

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



February 2022 • Volume 93-02

Stay Connected

Council Contacts:

President

Brandt Klutts - 830-305-4623

Vice-President

Allen Hornung - 830-741-1082

Secretary

Gloria Baker - 830-431-0522

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

Jesus gave the church a mission to "Go and make disciples" (Matthew 28:19). We've spent three years building a picture of discipleship here at StJLC. We've spent the last month reviewing the pathway and challenging people to take one more step. I think it's safe to say that we are now comfortable with the "make disciples" part of our God-given mission. It's the "Go" part that still makes us nervous.

Evangelism has never been the strong suit of the Lutheran church. Most of us don't know how to share the Gospel. Many of us are probably too anxious to even try. That has to change if we want to fulfill our mission to "Go and make disciples." That has to change if we want to see our church grow.

It won't happen overnight. It took us years to build a picture and pathway of discipleship. It will take us years to make evangelism part of the culture and practice of our church. But we're starting this month with a sermon series and two special events.

The sermon series is called "Go to, Come to, Do good." It looks at a Biblical model of evangelism as "Going to" where we already live, work, and play; inviting people to "Come to" church and meet Jesus; and "Doing good" in our community in Jesus' name. I'll introduce the ideas this month and work them into

the practice and mission of our church over the next few years.

We begin with a special training event on February 26. Led by Bill Mowry, my Navigators coach who has been helping me with discipleship since 2017, it will equip us to "Go to" where God has already placed us, build relationships with the people we already know, and start conversations about faith. The event is scheduled for Saturday, February 26, 9am to 12 noon. This first event is for those who want to go a little deeper and are ready to step out in faith.

The second event is for us all. February 27 is "Bring a Friend to Church Day." After preaching all February on evangelism, we'll end the month with an opportunity to invite your friends to "Come and see" (John 1:46). We'll pull out the stops to make the church as nice as we can, with a special breakfast that day and special music in our services. Then I'll get up and preach on John 3:16, "the whole Gospel in one verse." We want to make it easy for you to invite a friend to church that day, confident that we're ready to welcome them and they'll hear the Good News.

Who will you bring to church that day? Start praying for that person now. Evangelism has to begin somewhere. Let it begin this month with 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

Love God and love others

With Valentine's Day this month, it is appropriate to turn our monthly meditation to love. Christianity is unique among religions in that we don't have to do anything to earn our salvation - it is granted as a gift from our loving Father. Indeed, as Jesus says, "all the law and the prophets" are there to point us to these two things we should do as Christians - to love our God and love our neighbor.

The only thing God asks is that we give ourselves to Him fully and to use the gifts He has equipped us with to spread that love to others. Some of you

"He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-39

may be called to minister to our elders in the nursing homes while others sing His praises at worship. One person may instruct our youth in how to live a Christian life while another helps repair someone's roof damaged in a hurricane. Whatever your gifts, use them to God's glory and to share that love with the world. Remember that you can always check the St. John website for volunteer opportunities or for

ways to donate to the church's mission in our community and our world.

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 Hoeppner, 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	\$213,041	\$1,422,217
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	1,395,332

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	120	123
2021 IN-PERSON	289	276	328	346	317	335	276	319	296	341	342	556	342
TOTAL	512	427	450	470	405	420	370	470	459	451	428	676	465
2020 ONLINE				705	513	220	220	241	233	170	143	256	218
2020 IN-PERSON	449	408	331*		142	219	148	210	243	247	221	346	257
TOTAL	449	408	331	705	655	439	368	451	476	417	363	602	475
2019	416	410	384	512	434	347	377	391	385	421	382	581	442

Organ Update

We have reached our goal!

We met our goal of \$111,000 for the new digital organ in the Sanctuary—and exceeded it, raising \$115,000!



Thank you to all who donated for supporting the music ministry of our church.

We expect to receive and install the new organ in May.

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING



Learn about all the ways you can give by visiting our website:
www.stjohnlutheran.com



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 study 2 Corinthians in the months of February, March and April. If you are interested, please email Pastor Mariola at pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com to order a workbook.

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

Wednesdays 9am-10am

Women of the Word is studying *Life In His Name: The Gospel of John* 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:

Equipping parents and grandparents to pass on the faith.

**Sundays 9:30am
Room 117**

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

February 6: Questions About the Bible
February 13: Questions About Miracles
February 20: Questions About Christian Living

Interested in being part of a Men's Group?

Contact Matt Olson:
830-388-1550 or
matt@stjohnlutheran.com

Adult Sunday School Classes

9:30am "God Talk"

Godtalk began a study on the Parables of Jesus in January. The format is discussion using the book "The Parables of Jesus" by William Barclay.

Meet in Room 128.

Contact Peggy Hoppes for more info:
heart2love4god@aol.com

9:30am "Seekers" Room 216

Led by Carol Postert.

9:30am "Logos"

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 February 14 • 6pm

Happy Hearts will celebrate Valentine's Day on Monday, February 14 at 6 pm with a potluck (please bring food to share) in the Family Life Center.

After the meal, we will gather in the sanctuary to hear popular love songs performed by a professional singer, followed by a **Ceremony for Renewal of Marriage Vows**. St. John couples who would like to renew their marriage vows are invited to join us.



GriefShare Support Continues

The Christian-oriented GriefShare bereavement program, under the guidance of Pastor Bergquist, continues and is available to both StJLC members and non-members. Anyone aged 17 and older mourning the death of a loved one is invited to come at any point during the 14-week cycle, as each class is a stand-alone unit. There is no charge for this ministry.

Meeting options are: **Tuesdays, 10am-noon through May 3 and Wednesdays, 6pm-8pm through May 4**. Childcare is available with prior notice. Both classes meet in the Education Wing, first floor.

More information is available online at www.griefshare.org or by calling Connie at 512-779-5508, Barbara at 210-373-9070, or the church office at 830-249-3651.

The TRUTH PROJECT

**Wednesdays 6:30pm
Room 117**



"Be transformed by the renewing of your mind." – Romans 12:2

February 2: Tour 4 - Theology: Who Is God?
February 9: Tour 5 - Science: What Is True? (part 1)
February 16: Tour 5 - Science: What Is True? (part 2)
February 23: Tour 6 - History: Whose Story?



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

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

K-1st Grade	The Burning Bush (The Call of Moses) and The Passover
2nd Grade	Parables on how to pray and how to build one's life on the rock.
3rd Grade	The Great Commandment and the Great Question
4th Grade	Barnabas and Paul and their missionary adventures.
5th Grade	Will be inspired by the witness of Harriet Tubman, William Booth and Robert Jermain Thomas.



SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR S³H.E.E.P.

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

6th and 7th Graders to meet in The Fold where they will continue their comparison of world religions to Christianity. Islam, Satanism, The Occult and Mormonism will be the topics for the month of February.

8th - 10th Graders to meet in the FLC with Mark and then go to the Historic Chapel to learn about and practice the spiritual disciplines of service, prayer, and sacrifice.

11th- 12th Graders to meet in the Upper Room to be strengthened and encouraged in their walk with Christ.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

February 2:

5th Graders:
Passover Meal Experience

Middle School:
Final Apostles' Creed lesson.

High School:
Roman's Bible Study

February 9:

5th Graders:
First Communion Rehearsal

Middle School:
Holy Spirit Test

High School:
Roman's Bible Study

February 16:

ALL AGES SERVICE NIGHT



Spread
God's Love,
one stone at
a time.

Meet in the Family Life Center.

February 23:

ALL AGES CELEBRATION GAME AND PARTY NIGHT



**Food,
Drink,
and
FUN!!!**

Our version of Mardi Gras.
Meet in the Family Life Center.

5th Grade

FAITH MILE MARKER

First Communion

On **Sunday, February 13** five St. John's 5th graders who have completed their Sacraments class will take their first Communion.

Let's celebrate with Shane, Georgia, Kinsley, Riley and Lincoln!



4th Grade FAITH MILE MARKER

4th Graders, parents, and grandparents are invited to three upcoming Family Strong workshops in Room 119 at 9:30am

February 27: Mission #1

Live Your Purpose in Life

March 6: Mission #2

Develop a Supportive Faith Web

March 27: Mission #3

Making a Family Mission Statement

Spring Break Ski Pilgrimage 2022

March 13-19 • ONLY A FEW 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



February 13 • 5pm-9pm

Middle and High School Students:

Join us on February 13 in the Family Life Center for a Super Bowl party from 5pm - 9pm.

We will watch the Super Bowl and there will also be video games and board games available.

Please bring a dish to share. Contact Mark Lynn with questions: mark.lynn@stjohnlutheran.com

Make it a family movie event! March 4-6

Sabina: Tortured for Christ, the Nazi Years is the story of how God's love transformed an ambitious, atheistic hedonist into one of the greatest Christian women of the 20th century. Nazis killed her family, but she risked everything to share the love and truth of Christ with them.

This movie is rated PG-13.



**Register at SabinaMovie.com
to watch for free.**



YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS

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 is open through Cross Trails website: <https://crosstrails.coampbrainregistration.com/> (Click on Group Registration) or **find the link on our website under 'Events'.**

After registering with Cross Trails, go online to St. John to make your payment. All payments go through St. John for this 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 go through St. John.



Parents' Night Out

Friday, February 18 • 6pm-10pm

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

CONTACT: tiffany@stjohnlutheran.com

Sign up online: www.stjohnlutheran.com

CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

GO to • COME to • DO good

"GO to" Evangelism Training Seminar February 26, 9am - 12pm

Evangelism doesn't have to be scary. It begins by going to where we already live, work, and play, building relationships with people we already know, and talking about faith as opportunities arise.

This **three-hour seminar** teaches two skills: "How to build relationships" and "How to start faith conversations." This event will be hosted by Pastor Eric and led by Bill Mowry, Pastor Eric's discipleship coach. **Sign up on our website under 'Events'.**



February 27 will be a great Sunday at StJLC. We'll have a special breakfast and special music in our services. Pastor Eric will preach on John 3:16, "the whole Gospel in one verse." We want to make it easy for you to bring a friend to church that day, confident that they'll hear the Gospel and feel welcomed by the church. Who will you invite?



Our Praise Service has grown!

We are very excited at how our Praise Service has grown! We celebrated the milestone of 'over 75' last month with cake and a commemorative picture!



Are you listening to Pastor Eric and Michelle's podcast?

Listen to the new series called Speak the Word of God Boldly! Join us as we draw inspiration from the apostles' bravery and boldness in the face of a hostile culture. Find the podcast at www.michellejoywaters.com/podcast or in Apple Podcasts. If you would like the episodes delivered to your email inbox on Mondays, email Michelle at michelle@michellejoywaters.com

pastors confidential



REMINDER

February Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	The Kirby Wisian Team
9:30am services:	The Blackburn Team and The Lee Team
11am services:	The Matthew Pearson Team

March Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	The Randy Evans Team
9:30am services:	The Kinsler Team
11am services:	The Bob Runion Team

*Please remember to arrive early
for your scheduled service!*

Would you like to be an Usher at our Sunday services?

If you are willing to serve in this way, please contact the church office at 830-249-3651 or see Johnny Moldenhauer to volunteer.

CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Emergency Response Ministry News

Farewell to TTosca 2

Some of you may have seen TTosca 2, a 7-month-old Belgian Malinois, at the East entrance to the church on Sunday mornings and talked with her handlers, Doris and Tommy Blake. TTosca 2, property of the United States Government, is the first Military Working Dog (MWD) in training to serve as a mascot for St. John Lutheran Church's Emergency Response Ministry.

The MWD program is run solely by the United States Air Force, which provides fully trained dogs to all branches of the military, as well as to civilian law enforcement agencies. Qualified families, like the Blakes, provide minimal training for four months and expose new puppy trainees to a variety of sounds and social settings. Seven basic commands are taught to the puppy trainees before they move on to the next phase of their training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

On January 5, 2022, TTosca 2 completed her socialization phase of training, and was returned to Lackland Air Force Base to begin her formal training. During her time at Lackland, TTosca 2 will undergo intensive training which includes, but is not limited to, drug detection, personnel protection, facility protection, and cadaver recovery. Key elements to a trainee's success are temperament and an eagerness to learn commands. At the appropriate time, a permanent dog handler will be assigned, and will work directly with their new dog until graduation from the program.



Tommy Blake with TTosca 2 at a memorial for Military Working Dogs.

So far, Doris and Tommy have socialized six MWDs, and will continue to be part of the training program. If you have questions about the MWD program, Tommy and Doris would love to share their experiences with you.

Congratulations Doris and Tommy. You have helped keep our military personnel safe, as well as our country.

Happy Birthday!

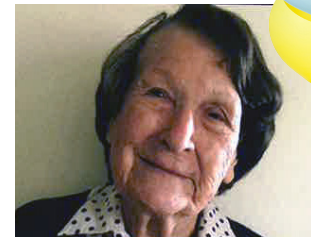
Honoring our Senior Members (80+)
With Birthdays In February

Tommy Blake (02/12)	Tom Page (02/04)
William Mayo (02/16)	Jim Richmond (02/16)
Irene Page (02/24)	Martha Wallis (02/22)

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

Happy 100th Birthday, Martha Wallis!

Martha turns 100 this year, born on February 22, 1922. Join us in wishing her a very happy birthday!



Did You Know...

The flowers on the altar each Sunday are donated by members.

Flowers may be donated in memory of a loved one, to recognize Birthdays and Anniversaries, to celebrate Baptisms, or for any reason at all. Flowers can be taken home after the 11am service or you can request that they be taken to one of our homebound members.

The Flower Sign Up Sheet can be found hanging on the wall behind the Info Desk.



MONTHLY UPDATE

A testimonial from a Growing Hope mentor:

Two and a half years ago a group of St. John members toured Hill Country Daily Bread. We became interested in working with the people there to distribute food and spread God's Word to others in need. Since I had only fully retired a few months before and missed working with children and their families, I immediately felt that this is what I wanted to do.

In October of 2019, I was matched with a single mother with five children at home. She also had two older children working and going to school. It has been a joy to get to know the family and to mentor a very special lady through the trials and joys of life. She cleans houses six days a week and prepares good meals for her family. She has been going to school and will finish March 1 with a certification to be Phlebotomist or a Medical Assistant. I admire her energy and tenacity. I also enjoy our talks about challenging situations family's face and about the blessings God has given us. We pray about these things when I visit every other Wednesday, and on the phone in between when needed. It is my prayer that others may have these experiences through Growing Hope and that I can continue this special friendship for a long time.


-Linda Bush

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 8am Roberta Buckles Painting 10am GriefShare 5:30pm American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Congregational Care 6:30pm Worship Committee 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Basketball	2 9am Women of the Word 4pm Open Gym 5:45pm Dinner 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Wednesday Night Activities 6:30pm Choir	3 9:15am Precept 7pm Al-Anon	4	5
	6 8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 5pm Dominoes	7 9am Quilters 6pm Property Meeting 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 7pm Al-Anon	8 6:30am Men's Breakfast 8am Roberta Buckles Painting 10am GriefShare 6:30pm Congregational Life 6:30pm Mission Committee 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Basketball	9 9am Women of the Word 4pm Open Gym 5:45pm Dinner 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Wednesday Night Activities 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm First Communion Rehearsal	10 9:15am Precept 11:30am Lunch Bunch Eat Out Group 7pm Al-Anon	12
	13 8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service-First Communion Rite 12pm Family Committee Meeting 1pm Young Men's Service League 5pm Youth Super Bowl Party	14 VALENTINES DAY 9am Quilters 6pm Happy Hearts 7pm Al-Anon	15 8am Roberta Buckles Painting 10am GriefShare 5:30pm American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Basketball 7pm Council Meeting	16 9am Women of the Word 4pm Open Gym 5:45pm Dinner 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Wednesday Night Activities 6:30pm Choir	17 9:15am Precept 6pm Friends N Faith Eat Out Group 7pm Al-Anon	18 6pm Parents' Night Out
	20 8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 5pm Canasta	21 PRESIDENTS' DAY 7pm Al-Anon	22 6:30am Men's Breakfast 8am Roberta Buckles Painting 10am GriefShare 6pm Wild Game Dinner Committee 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Basketball	23 9am Women of the Word 4pm Open Gym 5:45pm Dinner 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Wednesday Night Activities 6:30pm Choir	24 9:15am Precept 7pm Al-Anon 8pm College Zoom	25 9am-Noon "Go To" Evangelism Study
	27 BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH DAY 8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 5pm Canasta 8pm College Zoom	28 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 7pm Al-Anon				