

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 19, Number 067 July, 2025

To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

Summer is upon us and our youth are enjoying their vacation from school. A student received a 0% on the following exam. Below are exam questions along with his responses:

1. In which battle did Napoleon die? His last battle
2. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed? At the bottom of the page
3. The San Antonio River flows in which state? Liquid
4. What is the main reason for divorce? Marriage
5. What is the main reason for failure? Exams

Celebrating the birth of our nation is the image I have for July. The Declaration of Independence was formally ratified on July 4, 1776. It announces to England and the world that our thirteen colonies are no longer under British rule. We are now our own sovereign nation. The people realized – True independence and freedom can only exist in doing what is right.

The colonist longing for freedom mirrors God’s desire for us to be free from sin, the devil, and death. Beginning with the Genesis 1 to the cross and resurrection of Jesus, God set in motion His plan to bring freedom to all people. The Christian Declaration of Independence was scribed with the blood of the lamb. Paul shares, “*And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross* (Colossians 1:20).” The Blood of Lamb mingled with the wood and covered it, so we are made right with God through Jesus. Our sins are washed from us, and a new creation we become through our gracious Savior, Jesus.

Prayer, scripture reading, and meditation elevated this thought -- I am not what I used to be, I am not what I shall be, but, by the Grace of God and through the *Blood of the Lamb*, I shall become what I am supposed to be.

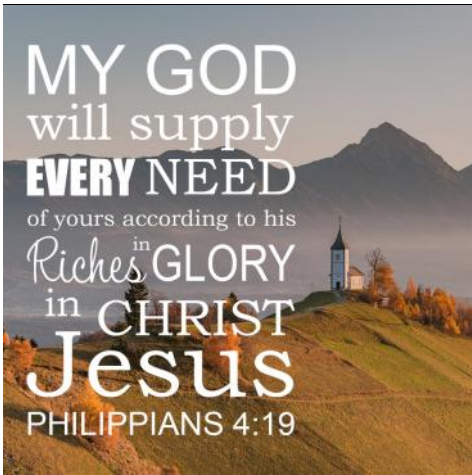
*Soli Deo Gloria –
to the Glory of God.*

Pastor Norm

*And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether
on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his
cross. Colossians 1:20*



MY GOD
will supply
EVERY NEED
of yours according to his
Riches in **GLORY**
in **CHRIST**
Jesus
PHILIPPIANS 4:19



Come join us
As we gather in the presence of God
To worship the one who creates, redeems,
and empowers us to be His holy people.
Worship begins every Sunday morning
At 9:15 AM.

July Worship Schedule

July	Acolyte	Layreader	Flowers Given By
6	Reegan Huckert	Joseph Ordner	In honor of our Military & First Responders David & Debbie Koch
13	Audrey Dismukes	Randa Tillman	Owen's Baptismal Anniver- sary, & Wedding Anniversary of Kevin & Anna Finke
20	Arabella Clay	Kallie Krause	In memory of Cole Dismukes
27	Brooklyn Randermann	Blake Becker	Chance Maass Birthday

Contact Information for Pastor Norm

Cell Phone Number (361) 362-9108
Or Email: pastornorm2003@yahoo.com



July Service Information

July		FIRST READING	RESPONSIVE	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
6	Independence Day	Isaiah 32:15-18	Psalm 147:1-6	James 3:13-18	Matthew 5:1-12a
13	Rogation Day	Deuteronomy 11:10-15	Psalm 107:1-9	1 Corinthians 3:10-14	Mark 4:26-32
20	Christmas in July	Isaiah 9:2-7	Psalm 96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14
27	Easter in July	Job 19:23-27	Psalm 118:15-29	1 Corinthians 15:51-57	John 20:1-18



Men's Breakfast & Ministry
July 26th 7:30 AM.

LADIES AID
JULY 10TH AT 2:00PM.



New Members

Karen Anderson
 David Kruse
 Richard & Jana Ahlers
 Jim & Haily Kruse
 Jeanette Preuss
 Bill & Cindy Morhofer
 Brandon & Kristie Marth
 Emma Marth
 Paige Marth





Baptismal Anniversaries

07/07/1946 Ellie Anderson	07/20/2008 Owen Finke
07/08/1960 Carl Dahmann	07/21/2019 Thomas Lynch
07/10/1960 Jana Ahlers	07/21/1950 Karen Rosenbaum
07/11/1934 Elsie Herrmann	07/23/1944 Milton Bosse
07/14/2013 Alexander Grote	07/25/1954 Barney Glaesmann
07/14/2002 Christian Kuecher	07/25/1982 Zackary Wagner
07/14/1991 Colton Maass	07/28/2013 Karson Herrmann
07/14/1974 Christin Seeker	07/28/1963 Johnny Randermann
07/16/1961 Becky Schulze	07/30/1939
07/17/1970 Tina Seeker	Marvin Wellman
07/18/1926 Mavis Smith	07/31/2016 Cullen Grote

Wedding Anniversaries

07/02/1977 Fred & Rosemary Gaskamp	07/20/2003 Jerri & William Mitchell
07/14/1980 Leonard & Julie Dismukes	07/16/1985 Mark & Shanana Marburger
07/19/1984 Marcus & Brenda Randermann	07/29/1989 Barnay & Connie Glaesmann
07/19/1997 Kevin & Anna Finke	07/29/1995 Jim & Hailey Kruse

2025 St John Council Members

PresidentGerald Herrmann	Evangelism.....Cindy Clay
Vice-President Jon Westerfeld	Financial Secretary.....Cassie Lynch
Treasurer.....Regina Holtkamp	Parish Ed.....Megan Schramme
Secretary.....Cathy Boeker	Property.....Colin Zimmerman
Community Concerns.....Gayle Bednar	Worship & Music.....Donna Skrla

REACHING YOUR CHURCH OFFICE

prairiehillsecretary@gmail.com
 Church Office Phone: 979-836-8666
 Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 8:00am-4:00pm
 Website: www.stjohnprairiehill.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<i>July</i>		1 9AM Music Planning	2 6:30PM C
6 <i>Independence Day Sunday</i> 9:15AM Worship Service	7 10AM Bible Study 6PM Executive Meeting	8 6:30AM Food Pantry 9AM Music Planning 10AM Racheal Circle	9 2PM SHAF Day 6:30PM C
13 <i>Rogation Sunday</i> 9:15AM Worship Service <i>Summer Camp at Camp Lone Star (July 13-18th)</i>	14 6:30PM Jump Start 6PM Council Meeting	15 9AM Quilting 9AM Music Planning	16 6:30PM C
20 <i>Christmas In July Sunday</i> 9:15AM Worship Service	<u>21</u> 10AM Bible Study <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>	22 6:30AM Food Pantry 9AM Quilting 9AM Music Planning	23 6:30PM C
27 <i>Easter In July Sunday</i> 9:15AM Worship Service 10:30am Parish Ed Meeting 6-7:30PM VBS	28 10AM Bible Study 6-7:30PM VBS	29 9AM Music Planning 6-7:30PM VBS	30 6:30PM C 6-7:30PM

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Worship	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5
Worship Bible Game	10 2PM Ladies Aid	11	12 <i>Via De Cristo In Parish Hall</i>
Worship	17	18	29
Worship	24	25	26 7:30AM Men's Ministry Breakfast
Worship I VBS	31		**Special Envelope for July: St. John's Youth.

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

ALTAR PREPARATION Donna Bentke & Deanna Giese

FAMILY AID Deanna Giese, Donna Bentke, Patti Clay, Elsie Herrmann, Sandy Ordner,
Karen Rosenbaum, Susie Benke, Sophia Sulaica, Laura Sulaica

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE Sandy Janner & Lynn Mitchel

SANCTUARY PREP Sandy Janner & Carol Haarmayer

CHURCH TELLERS Cathy Boeker & Jeannie Kroll

SCREEN CREW Steve Skrla & Barnay Glaesmann

USHERS Kelly Antkowiak Family & Colton Maass

NAOMI CIRCLE None

QUILTERS Elsie Herrmann

EUCHARIST TEAM Linda Schulze, Carolyn Kessel, Karen Rosenbaum, Cookie Engeling, Connie
Rohde, Betty Feldmann, Virginia Altman, Mary Longhofer

COMMUNION BREAD Deanna Giese

BULLETIN EDITING Laura Sulaica, Mary Hill, Becki Schawe, Cookie Engeling, Judy Griffin, Brenda
Herrmann,

LADIES AID Audrey Steinbach & Ellen Spinn

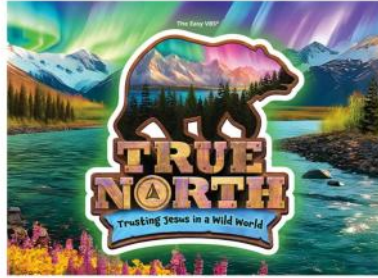
“Only by giving are you able to receive more than you already have.”

**Rachel Circle
Will meet Tuesday,
July 8th
at 10:00AM .**



**St. John's Choir
Practice, every Wednesday
At 6:30PM
in the sanctuary.
Come and make
A joyful
Noise with us!**





Join us for an unforgettable week at Vacation Bible School! Kids will explore exciting Bible stories, play fun games, make creative crafts, and sing uplifting songs. Don't miss this faith-filled adventure this summer! Scan the QR Code below to register your children or volunteer to help.

July 27-30



6:00-7:30 PM

Contact Megan at 979-421-0904 with questions.

Worship in July

Our Sunday worship services are theme focused. They are:

July 6 Celebrate Independence Day

July 13 Celebrate farming and ranching with Rogation Sunday

July 20 Celebrating Christmas in July

July 27 Celebrating Easter and the Resurrection of our Savior!

If you have favorite hymns for these Sundays, please fill out a hymn card and place it in the Hymn Box in the church entry way, aka Narthex.

Summer Camp

Our Youth are attending Camp Lone Star in La Grange, Texas. We attend camp from Sunday July 13th to Friday July 18th. Our Sunday Group Check is 3:30 pm. Closing and check out is 10:45 am on Friday.

Disaster Response Warehouse Collection

In preparation for the upcoming hurricane season, the seven NALC churches in the local area are combining efforts to collect supplies for health kits and cleaning buckets for the disaster response warehouse in Rosenberg. The NALC Disaster Response provides resources to:

- respond rapidly when domestic natural disasters occur
- alleviate human suffering
- provide transitional assistance
- enable those affected to begin the rebuilding process

This year each church is collecting specific items which will be used to assemble 225 health kits and 225 cleaning buckets at the Disaster Response Rally to be held on August 9th at Welcome Lutheran Church. Everyone is welcome to come to the rally to help assemble health kits and cleaning buckets.

St. John Prairie Hill will be collecting:

Gloves for the cleaning buckets (large)

- Leather
- Cloth
- Plastic (reusable such as Playtex dishwashing type)

Combs for the health kits. Of course, you may bring any items for health kits or cleaning buckets. There is also a need for shovels, rakes, brooms and mops as well as gift cards to Lowes, Home Depot and Walmart. You can also make a cash donation instead of donating individual items, the cash donations will be used to purchase the above mentioned items. For additional information contact Sandy Ordner or Betty Feldman, or the NALC (the nalc.org) website.

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes for June 9, 2025**

The Church Council of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church met for its monthly meeting on June 9, 2025, at 6:00 pm. Council President Gerald Herrmann called the meeting to order. Council member Megan Schramme was absent from the meeting. Pastor Norm Sulaica opened with devotion and prayer.

Motion to approve the May minutes. **MSC.**

Unfinished Business

Church Website Update – The website has been tested and is working. A few pieces of information are needed, and then the website will be completed.

Audio/Visual Update – A copyright license has been purchased from Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI). This will allow hymn text and other copyrighted material to be included in the streaming of worship services. The plan is to go live with the updated audio/visual system on June 29th. Access to the church's Facebook account was discussed.

Church Secretary Position – Gerald is communicating with a possible candidate and will update the council as appropriate. Council members were encouraged to continue to seek out possible candidates.

New Business

Communion Distribution Discussion – During the summer months, possible changes to communion distribution are being done on a trial basis. Council reviewed the effectiveness of the changes and the feedback that has been received thus far from members of the congregation.

Building Reservation/Use Processes – Current building reservation processes were discussed, and it was agreed that the church constitution does not require that a building reservation request from a church member be approved by the council, as has been the practice. Such requests can be handled by the church office so that calendar conflicts can be avoided. Building use fees were also discussed. A proposal to amend the building use fee structure will be brought back to the council in July for consideration. If approved, a constitutional amendment would be placed on the agenda of the October semi-annual congregational meeting.

Reports

Treasurer Report

Regina Holtkamp

Balances in the various accounts held at both Brenham National Bank and Bank of Brenham were reviewed.

Actual to budget income and expenses were reviewed.

The Charles Schwab investment report was reviewed.

The LYO bank account will now be reflected in the church's financials.

Financial Secretary Report

Cassie Lynch

For the month of May, the total Weekly Giving Deposits were \$17,770.00, special envelopes to Food Pantry \$950.00, loose offering \$641.00, and Direct Deposits \$4,874.82, for a total giving of \$24,235.82.

Community Concerns Report

Gayle Bednar

Food Pantry served 83 families (217 individuals) in April.

Food Pantry served 62 families (152 individuals) in May

Worship and Music Report Donna Skrla

The worship committee is working to incorporate the hymns suggested by the congregation into the worship services.

Parish Education Report Megan Schramme

No report.

Youth Report Jon Westerfeld

No report.

Evangelism Report Cindy Clay

No report.

Property Report Colin Zimmerman

AC Filters have been changed.

Safety bars have been installed in church property restrooms, including the parsonage.

The TV screen in the sanctuary has been raised 18 inches

The AC unit in the activity center is not working properly again. Information on replacement options and cost will be gathered.

Colin will look into having the carpets cleaned.

Pastor Report Pastor Norm Sulaica

Visitations: Nursing Home/Shut-in Visits - 26, Other Visits – 46

Reviewed the visitation list.

Bible Study:

Evening Study: Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. will resume in August. The average attendance was 20.

Faith Lessons Study: Wednesdays at noon will resume in August or September.

Youth Ministry: Confirmation summer camp, July 13th – 18th

The NALC Convocation will take place August 3, 2025 – August 8, 2025, at the Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Pastor will be on vacation June 18th – 25th. Steve Skrla will lead the June 22nd worship service.

Pastor will also take a vacation in August, exact dates TBD.

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

Text Message Votes Since the Previous Meeting

The council took the following actions via text message between the May and June Council Meetings.

5/19/2025: **MSC** to accept into membership David Kruse

5/21/2025: **MSC** to accept a bid from Coolco for \$15,550 to replace the A/C in the Parish House

5/22/2025: **MSC** to accept into membership Brandon and Kristy Marth and their daughters, Emma and Paige


5/30/2025: **MSC** to accept into membership Garral and Linda Taden

Motion to adjourn. **MSC**.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathy Boeker
Council Secretary

**St John Lutheran Church
of Prairie Hill**
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979-836-8666



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The deadline for the
March newsletter is:

July 21st

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

Thank you!

July 2025

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**