



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



September 2023 • Volume 94-09

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

Congregational Life

Geneva Sinclair - 830-446-6919

Outreach

Frank Bush - 210-602-6220

Worship

Ann Peters - 210-639-8918

Property

Brandt Klutts - 830-305-4623

Mission

Jennifer Kuentz - 210-834-2811

Family³ Ministries

George Klein - 210-269-4620

Youth Representatives

Luke Christman, Logan Klein

Pastors can be reached at
830-249-3651

Pastor Eric Waters

Pastor Mariola Bergquist

From the Pastor's Pen

The start of the school year brings the start of the church program year. As the students return to their books, I like to see our congregation get into the Good Book. Two years ago at this time we preached through the Book of Revelation. Last year, we preached through the life of King David. This year, we'll preach our way through six Books of the Bible: Amos, Hosea, Micah, Jonah, Nahum, and Habakkuk. They were six of the "Minor Prophets"—not because they were unimportant, but because they didn't write nearly as much as the "Major Prophets" like Isaiah and Jeremiah. I taught the Minor Prophets this last Spring as part of the Crossways Bible Study, and I was struck by how similar their time was to our own. God gave the Minor Prophets to Israel and Judah at a time when those nations were falling apart. God sent the Minor Prophets to call His people back from their sin and toward faithful living before it was too late, before culture collapsed and darkness took over. God told the Minor Prophets to proclaim His great faithfulness and love for a faithless and unloving people. God still speaks through the Minor Prophets today. Join us **September 10** as we begin our six-week sermon series "**Minor Prophets, Major Problems.**" Once again this year, we'll have a bookmark so you can read through the Bible every day at home



and come to church on Sunday prepared.

Once again this year, we welcome **Pastor Jordan Long** back to our church. Pr. Long is the President of the **Lutheran Church of South Sudan**, one of the global mission partners of the North American Lutheran Church.

Pr. Long visited in 2021 and preached about how his Lutheran Church continues to meet in refugee camps, to minister to displaced persons, to train pastors, and even to grow as South Sudan is plunged into chaos and civil war. This time, Pr. Long will teach during the Sunday School hour and update us on his work. Join him Labor Day weekend, **September 3**, at 9:30am in the Family Life Center for a time of learning and conversation, of questions and answers.

Finally, join us **September 24** for the congregation's **Annual Meeting**, when we'll elect new members to our Church Council and vote on the 2024 church budget. The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary immediately after the Late Service. Annual Meeting packets will be available at the Information Desk starting September 17 so you can read through the materials ahead of time and come informed. Join us to let your voice be heard and your vote counted.

- Pastor Eric Waters

A NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

INCOME COMPARISON													
Monthly Operating Income	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average Thru Month
2023	\$152,340	\$106,982	\$105,872	\$121,481	\$96,133	\$117,134	\$118,348						\$116,899
2022	\$134,590	\$124,203	\$141,734	\$115,347	\$104,550	\$106,229	\$114,850	\$122,472	\$96,083	\$116,396	\$123,143	\$311,256	\$120,215
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	\$110,711

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON													
Avg Weekly Worship	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average for Month YTD
2023 ONLINE	101	79	77	90	93	95	107						88
2023 IN-PERSON	464	562	519	606	413	417	395						457
2023 TOTAL	565	641	596	696	506	512	502						544
2022 ONLINE	131	123	104	84	54	91	74	81	66	70	66	103	
2022 IN-PERSON	350	407	459	632	377	353	344	382	359	372	375	545	503
2022 TOTAL	481	530	563	716	431	444	418	463	425	442	441	648	
2021 TOTAL	410	471	522	488	415	420	370	471	459	451	428	676	446

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL



At St. John Lutheran School our mission is to Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known through Academic Excellence and Christian Character.
We value the education of every child that walks through our doors. Your child will grow intellectually, morally, and spiritually with a solid Christian education, small classroom sizes, one-on-one attention, and excellent teachers.

UPDATE FROM THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

I could not have asked for a better start for St. John Lutheran School! Students, supplies, teachers, curriculum, donations, and families arrived eager and ready. Opportunities presented themselves in a timely manner as well.

The school staff attended Mayor Ritchie's Non-profit Day proclamation at City Hall. The Upper Elementary class visited Commissioner's Court and began the proceedings with a prayer.

In addition to the Abeka curriculum, the school is participating in the Alamo Growing Rural Gardening program and Texas Farm Bureau Youth Ag in the Classroom program.

Chapel is a joy to attend each day and all students have already memorized several Bible verses, as well as learned new songs. We are looking forward to our partnership with Kendall County Fair Association over Labor Day weekend and hope you will join us in the Saturday parade!

Thank you for your prayers and support!
-Tiffany Jureczki, School Director





FAMILY³ MINISTRIES

Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.

FAMILY³
Together, in our Home,
Church and World
Families

ADULT FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Ladies' Bible Studies

PRECEPT

Thursdays 9:15am-11am, Room 118

Precept Bible study will resume on September 7 at 9:15am in Room 118. We will study the Book of Jeremiah.

Questions? Contact Pastor Mariola:
pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com

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

Wednesdays 9am-10am

Women of the Word is studying the book of Ruth this Fall. We'll look at how things fall apart when a society isn't governed well and how we can choose to live a godly life in the midst of an ungodly culture. Join us on Wednesday mornings at 9am beginning September 6. Cost: \$5 materials fee. Contact Michelle Waters for more information at watersmichellejoy@gmail.com.

Happy Hearts September 11, 6pm



Do you want to learn some facts and trivia about poetry?
Perhaps listen to some original poetry by Bette J. Lafferty?

Then join us for Happy Hearts on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6pm in Family Life Center. We will begin with a potluck (bring food to share), followed by some poetry by Bette J. Lafferty (Bette is a member of St John).

For more info, please email
pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com

Mens' Bible Studies

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:

Tuesdays, September 5 and September 19.



Young Men, Middle Aged Men, Old Men, Dad's and Grandpas, be a part of a life giving and encouraging Bible Study to be all that God called you to be!

Fall Bible Study Opportunities:

- Book 1 - walking with God: (2 options)
- Tuesdays 6:30pm in The Parlor, starts September 12
- Thursdays 8am in Room 129, starts September 14
- Book 3 - Money, sex, work, hard times, making your life count: Sundays 9am in The Parlor, starts September 10

Adult Sunday School Classes

9:30am "God Talk"

Please join us for our continuing study of Paul as we turn our focus to his letter to the Romans beginning September 10. We will be using the book "Be Right: How to be Right With God, Yourself, and Others" by Warren Wiersbe. Meet in Room 128. Led by Peggy Hoppes.

9:30am "Seekers"

Seekers is studying a book written by Paul H Wright, PH.D. It is a compilation of different characters in the Bible and covers biblical backgrounds and cultures. Meet in 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.

Men's Study Option: THE TRUTH PROJECT

Tuesdays, 6:30pm
beginning
September 12



**Sundays, September 10-December 10
at 9:30am and 10:45am**

**Equipping for Parents, Grandparents,
and Young Adults**

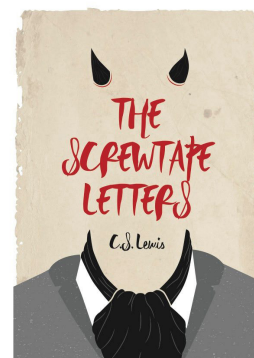


Why do families work? Because God Himself designed them! The Family Project is a 12 session DVD experience that explores the theological, philosophical, and cultural underpinnings of the traditional family. It's designed to develop a new appreciation for why family matters and sends a clear message that a return to the time-tested, historical model of the family is where so many of our culture's wounds begin to heal from familial breakdown. Join us for this hope-filled study!

This FALL, A Classic Christian book and Bible Study for men:

The "Screwtape Letters," by C.S. Lewis
Tuesdays at 6:30pm beginning September 12
meets in the Shepherds Cave, Room #117

This classic has entertained and enlightened readers the world over with its sly and ironic portrayal of human life and foibles from the unique vantage point of Screwtape, a highly placed assistant to "Our Father Below"...The Screw Tape Letters is the most engaging account of temptation - and triumph over it - ever written. Get an overview at Theology on Tap, September 10.



Theology on tap

September 10, 6pm

Join us at the home
of Brian and Christy Mikulencak:
146 Madrone Trail, Boerne.

Men's Basketball

The gym opens from 6:30-8:30pm
MOST Monday Nights. For
more info, talk to Mark or Matt.
September schedule is Mondays,
September 18 and 25





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 classes at 9:30am
for all ages (preschool-high school)**

Reminder: 3rd-5th graders meet in the music room for bells and chimes with T.J. before going to the classroom.

**Let's follow up Rally Sunday with
Bible stories that 'stick'!**



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Wednesdays Activities

- 4pm** K-5th - Special Events (see next page)
6th-12th - Volunteer with F3 Kids
5:30pm Meal for all ages in Luther Hall
6:30pm Study and Fellowship Activities for
5th grade-Adults
7:30pm Classes and activities conclude



Wednesdays Topics:

First Communion, MS Lord's Prayer and HS Bible Study

- September 6:** Lesson Night #2
September 13: Lesson Night #3
September 20: *Service / Project Night
September 27: Lesson Night #4

**Middle & High School will participate in the community Mental Health Awareness event at the amphitheater by the library. (see next page)*

AT LOOK BACK AT RECENT EVENTS AT ST. JOHN:

At Bible Camp in July, we had 68 Bible Campers, 18 volunteers and 4 Camp staff! THANK YOU to all our VOLUNTEERS and to our St. John Family for making this a successful and meaningful week! Also pictured below is the first F3 Kids event (foam party) which was a blast! Be sure to send your kids on Wednesdays at 4pm! And...the first week of the StJLC School went off without a hitch! Thanks be to God!



Parents' Night Out

Friday, September 15 • 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 AND WEDNESDAYS

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



FAMILY³ MINISTRIES

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FAMILY³

Together, in our Home,
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Families

Middle School, High School Drug and Substance Abuse Awareness Event



**Wednesday, September 20
5:30pm-8pm**

Boerne Public Library Amphitheater
Join us for this event hosted by St. Mark Presbyterian Church and Hill Country Family Services. We will listen to speakers and see videos that will help us be informed so we better serve our community. Pizza and iced tea will be served. Drop off and pickup for the event will be at St. John.

Middle School Confirmation Retreat



**Livin' On a Prayer
September 22-24**

This camp is for 6th-8th Graders and will be held at Camp Chrysalis. It will begin at 5:30pm on September 22 and end at Noon on September 24. **Find the details and register on our website under 'Events'.** Contact Mark for scholarship info: mark.lynn@stjohnlutheran.com

Elementary Kids Events



Wednesdays, 4pm

All elementary age students are invited to F3 Kids every Wednesday from 4pm-5:30pm. We will learn new skills while having fun with friends and memorizing Bible verses! Come after school, we will have a snack waiting for you! **Please register on our website under 'Events'.**

September 6: Field trip to Jefferson Bank
September 13: Knot tying, knife safety
September 20: Boerne Scavenger Hunt
September 27: TBD



**Young Adults Gatherings
(18-20 somethings)
September 24**

Join us for a ZOOM call at 8pm Central Time (contact Matt for Zoom link)

FAMILY CAMP • October 13-15

at Kerrville-Schreiner Park

Registration Is Open Now!

St. John invites you to join us for a Family Camp at Kerrville-Schreiner Park in Kerrville. Join us to experience the partial eclipse together with your church family as we also explore some Biblical Imagery of God's Love: A Burning Ring of Fire!

**Find Details and Register today at
www.stjohnlutheran.com
under 'Events'**



**Coming
Sunday, October 1
for Parents and Grandparents
Special Event:**

**"The Birds and the Bees:
How to talk with your
children about sex."**

Presented by the Hill Country
Pregnancy Care Center.

October 1, 12pm to 3pm

Lunch will be served.

Sign-up will be available soon.
Watch for details to come.



FAITH MILE MARKER PREPARATION

3rd Graders

On Sunday, October 1, at 9:30am, the 3rd graders will begin preparing for their upcoming Faith Mile Marker by learning about 'The Importance of the Bible'.

CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration Opens
September 15

Women's Retreat

October 20-22
at Camp Chrysalis

Join us for a weekend of learning and fellowship, fun, and worship at Camp Chrysalis in Kerrville. Cost is \$110 for the weekend, with a Saturday only option for \$30.

This year's theme is John 10:27 NIV "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

On September 15, you can register by scanning the QR code (on the right), visiting our website, or signing up at church on Sunday.



Cross Trails Ministry
**FALL
FESTIVAL**
in Fredericksburg
**Saturday,
September 16th**

There will be music, food trucks, craft booths, auctions, carnival games and a new event: the Fun Run! There is something for everyone!

This is an annual fundraising event for Cross Trails which helps keep Camp Chrysalis and Ebert Ranch Camp affordable for our events!

CONGREGATIONAL Meeting

September 24, 12pm

Join us as we elect new members to our Church Council and vote on the 2024 church budget. The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary.

October 1, 2pm

The annual church picnic will be held on Sunday, October 1, 2pm-6:30pm.

Tickets will be available beginning September 10.

Get yours in the Gathering Place on Sundays, or in the church office during the week.

The food will be catered by Bill Miller's BBQ. We will also have hot dogs available. The cost is \$10 for each BBQ meal and \$5 for a hot dog meal. The picnic will be held at the Balous and Julie Miller ranch at 28 Upper Balcones Rd.

There will be a dessert bake-off contest (please bring your dessert to the judging table by 3pm), as well as a youth fishing tournament, pecan picking and fun activities for all to enjoy.

Volunteers are needed! If you would like to help, the volunteer sign-up sheets will be in the Gathering Place or sign up online. Learn more about the event and volunteer on our website under 'Events'. Questions? Contact Don Baker: dgbaker@gvvc.com or 830-431-0521.

CHURCH PICNIC

College Bound? Know someone who is?

The Congregational Care Committee will be sending College Care packages!

It's that exciting time of year again - when students are headed off to college! St. John wants our students to know that we are thinking of them while they are away. The College Care Committee will send care packages to students during the 2023-2024 school year. These packets include scripture, encouraging words, snacks, and art from the children.

If you have a college student or know someone who would like to receive a packet, please email Lisa Lee at ll-lisalee@att.net or text 210-912-7915.

We need the student's name and address. Please also include if your student has any food allergies or a special diet.



CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Happy Birthday!

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

Sandra Bradley (09-13)	Larry Justice (09-02)
Larry Fann (09-29)	Kathy Kunz (09-22)
Nadine Flathouse (09-03)	Marjorie Maxwell (09-26)
Don Hansen (09-27)	Cookie Rader (09-08)
Joe Hegyesi (09-18)	Henry Schulte (09-10)
Dot Hemminghaus (09-04)	Arnold Ulland (09-08)

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

Happy 103rd Birthday to Nadine Flathouse!

St. John's September Centurion is Nadine Flathouse, who will be 103 years old on September 3! Join us in wishing her a very happy and healthy 103rd birthday!



NALC Continental Youth Gathering



HOST HOMES NEEDED June 30-July 5, 2024

On July 1-4, 2024 St. John will be hosting the FIRST ever NALC Youth Gathering.

We are expecting 500 students and adult leaders from all over the USA and Canada to come worship, learn and serve right here in our house and community.

Thanks to all those who have already opened their homes to church groups for next year. We could use some more. Please prayerfully consider and sign-up as plans are being made! Thanks for supporting your "World Family".

Sign up on our website under 'SERVE/SIGN UP TO SERVE'

Congratulations!



Congratulations to our former Vicar, Justin Baker, on his ordination and installation as Pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Export, Pennsylvania in August. May God richly bless you, Nella, and Olive!

REMINDER

September Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	Scott Kramer Team
9:30am services:	The Sheffy and Hanes Teams, 5th Grade Sunday School
11am services:	The Schneid Team

October Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	Scott Kramer Team
9:30am services:	The Putnam and Fox Teams, 4th Grade Sunday School
11am services:	The Pearson Team

November Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	The Evans Team
9:30am services:	The Mikulencak Team
11am services:	The Hardin Team

Please remember to arrive early for your scheduled service!

Would you like to be an Usher? We need your help!

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

Thank You!

Dear fellow St. John Members:

Once again, thank you so very much for your very generous support of the annual Sam's Kids school supply drive. We received not only LOADS of school supplies, but also financial support, as well as the volunteer labor that packed and delivered almost 400 backpacks for BISD's seven elementary campuses.

For those of you that are newer to the community, Sam's Kids is named after Boerne High School's beloved Principal, Sam Champion - a former member of St. John. As his name suggests, Mr. Champion was a literal champion and advocate for the students in Boerne - helping them reach their full potential despite the obstacles that can interfere with it all... upon his transition from BHS Principal to his role at Central Office due to the diagnosis of a brain tumor, Mr. Champion established the Sam's (Students Achieving Maximum Success) Kids program, which continues to support the success of students in Boerne ISD.

The goal of this student program is to find and provide programs, people, and services that narrow the gap between a child's current academic performance and their full academic potential.

Thank you again for the continued support -

Maryanna Pearson and Marissa Klein (And their kids that have to do the actual labor!)



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 to noon through November 14 and Wednesdays, 6pm to 8pm through November 15. Childcare is available with prior notice. Both groups meet in the Education Wing, first floor.

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

Attendees find welcome, support, and respite in the company of others who are struggling with grief.

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					High School Lock In 1	9:15am KCFA Labor Day Parade 2
Guest Preacher: Pastor Long 3 8am Traditional Service 9:30am Adult Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 5pm Dominoes, Canasta, Potluck	Labor Day Church Office Cloed 4 9am St. John Quilters 7pm Al-Anon	6:30am Men's Breakfast 5 10am GriefShare 6:15pm American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Studies 6:30pm Worship Committee	9am WOW Bible Study 6 3pm Growing Hope Distribution 4pm F3 Kids Event 5:30pm F3 Dinner, Fellowship and Activities 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Crossways	9am Precept 7 9:30am Music Together® with Wendy Valentic 7pm Al-Anon	5:30pm Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) Leadership Meeting 8	
8am Traditional Service 10 9am EMAW III 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12pm F3 Committee Meeting 6pm Theology on Tap	9am St. John Quilters 11 6pm School Board Meeting 6pm Happy Hearts 7pm Al-Anon	10am GriefShare 12 6:30pm Outreach Committee 6:30pm Mission Committee 6:30pm Congregational Life 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Studies	9am WOW Bible Study 13 4pm F3 Kids Event 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm F3 Dinner, Fellowship and Activities 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Crossways	8am EMAW I 14 9am Precept 9:30am Music Together® with Wendy Valentic 12pm Lunch Bunch 7pm Al-Anon	5:30pm Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) Leadership Meeting 15 6pm Parents' Night Out	Cross Trails Ministry Fall Festival in Fredericksburg 16
8am Traditional Service 17 9am EMAW III 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 5pm Canasta, Potluck	12pm Lit N Lunch 18 6:30pm Men's Basketball 7pm Al-Anon	6:30am Men's Breakfast 19 10am GriefShare 11:30am Men's Lunch at Mamacita's 6:15pm American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Council Meeting 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Studies	9am WOW Bible Study 20 3pm Growing Hope Distribution 4pm F3 Kids Event 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm F3 Dinner, Fellowship and Activities 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Crossways	8am EMAW I 21 9am Precept 9:30am Music Together® with Wendy Valentic 11:30am Quilting Around the Bend 5:30pm Friends of Faith Dinner Club 7pm Al-Anon	5:30pm Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) Leadership Meeting 22 Confirmation Retreat at Camp Chrysalis	Confirmation Retreat at Camp Chrysalis 23 12pm Via De Cristo Team Building
Confirmation Retreat 24 8am Traditional Service 9am EMAW III 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12pm Annual Congregational Meeting 5pm Canasta, Potluck 8pm Young Adult Zoom	6:30pm Men's Basketball 25 7pm Al-Anon	10am GriefShare 26 6pm Wild Game Dinner Meeting 6:30pm Men's Bible Studies	9am WOW Bible Study 27 4pm F3 Kids Event 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm F3 Dinner, Fellowship and Activities 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Crossways	8am EMAW I 28 9am Precept 9:30am Music Together® with Wendy Valentic 7pm Al-Anon	29	30