

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



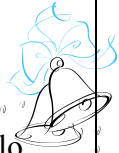
- 1 – Karie Wimberly
- 3 – Mason Bonner Colton Rain
- Travis Scherer
- 5 – Henry Hausmann
- 7 – Harley O’Neal
- LaNell Ressimann
- Erick Swickheimer
- 8 – Kenneth Bayer Sam Neill IV
- Amy Swickheimer
- 9 – Cliff Fromme Don Rehn
- 10 – Glenda Fromme
- Lizzie Turner
- 11 – Elroy Borth
- 12 – Lori Schulte
- 13 – Lesley Bruns
- 14 – John Dreier Mark Stroman
- 15 – Lamar Riggs
- Susie Wolfahohl
- 16 – Hazel Black
- 18 – Amber Goynes
- 20 – Jack Farquhar
- Hayden Otwell
- Kelsie Pfenninger
- Todd Pfenninger Avery Webb
- 25 – Lynette Henson
- Linda Swickheimer
- 28 – Garrett Oehlke
- 30 – Betty Cullum
- Dave Swickheimer



BAPTISM
ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 – Pauline Bruns
- Mary Lea Gebbert
- 4 – Mackenzie Billo
- 5 – Kelly Smith
- 10 – Mallory Bruns
- 12 – Merle Otwell Paul Otwell
- Tara Otwell Taylor Otwell
- 18 – Carin Runge
- 19 – Cavan Rains Vanessa Rains
- Jeffrey Smith Tristan Smith
- 22 – Katie Hoffmann Kevin Cornish
- Wally Lang
- 23 – Mary Ann Jauer
- 24 – Wendi Hurta
- 25 – Kenneth Bayer Max Franke
- 26 – Travis Scherer
- 27 – Spencer Pfenninger
- 28 – Harry Heil
- 29 – Mathilda Boehl
- Werger Dohmann
- 30 – Cathy Farquhar
- Dorothy Hennig

HAPPY WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY



- 6 – Cory & Cristy Billo
- 9 – Alan & Kim Schneider
- 14 – Lamar & Edna Mae Riggs
- 30 – Richard & Joyce Mollicone

Our Apologies If we missed your special date,
please call 645-3330 to help us make corrections.

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ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 518 251 N. Market St. Goliad, Texas 77963-3421
361-645-3330

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**FALL BACK! DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS MIDNIGHT SATURDAY NOVEMBER 5!
TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR BEFORE YOU GO TO BED SATURDAY NIGHT,
SO YOU WILL BE ON TIME FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL ON NOVEMBER 6**

St. John's Journal November 2011

**St. John's Lutheran Church 251 N. Market St. P. O. Box 518
Goliad, Texas 77963 Church Office: 361-645-3330**

WELCOME PASTOR RON AND JAN!

**We welcome Pastor Ron Walter and his wife Jan,
as he comes to serve St. John's as Interim Pastor**

Pastor Ron and his wife, Jan, live at 28A Ranger Creek Road in Boerne and are members of St. John Lutheran Church/Boerne and Grace Lutheran Church in Bandera, Texas. He completed his theological training at Wartburg Theological Seminary on May 17, 1978 and was ordained on June 18, 1978. Before retiring from the active ministry on July 1, 2001 at First Lutheran Church in Galveston, Texas, he was also called to serve Immanuel Lutheran Church, a small rural congregation near Wymore, Nebraska, St. Paul Lutheran Church, New Braunfels, Texas, and Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Naples, Florida. Over his ministry, he served congregations ranging from 200 to 2000, three with 100 year histories, three with multiple staffs and day schools. Along with the typical areas of ministry, he enjoyed helping congregations grow in their evangelism and outreach, worship life, adult Bible study, and lay involvement in the congregation and community. After retiring, Pastor Ron served as interim pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Kerrville, Grace Lutheran Church in Bandera, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kenedy, Texas, Christ Lutheran Church in Arcadia, Wisconsin, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Yorktown, Texas and St. Paul Lutheran in Runge, Texas. Born at St. Francis, Kansas on April 6, 1938 and raised on farms in Kansas and Colorado, he served in the U. S. Army in 1959-62 and was stationed in Turkey and Germany. He graduated from University of Northern Colorado with a BA in Business Education and a MS degree in Marketing from Colorado State University. Before attending seminary in 1974, he also worked in manufacturing, sales, high school business teacher and administrator/instructor at a community college in Colorado. He enjoys fishing, traveling, RVing, woodcarving, gardening and working in his shop. Jan spends her spare time quilting, teaching water aerobics, babysitting grandchildren, and entertaining. They have three sons, Mark, Kenedy, Texas; Mike, U.S. Navy retired living in San Antonio; and David, San Antonio, Texas, three daughter-in-laws and seven grandchildren.



REBEKAH'S LUNCH BUNCH

The Rebekah Lunch Bunch met on Tuesday October 11, with five members present. Wand Cornish had the devotional.

The Thankoffering Service is set for October 30th.

A potluck luncheon will follow.

The lunch Bunch collected \$149.00 for the care packages for the college students and military members of St. John's.

Christmas Party is set for December 1, at 6:30 in the Parish Hall.

Our project of the year is "God's Global Barnyard". Every month we take up a collection for this project and this year we had a total of \$180.00. We were able to purchase two goats, two pigs, and two batches of chicks. This will help against World Hunger through the ELCA. The Lunch Bunch is very proud of our small group making a huge contribution to this project.



St. John's High School Bible Study Group

St. John's High School Bible Study Group meets every Tuesday night at 6:30. If you know of anyone interested in coming, please encourage them. A light meal has been provided with their Bible Study. If you would like more information please call Tiffany Zillig at 645-2579. There are about 14-18 coming.

If you would like to provide a meal for them please let Leslie Zillig know. His number is 645-2579.

CHANGE IN THE AIR!

The fall weather signals change in the air! School has started. The days are getting shorter and cooler. Signs of approaching holidays are appearing everywhere. Halloween costumes which lined the store shelves this past month have now been replaced with Thanksgiving and Christmas merchandise. The news media is filled with announcements of festivals, football games, and baseball playoffs. Hunting season is here once again....all to the consternation of most spouses! Yet, all generate a renewed excitement after the long hot dry days of summer. November represents a unique opportunity to resume faithful attendance at church services, attend study classes and activities, and to invite your friends and neighbors, young and old, to be a part of the activities at St. John's Lutheran. Use this time as an opportunity to ***“Be a friend, make a friend....bring a friend to church with you.”***

We have so much to be excited about and to be thankful for as we prepare to welcome a new Pastor in the near future. Let's share that excitement with everyone around us!



OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

SUNDAY MORNING: Something missing in your life? Is your closeness to the Lord not what it used to be? Getting frustrated at the way life and the world is going? Chances are your spiritual reserve is running close to empty! Meet with Pastor Ron starting on Sunday November 6 at 9:00 a.m. to study the Gospel Lesson for each Sunday's worship. This Gospel Lesson class helps to make the worship service and sermon come alive each Sunday. Parents of Sunday School children, become a good role model, attend this class and provide a good example for your children. Don't drop them off and leave. Plenty of hot coffee, good discussion, and many biblical insights will be shared during this informal study of God's Word. Start each week off right by growing in your knowledge of God's will for your life.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Ruby Borth, B J Berger, Lisa Castaneda, Blake Cornish, Vernell Dohmann, James Franklin, Alfred Gebbert, Cale Goldman, Adeline Haak, Pastor Bill Hassel, Morris Dale (Trey) Hoffmann III, Bill Kirchoff, Nona Kling, Wally Lang, Louise Krahn, Joyce Mollicone, Irving Pfenninger

Those in Care Facilities: Iona Berger, Roy Gottschald, Wilton Gruetzmacher, Georgia Hoff, Bettelou Huff, Nona Kling, Dolores Ressman, Minnie Sheppard, Genelle Urban

<u>Attendance & Offering</u>			 Monday Night Bible Study 7:00pm St. John's Parish Hall
10-02-11	71	\$3,274.00	
10-09-11	52	\$2,269.00	 Church Council Meeting 6:00 November 8
10-16-11	68	\$1,748.00	
10-23-11	68	\$1,141.00	
For Updates On Meghan Karnei's Missionary Trip to India You may keep up with Meghan via her blog at india.adventures.org			

College and Military persons

The Ruth Circle is in charge of college/military care packages this year. If you have a College/military person in your family or someone that you know has a college/military person, please talk to Joyce Baecker at 645-3750 or LaNell Ressmann at 645-3636 and let us know. We also need their addresses.

If you need to reach Pastor Ron:
Home phone: 210-844-5022 Cell: 830-249-2446

St. John's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting October 11, 2011

The regular meeting of the Council held on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Merle Otwell. All members present. (Merle Otwell, Harry Heil, Leslie Zillig, Lavon Meyer, LaNell Ressmann, Jimmie Dale Rader and Mary Lea Pfenninger.) Merle opened with a prayer. No congregational members were present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PROPERTY –New outlet is in and ready for new copier. We will wait one more month for contractor to get back with us. If this does not happen we will be contacting another one. The Council would like to reassure the Congregation that here is no imminent danger at this point in time. The outside structure is a façade to the internal structure that is intact.

TWSJ-LaNell reported that the Thankoffering would be October 30th conducted by TWSJ. Following the service there will be a Pot Luck luncheon.

WORSHIP- Jimmie Dale reported that there were no concerns at this time.

COMMUNION- Mary Lea reported that we are still looking for a volunteer to head up this valuable committee.

CEMETERY –Werger and Mary Lea have spoken. He will be getting the cemetery information to her in small chunks. This will work out well for both parties. A data base will be constructed. It is hoped that this will be complete by January 1st 2012.

CALL COMMITTEE-The committee met and discussed the 1 of the 2 names. (One withdrew his name before the committee met). The Bishop has sent 2 more. The committee is to meet on 10/19/11 to discuss these candidates.

OLD BUSINESS

The September Council Minutes were reviewed. Harry moved and Lavon seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

LaNell gave the treasurer's report. After reviewing by the Council Members, Leslie moved and Harry seconded that they be approved as submitted. Motion carried. The financials were posted in the parish hall.

The November calendar was reviewed by all Council members. Additions and corrections were discussed and made as needed.

The mail was reviewed. A membership transfer out was accepted

Holy Scripture must continue to be our guide and norm in our lives, individually and as a gathering of God's people. Without it we are as a ship without a rudder. In the months ahead, let Paul's words in Galatians 5:22, 23 show us the way. *"But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Here there is no conflict with the law."* I, with God's help and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, look forward to being part of a bright future for the people of St. John's Lutheran Church.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Ron

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In his 1863 presidential Thanksgiving proclamation, Abraham Lincoln wrote these words: *"We have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation ever knew. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and strengthened us, and have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own."*

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday set aside each year for the citizens of this country to recognize with grateful hearts how the United States of America has been so richly blessed.

But over the years Thanksgiving has become the day when we relived childhood song, "Over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house we go..." As we have forgotten the gracious hand of God, this national holiday is associated in many of our minds with taking a trip to be with our families or friends for a happy time together, lots of wonderful food covering the table, and a football game on TV which takes priority over all other activities. Thanksgiving has become OUR one day of the year when we can kick back and let the world go by.

Love and Respect for One Another

Dear Friends in Christ, throughout my 35 years in the ordained ministry and during my six interims since retirement, I have observed one important thing in the life of a community of faith, it must find a way to love and respect one another. Although I have never been a fan of President Jimmy Carter, I do agree totally with a statement he once made: *“One of the most divisive things in religion is when one of us or any one group of us believes that we have a special relationship with God.....to the exclusion of others.”*

It is easy to love others when everyone agrees with each other, but the true test is when things are difficult and uncertain. Our testimony to the outside world will be how we at St. John’s Lutheran Church and others in the Lutheran Church deal with the difficulties and uncertainties which lie ahead. With love in our hearts we can disagree with each other without being disagreeable.

Often some members will choose not to voice their views because of the very adamant opinions expressed by others in their presence. It is a gift of God to be ready to LISTEN to the thoughts of others and respect where they may be coming from. Others may be very vocal and feel their view have not been heard. Remember, it may be difficult for some to remain a part of a community of faith if they feel ostracized, left out of the dialogue or criticized for their stance on issues. The Lord of the Church calls us to continually examine our hearts to determine how we can be part of God’s plan to bring renewal and reform to his church. The One who gave his life out of love for us asks that compassion and love replace any anger and resentment that has happened in the past.

from the Trey Wimberly family. A letter from the Relay for Life group was read. We are looking for a congregational member to organize a team for our church. Volunteers are asked to see Merle. A Thrivent letter was read. They are looking for a member to be on the Leadership Board. The letter is posted on the bulletin board. Interested parties are to refer to the posted letter. A NALC conference will be held. The information will be a bulletin inset on 10/16/2011. Lavon will also announce and explain this gathering on that Sunday.

NEW BUSINESS

Interim Pastor- Following Service on 10/8/2011, Council met with Pastor Ron Walter. After lengthy discussions of our needs and expectations, plans were developed. The Council reviewed these at this meeting and a contract was signed by the President and Council Treasurer. Pastor Walter will begin on October 16 and be under contact through the Advent season.

Constitution Task Force- One report has been turned in. The Council will review this one, and will be looking forward to a second one in the near future. Copies of the first will be disseminated to the Council. Mary Lea moved and Lavon seconded that any further action be tabled until next month. Motion carried. The Constitution Task Force will become an Agenda item for November to be acted upon.

Sunday School Update- Parents are encouraged to bring their children. The HS group is meeting weekly and is growing. Leslie is the responsible adult who has been cooking and/or picking up food. Tiffany is doing a wonderful job leading the group. Many supporting Congregational members have donated to the cost of feeding the group. We thank everyone for their support and encouragement in this endeavor.

Copy Machine- Will be installed as soon as possible. Shelley will call the company and let them know that the church outlet is ready.

Lavon presented the Cemetery Committee By-Laws. Lavon is to look for a newer set. The By Laws will be reviewed and brought up to date with the new Constitution as soon as it is finalized. This will also become an action item on the next Council Agenda.

With no further business Leslie moved and Harry seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lea Pfenninger

WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S

Martha Circle

November 1 @ 9:30am
Program: Jimmie Dale Rader
Sunday morning coffee/punch setup & Cleanup

Ruth Circle

November 8 @ 10:00am
Prayer & Program:

Rebekah's Lunch Bunch

November 8 @ 12:00 Noon
Devotion: Cristy Billo

Sarah Circle

November 16 @ 6:00 pm
Devotion: Linda Swickheimer

UNITY MEETING November 15 @ 6:00 pm

In The Narthex Sunday School Room

Devotion: Rebekah's Lunch Bunch

Projects For The Month:

Each Circle~ Elect individual Officers

Support Angel Tree~ It was decided to again provide books for Angel Tree and encourage individual support. Bring books to December 1 Women Of St. John's Christmas Covered Dish Dinner at 6:30 p.m..

Support Cheer Boxes ~ provide items to be included in Cheerboxes for delivery in December.

Unity Meeting~ November 15 at 6:00 p.m. attend to elect 2012 Officers and finalize yearbook. Be thankful for all of God's Blessings!

Women Of St. John's Are Invited To BUNCO

Sunday November 6, 2011 Our Saviour's Lutheran Church~Victoria

In the multi-purpose Room 4102 N. Ben Jordan

Registration 1:30 pm Games Begin 2:00 pm

Please RSVP By November 1, 2011

OSL church office 575-4305 Debbie Krueger 575-3852

Susie Breeden 575-6637



MEN'S DOMINOES!!!!!!

The Men's group of Our Savior's will also host a Domino party at the same time in the Narthex. Please RSVP to the above contacts.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Sunday, November 6 is designated in our church year as the feast day of All Saints. On this day, we remember the precious and powerful gift of our Lord's heaven to all believers. We give thanks for the martyrs and saints who have delivered to us the gospel message of Christ. Specifically we give thanks to God for those persons who have recently died, but whose lives have brought inspiration and comfort to us.

Especially do we remember the following members and friends of St. John's Lutheran Church who have entered the church triumphant since last All Saint's Sunday and now celebrate eternal life with their Heavenly Father:

Dessie Pauline Crim

Ruby Lea Pfenninger

Finally, on All Saint's Sunday we celebrate because we, too, are counted as saints through the righteousness of Christ. Through the merits of His sacrifice and the promise of His resurrection, we one day will also stand with all the saints in life!



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 27