

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!)*

Volume 16, Number 05

May, 2023



“Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!” – Psalm 146:1

The last five psalms are Praise Psalms. Chapters 146 through 150 celebrate our God! We are called to praise the Lord for all He does! Psalm 148 calls all of creation to praise God!

¹Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
²Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!
³Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars!
Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!

We are all to praise the God because God creates us! Our God commanded and from nothing God's words made stars, suns, and moons. Each night brings awe to my soul as I look up and see the Milky Way and the myriad of stars twinkling in the night. God is God for He has made us!

Are we not glad God makes us? Are we not filled with joy for God breathes life into our souls? Are we not happy God is here in St. John's sanctuary? Better yet, do we not want to rejoice because the Holy Spirit lives in us?

David, the boy shepherd, scribes these songs to celebrate God. David, the mighty warrior and king, humbly sings praise to the gracious God who redeemed him through divine forgiving love!

What joy does God bring to your soul? Christ is risen to bring us to eternal life! Do we cheer and praise the Creator for this mighty inheritance?

The last verse in the psalms councils us saying – “*Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!*”

Please pause each day in May. Go outside and look around. Next, look within your soul, as well. Pause and notice God's gifts to you. God gives us daily breath, food, and water. Take note of the people God brings to your life – mom and dad, brother and sister, son and daughter, grandbabies and church family. Now, just lift your soul to our Creator God and praise Him for these many blessings.

Soli Deo Gloria - to the Glory of God.

Pastor Norm



Will be meeting on Sunday,
May 7th at 4:00pm St. John's
Activity Center.



Luther League will meet on May 7th at 2:00PM at
the Church. All Junior High and High School
Students are invited to attend.



Contact Information for Pastor Norm

Pastor Norm can be reached in either of
the following ways: Cell Phone Number (361) 362-9108
Or Email: pastornorm2003@yahoo.com

2023 ST JOHN COUNCIL MEMBERS

- President.....Herbert Klatte, Jr.
- Vice-President Kenneth Seeker
- Treasurer Sharon Neutzler
- Secretary.....Rita Gaskamp
- Community Concerns.....India Randermann
- Evangelism.....Josh Clay
- Financial Secretary Jeannie Kroll
- Parish EdStephanie Koehler
- Property Colton Maass
- Worship & Music Virginia Altman

Readings for May

May		FIRST READING	RESPONSIVE	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
7	Easter 5	Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-60	Psalm 146	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
14	Easter 6	Acts 17:16-31	Psalm 66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
21	Easter 7	Acts 1:12-26	Psalm 68:1-10	1 Peter 4:12-16, 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
28	Pentecost	Numbers 11:24-30	Psalm 25:1-15	Acts 2:1-21	John 7:37-39

May	Acolyte	Layreader	Flowers
7	Jax Antkowiak	Kallie Finke	Keith & Jeannie Kroll
14	Alex Grote	Katie Seeker	Ladies Aid
21	Hunter Janner	Sandra Tillman	Confirmation Class
28	Volunteer Needed	Connie Rohde	Pastor Norm & Laura Sulaica in honor of their anniversary

Volunteer Needed

We are in need of an acolyte for the May 28th service. If you would be willing to volunteer to do so, please contact the church secretary. Thanks so much for participating in the Worship Service!



Baptismal Anniversaries

5/01/1955	Gary Schramme	5/15/2011	Braelynn York
5/01/1966	Herbert Klatte, Jr.	5/15/2016	Ayden Clay
5/02/1943	Butch Seeker, Jr.	5/15/2016	Oakley Kuecker
5/03/1953	Glenn Mueller	5/16/1956	Judy Janner
5/03/1953	James Wolff	5/16/1981	Cindy Clay
5/03/2015	Easton Myers	5/17/2009	Hunter Myers
5/04/1986	Brandon Bednar	5/19/1968	Kimberly Kraft
5/04/2008	Randa Tillman	5/19/2013	Knowles Koehler
5/05/1968	Kenneth Seeker	5/22/1960	Ron Bowman
5/06/1951	Fred L. Westerfeld	5/22/1965	Dennis Moehlmann
5/07/1960	Pam Yahnke	5/22/1981	Brooke Huckert
5/07/1989	Jill Eckert	5/22/1982	Tomas Schramme
5/07/1989	Megan Wegner	5/22/1983	Travis Kmiec
5/07/2000	Abigail Chavelas	5/22/1994	Ben Williams
5/07/2006	Katelin Seeker	5/22/1994	Beth Steely
5/08/2022	Blayke Bates	5/23/1954	Rita Gaskamp
5/10/1942	Ben Kessel	5/24/1992	Leigh Herrmann
5/12/1940	Jean Seeker	5/26/1996	Austin Klatte
5/13/1955	Becki Schawe	5/28/1978	Sondra Hernandez
5/15/1994	Heather Horton	5/29/2011	Rhett Ring
5/15/1994	Tyler Klatte		

Wedding Anniversaries

5/04/1996	Wendy & Eric Hagerman	5/15/1999	Darrell & Gayle Himly
5/04/2002	Keith & Jeannie Kroll	5/17/2008	Zach & Whitney Wagner
5/10/2003	David & Tessa Ring	5/21/1977	Gerald & Theresa Kuecker
5/12/1984	Don & Charlene Keller	5/22/2004	Josh & Cindy Clay
5/15/1999	Debra & James Hanath	5/31/1975	David & Glenda Stegent

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

REACHING YOUR CHURCH OFFICE

Linda Crabtree prairiehillsecretary@gmail.com Church Office Phone: 979-836-8666
 Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 8:00am-4:00pm Website: www.stjohnprairiehill.org
 Church Council President Herbert Klatte, Jr. (936) 801-8663

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes for April 10, 2023**

The Church Council of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church met for its monthly meeting on April 10, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Council President Herbert Klatte, Jr., called the meeting to order. Pastor Norm Sulaica opened with scripture and prayer. All current members were present, with the exception of India Randermann.

The March minutes were approved as distributed.

Unfinished Business

Photo directory: Not sure Lifeway church photos is still in business after the pandemic. No one returns the calls. Pastor Norm will continue to check.

Work to begin shortly on the Activity Center west wall and gutter system. We need to paint the ridge row to kill the rust, before or after, the work by Brenham Iron Works.

Sagging stain glass window sash in the sanctuary to be repaired this month.

Membership rolls review report given. Planning to consolidate all the various lists and reconnect with absent members.

New Business

Parish House kitchen door needs a new threshold. Plans to purchase and get this replaced.

Request made to put electric plugs in all rest rooms, there are no plugs.

For Information

Women's Bible Study; 1st Sunday of the month.

Luther League; 1st Sunday of the month.

SHARE 2nd Wednesday of the month, 2 to 5 pm.

Blood Drive April 30, 2023, sign up sheet on Palm Sunday, youth to assist on April 30

Confirmation will be the 3rd Sunday in May; May 21

VBS July 31 to August 4

Rally Day August 6 (coincide with VBS closing)

Committee Reports:

Treasurer Report

Sharon Neutzler

Report as submitted

Motion to move roughly \$3,000 from the Council Discretionary Fund to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. **MSC**

Financial Secretary Report

Jeannie Kroll

For the month of March, the total Weekly Giving Deposits were \$11,142.00, special envelopes to Habitat for Humanity \$270.00, plus loose offering of \$73.00 and Direct Deposits were \$4415.01 for a total giving of \$15,900.01. (The sum of \$23,150 monthly is needed to meet the 2023 budget approved at the October semi-annual congregational meeting.)

Community Concerns Report

India Randermann

Food Pantry served 80 families (142 people) at two distributions in March.

There were no funerals in March but one, Ella Ruemke, in February.

Blood Drive set for April 30

NALC Disaster Response Team filled a 26' box truck with supplies for the Rolling Fork, Mississippi, tornado victims. **Motion** to restock the Rosenberg Warehouse for future needs: Health Care Kit in May, Flood Buckets in June and School Kit in July. **MSC**

Detailed information will be published in the bulletins and newsletter.

Worship and Music Report

Virginia Altman

Motion to purchase contemporary music, Discover Worship, for background music prior to worship services, roughly \$200. **MSC**

Parish Education Report

Stephanie Koehler

Bake Sales for Summer Camp: March 5 netted \$860 for 14 participants (\$61.42/each), March 25 netted \$1,097 for 17 participants (\$64.52/each) and preliminary silent auction netted \$1800, figures to be reported in May.

It is roughly \$600/camper for Summer Camp with the church paying 1/2 and the camper paying 1/2. There are 20 signed up.

Chris Koehler (family) will be taking over the Easter breakfast from the Herbert Jr and Cathy Klatte family. Thank you to their years of dedication.

Discussion will continue how to separate the LYO funds from the younger kids funds in the near future.

Youth Report

Kenneth Seeker

No report

Evangelism Report

Josh Clay

No report

Property Report

Colton Maass

No report.

Pastor's Report

Pr. Norm Sulaica

Every member over the age 60 list has been printed and visits to all will begin.

Successful Holy Week and Sunday services despite the rain and cooler weather.

Will connect with the Men's Ministry.

Phyllis Bickham set up a 501.C.3 for \$10,000.00 per year donation to St. John. Distribution to the following: Men's College Scholarship Fund; Food Pantry; Quilters; Ladies Aid; Sunday school; Summer Camp Scholarships; Council Discretionary Fund.

St. Matthew: Marriage counseling complete, Wedding for Justin Dana and Amanda, July 15, 2023






NALC: Lutheran Week, August 7 to 11, 2023, Church Convocation in OKC, will need 1 to 2 lay members to attend to vote. Details posted on website in June.

Vacation to Ohio for Laura's parents 60th wedding anniversary.

Motion to approve all reports as presented. **MSC**

Motion to adjourn. **MSC**. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rita Gaskamp
Council Secretary

			May
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
May Special Envelope Food Pantry			
	1 10:00AM Bible Study 6:00PM Executive Meeting	2 9:00AM Music Planning Team 6:30PM Rachel Circle	3 5:00PM Confirmation Class 6:30PM Church
7 Easter 5 8:30AM Sunday School 9:15AM Worship Service 2:00PM Luther League 4:00PM Young Women's Circle	8 10:00AM Bible Study 6:00PM Council Meeting Newsletter Reminder	9 6:30AM Food Pantry 9:00AM Music Planning Team	10 2:00PM Confirmation Class 5:00PM Firmation Class 6:30PM Church
14 Easter 6 8:30AM Muffins with Mom 9:15AM Worship Service 	15 10:00AM Bible Study Newsletter Deadline 	16 9:00AM Quilting 9:00AM Music Planning Team	17 6:30PM Church
21 Easter 7 9:15AM Worship Service Rite of Confirmation 	22 10:00AM Bible Study	23 6:30AM Food Pantry 9:00AM Quilting 9:00AM Music Planning Team	24 6:30PM Church
28 Pentecost 9:15AM Worship Service	29 10:00AM Bible Study 	30	31



WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1
Confirmation Service	4 Office Closed 10:00AM Naomi Circle	5 Office Closed	6
Home Day Baptismal Confer- ence Service	11 Office Closed 2:00PM Ladies Aid	12 Office Closed	13
Service	18 Office Closed	19 Office Closed	20
Service	25 Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27
		9	

UPCOMING EVENTS



May 14th - Muffins with Mom
May 21st - Confirmation Sunday
June 18th - Donuts with Dads and Graduating Seniors
July 3rd - August 4th- Vacation Bible School
August 6th - Rally Day and Vacation Bible School closing



A new creative ministry called Jump Start has started and we invite you to be part of it! This team develops and generates ideas for mission and vision. Come and share your talents, gifts and ideas. Our next meeting will be on May 16th at 6:30PM in the new church library.

*The following are sharing their time
and talents for the month of **May**.*

COMMUNION BREAD Donna Bentke

ALTAR PREPARATION Audrey Steinbach, Elvera Tisdel

FAMILY AID Karen Rosenbaum, Cookie Engeling, Carol Haarmeyer, Dorothy Haevischer,
Sharon Neutzler, Dolores Seeker

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE Mary Hill, Audrey Steinbach

SANCTUARY PREP Cathie Klatter, Christin Seeker

CHURCH TELLERS Charles & Deanna Giese

SCREEN CREW Janice Fairlie, Kallie Krause

USHERS Charles & Rita Gaskamp, Butch Seeker, Troy Seeker

LADIES AID Linda Schulze, Elvera Tisdel

NAOMI CIRCLE Laura Sulaica

QUILTERS Nancy Sommer

A special thank you to those who volunteer and continue to volunteer within the church, behind the scenes. It truly does take a village. Again, many thanks for your commitment.



*The following will receive the Rite of Confirmation
on Sunday, May 21st:*



*Owen Finke
Izabelle Sommerfield
Robert Spinn
Randa Tillman*



**Quilters will meet on May 16th
and May 23rd at 9:00AM.
Hostess for May is
Nancy Sommer.**

St John Lutheran Church Prairie Hill

**Food Pantry Upcoming Dates:
May 9th and May 23rd 25th from
6:30AM-8:00AM.**



Game Day

Each 2nd Wednesday of the month, there will be a Game Day at the church from 2:00pm - 5:00pm. The next Game Day is May 10th. Join us for fun, games and fellowship. All ages are welcome.



Sunday May 14th

8:30am-9:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall

Moms, Step-Moms, Aunts, Grandmothers, Mentors and ALL "Mothers" of St. Johns Prairie Hill are invited to enjoy muffins, juice, coffee, singing by the youth, and quality time together.

Muffins
with MOMS



A very Happy Birthday to all members celebrating theirs in May.

2023 Easter Lily Recognition

A big thank you to those purchasing Easter
Lilies for the Church.

Danny & Connie Rohde in honor of grandchildren

Ben & Carolyn Kessel in memory of loved ones

Al & Audrey Steinbach in honor of loved ones

Mary Hill in memory of Kevin Hill and Bubba

Neinast

Donna Bentke in honor of The Risen Christ

Sandy Janner in memory of my parents Alfred and
Elenora Rohde

Kristy & Jerry Cochran in honor of Nellie Wolff

and in memory of Alvin & Esther Schawe and Burnie Wolff

James & Florence Wolff in memory of loved ones

John & LaVerna Wegner in memory of Raymond & Anita Jeske

Butch Seeker Family in honor of our church family at Prairie Hill and in
memory of LaNell Seeker

Pastor Norm & Laura Sulaica in honor of Our Risen Christ

Donna DeLeon in memory of my beloved husband, parents and grandparents

Charles & Deanna Giese in memory of Marvin & Viola Giese and Theo &
Anna Rau

David & Betty Feldmann in memory of our parents and brother Ron
Feldmann

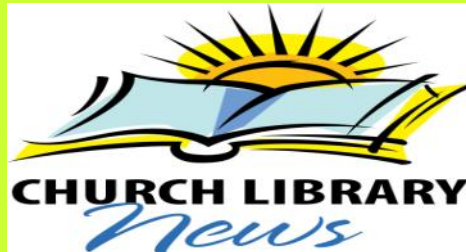


Choir Practice

Choir practice is held each Wednesday at 6:30PM. The choir is looking for men of the congregation to join and share their voices. The choir normally sings one Sunday a month. Please consider joining and share your talents.

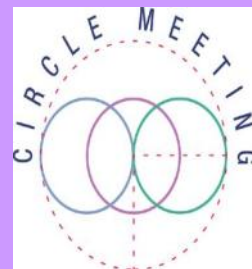


The church library is close to being open. The library is located in the meeting room across from the Pastor's office. You may continue to donate any Christian fiction or non-fiction books. They can be new or used, and can be for adults or children. Thank you for all the help we have received in getting the library open. We will keep you posted on the progress towards when the opening occurs.



Naomi Circle

**Meets May 4th at 10:00AM.
Bible Study leader and hostess is
Laura Sulaica. The Circle will not
meet in June, July or August.**



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6605 Old Independence Rd.
Brenham, TX 77833
www.stjohnprairiehill.org
979-836-8666



The deadline for the
April newsletter is:

June 19th

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

Thank you!



May

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**