

the MESSENGER

S+JL
BOERNE

St. John Lutheran Church

315 Rosewood Ave., Boerne TX 78006

Phone: 830-249-3651

Email: info@stjohnlutheran.com

www.stjohnlutheran.com



January 2023 • Volume 94-01

Stay Connected

Council Contacts:

President

Kirby Wisian - 210-835-4691

Vice-President

Gloria Baker - 830-431-0522

Secretary

Kim Klutts - 210-859-4040

Treasurer

Lil Rogers - 210-452-5583

Congregational Care

Sharon von Rosenberg-830-431-0046

Congregational Life

Geneva Sinclair - 830-446-6919

Stewardship

Judi Catalon - 830-388-1685

Outreach

Frank Bush - 210-602-6220

Worship

Ann Peters - 210-639-8918

Property

Mission

Jennifer Kuentz - 210-834-2811

Family³ Ministries

George Klein - 210-269-4620

Youth Representatives

Luke Christman, Logan Klein

Pastors and Vicar can be

reached at 830-249-3651

Pastor Eric Waters

Pastor Mariola Bergquist

Vicar Justin Baker

From the Pastor's Pen



What are your hopes for this New Year? My hopes are to see this church grow in number, and every member grow in faith. If you've been thinking about joining our church, now's the time. Our **New**

Member classes

will be held on Sundays after the Late Service, January 15 through February 5. We'll introduce you to the history and mission of St. John Lutheran, and equip you to grow as a disciple by Worshipping Weekly, Walking Daily, Connecting Consistently, and Serving Monthly. We'll even give you lunch! Then we'll receive you into membership during the worship services on Super Bowl Sunday, February 12. Visit our website to learn more and sign up. We'd love to have you join us as a member of our church.

And I'd love if every member could tell their story of faith. I know that doesn't come easy for Lutherans, so we're going to help you by preaching a four-part sermon series called "**Go and Tell.**" We all know the story of Paul's conversion on the Road to Damascus, but not many of us have a dramatic story like his. Many of us feel more like Timothy, a faithful follower who grew up in the church and knew the Lord from birth. Others are like Thomas, who as an adult made a firm commitment to the Lord. Still others are like Peter, who came back to Jesus only after he tried and

failed to go it alone and lost his way. Who are you like? This series will help you see your story in the light of theirs, and equip you to "go and tell" your story like them.

Next month we'll give you the opportunity to do just that. Bring a Friend to Church Day is on February 26. We'll launch a sermon series called "**Unshakable Faith.**" I'm really excited about this series and eager to share with you a book I helped to write—one you can give to your family and friends to help them weather the storms of life. Jesus commissions us to "Go and make disciples." We're focusing on the "go" this year. More about all that later.

But for now, for this month, I want to end with two opportunities at the end of the month. The first is the **Women's One-Day Retreat** on January 28, an opportunity to help the women of our church grow as disciples. Learn more inside this newsletter and sign up online. The other is a visit from Pastor Amy Little, the **General Secretary of the North American Lutheran Church.** She'll be worshipping with us on January 29 and will host a talk in the Family Life Center. Come and see how our church is going into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

My hope this New Year is to see our church grow in numbers and every member grow in faith. Resolve to grow and go with us.

- Pastor Eric Waters

A NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

Jesus commanded us to all to be disciples. In order to create disciples, we must

Connect and Serve

HAPPY NEW YEAR! A New Year, a new beginning! A time for resolutions and reflection. As we move through this next year, I wish to be more mindful, more prayerful, more forgiving, more patient, and a better servant to the Lord. How about you?

We are involved in our church but are we the best servants we can be? Do we give joyfully of our time, treasures, and talents as we should? Should we be doing something different? Something more?

Are we overextended but not truly using our God given gifts?

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

I will be chairing the stewardship committee and I sincerely hope to do a good job with God's grace and your support. I would like to better define the role of stewardship, to provide opportunities, tools, and motivation for all of us to be better stewards to the Lord and to one another.

Should you have suggestions, talents, or time, I would love to have you join me.

**"Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
-Matthew 28:16-20**

There will be opportunities to be as active or passive as you wish. We will be good stewards with our actions not our meetings. Please reach out to me at judi.catalon@gmail.com or call 830-388-1685.

Peace and blessings,

Judi Catalon
Stewardship Committee

INCOME COMPARISON

Monthly Operating Income	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average Thru Month
2022	\$134,590	\$124,203	\$141,734	\$115,347	\$104,550	\$106,229	\$114,850	\$122,472	\$96,083	\$116,396	\$123,143		\$118,145
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	\$109,925
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	\$104,349

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON

Avg Weekly Worship	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average for Month YTD
2022 ONLINE	131	123	104	84	54	91	74	81	66	70	66		86
2022 IN-PERSON	350	407	459	632	377	353	344	382	359	372	375		407
2022 TOTAL	481	530	563	716	431	444	418	463	425	442	441		493
2021 TOTAL	410	471	522	488	415	420	370	471	459	451	428	676	446
2020 TOTAL	450	480	428	705	546	416	367	451	476	417	364	602	464

* Online attendance added starting April, 2020

THE VICAR'S CORNER

When I entered seminary in the Fall of 2018, I had just left teaching high school math in order to discern if I was called to ministry. What I expected to find during my time in seminary was an affinity and passion for theology and academics. Instead, over the course of my four years in Ambridge, I found that I did not have a taste for the academic side of theology, but that I very much enjoyed doing ministry.

A few ministry opportunities I engaged in during that time included: assisting with an Anglican church plant targeted primary at youth; serving as chaplain twice at a Lutheran summer camp with three services per day (including a campfire service); and preaching regularly at my local congregation. Each of these opportunities I enjoyed immensely more than my coursework.

Nevertheless, it took a few months here at St. John before I fully transitioned from a mindset of possibly doing academics to taking in earnest a call to pastoral ministry. This was a surprise to me. I had (for the most part) enjoyed school and expected at some point to go the professor route. But, that turns out not to be the path for me. Instead, I'll continue here for a few more months and then, with God's blessing, to another congregation to shepherd.

There is, in addition to the seriousness of it, quite a bit of joy in preaching, praying for the church, visiting folks, games and food (of course!), and occasionally, perhaps even in emails.

Perhaps even you have wondered about ministry briefly in the back of your mind. Have you felt even an inkling to do ministry? If so, give me a visit, and let's chat.

+ Vicar Justin

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee is taking a break over the busy Christmas season.

We have received resumes from four candidates so far, which we will begin considering in mid-January.

Our next meeting will be on January 12. Please continue your prayers!



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 resumes on January 5 and will continue the study of Isaiah.

Questions? Contact Pastor Mariola at pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com

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

Wednesdays 9am-10am

Women of the Word will begin a new study on January 11. Grab a front row seat to the amazing, Holy Spirit-filled action of the early church as we study the book of Acts. Come, Holy Spirit! We will meet Wednesdays, January 11 through April 26, 9am-10am. \$10 materials fee. For questions or to request childcare, contact Michelle Waters at watersmichellejoy@gmail.com.



Shepherd's Cave Room 117

Bible Study and Discussions:
SUNDAY mornings, Room 117

January 8 - Reconnecting and Introduction to the Year ahead.

January 15 - Overview of the Cores, Principles and Schedules of St. John's Family³ Ministries (Especially good for NEW Members to come and take part.)

January 22 - How to be a Mentor: Skills in nurturing faith in others.

January 29 - Special guest from the NALC with presentation in the Family Life Center.

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 Luther Hall. Upcoming dates:

Tuesday, January 10 and

Tuesday, January 24

Men's Small Groups

How about reading through the first book of *Every Man a Warrior* on Sunday mornings at 9:30am or Tuesday evenings?

Discuss it with Matt or one of the many St. John men who have gone through it!



Adult Sunday School Classes

9:30am "God Talk"

"Parables of Paul: The Master of the Metaphor" by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Meet in Room 128. Led by Peggy Hoppes.

9:30am "Seekers" Room 216

Led by Carol Postert

9:30am "Logos"

This class is studying the book of Romans. Meet in Room 118. Led by Richard Wagner.

Happy Hearts January 9, 6pm

"Happy Hearts" will meet on Monday, January 9 at 6pm. We will begin with a potluck dinner (please bring food to share) followed by a slideshow presentation from the 2022 Holy Land Trip.

Please join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship.



For more info, please email pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com



January 15, 6pm-8pm

Join us at Richter's, 153 S. Main Street, Boerne. We will gather in the downstairs wine tasting area.

Registration is Open NOW. Sign Up TODAY!

Women's One Day Retreat at St. John

January 28, 2023 • 9am-3pm

A livestream/Zoom option is available

Music will be provided by Alison Ritch. Messages by Michelle Waters. Closing Communion service will be led by Pastor Mariola Bergquist. Lunch will be catered by Hungry Horse. Refreshments, coffee, and childcare will be available.

Early Bird Cost is \$35, if you register before December 20.

The cost for registration after December 20 is \$40. Last day to register is January 15.

Learn more and register online: www.stjohnlutheran.com, under 'Events'



Scan to learn
more and
register



Men's Basketball Continues!

Fun, fellowship, and exercise! Gym opens from 6:30pm-8:30pm Monday Nights with the exception of the 2nd Mondays of the month when Happy Hearts meets. For more information talk with Matt Olson or Mark Lynn.





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

Sunday School 9:30am

Kindergarten-5th Grade

January 8: Knowing the stories of the Bible continues!

January 15: **K-2nd: A Special Movie showing (see below)**

3rd: Chimes practice

4th: Service Project: Cards of Encouragement

5th: Service Project: Bulletin Board

January 22: Regular Sunday School Bible Story time.

January 29: **Service Sunday**

K - Greeting

1st - Hospitality

2nd - Quilting

3rd - Ushering

4th and 5th: NALC presentation
in the Family Life Center



Movie for Kindergarten - 2nd Graders

January 15 during Sunday School

Special half hour animated movie

"The Jesus Series: Life and Miracles"

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS



Middle and High School Youth

F3 Fellowship Wednesdays:

4pm Open Gym

5:30pm Youth Bells (music room)

5:30pm Meal in Luther Hall

6:30pm Faith growing time

January 11:

5th Grade - Lesson #10

Middle School - Commandment #8

High School - Crossways #15

January 18:

5th Grade - Making Unleavened Bread

Middle School - Service Night

High School - Crossways #16

January 25:

5th Grade - A Seder Meal for students and parents

Middle School - Commandment #9

High School - Crossways #17



FAITH MILE MARKER EVENTS

January 22, 9:30am

Confirmation Mentor Meeting (Just Adults): Meet in Shepherd's Cave (Rm #117) at 9:30am

8th Graders and Mentors - Your first gathering will be in the Family Life Center at 9:30am. We will hear from a guest presenter on the ministry work of our NALC church body, thus showing our connection and importance in the greater body of Christ's church.

Parents' Night Out

Friday, January 20 • 6pm-10pm

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

CONTACT: tiffany@stjohnlutheran.com

Sign up online: www.stjohnlutheran.com

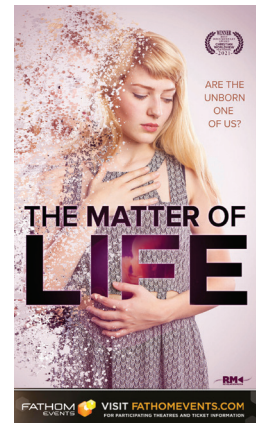
NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS

We will have a nursery care provider present during
Sunday morning worship and education times for
children ages 3 and under.

SPECIAL Movie event with Lunch January 22, 12:30pm

The movie, "A Matter of Life," will be shown a second time to our congregation as first-time participants agreed that this is a well done and important film that more people ought to see! **Plan now to get lunch after church on Sunday, January 22 in the Family Life Center and then we will be watch it there or in a large room in the Education Wing (TBD).** Be well informed and equipped to walk our talk in the culture the LORD has in us.

Trailer: <https://www.thematteroflife.org/>





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

Young Adults Fellowship

Sunday, January 8
12:15pm at St. John



Escape Room

Young Adults (College age and up):
you won't want to miss this fun ESCAPE
ROOM event! Join us for lunch in the
Family Life Center followed by a truly
unique experience. Questions? Contact
Mark: mark.lynn@stjohnlutheran.com

January 22, 9:30am

Mission Trip Info Meeting for youth and parents

Come learn more about the Youth
Mission Trip to Tulsa, OK scheduled
for July 8-14. This trip is for 6th - 12th
Graders. Join us to hear about this
exciting opportunity!



Elementary and Middle School Camp Chrysalis June 11-16

Registration is OPEN NOW!

This camp is for students who have
completed 2nd through 8th grades.
Find the link on St. John's website
under 'Events' to register.



Registration is OPEN NOW!

This camp is for students who have
completed 8th through 12th grade.
Visit campeagle.org
to learn more. **Register**
with the link on St. John's website
under 'Events'.

High School Camp Eagle June 11-16



Texas Rally for Life

Saturday, January 28
8am-7pm in Austin



Join us for this special and important event
in Austin. We will enjoy recreation in Austin
in the morning and the Rally will take
place from 1pm - 4pm. All are welcome
(Middle School age and younger will need
to be accompanied by an adult).



Guest Speaker
January 29

4th Grade - High School
Youth will meet in the Family
Life Center at 9:30am for this
special presentation



Young Adults ZOOM!
(18-20 somethings)

January 29, 8pm Central Time

It's a time to catchup, encourage and pray.
Please **update your email on SJConnect**
and **watch for the email with the link**
towards the end of each month.

Did You Know?

St. John is
scheduled to be
the site of the
First NALC Youth
International Gathering which will be
held **July 1-4, 2024.**



Planning teams are being formed now!
Please let Matt, Mark or Pastor Waters
know if you are interested in helping
with this event!

CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Decorations Take Down Tuesday, January 3, 9am

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 3 at 9am.
Meet in the Narthex, even if you only have 1 hour to spare -
all help is welcomed!



We hope everyone had blessed Christmas and New Year celebrations! **Our first 2023 event** will be hosted by Brandon and Stacey Quick at their home on **Saturday, January 21**. Details to come but we know that this event will be without kids.

We are looking for hosts for either the Saturday or Sunday for the following weekends: February 25, March 25 and May 20. On April 29 we will have our event at the Wild Game Dinner. If you host, we will get the word out and help with anything else needed to get the event ready. Please let us know if you would like to host or have questions about hosting.

Looking forward to getting together again! Marissa Klein 210-393-4653; Tiffany Jureczki 830-328-3744.

**New
Member
Classes
begin
January 15**

**NEW MEMBERS
CLASS**

If you or someone you know is interested in joining St. John, please register online or contact the church office. Classes will be held on Sundays, 12:15pm-1:30pm, January 15 - February 5. Lunch will be provided. The new members will be welcomed into our church at services on Sunday, February 12.

Will you be a new member sponsor?

We are looking for current members to sponsor our new members. This is a great way to become more active and help our new members to feel welcomed and at home here. Please consider signing up! For more information, please contact the church office.



NALC
North American Lutheran Church

Guest Speaker: January 29

Pastor Amy Little, General Secretary of the NALC, will host a presentation about the state of our denomination, its vision for the future, and its plan to get there. Come to learn and ask questions. January 29, 9:30-10:30 in the Family Life Center.

Women's One Day Retreat at St. John January 28, 2023 • 9am-3pm

Music will be provided by Alison Ritch. Messages by Michelle Waters. Closing Communion service will be led by Pastor Mariola Bergquist. Lunch will be catered by Hungry Horse. Refreshments, coffee, and childcare will be available.

A livestream/Zoom option is also available if you register.

The cost is \$40. Final deadline to register is January 15.

Scan the QR code or visit our website to learn more and register:

www.stjohnlutheran.com



CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Happy Birthday!

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

Burleigh Arnecke (01/01)	Charles Kuentz (01/10)
LeRoy Bartman (01/11)	George Lawson (01/25)
Pat Blackman (01/21)	Lorraine Massey (01/11)
Sandra Hegyesi (01/18)	Gene Roeder (01/16)
Vernell Johnson (01/05)	Charles Urban (01/16)

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

Thank You

Thank you for the generous Christmas gift from the congregation. St. John is warm and generous church, and we feel honored and humbled to serve here. Thank you!

-Pastor Waters, Pastor Bergquist, and Vicar Justin



Transportation Team Volunteers needed

We need at least one female and one male to occasionally drive our members to daytime appointments. We are grateful to John Rogers for providing this help in the past, but now we need a few people to fill his spot. Please consider being on call to help meet this need, thank you!

Contact Sharon von Rosenberg at sharonvonr@mac.com for more information or to volunteer.

Do you like to write cards to bring a smile to the faces of family and friends?

Our congregation needs you to volunteer as a member of the St John Mail Team Ministry. We send cards to members of our church who are ill, bereaved, homebound, have family members in the military, or in a nursing home. We honor 80+ birthdays and hope to do more!

Cards, stamps and return address labels are provided and you will receive a folder with instructions and hints to get started.

Please contact Cindy Schneid at texcin@outlook.com to volunteer or for more information. A sign up table will also be set up near the information booth on **January 8**. Please prayerfully consider assisting us in spreading joy and support.

REMINDER

January Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	Richard Wahl Team
9:30am services:	The Mikulencak's 3rd Grade Sunday School
11am services:	Johnny Moldenhauer Team

February Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	Kirby Wisian Team
9:30am services:	The Hahn Team 2nd Grade Sunday School
11am services:	Matthew Pearson Team

March Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	Randy Evans Team
9:30am services:	Pete, Carolyn Rivera 1st Grade Sunday School
11am services:	Bob Runion Team

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

Would you like to be an Usher at our Sunday PRAISE service?

To volunteer, please contact the church office at 830-249-3651 or see Johnny Moldenhauer.

A December to Remember...



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 February. Registration at www.griefshare.org is highly recommended.

The Tuesday morning cycle will begin February 28, 2023, 10am to noon. The Wednesday evening cycle will begin March 1, 2023, 6:00pm-8:00pm.

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.

St. John Lutheran Church
315 E. Rosewood
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Boerne, TX 78006
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JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11am Traditional Service 5pm Dominoes, Canasta, Potluck	Church Office Closed 6pm Property Meeting 6:30pm Men's Basketball 7pm Al-Anon	9am Christmas Decoration Take-Down 6:30pm Congregational Care 6:30pm Worship Committee 7pm Internship Committee	6:30pm Choir	9:15am Precept 6pm Call Committee Meeting 7pm Al-Anon		
8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12:15pm Young Adult Escape Room	6pm Happy Hearts 7pm Al-Anon	6:30am Men's Breakfast 6:15pm American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Congregational Life 6:30pm Mission Committee 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study	9am WOW Bible Study 1:30pm Growing Hope Distribution 4pm Open Gym 5:30pm F3 Fellowship, Dinner, Activities 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Crossways Bible Study	9:15am Precept 11:30am Lunch Bunch 7pm Al-Anon		
8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12:30am New Members Class 5pm Canasta, Potluck 6pm Theology on Tap	6:30pm Men's Basketball 7pm Al-Anon	6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study 7pm Council Meeting	9am WOW Bible Study 4pm Open Gym 5:30pm F3 Fellowship, Dinner, Activities 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Crossways Bible Study	9:15am Precept 5:30pm Friends of Faith Dinner Club 7pm Al-Anon	10am Quilting around the Bend 6pm Parents' Night Out	Council Retreat
8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 9:30am Mission Trip Info Meeting 11am Traditional Service 12pm F3 Movie Event 12pm Family3 Committee Meeting 5pm Canasta, Potluck	6:30pm Men's Basketball 7pm Al-Anon	6:30am Men's Breakfast 6pm Wild Game Dinner Committee 6:15pm American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study	9am WOW Bible Study 1:30pm Growing Hope Distribution 4pm Open Gym 5:30pm F3 Fellowship, Dinner, Activities 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Crossways Bible Study	9:15am Precept 9:30am Music Together® with Wendy Valentic 7pm Al-Anon		Women's One Day Retreat 9am-3pm Texas Rally For Life
Installation of Council Member 8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 9:30am Visit from NALC General Secretary 11am Traditional Service 12:30am New Members Class 5pm Canasta, Potluck 8pm Young Adult Zoom	6:30pm Men's Basketball 7pm Al-Anon	6:30pm Men's Group Bible Study				