com, Cell: 830-388-1550

Mark Lynn, Director of Youth Ministries, Email: mark.lynn@stjohnlutheran.com

Tiffany Jurezcki, Nursery and Children's Ministry Coordinator, Email: tiffany@stjohnlutheran.com, Cell: 830-328-3744

Amy Townsend, Hospitality Coordinator, Email: amy@stjohnlutheran.com, Cell: 713-480-8113



## SUNDAY MORNINGS IN JULY



### PILGRIM'S PROGRESS



#### The Sunday School schedule:

**9:30am** Meet in the Family Life Center or right outside at the play area.

**9:50am** Students will then watch a section of the Pilgrim's Progress movie.

**10:15am** Small group discussions.

**10:30am** Parents pick up children in the Family Life Center

**July 4 NO Children or Youth Sunday School classes.** A BLESSED 4th of July to you and your family!

**July 11 Legality Hill:** Struggling under the increasing weight of his burden, Christian sees that this hill is too steep to climb. Legality's voice thunders from the top of the mountain. He refuses to take away Christian's burden until he climbs the mountain. In order to reach the top, he must obey every commandment without missing any. "Don't Move!" "Obey the Rules." "Walk." "Don't Question My Authority." The laws continued to pop up around Christian.

**July 18 The Gate:** If we feel that we are being led astray, or feel that we are under attack, we must call on Him for help. Here, the King sends help in the form of His Word. All of a sudden the ivy covering the door reveals the words "Knock and the door will be opened," referencing Matthew 7:7. He knocks and is immediately allowed inside by the gatekeeper.

**July 25 The House of the Interpreter:** How often do we find ourselves in darkness, not knowing which path to take, and we simply do not ask for help? Christian learns four spiritual lessons from the Interpreter that expand upon this truth: God will give us knowledge, understanding, and guidance, but we must learn how to discern what is from Him, and what is not.

## TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS IN JULY

### YOUTH ALPHA

**Middle School - Tuesdays 6pm - 8pm • High School - Wednesdays 6pm - 8pm**

**July 6 and 7 Bible:** Why and How Do I Read the Bible?

**July 13 and 14 Spirit:** Who is the Holy Spirit and What does He do?

**July 20 and 21 Fill:** How can I be Filled with the Holy Spirit?

**July 27 and 28 New Life:** How Can I Make the Most Of the Rest Of My Life?

Bring friends, especially those who are not a part of a Christian Faith community.

#### Schedule:

**6pm** Meet in the Family Life Center for our meal

**6:30pm** Fellowship Activity

**7pm** Bible Study Time using Youth Alpha

**8pm** Done

Alpha

**HIGH SCHOOL  
SUNDAY EVENT:  
JULY 11**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SUNDAY EVENT:  
JULY 18**

**ELEMENTARY  
STUDENTS AND  
PARENTS: JULY 25**

**WATCH FOR MORE INFO ON THESE EVENTS TO COME!**

## LAST CHANCE FOR DAY CAMP • JULY 26-30

Cross Trails Ministry will be holding a day camp at St. John for children who have completed K-5th grade. Space is limited, so learn more on our website under 'Events' and register today!

## NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS

We will have a nursery care provider present during **Sunday** morning worship and education times.





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Together, in our Home,  
Church and World  
Families

**S<sup>3</sup>HEEP:**  
students, seeking  
and serving HIM  
everywhere, everyday,  
passionately



## YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



**LAMBS<sup>3</sup>:**  
learning and  
memorizing Bible  
stories, songs,  
and service



### CAMP EAGLE 2021!





# CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

## Sam's Kids School Supply Drive



**It's time for the annual school supply drive benefiting Sam's Kids!**

Sam's Kids is an organization that helps Boerne ISD students in need. Sam Champion was a long-time Boerne ISD teacher, principal, and administrator and a member of St. John! Sam was passionate about helping kids and started this organization to "help level the playing field."

**These items are specifically requested - though ALL supplies are helpful: Composition books wide ruled, 70-page wide ruled spirals in red, blue, green, yellow (not purple), 1" white view binders, pencils (Ticonderoga preferred), large glue sticks.**

Please leave your items in the designated box in the Gathering Place in the month of July. Contact Maryanna Pearson ([maryannapearson@gmail.com](mailto:maryannapearson@gmail.com)) or Marissa Klein ([mlmklein03@yahoo.com](mailto:mlmklein03@yahoo.com)) if you have questions.

**Are you looking for a way to keep busy AND help the community this summer?**

**Hill Country Daily Bread needs Elementary Summer Academy Volunteers**

**Monday-Wednesday,  
June 14 - July 21 • 8:30am - 3pm  
at Currey Creek Church**

Volunteers that would be interested in committing to a certain Monday or Tuesday at least once a week are needed. All the curriculum has been completed ahead of time. Volunteers will be trained to execute lessons and games during the day. You are not expected to commit to the whole summer, but whatever you would be willing to do. For more information and to volunteer, please contact Megan Bissonnette: [Megan.Bissonnette@hillcountrydailybread.org](mailto:Megan.Bissonnette@hillcountrydailybread.org)

## GUEST SPEAKERS: AUGUST 1

A delegation from the Houston Oromo Evangelical Lutheran Church will visit the 11:00 service on Sunday, August 1. Pastor Kamiso Boru would like to thank our congregation for our years of faithful support, and share how God is moving in their congregation by giving them new opportunities for growth and outreach.

**The Houston Oromo church will prepare a meal for StJLC that day, served right after worship.** If you've never had Ethiopian food before, come and try it out—it's a lot like Indian food. Hope to see you there!

## SAVE THE DATE!



*"Who can find a worthy woman?  
For her price is far above rubies."*  
-Proverbs 31:10

**Women's Retreat:  
October 15-17  
Camp Chrysalis (Kerrville)**

Join us in retreat as we look at Proverbs 31:10-31 and hear the stories of women from the Bible and the world who exhibited virtues and characteristics that glorified God through their lives and their work.

**We need volunteers! If you are interested in helping, please contact Peggy Hoppes at [heart2love4god@aol.com](mailto:heart2love4god@aol.com)**



**Did you know??  
Our church has an  
awesome library!**

St. John's library has books for everyone: children, youth, young adults, adults. There is fiction and non-fiction, books for study and for leisure reading or entertainment- all kinds and genres. To check out a book simply fill out a card.

Stop by and pick up your books for summer reading!

Questions? Contact Terry Hermann at [terryhermann08@gmail.com](mailto:terryhermann08@gmail.com).



## A note from our new Youth Director, Mark Lynn

My wife Rachel, our foster son Lincoln, and I are very excited to join the St. John family from Lafayette, Indiana!

Rachel will be working at Schreiner University as a math professor starting this fall. I have worked with many youth camps in the past and have served as the interim youth pastor twice at our previous church in Indiana.

I love to play board games, hike, read, and hang out with my family. I look forward to meeting everyone and I am excited to guide the youth of St. John into deeper fellowship with each other and God.

- Mark

# CHURCH NEWS and UPDATES



Dear members of St. John,

I want to share my deep gratitude and thanks for allowing me to serve as your vicar this last year! God was surely at work bringing me to be a part of your congregation. I feel very fortunate to have been able to learn about being a pastor from Pr. Waters, Pr. Bergquist, my internship committee, and you all. I appreciate your commitment to the future of the Church and the warmth you showed me every week. Thank you for your encouragement and fellowship. It has been a strange year, but for me it has been one filled with so many great memories and lessons to bring into my pastoral calling. You have made a significant impact on equipping me for God's ministry.

I am also so incredibly touched by the generosity of the congregational gift and the amazing Texas-sized send-off I was given in June! Thank you to all involved in making the send-off such a special occasion. Your congregation remains in my heart and in my prayers.

- Alliyah Greaver (Alliyah can be reached at [alliyahgreaver@gmail.com](mailto:alliyahgreaver@gmail.com))

In memory of Rosa Lee Schwope:

Thank you St. John members for the lovely reception and wonderful food you provided us and our family and friends during the very sad loss of our mother. Thank you for the sympathy cards sent to us by our church family. We give a big thank you to the church secretary who developed the memorial bulletin. You did a great job. We thank our very dear singer, Rosa Lee Schwope's son-in-law, Paul Harris. We know Mama was dancing in Heaven when she heard her music. Thank you to Miles and Tyler, her grandsons who gave very heart-warming speeches. And most importantly, we thank Pastor Waters who has comforted us during this terrible loss. His sermon was spiritual and inspiring which touched our souls. May God shower His peace and love on this God fearing woman who was a member of St. John's Church for over 75 years, having been confirmed there as an early teenager.

Thank you, the Rosa Lee Schwope family.

## Thank you from St. John church

Ruby Schaub was a lifetime member of St. John Lutheran. Our church would like to thank her for her generous gift to the **Legacy Endowment Fund**, which will bless St. John Lutheran long beyond her lifetime. If you'd like to learn more about the Endowment Fund and its work, please contact Pastor Waters or Scott Kramer.



The physical, emotional, and spiritual effects following the loss of a loved one can be devastating. The good news, is that grieving folks who find a support group often discover that the process from mourning to joy is possible.

GriefShare is a 14-week program where participants will find support and practical advice. Each of the 14 sessions stands alone, and it is not necessary to begin with the very first one. A participant can start at any point during the cycle.

A new StJLC GriefShare cycle, under the guidance of Pastor Mariola Bergquist, is scheduled to begin in August. Registration at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) is highly recommended but not required.

The Tuesday morning cycle will begin August 17, 10am to noon. The Wednesday evening cycle will begin August 18, 6pm-8pm. Call the church office at 830-249-3651, Connie Harbers at 512-779-5508, or Barbara Rogers at 210-373-9070 for more information. More GriefShare information is available at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).

# Happy Birthday!

## Honoring our Senior Members (80+) With Birthdays In July

George Eppinger (07/26) Marjory Olson (07/27)  
Sandra Eppinger (07/27) Karen Richmond (07/28)  
Bette Lafferty (07/05) Avis Young (07/29)  
Marjorie Leverton (07/20)

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

## Grieving the death of a spouse?

*Or do you know someone who is?*

Your life has changed forever. The daily emotions and challenges can seem too hard to bear.

**Find help at a Loss of a Spouse seminar.**

GRIEF SHARE  
**LOSS OF A SPOUSE**

**August 1  
2pm**

The death of a spouse changes your life forever. Daily emotions and challenges can seem too hard to bear. Find help at the "Loss of a Spouse" seminar on **August 1 at 2pm at St. John Lutheran Church**. All are invited to attend. St. John membership is not required.

**Learn more and register to attend at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).**

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



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## JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				7pm Al-Anon 1	2	3
8am Traditional Service 4 9am Food and Fellowship 9:30am Adult Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 6pm Dominoes	Office Closed 5 9am Quilters 6pm Property Meeting 7pm Al-Anon	6pm Middle School Alpha 6 6:30pm Worship Committee 6:30pm Congregational Care	9am WOW Bible Study 7 6pm High School Alpha	7pm Al-Anon 8	9	10
8am Traditional Service 11 9am Food and Fellowship 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12pm Family Committee Meeting HS Event TBA	9am Quilters 12 6:30pm Men's Groups 7pm Al-Anon	6:30am Men's Breakfast 13 6pm Middle School Alpha 6:30pm Congregational Life 6:30pm Outreach Committee	9am WOW Bible Study 14 4pm Growing Hope Distribution 6pm High School Alpha	6pm Friend N Faith 15 Eat Out Group 7pm Al-Anon	16	17
8am Traditional Service 18 9am Food and Fellowship 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 5pm Canasta Middle School Event TBA	11:30am Mens Lunch at 19 Mamacitas 12pm Lit N Lunch 6:30pm Men's Groups 7pm Al-Anon	6pm Middle School Alpha 20 7pm Council Meeting	9am WOW Bible Study 21 6pm High School Alpha	7pm Al-Anon 22	23	24
8am Traditional Service 25 9am Food and Fellowship 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 5pm Canasta Elementary Gathering TBA	6:30pm Men's Groups 26 7pm Al-Anon	6:30am Men's Breakfast 27 6pm Wild Game Dinner Committee 6pm Middle School Alpha	9am WOW Bible Study 28 4pm Growing Hope Distribution 6pm High School Alpha	7pm Al-Anon 29	30	31