

the MESSENGER



St. John Lutheran Church
BOERNE

St. John Lutheran Church

315 Rosewood Ave., Boerne TX 78006

Phone: 830-249-3651

Email: info@stjohnlutheran.com

www.stjohnlutheran.com



January 2022 • Volume 93-01

Stay Connected

Council Contacts:

President

Brandt Klutts - 830-305-4623

Vice-President

Allen Hornung - 830-741-1082

Secretary

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Treasurer

Lil Rogers - 210-452-5583

Congregational Care

Rachel Edwards - 210-347-3277

Congregational Life

Teri Folkerts - 210-273-7245

Stewardship

Michael Hoepfner - 210-649-8825

Outreach

Frank Bush - 210-602-6220

Worship

Ann Peters - 210-639-8918

Property

David Hemme - 210-273-9298

Mission

Janet Blackburn - 830-446-9258

Family³ Ministries

George Klein - 210-269-4620

Youth Representatives

Hayden Allen, Gabe Cook

Pastors can be reached at
830-249-3651

Pastor Eric Waters

Pastor Mariola Bergquist

From the Pastor's Pen

The New Year has come, that time of year when many of us make resolutions to live better. If you're anything like me, your New Year's resolution may not even make it to Valentine's Day. It's hard to do better and live better on your own. It's easier when someone else is making the same resolution with you. That's what we're doing this year for you. For this month of January, we'll review our picture of a disciple here at St. John Lutheran Church. We'll challenge you to resolve to take one step in each of the four parts this year.

Disciples Worship Weekly. Worship attendance in America has been on the decline for years, even before the pandemic. Many Christians now might worship only twice, or even once, per month. I challenge you to add one time more. It's a simple step, but one which will fortify your faith and help our church to grow.

Disciples Walk Daily. You've heard me preach that spending the First 15 minutes of the day with the Lord is the single best thing you can do to grow in your faith. This year, I challenge you add one thing to that First 15: give thanks for one thing every day. That simple act of gratitude can expand your soul and change your perspective on life.

Disciples Connect Consistently. For years now, Americans have grown more and more disconnected from each other, a trend that only accelerated during the pandemic. Feelings of melancholy and gloom grow when people feel lonely and isolated. We don't want that for you! We want you to know your brothers and sisters in the Lord, want you to feel like a part of our church family. So I'll challenge you this year to connect with one group at church and learn a handful of names.

Disciples Serve Monthly. Jesus said, "Even the Son of Man came to serve" (Matthew 20:28). The Father wants us to be like the Son, but we can't be like Jesus unless we serve like Jesus did. Serving others is how we put our love for neighbor into action, how we mature in our faith. I challenge you this year to grow in your faith by serving one time each month this year.

New Year's resolutions are great, but they're even better when you're not making them alone. Make discipleship a part of your New Year's resolution this year—and let St. John Lutheran help you.

- 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

Resolutions

Happy New Year St. John Lutheran! I hope you all had a blessed and joyful Christmas season. As the calendar flips over to 2022, many of us will have made resolutions to improve ourselves. They may be resolutions about losing the Christmas cookie weight, or spending more time with our families, or to read more and spend less time in front of our screens. These are all valuable and worthwhile endeavors. However, Paul reminds us in 1 Timothy that, while these things aren't worthless, it is far more valuable to beef up our spiritual life.

Living with Jesus grants us a life of greater peace and understanding and, ultimately, allows us the chance to live eternally with Him in Heaven. However,

"for, while physical training is of some value, godliness is valuable in every way, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come."

1 Timothy 4:8

these gifts don't come passively. While we are saved by grace alone, faith without works is dead. This is not because you need the works to earn grace, but because God knows that, if we don't keep making that effort to get closer to Him through our prayers, study, and deeds, our faith will wither and die.

I therefore encourage you to make a resolution to come closer to God this year. Study His word, pray daily, and find ways to support God's mission on Earth. Find ways to help at St. John by volunteering in any of the numerous ways that support

both our members and our community at large. In November you made a pledge for giving - your tithe showing your trust in God's care for your life. Make sure your weekly or monthly tithe is enough to help you reach your goal - remember that you can always set up automatic payments online at www.stjohnlutheran.com to help you with this!

In all things, I hope you find that peace and joy that God brings when you center your life around Him. God bless you!

Your Brother in Christ,
Michael Hoepfner, Chairman
Stewardship Committee

INCOME COMPARISON

Monthly Operating Income	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Through Month
2021	\$149,464	\$92,893	\$119,933	\$110,256	\$120,505	\$92,056	\$89,873	\$123,896	\$86,919	\$118,393	\$104,987		\$1,209,176
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	1,402,073
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	1,295,332

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	85	94	151	163	110	86		123
2021 IN-PERSON	289	276	328	346	317	335	276	319	296	341	342		323
TOTAL	512	427	450	470	405	420	370	470	459	451	428		446
2020 ONLINE				705	513	220	220	241	233	170	143	256	300
2020 IN-PERSON	449	408	331*		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

Organ Update

As of December 16, we currently have raised \$100,870 of the necessary \$111,000 to fund the new organ for the Sanctuary. To donate, contact the church office. Thank you for your support!



GriefShare is a 14-week program where participants will find support and practical advice from professionals via a video component that addresses many feelings associated with death and grief. Each of the 14 sessions stands alone, and it is not necessary to begin with the very first one.

A new StJLC GriefShare cycle, under the guidance of Pastor Mariola Bergquist, is scheduled to begin in this month. Registration at www.griefshare.org is highly recommended..

The Tuesday morning cycle will begin January 18, 2022, 10am to noon. The Wednesday evening cycle will begin January 19, 2022, 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.

Additional GriefShare information is available at www.griefshare.org.



FAMILY³ MINISTRIES

Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.

FAMILY³
Together, in our Home,
Church and World
Families

ADULT FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Ladies' Bible Study

PRECEPT

Thursdays 9:15am-11am, Room 118

PRECEPT class will resume on January 6, to finish our study of I Corinthians. A new study based on II Corinthians will begin on January 27. If you are interested, please email pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com to order a workbook.

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

Wednesdays 9am-10am

Women of the Word will begin a new session on January 5 at 9am. Join us for *Life In His Name: The Gospel of John*.

This class will meet from January to May. Materials fee is \$5. For more info or to request childcare, email Michelle Waters at watersmichellejoy@gmail.com.



Mens' Bible Study

Mens' Breakfast

Every other Tuesday 6:30am

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



Shepherd's Cave Happenings:

**Sundays
9:30am
Room 117**

The 21 toughest questions your kids will ask about Christianity and how to answer them confidently.

January 9: How to Answer the Questions Your Kids Will Ask About Christianity

January 16: Questions About God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit

January 23: Questions About Suffering and Evil

January 30: Questions About the Bible

Note: There will be two more classes in February: Questions About Miracles and Questions About Christian Living

Adult Sunday School Classes

9:30am "God Talk"

Godtalk will begin a study on the Parables of Jesus in January. The format will be discussion using the book "The Parables of Jesus" by William Barclay. A limited number of books has been ordered and will be available for \$15. The book is also available on ebook.

Meet in Room 128. Contact Peggy Hoppes for more information.

9:30am "Seekers" Room 216.

9:30am "Logos"

Logos is currently studying Acts.

Coming Soon: "The Spiritual Realms"
This is a Bible study on Heaven and Hell and places beyond this world, realities of existence beyond what we know and experience every day. We hope to strengthen your faith in Jesus Christ alone, and bring you to a deeper, more Biblical, understanding of death and Resurrection.

Meet in Room 118. Led by Richard Wagner and Pastor Kurt Wandrey

HAPPY HEARTS January 10 • 6pm



Happy Hearts will meet on January 10, 2022 at 6 pm in the Family Life Center for a potluck dinner (please bring food to share) and an evening of **cowboy poetry**.

Jim Plunkett, a published cowboy poet and storyteller will present his poems. Cowboy poetry is BIG in Texas, so please join us for this wonderful opportunity to hear Jim's poems and stories.



Sunday, January 16 • 6pm

at the LIV at Boerne Hill
Apartments,
in the Community Room,
3 Shooting Club Rd, Boerne

Pastor Kurt Wandrey will be hosting. BYOB and a finger food to share.

Main Discussion Topic: Jesus says in John 15:16, "You did not choose me, but I chose you." So, is there such a thing as "free will"? What is it? Why do we want it? What does the Bible and our Lutheran Confessions have to say about it? These are just a few of the questions we will explore and seek to answer. You may indeed be surprised by some of the answers!

The TRUTH PROJECT is back!



This important and impactful study has blessed many in our congregation and millions around the world. "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." – Romans 12:2

January 12: Tour 1 Veritology – What is Truth? Be blown away by the Biblical evidence of Jesus' main mission. It is most likely NOT what you are thinking.

January 19: Tour 2 Philosophy and Ethics-Says Who? See how the way we think about truth has a direct bearing upon the way we live our lives. Don't be surprised if your picture of the world gets challenged.

January 26: Tour 3 Anthropology – Who is Man? Be aware of the implications of a Biblical world view of human beings verses our far reaching non-Biblical modern day cultural view.



FAMILY³ MINISTRIES

Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.

FAMILY³
Together, in our Home,
Church and World
Families

Our Family³ Ministries Team:

Matt Olson, Director of Family³ Ministries, Email: matt@stjohnlutheran.com, Cell: 830-388-1550

Mark Lynn, Director of Youth Ministries, Email: mark.lynn@stjohnlutheran.com, Cell: 630-596-7312

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 FOR L.A.M.B.S³

January 2: NO Children and Youth Classes:

A blessed NEW Year to you and your family!

January 9: Sunday School / also known as lambs "feeding time" is B-A-A-A-A-CK!

During the month of January, please pray for the students as they take in the following:

- **K-1st Grade** will learn the stories of Jacob's Dream and Joseph's Coat of many colors.
- **2nd Grade** will process the parables of the Wedding Feast and a Friend in the Night.
- **3rd Grade** will see why Jesus was called the Great Prophet and Teacher.
- **4th Grade** will Explore the meaning of Peter's vision and his jailbreak.
- **5th Grade** will be inspired by the witness of Adoniram and Ann Judson; George Muller and Harriet Tubman.



SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR S³H.E.E.P.

January 2: NO Children and Youth Classes:

A blessed NEW Year to you and your family!

January 9:

- **6th and 7th Graders** to meet in The Fold where they will continue their comparison of world religions to Christianity. Shinto and Islam will be there topics for the month of January.
- **8th - 10th Graders** to meet in the FLC with Mark where you will then go to the Historic Chapel to learn about and practice the spiritual disciplines of confession, fasting and service.
- **11th- 12th Graders** to meet in the Upper Room to have extremely important biblical and cultural conversations on the importance of knowing the "truth" in history as well as looking at God's design of our social systems.

Thanks for keeping these students and their teachers in your prayers as they wrestle with and find encouragement in the Scriptures and how to live them in our culture today.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

Regular Schedule:

4pm Open Gym

5:30pm Youth Bell Choir

5:45pm Dinner available in Luther Hall

6:30pm Bible Studies for All Ages

January 12:

Regular Wednesday Gatherings RESUME

January 19:

Regular Schedule plus
Service Project Night for Children and Youth

January 26:

Regular Schedule plus Fellowship emphasis
for Children and Youth

Preschool-4th Grade meet in the Nursery

5th Grade meets in room #115 for First Communion preparation.

6th - 8th Grades meet in FLC for opening to Confirmation

9th - 12th Grades meet in the Upper Room to continue the study of Romans

Adults meet in the Shepherds Cave for the *Truth Project

Parents' Night out IS BACK!

Friday, January 21, 2022 • 6pm-10pm

\$15/child \$45 max/family
Dinner included! Nursery-Age 10

CONTACT: tiffany@stjohnlutheran.com

Sign up online: www.stjohnlutheran.com under 'Events'

Spring Break Ski Pilgrimage 2022

March 13-19 • ONLY 6 SPOTS LEFT!

Visit St. John's website under 'Events' for additional details
and to register.

Questions? Email: Mark.Lynn@stjohnlutheran.com or 630-596-7312

NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

We will have a nursery care provider present during
Sunday morning worship and education times, as well
as on **Wednesday** evenings.



FAMILY³ MINISTRIES

Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.

FAMILY³
Together, in our Home,
Church and World
Families

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



YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



LAMBS³:
learning and
memorizing Bible
stories, songs,
and service



Friday, January 14 • 5pm-10pm

Middle Schoolers: join us for pizza, games, and to just hang out! Meet in the Family Life Center.



**Wild Goose
Chase**

Sunday, January 23, 12:15pm-3pm

High Schoolers: Meet in the Family Life Center and join us for lunch and an awesome Photo Scavenger Hunt!

START PLANNING FOR SUMMER!

**Elementary Camp Chrysalis
June 26-July 1**

Young'ns: June 26-29. Grow with God and have a great first camp experience in this half-week program! For those who have completed grades 1st – 3rd.

Explorers: Spend a full week discovering your faith and experiencing what camp is all about!! For those who have completed grades 2nd – 3rd.

Yearlings: Play and grow in faith while having high-energy fun! For those who have completed grades 4th – 6th grade.

Registration opens January 3 through Cross Trails website: <https://crosstrails.coampbrainregistration.com/> (Click on Group Registration) or **find the link on St. John's website under 'Events'.**

After registering with Cross Trails, go online to St. John to make your payment. All payments will go through St. John for Summer Bible Camp.



**Middle School and High School
Camp Eagle
June 28 - July 2**

This summer camp is packed with outdoor adventure, relationship-building, and Biblical truth.

Go to cameagle.org for more information or visit our website: www.stjohnlutheran.com under 'Events' to learn more and find the link to register.

After registering with Camp Eagle, go online to St. John to make your payment. All payments will go through St. John for this Camp.



**Youth
Mission Trip**

**Mission Trip to Lake Charles, LA
with Praying Pelican Missions
June 4 – June 10**

8th-12th grade students (and adult chaperones) are invited to join us! The cost is \$300 per student before fundraising. Visit www.stjohnlutheran.com under 'Events' for more info.



**PRAYING
PELICAN
MISSIONS**

CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Decorations Take Down Tuesday, January 4, 9:30am

Now that the Christmas Season is behind us, it's time to take down and pack away the Christmas decorations.

Please join us on Tuesday, January 4 at 9:30am. Meet in the Narthex, even if you only have 1 hour to spare – all help is welcomed!

NEW Adult Sunday School Classes to begin in January

"God Talk"

The "God Talk" class will begin a new study on the Parables of Jesus on January 3. The format will be discussion using the book "The Parables of Jesus" by William Barclay. A limited number of books has been ordered and will be available for \$15. The book is available on ebook if you prefer that format.

Meet in Room 128 from 9:30am-10:30am each Sunday. Contact Peggy Hoppes for more info.

"Logos"

COMING SOON!

The Sunday LOGOS class will begin a study of "The Spiritual Realms" This is a Bible study on Heaven and Hell and places beyond this world, realities of existence beyond what we know and experience every day. More details to come, but plan now to join us!

Meet in Room 118. Led by Richard Wagner and Pastor Kurt Wandrey.



Do you like to eat out and try new restaurants?

LUNCH BUNCH

Our Lunch Bunch group meets on the second Thursday of every month at 11:30am. We welcome new people to join us!

DINNER GROUP

Our Eat-Out Dinner group meets on the third Thursday of every month at 6pm. New people are always welcome to join us!

Reservations are required five days before each meeting. If you would like to be added to the email list, contact Judy Shoquist at cavazosjudy@gmail.com

Women's One Day Retreat

Saturday, January 29 • 9am-3pm

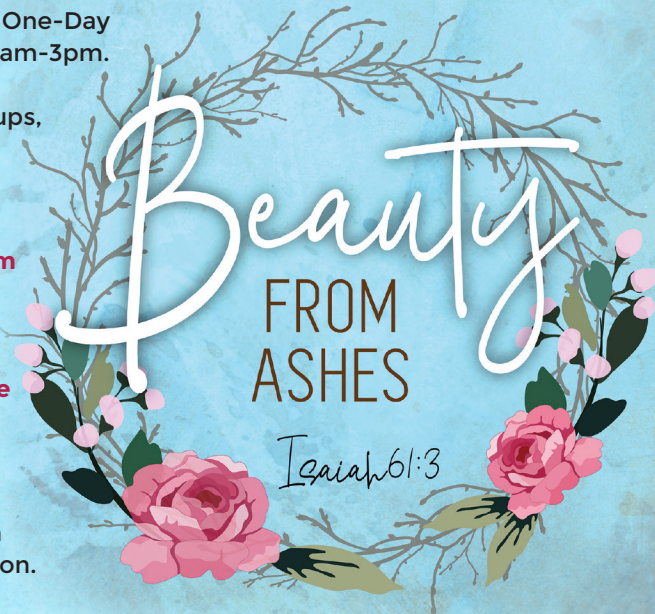
Join us for the Women's One-Day Retreat on January 29, 9am-3pm. Come enjoy worship, refreshments, small groups, a delicious lunch, and inspiring messages.

Sign up online at www.stjohnlutheran.com under 'Events'. Cost is \$35.

The registration deadline is January 15. SIGN UP TODAY!

Lunch will be provided. Childcare available upon request during registration. Bring your friends!

There will also be a livestream option available with Zoom small group discussions. Register for the free livestream/zoom option online.



Do you like to play games, have fun, and meet people?



The Canasta / Dominoes Group meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Sunday of each month.

The night is started with a pot luck dinner at 5pm and the games usually conclude around 8pm. No experience is necessary... all the games are easy to learn. Individuals or couples are welcome to join!

Text Jean Sheffy with any questions: 210-845-2849.

REMINDER

Usher Schedule for January:

8 am services: The Richard Wahl Team
9:30am services: The Brian and Christy Mikulencak Team
11am services: The Johnny Moldenhauer Team

Please remember to arrive early for your scheduled service!

CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS



Thank you for the Christmas gift from the congregation. We are blessed to serve a church like St. John Lutheran, which takes such good care of its pastors and makes us feel so appreciated. Thank you for generosity!

Pastor Mariola Bergquist and Pastor Eric Waters

Happy Birthday!

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

Burleigh Arnecke (01/01)	George Lawson (01/25)
LeRoy Bartman (01/11)	Lorraine Massey (01/11)
Pat Blackman (01/21)	Dixie Pfeiffer (01/17)
Sandra Hegyesi (01/18)	Gene Roeder (01/16)
Charles Kuentz (01/10)	Charles Urban (01/16)

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

A December to Remember...



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



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12pm CPR Training 5pm Dominoes 2	9am Quilters 6pm Property Committee 7pm Al-Anon 3	9:30am Christmas decoration Take-Down 6:30pm Congregational Care 6:30pm Worship Committee 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Basketball 4	9am Women of the Word 6:30pm Choir 5	9:15am Precept 7pm Al-Anon 6	7	8
8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 9	9am Quilters 6pm Happy Hearts 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 7pm Al-Anon 10	6:30am Men's Breakfast 8am Roberta Buckles Painting 5:30pm American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Congregational Life 6:30pm Mission Committee 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Basketball 11	4pm Open Gym 5:45pm Dinner 6:30pm Wednesday Night Activities 6:30pm Choir 12	9:15am Precept 11:30pm Lunch Bunch 7pm Al-Anon 13	5pm Middle School Late-Night Event (5pm-10pm) 14	15
8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12pm Family Committee Meeting 5pm Canasta 6pm Theology on Tap 8pm College Zoom 16	Martin Luther King Jr. Day 7pm Al-Anon 17	8am Roberta Buckles Painting 9am GriefShare 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Basketball 7pm Council Meeting 18	4pm Open Gym 5:45pm Dinner 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Wednesday Night Activities 6:30pm Choir 19	9:15am Precept 6pm Friends N Faith Eat Out Group 7pm Al-Anon 20	Council Retreat 6pm Parent's Night Out 21	Council Retreat 22
8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12:15pm High School Even t 5pm Canasta 23	6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 7pm Al-Anon 24	6:30am Men's Breakfast 8am Roberta Buckles Painting 9am GriefShare 5:30pm American Heritage Girls 6pm Wild Game Dinner Committee 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Basketball 25	4pm Open Gym 5:45pm Dinner 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Wednesday Night Activities 6:30pm Choir 26	7pm Al-Anon 8pm College Zoom 27	28	Women's One-Day Retreat 9am-3pm 29
8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 5pm Canasta 30	7pm Al-Anon 31					