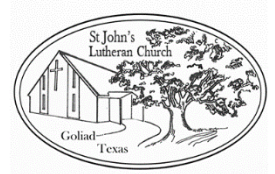


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Christmas	2 in Goliad
3 Advent 1 9:15 Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 Worship & Communion	4 7:30 Men's Fellowship Breakfast	5 9:00 Martha Circle 6:00 Unity Christmas Party @ Deborah's Table	6	7	8	9
10 Advent 2 9:15 Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 Worship	11	12 9:00 Calico Cut Ups 12:00 Rebekah Circle	13	14	15	16 11:00 Wreaths Across America Ceremony
17 Advent 3 9:15 Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30 Worship, Communion, & Children's Program 6:00 Community Carol Festival	18	19 6:00 Church Council Meeting	20 6:00 Sarah Circle	21 First day of Winter	22	23
24 Advent 4 9:15 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 6:00 Candlelight Service	25 Christmas	26	27 12:00 January Newsletter Deadline	28	29	30
31 Christmas 1 9:15 Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Communion 11:30 Potluck						

Volunteers for December

If you are unable to volunteer on a certain day, please let the office know **before** the newsletter deadline. If you cannot fulfil a position that you are **already** scheduled for, please switch with someone else on the list, **then** let the office know of the change. *We always welcome more volunteers!*



Communion Prep & Paraments

Ginia Bruno
3,10,17,24(am) - Blue
24(pm),31 - White

Cookies for Fellowship

03 - Margie Dreier & Renee Stroman
10 - Lauren Brandt & Holly Simpson
17 - Wayne Gisler & Leslie Hanslik
24 - Ginia Bruno & Wendi Pospech
31 - Janet Grimes & Amy Lee

Flowers*

03 - Grimes
10 - AVAILABLE
17 - Paulsgrove
24 - Poinsettias
31 - AVAILABLE

**If you want flowers done by Wendi, please let her know at least two weeks in advance to make sure she's available.*

Communion Assistant

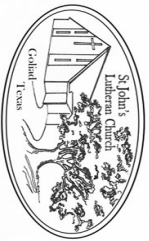
03 - Wanda Cornish
17 - Wayne Gisler
24(pm) - Ginia Bruno
31 - Wanda Cornish

Greeting

03 - Kyle Caraway
10 - Laurie Hajdik
17 - Curtis & Wendi Pospech
24(am) - Margie Dreier
24(pm) - Will Roeske
31 - Wanda Cornish

Lectors

03 - Heather Roeske
10 - Keith Cornish
17 - Wayne Gisler
24(am) - Lavon Meyer
24(pm) - Mark Stroman
31 - Amy Lee



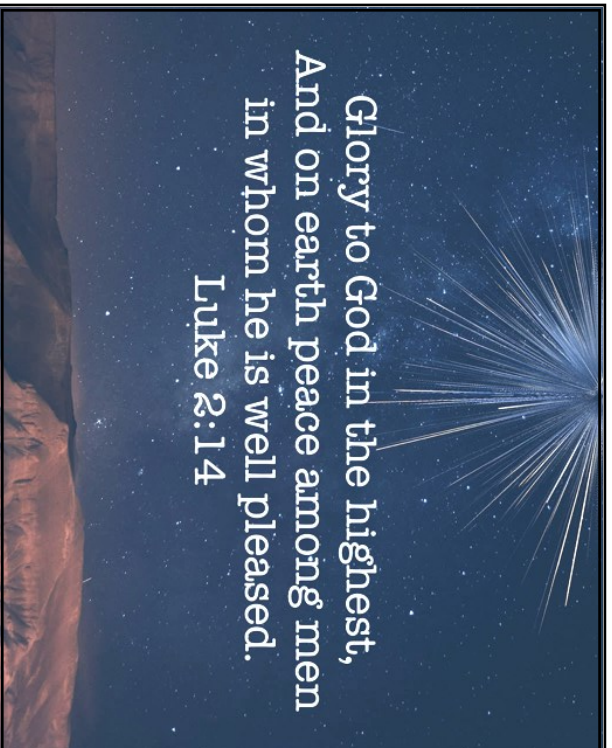
St. John's Lutheran Church
PO Box 518 / 251 N. Market
Goliah, TX 77963-3421

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in
our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the
face of Jesus Christ. ~2 Corinthians 4:6*

Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace among men
in whom he is well pleased.
Luke 2:14



If you would like to **unsubscribe** or have the newsletter **emailed** to you please let the office know.
361.645.3330 / stjohnsgoliah@gmail.com / Tue., Wed., Thu. 9:00-4:00

ST. JOHN'S JOURNAL

St. John's Lutheran Church

stjohnsgoliad.org / FB @stjohnsgoliad

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sarah Schooley, Mark Sweat, Andrew Schooley, Harry Heil, Paul & JoLynn Bethke, Patty & Jason Schooley, Kathy Cullum, Margie Hastings, Kelly Oehlke, Cierra Fromme, Gail Shahan, Erwin Schuenemann, Nancy Willeford, Kathy Meek, Christy Magee

Please also keep the family of Betty Cullum in your prayers. Betty went to be in her eternal home with the Lord on November 20th.

THOSE IN CARE FACILITIES

Ruth Baacke, Virginia Zillig, Vernell Dohmann

PRAYER CHAIN

If you added someone to the prayer list, please touch base periodically with **updates**, the person's **current needs**, or when to **remove** them from the list. Names will be automatically removed after one year.

If you would like to be a member of the prayer chain and receive updates by phone or email, please let the office know.



ST. JOHN'S POINSETTIAS 2023

If you would like to adorn our church sanctuary with a poinsettia please fill out this form and turn it in to the church office or place it in the offering plate.

Poinsettias will be placed on the altar December 17th and you may take them home after the Christmas Eve service.

The cost of each plant will be \$10.00.

Cash or checks payable to:

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



We will provide _____ Poinsettias
(How Many)

Your Name _____
(This is how your name will be listed)

To the Glory of God,

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

In Appreciation of _____

In Celebration of _____

(Please use a second form if you need more space)

thank you

Dear Friends, **Thank you** so much for your donation to the Rosenberg Disaster Response Warehouse! The quilts, health kits, and books will touch the lives of many families in need! Your generosity is greatly appreciated and shows your love for our neighbors. God Bless You, *Michael & Pat Dittrich*

Thank you so much for the wonderful funeral service for Jimmie Dale. The service had wonderful music and a great sermon. We also really appreciate the fruit and veggie trays at the reception hall. St. John's has been a gift to my family during this difficult time. *Vera Rader & Barbi Russell*

EIGHTH ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Sunday, December 17th @ 6:00

St. John's Lutheran Church ~ 251 N. Market St.

We invite area church choirs, groups, duets, & solos to participate. If you are interested in participating, please **R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, December 13th** with your name and title of song you will be singing.

St. John's choir will begin practicing the week after Thanksgiving. If any SJ **kids or adults** are interested in participating, please contact the church office or Pastor.

We look forward to singing with you!



BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

1 - Jean Hausmann
1 - Hope Willms
5 - Amy Lewis
6 - Wade Willms
7 - Don Rehn
11 - Todd Pfenninger
12 - Keith Cornish
13 - Lynette Henson

14 - Michael Krahn
16 - Betty Jacob
20 - Lesley Bruns
23 - Debbie Baacke
23 - Jennifer Schrade
23 - Erick Swickheimer
25 - Shelly Schulze
26 - Emily Castaneda
27 - Jack Farquhar II
27 - Sarah Farquhar

BIRTHDAYS

2 - Farrell Kuecker
3 - Jeff Krahn-Savant
4 - Mike Power
8 - Clinton Baacke
9 - Garland Gloor
11 - Curtis Pospech
13 - Emily Castaneda
13 - Addison McKelvey
15 - Vernell Dohmann
16 - Dorothy Foerster
17 - A. J. Oehlke
18 - Josh Bayer

21 - Carol Bayer
21 - Reese Homeyer
21 - Justin McKelvey
21 - Jeremy Pfenninger
22 - David Pfenninger
22 - Hunter Pfenninger
24 - Cassie Mangum
26 - Stanley Oehlke
27 - John Hausmann
27 - Jason McKelvey
29 - Amanda Pfenninger
31 - Martha Oehlke
31 - Cindy Flores

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2 - Kyle & Casey Caraway
3 - Dudley & Carol Rains
21 - Jason & Michele McKelvey
29 - Amy & Travis Lee

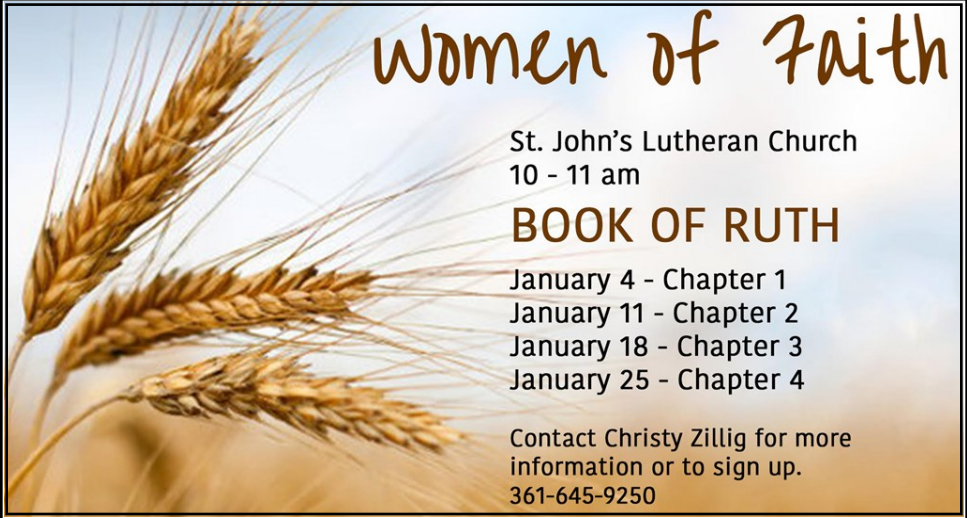


From Pastor Randy...

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
(Jn. 3:16 ESV)

There is a truism that is handed about this time of year. A truism is a statement that we know to be wholeheartedly true. Sadly, this one has been around enough that people don't pay it the heed they should. People hear it, and believe it, but don't respect it as it truly deserves. You can usually tell when someone has heard it for the first time and realized its worth. They are the ones gleefully passing the saying on while notably desiring you to see the tremendous importance of it as they now do. – The saying is this, "Jesus is the reason for the season."

Truth be told, without Jesus this season we are entering has little value outside of the parties, the entertainment, the joy of giving and of course receiving gifts. And while those things do have some value, it is the larger gift that makes this all worthwhile. God gave the gift of His Son to us. God didn't shop at Amazon to do this. God didn't pay with money He had been saving all year for this. God did intend to see happiness on the faces of the recipients of the gift for His efforts, but let's admit we don't always keep that smile of gratitude on ours. The reason is that we allow all the pressures put upon us by the world to creep in and separate us from the love of God. What advertisers say somehow start to hold greater meaning and purpose to us than the realization of God's gift. We want to go where the crowds are going even if the crowds are walking away from God.



Women of Faith

St. John's Lutheran Church
10 - 11 am

BOOK OF RUTH

January 4 - Chapter 1
January 11 - Chapter 2
January 18 - Chapter 3
January 25 - Chapter 4

Contact Christy Zillig for more
information or to sign up.
361-645-9250

NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY
December 16, 2023 - 11:00 a.m. Glendale Lutheran Cemetery
Wreaths will be laid on the following veterans graves:

U.S. Air Force

Wilson Baecker
Lt. Col. Roland C. Karnei

U.S. Army

Jessie L. Angerstein
Alois Baacke
Preston Baecker
Bertram Billo
Elroy Boehl
Elroy Borth
King David Cullum, Jr.
Werger Dohmann
Otto Gus Dreier
Erwin O. Friedrichs
Albert Gloor, Sr.
Herman Harms, Jr.
August Hennig
Eugene Hennig

U.S. Army

I. J. Hennig
James Hennig
Edward R. Homeyer
Dennis Jacob
Oscar Oehlke
Gilbert Lee Poole
John Lamar Riggs
John R. Ruschhaupt
Rufus H. Turner
T. Y. Urban
Albert L. Wendel

U.S. Marine

Allen T. Calhoun

U.S. Navy

Jack McKelvey, Sr.
Edward E. Zeplen





WOSJ DECEMBER NEWS

MARTHA CIRCLE

Tuesday, December 5th @ 9:00

Program: Members

UNITY CHIRSTMAS PARTY @ DEBORAH'S KITCHEN TABLE

Tuesday, December 5th @ 6:00

Program: Martha Circle

All ladies from the congregation are welcome to attend!

We will order off of the menu. Just bring yourself and enjoy a fun evening of games and door prizes.

REBEKAH CIRCLE

Wednesday, December 12th @ 12:00

Devotion: Rita Ara

Deliver Christmas Cheer Boxes, visit homebound and nursing home residents.



SARAH CIRCLE

Wednesday, December 20th @ 6:00

Devotion: Christy Paulsgrove

POTLUCK LUNCH

Sunday, December 30th @ 11:30



DONATIONS NEEDED!

The WOSJ need your help collecting items for the **Mid-Coast Crisis Center**. Tubs are in the Fellowship Hall or Narthex.

For a full list of items needed go to: www.midcoastfamily.org

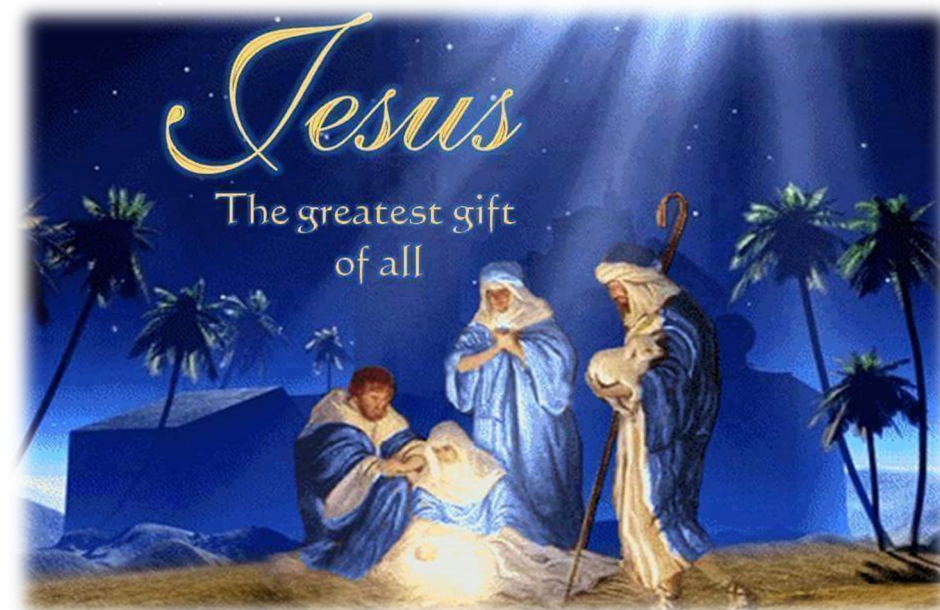
Donations accepted through **Sunday, December 3rd**.

See a member of the Martha Circle if you would like to make a monetary donation. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

But God, who is patient and kind and loving and hopefully slow to anger, is ever calling us back to Him. The season was set up by Him as one of love. While gifts are important, the really important gift is the one that calls us to forgive one another, have hope for one another, help look out for one another, and have love for one another in God's name. So, God sent his only Son into a world that He knew wouldn't treat him well. Yet He sent him in order that we might have life. Both life while we are here and life once our time here is over. And the way God accomplished this was by sacrificing His Son for our benefit. No greater gift has ever been given. No greater good could achieve more. Jesus was born so that by believing in Him you cannot die.

So, remember that truism throughout this season, and carry its meaning with you all of your days. Put that happiness on your face because God loves you.

Merry Christmas and thanks be to God!



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The next council meeting will be held on
Tuesday, December 19th @ 6:00
In the Fellowship Hall.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

All men from the congregation and the community are invited to join us on the
first Monday of every month at 7:30 in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast and discussion.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Bible study takes place **every Sunday morning at 9:15** in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone is welcome to join.



ANNUAL REPORTS & MEETING

Annual Reports are due in the office no later than **12:00 Thursday, January 11th** to be included for our Annual Meeting to be held on Sunday, January 28th.



CALICO CORNER

The next meeting will be held **Tuesday, December 12th @ 9:00** in the St. John's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. For more info contact Kelly Oehlke at 361-645-2098
Happy Stitching!



ARTWORK WANTED!

The Advent season will be upon us before we know it!
We want to see your cover art no matter your age!
Submit a black and white drawing on an 8.5 x 5.5 sheet of paper and you may see your drawing featured on one of our upcoming bulletin covers!

You may submit signed or anonymous drawings to the office for the following categories:

Advent Week One: *Hope*

Advent Week Two: *Peace*

Advent Week Three: *Joy*

Advent Week Four: *Love*



If you have any questions contact the office. We look forward to seeing your submissions!

Happy Sketching!

We invite you to visit our

Little Lutheran Library

in the back corner of the Fellowship Hall.

Take one, share it with a friend, donate your books, music, or movies for others to enjoy and pass along.
Just another way we can spread the word of God!

