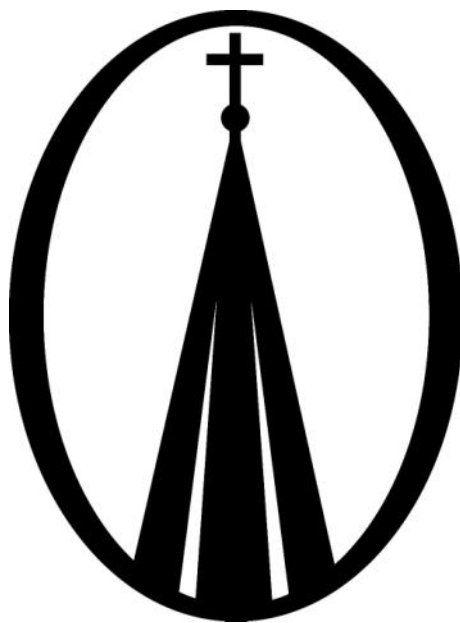


St. John Journal

**News & info for the family of St. John
Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill**



A loving and welcoming family of faith,
excited about what God has done (and continues to do!) for us

Volume 14, Number 9: September 2021

TRANSITIONING TO NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH (NALC) AFFILIATION

After six months of meetings, question-and-answer sessions with both the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and North American Lutheran Church (NALC) officials, and small group discussions ... all wrapped in prayer ... the congregation of St. John voted at its second special called congregational meeting on August 1st to disaffiliate with the ELCA and join the NALC by a vote of 98 to 13. We are making progress in transitioning to the new affiliation as outlined below.

1. The ELCA Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod office has been notified of the results of the vote as our final act to terminate membership in the ELCA.
2. A letter requesting membership in the NALC was sent to NALC leadership for approval.
3. The Church Council has met with Pastor Kris Brower, dean of the NALC Southeast Texas Mission District and requested assistance in pastoral leadership for the interim period prior to calling a full-time minister.
4. A Call Committee has been formed consisting of the council President, Chairman Don Holtkamp, and members Mary Longhofer, Cassie Lynch, Judy Grote, Christin Seeker, and Gayle Bednar. They are proceeding to review the requirements of the NALC call process and will begin the task of completing a congregational profile.
5. A Congregational Workshop led by Pastor Brower will be held Saturday, September 11, from 9am to 2pm (lunch will be served). The church council and call committee will attend the workshop to discuss past and future leadership and ministry goals. An invitation is issued to all members of the congregation to join the discussion.
6. A committee has been formed to revise the church constitution and by-laws as it applies to new membership in the NALC. The committee consists of Chairman Rita Gaskamp and members Sharon Neutzler and Joseph Ordner.

7. Revisions to St. John publications, social media accounts, etc. indicating change from ELCA to NALC have been made.
8. Process to replace road signage, etc. to show new affiliation has begun.

Please continue to pray for God's Hand in guiding this transition process, pray that He sends a pastor who will lead our congregation and one that our congregation can nurture in his/her call, and pray for each other as we take this journey in growing our faith.

READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER		FIRST READING	RESPONSIVE	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
5	PENT 15	ISAIAH 35:4-7	PSALM 146	JAMES 2:1-17	MARK 7:24-37
12	PENT 16	ISAIAH 50:4-9	PSALM 116:1-9	JAMES 3:1-12	MARK 9:14-29
19	PENT 17	JEREMIAH 11:18-20	PSALM 54	JAMES 3:13--4:3, 7-8	MARK 9:30-37
26	PENT 18	NUMBERS 11:4- 6, 10-16, 24-29	PSALM 104:27-35	JAMES 5:13-20	MARK 9:38-50

Sept.	Acolyte	Layreader	Flowers Given By
5	Irelyn & Kinley Antkowiak Logan Boeker, Adilynn Lange	Joseph Ordner Camryn Finke	--OPEN--
12	Harper & Swayzee Huckert Jax & Kinley Antkowiak	Kallie Finke Jennifer Anderson	--OPEN--
19	Kannon Koehler, Owen Finke Braelynn York, Randa Tillman	Sandy Ordner Sandra Tillman	<i>Elsie Herrmann</i>
26	Elaina Morgan, Morgan Westerfeld Harper Huckert	Connie Rohde Bethany Janner	<i>Phyllis Bickham</i>

Baptismal Anniversaries



9/01/1985	Ashley Armatys	9/15/1978	Michelle Janner
9/01/1996	Allie Rosenbaum	9/16/1962	Shelly Lehmann
9/02/1962	James Stokes	9/17/1995	Josh Church
9/03/1950	Danney Rohde	9/17/2017	Luke Wienken
9/04/1966	Gail Mitschke	9/20/1936	Florence Bentke
9/04/2005	Phyllis Bickham	9/21/1941	Charles Spinn
9/05/1965	Robert Neuendorff	9/22/1946	Gerald Kuecker
9/05/2004	Alexis Warmke	9/23/1990	Beau Voelkel
9/07/1975	Brandon Kluck	9/24/1940	Dorothy Meyer
9/07/1986	Ross Curtis	9/24/1950	Ellen Spinn
9/10/1933	Gilbert Spinn	9/25/1955	Patti Clay
9/10/1961	Brenda Randermann	9/25/1966	Russell Seeker
9/11/1977	Cathy Boeker	9/25/2016	Cooper Huckert
9/12/1982	Jentri Blake	9/26/1954	David Feldmann
9/14/1930	Evelyn Thielemann	9/26/1961	Judi Davis
9/14/1969	Jon Westerfeld	9/27/1970	Donna Haarmeyer
9/15/1940	Billy Wellmann	9/28/1986	Taurie Randermann
9/15/1950	Don Keller	9/30/1984	Dana Gaskamp
9/15/1957	David Clay		

Wedding Anniversaries



9/04/1982	Charles & Rita Gaskamp
9/12/1992	George & Sharon Boswell
9/15/1979	James & Florence Wolff
9/19/1992	Michael & Sabrina Altman
9/24/1978	Jimmie & Karen Dreyer
9/27/1976	Allen & Arlie Parker
9/28/2013	Lindsey & Graig Harrison

You are in our thoughts and prayers as you celebrate your special day. May God richly bless you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School is back in full swing and we are looking forward to another great year here at St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill. The kids enjoyed Rally Day this year with a blessing of their backpacks and banana splits/ice cream sundaes during the Sunday School hour. We also blessed the teachers and new drivers, and continue to pray that everyone has a great school year!

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the Sunday school program and our children would love to see new faces leading a rotation. If you would like to lead a craft, art, or even a science rotation I know the children would absolutely adore seeing you in Sunday school! If you have a question about rotations or would like to volunteer I would LOVE to hear from you!

Please feel free to contact me at 512.203.9591 or
brooke.huckert@gmail.com

Dates to Remember:



September 19- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

In His Name,
Brooke Huckert
Sunday School Superintendent



**No Sunday School:
Sunday, September 19th**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
 <u>Special Envelope:</u> Good Samaritan (Pastor's Discretionary)			1
5 PENT 15 8:00AM Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday School 10:05AM Worship Service	6 Office Closed LABOR DAY 6:00PM Executive Committee Meeting	7	8
12 PENT 16 8:00AM Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday School 10:05AM Worship Service	13 6:00PM Council Meeting	14 Food Pantry	15
19 PENT 17 8:00AM Worship Service 10:05AM Worship Service	20 	21 9:00AM Quilting	22
26 PENT 18 8:00AM Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday School 10:05AM Worship Service	27	28 Food Pantry 9:00AM Quilting	29



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Office Closed 10AM Naomi Circle	3 Office Closed	4
9 Office Closed 2PM Ladies Aid	10 Office Closed	11
16 Office Closed	17 Office Closed	18
23 Office Closed	24 Office Closed	25
30 Office Closed		

COMMUNION BREAD

Debra Westerfeld

ALTAR PREPARATION

Carolyn Kessel
Myrtle Randermann

SCREEN

Brandy Moehlmann
Jennifer Schroeder

FAMILY AID

Deanna Giese

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Dolores Seeker
Janet Wehring

SANCTUARY PREP

Brandy Moehlmann
Sherry Randermann

CHURCH TELLERS

Cathy Boeker
Charles Gaskamp

USHERS

Steve & Donna Skrla
Fred Gaskamp

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Flower Chart

The 2021 Flower Chart still has several dates available including **September 5th & 12th**.

Please sign-up if you would like to put flowers in church!

Prairie Hill Food Pantry Upcoming Dates:
September 14 & 28 6:30AM-8:00AM



September Quilting Schedule



We will meet on September 21 and 28. Sandy Ordner will host. We meet at 9AM to noon. Come join us for quilting, sewing and tying LWR quilts.

Hello Everyone! We are back! The basket for our brave Military is back with some cards ready for y'all to write your messages.



Grammy's Cookie Convoy is back up and running as well. With the coming month being a time for showing our heroic troops our appreciation, please fill that basket quickly. If you have extra cards, bring them so others can share. Also, if you can donate a few dollars for postage they would really appreciate that. That was one of the problems during the pandemic--- getting anything overseas. Phyllis Bickham

Dear Congregation,

It is with great sadness that I must offer this letter of resignation from St. John Lutheran Church as your secretary. The past seven years in which I have served the pastors, the council and members of the church have been an experience filled with growth and love, one which I will always cherish. However, after much prayer, I have decided to resign as of September 29, 2021.



The people of this church have become family to me and I do not take this decision lightly. I am continuously impressed with the level of dedication to God and to each other that all of you demonstrate. Thank you again for allowing me to be a part of your lives and for your support.

I'll do everything possible to wrap up my duties for the next month and leave instructions for those to follow. I wish all of you grace and love and look forward to attending worship with you on Sundays.

Sincerely,
Johanna Becker



St. John's Men in Mission will not be having their annual Scholarship Fundraiser in October.

They plan to reschedule for the Spring of 2022.

Council Highlights

The Church Council of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church met for its monthly meeting on August 9, 2021, at 6:00 pm. Council President, Jon Westerfeld, called the meeting to order and Pastor Kris Brower opened with prayer. All members were present, except for Cathie Klatte. The July minutes were approved as distributed.

Pastor Kris Brower, dean of the Southeast Mission District of the NALC, visited with the church council on the next steps that should be taken in transitioning from the ELCA to the NALC.

New Business

- **Motion** to discontinue monthly payments to ELCA (5.2%) and Lutheran World Relief (1%) of previous month's offering effective August. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to approve distribution of the monetary gift from Nevi Lee Lauter to the Good Samaritan Fund (Pastor's Discretionary fund for church member family support) and to Camping Scholarships. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to approve the Sommerfield Family (Brad & Meredith Sommerfield and children, Izabelle and Gabrielle Sommerfield) as new members. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to approve Lauren Maass transfer of membership from St. Paul Lutheran Brenham. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to approve Kallie Finke's request to reserve the church for her wedding on Saturday, October 15, 2022. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to approve Cassie & Ryan Lynch's request to hold reception in the Activity Center on August 15, 2021 following Charlotte's baptism. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to approve reimbursing Sandy Ordner for her registration fee and part of her lodging to attend the Women of the NALC Annual Gathering in Corpus Christi on August 3rd, with reimbursement coming from the women's fund. **MSC.**

Committee Reports:

Treasurer Report: Report as submitted.

Financial Secretary Report: Report as submitted.

Evangelism Report: Discussed having indoor dining for the Good Neighbor Sunday. Members may self-serve to-go plates if they do not wish to dine indoors. A drive-thru option will not be offered this year.

Property Report: Will look into replacing lighted cross hanging in the chancel and make any necessary wiring repairs.

All reports were approved as presented.

Motion to adjourn. **MSC.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Janice Fairlie, Council Secretary

President	Jon Westerfeld	Evangelism.....	Rachel Church
Vice-President	Kenneth Seeker	Financial Secretary.....	Cathy Boeker
Treasurer.....	Betty Feldmann	Parish Ed	Jennifer Schroeder
Secretary	Janice Fairlie	Property.....	Steve Skrla
Community Concerns	Cathie Klatte	Worship & Music.....	Mary Longhofer

REACHING YOUR CHURCH OFFICE

Johanna Becker prairiehillsecretary@gmail.com 979-836-8666 (church office)
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 8:00am-4:00pm Website: www.stjohnnpairiehill.org
Church Council President Jon Westerfeld (979) 277-2471

St John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill

6605 Old Independence Rd.
Brenham, TX 77833



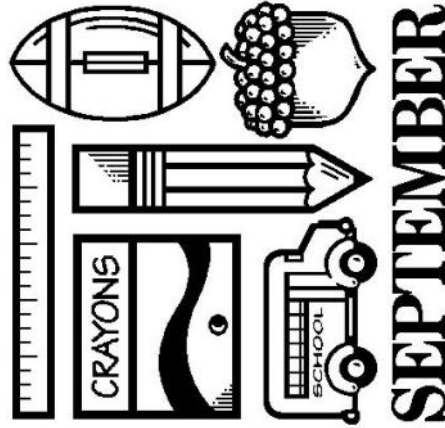
www.stjohnprairiehill.org

979-836-8666

The deadline for the
October newsletter is:
**Monday
September 20th**

Submissions received after
this date will be included if
time and space allow.

Thank you!



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Permit No. 157

Church Secretary
Sexton
Accompanists

Johanna Becker
Sherry Randermann
Mary Longhofer,
Linda Pieper, Linda Schulze

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**