



Good News Journal April 2025

St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring

480 Ross Street Cat Spring Texas 78933 979-865-5444 www.stjohncatspring.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDEULE

9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service

Journeying Through Lent: Preparing, Trusting, and Remaining Faithful

As we walk through the sacred season of Lent, our hearts have been guided by reflection, prayer, and a deeper understanding of God's call in our lives. This year, at the Wednesday, Lent Devotionals, so far we've focused on three important themes that have shaped our journey: Preparing for Lent, Faithfulness, and Trust in the Midst of Doubt.

Preparing for Lent: A Time to Ready Our Hearts

Lent is a season of preparation — a time to clear away distractions and make room for God to do a deeper work in us. As we began this journey, we were reminded that just as Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness preparing for His ministry, we too are called to set aside time to prepare our hearts. Through prayer, fasting, and reflection, we have sought to draw closer to God and open ourselves to His transforming grace.

Faithfulness: Walking Steadfastly with God

In our exploration of faithfulness, we've been reminded that God calls us to remain steady and committed, even when the road is difficult. Just as Christ remained faithful to His mission, we are called to stay true to our faith in both joyful and challenging seasons. Faithfulness is not about perfection but about staying connected to God through prayer, worship, and service — trusting that He is always at work in our lives.

Doubt and Trust: Holding On in Uncertainty

Lent also invites us to wrestle with doubt and trust. Just as many of the disciples struggled to understand God's plan, we, too, face moments of uncertainty in our own journeys. But in those moments, we are reminded that trust is not the absence of doubt — it's choosing to hold on to God even when the path is unclear. Our faith grows stronger when we bring our doubts to Him and allow His peace to meet us in the unknown.

As we draw nearer to Holy Week and prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, let us continue to lean into these truths. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." (Proverbs 3:5) May this season deepen our faith, strengthen our commitment, and renew our trust in God's promises.

Blessings to you all as we continue this sacred journey together.

In Christ's service,

Robin Haugen

Council President, St. John Lutheran Church



NEWS

April



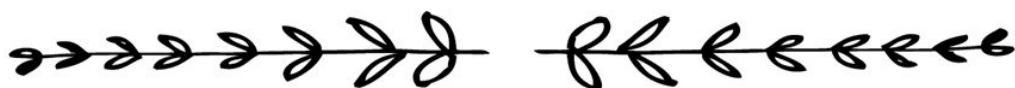
SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, May 4th during worship

Honoring our 2025 Seniors

Skylar Ordner  Remmington Reichardt

Light lunch reception following in the Fellowship hall.



Confirmation Sunday May 18th

Two of our youth have completed their confirmation studies and are ready to confirm their faith.

Brooklynn Logan



Bexley Nelson

Please join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for their reception.

It's time for those Easter eggs!



Eggs will be in the Narthex for those who would like to help fill them with candy for the Egg hunt. Hunt is at 9:30 Easter morning. Meet in the fellowship Hall. Bring your basket.



Join Us For Breakfast

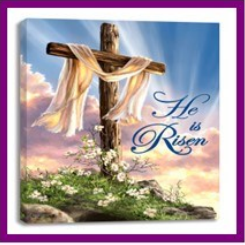
THE YOUTH WILL BE COOKING UP A DELICIOUS EASTER BREAKFAST!

COME GET A PLATE AND ENJOY THE FELLOWSHIP STARTING AT 9:00 AM

Next youth event for all ages in April



Acolyte Schedule: April 6th Layla Ordner 13th Brooklynn Logan 20th Rhett Reichardt 27th Riley Hewson May: 4th Brooklynn Logan 11th Rhett Reichardt 18th Hunter Hewson 25th Volunteer



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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE
 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 St John Prayer Shawl Ministry 8:30 am	2	3	4	
6 Sunday School / Confirmation/ Choir Practice 9:00 am Communion Worship Service /Children's Church 10:00 am Pastor Dietrich AC Civic Chorale <i>See Poster Below</i>	7 Handbell Choir Practice 5:00 Council 6:15 pm	8 St John Quilting Ministry 9:00 am	9	10	11	12 Cat Spring VFD BBQ 50th Anniversary ! See Poster on Page 8 !
13 Palm Sunday Sunday School / Confirmation Choir Practice 9:00 am Communion Worship Service /Children's Church 10:00 am Pastor Dietrich	14 Handbell Choir Practice 5:00	15	16 Senior Service 11:00 am	17 Maundy Thursday Communion Worship Service 6:30 pm Pastor Ken Weiss	18 Good Friday Worship Service 6:30 pm Don Allphin	19
20 Easter Sunday Choir Practice 9:00 Easter Breakfast 9:00 Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 Communion Worship Service 10:00 am Pastor Ken Weiss Noisy Offering	21 Handbell Choir Practice 5:00	22 St John Quilting Ministry 9:00 am	23	24	25	26
27 Sunday School / Confirmation Choir Practice 9:00 Worship Service / Children's Church 10:00 am Don Allphin	28 Handbell Choir Practice 5:00	29	30			

St. John Lutheran of Cat Spring, Tx

Statement of Activity

February 2025

	TOTAL
Revenue	
CSB MM Interest	13.88
CSB Operating Account Interest	51.46
General Fund Contributions	15,171.30
LYO Fund Contributions	94.17
Memorial Fund Contributions	170.00
Thrivent Choice Dollars Fund Contributions	25.00
Total Revenue	\$15,525.81
GROSS PROFIT	\$15,525.81
Expenditures	
Auto Reimb	179.76
Contract Svcs-Cemetery Labor	180.00
Education - Youth Curriculum	17.49
Electricity	657.32
Garbage	88.26
Office Supplies & Equipment	1,109.37
Online Giving Expense	7.65
Payroll Expenses	
SALARY - MUSIC DIR	400.00
SALARY-BOOKKEEPER	720.00
SALARY-HOUSEKEEPING	660.00
SALARY-SECRETARY	1,105.05
Salary-Youth Director	1,332.70
Taxes	322.65
Total Payroll Expenses	4,540.40
Postage	292.00
Propane	317.90
Special Scholarship Fund	833.33
Supply Pastor	450.00
Telephone	407.09
Water	158.83
Worship Supplies	130.97
Total Expenditures	\$9,370.37
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$6,155.44
NET REVENUE	\$6,155.44

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
AUSTIN COUNTY STATE BANK - CEMETERY OP	21,893.05
Citizen's State Bank - GF	144,411.49
Citizen's State Bank - Buidling/Property	80,364.12
Citizen's State Bank - ELCA Benevolence	0.00
Citizen's State Bank - ELCA Disaster	0.00
Citizen's State Bank - LYO	8,049.56
Citizen's State Bank - Music Fund	53.88
Citizen's State Bank - Prayer Shawl	570.20
Citizen's State Bank - Quilters	163.89
Citizen's State Bank - Scholarship Fund	11,021.91
Citizen's State Bank - Sealy Pantry Fund	0.00
Citizen's State Bank - Thrivent Choice	949.00
Citizen's State Bank - Wedding Fund	1,833.05
Citizen's State Bank-Cemetery	0.00
Citizen's State Bank-Memorial Fund	16,316.58
Citizen's State Bank-Men In Mission	0.00
Citizens State Bank - Patio Fund	0.00
Citizens State Bank - WELCA	145.00
Citizens State Bank-Community Care Fund	5,344.98
Citizens State Bank-Senior Day	2,122.51
Total Citizen's State Bank - GF	271,346.17
Citizens State Bank MM	51,720.39
ELCA Endowment E272908	232,127.13
ELCA Endowment E272909	27,440.48
ELCA Endowment E273030	50,000.00
Industy State Bank- CD Cemetery	79,131.15
Petty Cash	100.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$733,758.37
Total Current Assets	\$733,758.37
Fixed Assets	\$943,136.78
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,676,895.15
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$1,676,895.15

Prevailing Prayer

April 2025

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



4-1 Anita Zaskoda
Jaxson Reibenstein

4-2 Harold
Reibenstein

4-5 Tyler Eckhardt

4-6 Malcolm Dittert

4-8 Natalie
Surovcak

Kayson Reibenstein

4-9 Cindy Daly
Kenzi Gray

4-10 Neil Ling

4-11 Tamra Ordner
Tim Lapham
Bexley Nelson

4-13 Gary Simpson

4-16 Cade
Thielemann
Chris Redman
Mitch Dittert

4-21 Myron Dittert

4-23 Karen Tiner

4-24 Lauryn Locke

4-25 Cheryl
Mellenthin

4-27 Daryl Hartmann

4-4 *Brandon Snyder and
Kristi Kollatschny*

4-6 *Eric and Cristy Ordner*

4-9 *Timothy and Roxanne
Brune*

4-21 *Alan and Ruth Walker*

4-25 *Kyle and Laurie
Eckhardt*

4-28 *Daniel and Linda
Petras*

MEMBERS IN OUR CARE

Colonial Bell– Sealy
Katherine Ludwig

Argent Court –Brenham
Carrie Froebel

Columbus Oaks
Marilyn Wendt

HOMEBOUND:
Katherine Washburn

Prevailing Prayer List

James and Carol Wenzel
Ronnie and Bonnie Smith

Deana Keller

Roy Dierschke

Carolyn Rash

Mike Rankin

Carol Smith

Nic Norboge

Emily Drymala

Kendall Manna

Molly Arndt

Alfred Tomasek

Tristan

Jerry Hennekee

Lupe Nava

Theresa Luetge

Zachary Schulke

Kathy Painchaud

Ed Story

Cindy Daly

Delores Dittert

William Hegemeyer

Joe Bilski

Tillie Sell

MaryAnn English

Val Kite

Cheryl Mellenthin

Gwen Reichardt

Good News Newsletter Prayer List

Please let us know if you would like to add someone, keep someone on the list, or take someone off the list . You can call the office at 979-865-5444, , put it on back of your attendance card, ask Council on Duty to let the office know or send an email to secretary@stjohncatspring.org.

Thank you for your help keeping this important list up to date.

Chili Cook-Off Results

The winner is Team 3 !

Riley Hewson and Rhett Reichardt

Congratulations !

L-R: Rinley Nelson, Layla Ordner Team1

Riley Hewson and Rhett Reichardt-Team2

Brooklynn Logan and Rhett Reichardt –
Team3



Worship Attendance

Date	In Person	Online
3-2	54	87
3-5	35	
3-9	36	
3-12	15	
3-16	58	192
3-19	15	
3-23	35	
3-26	15	
3-30	55	68

 I just love it when visitors stop by the office.
 Lanell Waldrop, Kiera Haug and Mickaylla Perez stopped by, March 10th, for a quick visit. We had such a nice visit and got caught up on how everyone is doing !
 To be around such bright, young, vibrant youth was very energizing ! I loved their excitement and joy for what lies ahead!



Senior Serve
April 16th 11:00 am
Easter Happenings!

Join us for a smorgasbord of Fabulous Salads !

Games/Bingo
Singing
Good Food
Good Friends

Bring your favorite Salad if you like, for sure just bring yourself!





Call to order: By Robin Haugen at 6:24 p.m.

Opening Devotional: Doug Neva

Members Present: Robin Haugen, Mary O’Neal, Chad Divin, Tim Brune, Malcolm Dittert, Doug Neva

Members Absent: 0

Guests – Don Allphin Christa Klar, Research committee, Lacy Dittert, Ken Wienken, Cheryl Mellethin.

Adoption of Agenda – 1st Doug Neva, 2nd Malcolm Dittert, all in favor (yes)

Minutes for final approval –February meeting approved via/email, YES

Treasurer Report: 1st Mary Oneal, 2nd Malcolm Dittert all in favor, Yes

Pastor Report –Ash Wednesday was a very nice service. We have mid-week devotionals scheduled with a light meal.

We had 2 people added to the prayer list Bill Hegemeyer, Joe Biliski

Sunday school is going Great!

Committee Reports

Youth (LYO) – Attached. we have some confirmands

Cemetery Report –Mowing no plot sales

House and Grounds – We were asked for monies to rework and spruce up the flower beds from Martha Neva. She requested 1500 to 2000. 1st Mary Oneal, 2nd Malcom Dittert to give her the 2000.00 All in favor, yes.

Old Business: Playground waiting on bids from Landscaper or someone to do the work.

Banking change signature cards, check safety deposit box. Done!

New Business Council to review summary of theology and social/political issues by Lutheran Denomination. We met with the research committee, Ken Wienken gave us a review of what they had found and Robin asked for some time to review the paper-work, so we did not vote on Monday night to move forward. We have since called a meeting for special council on Sunday March 16th after church for council to review and make a decision.

The main thing we all agree upon is that we need a spiritual leader in our church.

April Council Assignments:

April 6: Tim & Robin

April 13 Palm Sunday: Tim & Doug

April 17: Maundy Thursday: Robin & Chad communion

April 18: Good Friday: Malcolm & Mary

April 20 Easter Sunday: Robin & Mary

April 27: Doug

Approve the Calendar: 1st Doug 2nd Tim, all in favor, Yes

Future Agenda Items:

Adjournment: Motion made by: 1st Tim, 2nd Malcolm all in favor, Yes

Unanimously agreed:

Meeting adjourned 7:54 p.m.

Close with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Mary T. ONeal



Join us for Holy Week 2025

Sunday

April 13 Palm Sunday 10:00 am

April 17 Maundy Thursday Service 6:30 pm

April 18 Good Friday 6:30 pm

April 20

Easter Sunday

Easter Breakfast 9:00 am

Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 am

Easter Worship Service 10:00 am



Bring a handful of flowers if you wish to help flower the cross on Easter !

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April 2025 Ministry Duties

St. John Lutheran Church Cat Spring

Flowers: Unless there is an * asterisk by your name, the altar guild understands that you will supply the flowers or plant for that Sunday. If problem arises please call office at 979-865-5444 or **Ruth Walker, Flower Guild, at 713-816-0629**. If you cannot fulfill one of these duties, just call office! Council on Duty-- If you cant make it on scheduled day, please check with other Council to trade Sundays.

Date		Council on Duty	Acolyte	Reader	Flowers
4-6	 Pastor Pat	Tim and Robin	Layla	Margie	The Herings
4-13	 Palm Sunday Pastor Pat	Tim and Doug	Brooklyn	Ken W	The Nelsons
4-17	 Maundy Thursday Pastor Ken	Robin	TBA	TBA	NA
4-18	Good Friday Don Allphin	Malcolm and Mary	TBA	Janet	NA
4-20	 Easter Pastor Ken	Robin and Mary	Rhett	Don	Easter Flowers
4-27	Don Allphin	Doug	Riley	Pauline	Open

In red indicates change from original calendar

April 2025 Altar Guild

Jheri Sell Laurie Eckardt

Flower Guild
Ruth Walker

Directed by our very own Janet Allphin!

Let's show our support !

Sunday, April 6th at 4:00 pm !

It's definitely a special thing for our community to be home of The Austin County Civic Chorale! The sense of togetherness and the beauty of music can really bring people closer.



WELCA News !

All women of the church are welcome to participate in WELCA. Next meeting is **5/29/2025 @ 6p** in the Fellowship Hall and we will have a potluck meal.

There will be a reception for this year's graduates on **05/04** after service in Fellowship Hall with lite refreshments provided by the Quilters.

The WELCA Cluster Meeting has been changed to **Saturday, May 10th**. It will still be held at St John in Bellville. More details soon

FIRE

CAT SPRING V.F.D.

ANNUAL BBQ

Saturday, April 12th

Cat Spring Ag Hall

Beef & Sausage

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Auction at 6:30

Gun Raffle

Kids Activities & Kona Ice

Come Celebrate 50 years with
Cat Spring VFD, Chief Lapham
and Asst. Chief Dittert



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS!



Cat Spring Volunteer Fire Department

We need homemade pies and cakes for our annual BBQ on **April 12th!**

- Drop-off Time: Starting at 3:00 PM on Saturday
- Location: Cat Spring Ag Hall

The ladies will cut and prepare the baked goods to to be served.

Thank you for your support!

Please get your orders in by April 13th . Mail this form in or drop off !



Easter Lily Order

We will place Easter Lilies /Geraniums, in the Sanctuary again this year. There is no reserving of a particular plant type.

*To purchase one or more, complete this form and place it, along with payment of **\$12** per flower, in the box provided on the table in the Narthex. Thank You !*

The deadline to order is Sunday, April 13th.

In MEMORY of

In HONOR of

You can also order plants To the Glory of God, in addition to those ordered above. Please list the number To the Glory of God here _____.

Purchased by:

TOTAL FLOWERS ORDERED: _____ TOTAL PAID:

Extra forms will always be available on the table in the Narthex, if you need more room to order. Be sure to include the order form with your payment.

Make checks payable to St. John Lutheran WELCA.

Please pick up your flowers on April 20th, after the 10:00 Easter Service.