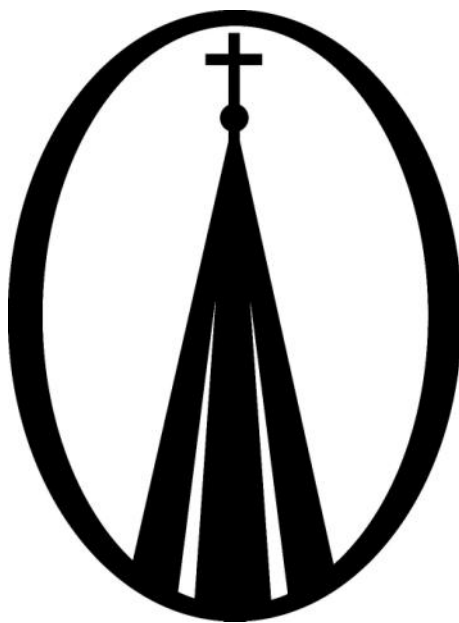


St. John Journal

**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 15, Number 1

January 2022



JANUARY		FIRST READING	RESPONSIVE	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
2	Christmas 2	1 KINGS 3:4-15	PSALM 119:97-104	EPHESIANS 1:3-14	LUKE 2:40-52
9	Baptism Of Our Lord	ISAIAH 43:1-7	PSALM 29	ROMANS 6:1-11	LUKE 3:15-22
16	Epiphany 2	ISAIAH 62:1-5	PSALM 128	1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11	JOHN 2:1-11
23	Epiphany 3	NEHEMIAH 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	PSALM 19:1-14	1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31	LUKE 4:16-30
30	Epiphany 4	JEREMIAH 17:5-8	PSALM 1	1 CORINTHIANS 12:31--13:13	LUKE 4:31-44

Jan.	Acolyte	Layreader	Flowers Given By
2	Harper Huckert Randa Tillman	Connie Rohde Sandra Tillman	--OPEN--
9	Owen Finke Logan Boeker	Joseph Ordner Kallie Finke	--OPEN--
16	Irelyn Antkowiak Swayzee Huckert	Sandy Ordner Jennifer Anderson	<i>Ladies Aid</i>
23	Kannon Koehler Braelynn York	Charles Gaskamp Katie Seeker	<i>Trey & Cathy Boeker</i>
30	Jax Antkowiak Elaina Morgan	Connie Rohde Sandra Tillman	--OPEN--

Baptismal Anniversaries



1/01/1946	Allen Parker	1/15/2017	Oliver Schramme
1/01/1953	David Stegent	1/18/1987	Rachel Church
1/01/1959	Mark Williams	1/21/1996	Hunter Seeker
1/01/1970	Robert Fairlie	1/24/1965	Mark Marburger
1/01/1979	Alexandra Amann	1/24/2010	Logan Boeker
1/02/1949	Judy Wagner	1/26/1936	Dolores Seeker
1/04/2004	Kayla Rosenbaum	1/26/1969	Sandra Tillman
1/05/1969	Lisa Chavelas	1/27/1946	Carol Westerfeld
1/08/1936	Myrtle Randermann	1/29/1970	Jerome Caverner
1/08/1950	John Haarmeyer	1/29/2012	Colt Kmiec
1/08/1956	Anne Merkel	1/30/1949	Charles Gaskamp
1/08/1995	Colby Seeker	1/30/1983	Wayne Ehlert
1/09/2000	Kory Moehlmann	1/31/1960	Gayle Bednar
1/12/1986	Justin Reuter	1/31/1988	Lauren Davis
1/13/1980	Trenton Kuecker	1/31/1992	Garrett Schramme
1/15/2012	Wyatt Davis		

Wedding Anniversaries



1/01/2005	Ryan & Linda Tosta
1/13/2001	Lance & Shannon Altman
1/15/1983	Brian & Pam Knebel
1/17/1998	Mark & Karen Eckert

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

REACHING YOUR CHURCH OFFICE

Email: prairiehillsecretary@gmail.com

Church Office Phone: 979-836-8666

Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 8:00am-4:00pm

Website: www.stjohnprairiehill.org

Church Council President Kenneth Seeker (512) 801-8663

ANNOUNCEMENTS



We're glad you're here! St. John would like to welcome our new Interim Pastor George Rahn. If you didn't get to meet him in December, please join us for worship this month and come say hello! It has been a joy to have him worship with us and we are so thankful for his presence during this transition. We welcome Pastor Rahn to our church family!

Annual Reports due on Monday, January 3rd



Prairie Hill Food Pantry Upcoming Dates:
January 11 & 25 6:30AM-8:00AM

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 30th at 9:15AM



January Quilting Schedule

We will meet on **January 18** and **25**.
Deanna Giese will host. We meet at 9AM to noon.
Come join us for quilting, sewing and tying LWR quilts.

Offering Envelopes are available in the Narthex!



**Altar
Flowers
SIGN-UP**



The Flower Chart for this year has been posted in the Annex.
Please sign up for altar flowers if you can!



The call committee is still hard at work searching for a pastor. Please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers. God will provide!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and enjoyed spending quality time with their family and friends celebrating the birth of Jesus.

The children of St. John did a fantastic job performing in our annual Christmas program, "The Symbols of Christmas". It is truly a blessing to see the youth of our congregation engaged in the true meaning of Christmas. The program would not have been such a great success without the help of several people. First, a big thank you to Brooke Huckert who was the director of the program. It was so nice to see our kids making meaningful and biblical connections to all the "stuff" we put up during the holiday season. A special thank you to our pianist, Linda Schulze for her time and dedication to the many practices of the Christmas program. She plays the music beautifully and the kids love being greeted by her warm smile each week. The program would not be possible without the parents and children. We appreciate the time you dedicated to ensuring we had a successful program. Last but certainly not least a big thank you to all of the congregation for the Christmas bag donations and those who helped prepare those bags. The children look forward to receiving these bags every year, and we couldn't do it without you.

Christmas in the Country was a huge success. Kids of all ages enjoyed laughter and fellowship together during our hayride, crafts, and delicious food! Thank you to everyone who helped to make this event exciting and memorable for all.

I want to take a moment and thank Brooke Huckert for a wonderful job as Sunday School Superintendent for the 2021 year. We appreciate your time and dedication to the youth of St. John's. I would also like to welcome our new Assistant Sunday School Superintendent, Cindy Clay. Cindy is excited to serve our congregation and has so much to share with us at St. John's. I am looking forward to a wonderful 2022 Sunday School year which will kick off January 9th.

Megan Schramme
Sunday School Superintendent



SUNDAY

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY




8:00AM Worship Service

9:00AM Sunday School

2 Christmas 2 8:00AM Worship Service 10:05AM Worship Service	3 <i>Annual Reports Due</i> 6:00PM Executive Committee Meeting	4 9:30AM Pastor's Bible Class	5
9 Baptism of Our Lord 8:00AM Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday School 10:05AM Worship Service	10 6:00PM Council Meeting	11 FOOD PANTRY	12
16 Epiphany 2 8:00AM Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday School 10:05AM Worship Service	17 	18 9:00AM Quilting	19
23 Epiphany 3 8:00AM Worship Service 9:00AM Sunday School 10:05AM Worship Service	24	25 FOOD PANTRY 9:00AM Quilting	26
30 Epiphany 4 8:00AM Worship Service 9:15AM Sunday School & Semi-Annual Meeting 10:05AM Worship Service	31	 <p><u>Special Envelope:</u></p>	



THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
				1	
School 10:05AM Worship Service					
6	Office Closed	7	Office Closed	8	Sunday School takes down Christmas Tree
10:00AM Naomi					
13	Office Closed	14	Office Closed	15	
2:00PM Ladies Aid					
20	Office Closed	21	Office Closed	22	
27	Office Closed	28	Office Closed	29	

NALC Disaster Response

COMMUNION BREAD

Donna Bentke

SCREEN

Janice Fairlie

Kallie Finke

ALTAR PREPARATION

Connie Rohde

Janet Wehring

FAMILY AID

Carolyn Kessel

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Deanna Giese

Susi Bentke

SANCTUARY PREP

Rachel Church

Sherry Randermann

CHURCH TELLERS

Charles Gaskamp

Sandy Ordner

USHERS

Fred & Debra

Westerfeld

Larry Pieper



POINSETTIAS 2021



Given by...

Donna Bentke (3)

Chad, Amanda, Audrey & Callie Dismukes,
William, Mollie, Alex & Cullen Grote (2)

Marjorie Hohlt

Mary Hill

Ben & Carolyn Kessel

The Klatte & An Family (2)

Danney & Connie Rohde

Butch Seeker Family (2)

David & Glenda Stegent

Evelyn Thielemann

John & LaVerna Wegner

Janet Wehring

Fred & Debra Westerfeld (2)

Dorothy Wiesepape

Mark & Diana Williams (2)

Given by...

Butch Seeker Family

Randy & Sandy Janner

Mark & Diana Williams

Fred & Debra Westerfeld

In Loving Memory of...

Herman Bentke, Jr.; Ernest Kolwes; Herbert &
Elsie Haevischer; Herman & Emma Bentke
Alexander E. Grote; Fred & Esther Dahmann

Wilber Hohlt

Kevin Hill

Loved Ones

Naomi Zopfi; Arnold & Elizabeth Anderson;

Herbert & Esther Mae Klatte

Clinton & Genell Rohde; Milton & Elvera Janner

LaNell Seeker

Walter Thielemann

Walter Thielemann

Raymond & Anita Jeske

Robert & Lena Finke; Jerry Finke

Burney & Sis Riechers; Fred & Lydia Westerfeld

My Family

Floyd Gaskamp; Robert Keith

In Honor of...

Our St. John Church Family

Our Children & Grandchildren

Delores Gaskamp

Kaden, Katie, Morgan, Addy, Thomas and Charlotte

DONATIONS TO BRENHAM PREGNANCY CENTER

Given by...

Elsie Herrmann

Ben & Carolyn Kessel

Joseph & Sandy Ordner

Al & Audrey Steinbach

Morris & Elvera Tisdell

Given By...

Morris & Elvera Tisdell

In Loving Memory of...

Loved Ones

Loved Ones

Parents & Grandparents

Loved Ones

Henry E. & Lora Quebe; Harry L. & Deanna Stark

In Honor of...

Our Great Grandchildren-Zephen, Reznor
& Ezlyn Jones



Thank you to Glenda Stegent for taking the orders,
delivering the poinsettias and keeping them watered
for all of us who purchased and gave donations.
We appreciate you and couldn't have done it without you!

Community of NALC Sisters

The Community of NALC Sisters consists of the women in local area NALC congregations:

- Welcome Lutheran Church
- Abiding Word Lutheran Church
- Salem Lutheran Church
- St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Sandy Hill
- St. John Lutheran Church, Prairie Hill

Representatives from these congregations met together to form the Community of NALC Sisters in order to support each other as sisters in Christ and create opportunities to meet together. We share information on events happening in our respective congregations as well as creating some that are open to everyone such as the following:

- Thirsty Third Thursdays, Women's Bible Study - Terry Boeker (Salem) will be leading a bible study using the book, Women of the Bible Speak. This Bible study will begin January 20, 2022, at Abiding Word from 1:30 to 3:00, and will be held on the third Thursday of each subsequent month.
- Hymn Sing - January 22, 2022 at St. Matthew, Sandy Hill. For all who long to hear the good old hymns please join us to listen, or join in singing a selection of favorite old hymns by the church organist, Justin Dana. No service, just music.
- Painting with Devotion - February 6, 2022 at St. John Prairie Hill.
- Gathering of Texas NALC women - April 2022 at Peace Lutheran Church in Rosenberg
- Blinn Blessings is an evening meal served weekly at Abiding Word as a ministry to Blinn students. If anyone is interested in participating in this ministry, contact Donna Kelling (979 451-9292) at Abiding Word.
- Game Night at Miracle Farms is a ministry of St. Matthew, Sandy Hill. If anyone is interested in participating in this ministry, contact Sheryl Schmid (713 203-0620) at Sandy Hill.

Council Highlights

The Church Council of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church met for its monthly meeting on December 13, 2021, at 6:00 pm. Council President, Jon Westerfeld, called the meeting to order, and Pastor George Rahn opened with prayer. All members were present. Incoming council members were also invited to attend. The November minutes were approved as distributed.

Old Business

- **Motion** to approve draft of NALC constitution. **MSC.** Copies will be mailed to congregational members to review for discussion and approval at January's semi-annual congregational meeting.

New Business

- **Motion** to approve appointment of Audit Committee consisting of Connie Rohde, Judy Grote, Donna Skrla, and Gayle Bednar. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to approve bonuses for church secretary and custodian. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to accept new member, Ryan Schroeder. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to resume two worship services at 8:00am and 10:05am, with Sunday School at 9:00am beginning January 2022. **MSC.**
- **Motion** to approve agenda for semi-annual congregational meeting to be held Sunday, January 30, 2022, at 9:15am. **MSC.**

Committee Reports:

Community Concerns Report: Food Pantry served 115 families (130 people) at two distributions in November.

Worship and Music Report: Additional volunteers are needed in all areas of worship: ushers, layreaders, video techs, etc.

Parish Education Report: Approximately 25 children attended Christmas in the Country after Sunday School on December 22. They enjoyed a hayride with hot chocolate, face painting, crafts, and a hot dog lunch. There are 27 children who will participate in the Christmas Program on Christmas Eve.

Evangelism Report: A total of 170 persons were served for the Good Neighbor drive-thru dinner. An additional 5 deliveries were made to shut-in members.

Property Report: Jon Westerfeld will oversee the repair to the Activity Center support. Bids for miscellaneous repairs to the church gutters, fascia, etc. will be presented at the semi-annual congregational meeting. The blue light on the steeple cross will be repaired.

All reports were approved as presented. **Motion** to adjourn. **MSC.**

Respectfully Submitted, Janice Fairlie, Council Secretary

2022 St. John Council Members

President.....	Kenneth Seeker	Evangelism.....	Josh Clay
Vice-President	Herbert Klatte, Jr.	Financial Secretary	Jeannie Kroll
Treasurer	Sharon Neutzler	Parish Ed	Jennifer Schroeder
Secretary.....	Janice Fairlie	Property	Steve Skrla
Community Concerns.....	India Randermann	Worship & Music.....	Mary Longhofer

Hi Folks!

I wanted to introduce myself to the St. John community as a whole. I have already become acquainted with some of you individually already. But in this article I wanted to formally make an introduction in general. I will be the part-time interim pastor for St. John until such time the call committee and congregation as a whole vote to call a full-time pastor. I look forward to this space of time sharing with you God's word in the Scriptures and in ministry.

My wife, Carol, and I live in San Antonio. So part of any week I'm back in SA. Half-time I reside in the St. John parsonage and have my office over in the church building itself. If I am not available in person please know that I can be reached by email (George.Rahn@gmail.com), by phone 785-443-2632 or through one of the council members. I will also provide my contact information to Pr. Brower over at St. Matthew's.

Briefly to note, I am from the Chicago area originally. Carol and I met in 1985 in Atlanta, GA during a clinical pastoral residency. Carol is an ordained Presbyterian minister.

In the months ahead I hope to get acquainted with many of you as I share my faith journey with all of you in some degree or other.

Jesus loves each and every one of you as we grow in faith and service together in Him.

God's peace,
Pr. George Rahn

Jeremiah 31:3b



On Tuesday mornings at the church at 9:30 am, all and any are invited to participate in a pastor's Bible class. We are going to read through St. Paul's letter to the Galatians. Bring your favorite Bible. Of course Bibles are available at the church, as well. First time we meet will be January 4. See you then.

**St John Lutheran Church
of Prairie Hill**

6605 Old Independence Rd.
Brenham, TX 77833

www.stjohnprairiehill.org

979-836-8666



8:00AM Worship Service

9:00AM Sunday School

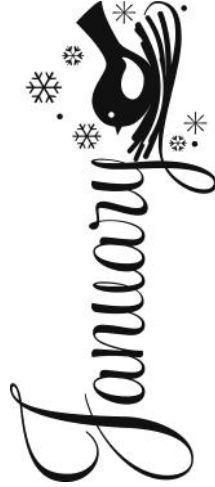
10:05AM Worship Service

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage **PAID**
Brenham, TX 77833
Permit No. 157

The deadline for the
February newsletter is:

**Monday
January 17th**

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



**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**