



Good News Journal October 2025

St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service /Children's Church



St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring

"Actively reaching out... showing God's love to all."

October 1, 2025

Re: Notice of upcoming special meeting

Dear St. John members,

This is a notice of a special congregational meeting that will be held on October 19, 2025, following our 10:00 am church service. This is the second and final vote required to leave the ELCA. If our vote to disaffiliate with the ELCA passes, then we will have a second vote immediately following to determine which Lutheran synod we will affiliate.

This notice is being sent in accordance with our constitution, section C6.05(d) "Notice of the meeting shall be mailed to all voting members and to the bishop at least 10 days in advance of the meeting."

We have had several informational meetings since our first vote on July 6, 2025. I hope you have found the information presented by the ELCA, NALC, LCMC and LCMS helpful in making your final decision regarding which Lutheran synod we will affiliate.

I cannot stress enough how important this upcoming vote will be, and we urge all voting members to take part in this important decision. Please see the excerpt (from our church constitution), which clarifies/defines the requirements of a voting member, printed on page two of this letter.

Peace be with you,

Robin Haugen, Council President

An excerpt from our constitution that determines a voting member (section C8.02(b))... Voting members are members who, during the preceding 12 months, shall have communed in this congregation at least two times, shall have made a monetary contribution of record to this congregation, and is at least eighteen years of age. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation as well as the other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.

St. John Lutheran Church – Cat Spring

Council Meeting

September 8, 2025

Call to order: By Robin Haugen at 5:25 p.m.

Opening Devotional:

Members Present: Robin Haugen, Mary O’Neal,
, Laurie Eckhardt

Members Absent: Tim Brune, Malcolm Dittert, Doug Neva, Don Allphin

Guests –Christa Klar,

Adoption of Agenda –

Minutes for final approval –August approved per email, Yes

Treasurer Report: See attached Motion made to accept 1st Mary, 2nd Robin

Pastor Report – None

Committee Reports

Youth (LYO) – See Attached

Cemetery Report –None

House and Grounds – Part of the fence has been cleared between the parking lot and neighbor’s pasture. More needs to be cleared closer to the dumpster. Someone needs to check the parsonage, and all the AC filters.

Old Business: Playground is in progress.

New Business: Transfer Elfi Weber membership. Motion made to accept transfer to Freylsburg: 1st Robin, 2nd Laurie. All in favor yes.

Need to get signs changed from ELCA to new signs. Somebody will check with Wittenburg and see what they can make us. (3) signs.

October Feast theme for our vote meeting on October 19. Brats, sauerkraut and German food.

October Council Assignments:

October 5: Robin

October 12: Tim

October 19: Vote at church. All Council Members Present

October 26: Laurie

Approve the Calendar: All approved

Future Agenda Items: Letters to Bishp, and to the congregation for notice of vote.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn 1st Mary, 2nd Laurie

Unanimously agreed: Yes

Meeting adjourned 6:09 p.m.

Close with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. O’Neal



SAVE the DATE!!!

AUSTIN COUNTY FAIR

SENIOR CITIZENS DAY

WILL BE ON

WED, OCTOBER 8, 2025

\$3.00 AT THE DOOR

10:30 am to 2:00 pm

For More Information

Go To www.austincountyfair.com

or contact

Anita Kramer at 979-885-8639 OR

Mary Smentek at 713-876-7102

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday was such a pleasant surprise. We sincerely thank you for the beautiful and generous gifts. We feel so fortunate to have such thoughtful friends. We appreciate your love and support. We are so glad to have you in our lives. The quilt was so beautiful and thoughtful. It will be used and cherished as a family keepsake. The financial support is always very much useful and appreciated. Thank you for your continued encouragement and support.

With love, endless gratitude and appreciation,

Don and Janet Allphin



L to R Elrose Kollatschny , Glenda Kloss, Pauline Lapham, Don Allphin, Janet Allphin, Karen Landrum.

Save the Date

Special Congregational Meeting

October 19th, 2025

Immediately following
10:00 am

Worship Service

We are going to vote again at a special congregational meeting, to decide if we will disaffiliate with the ELCA. Very important meeting. Make plans to attend!



St. John Lutheran of Cat Spring, Tx

Statement of Financial Position

As of May 31, 2025

St. John Lutheran of Cat Spring, Tx

Statement of Activity

May 2025

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
AUSTIN COUNTY STATE BANK - CEMETERY OP	21,707.21
Citizen's State Bank - GF	156,214.16
Citizen's State Bank - Building/Property	79,819.72
Citizen's State Bank - ELCA Benevolence	0.00
Citizen's State Bank - ELCA Disaster	750.00
Citizen's State Bank - LYO	8,195.49
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	1,338.00
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	2,028.09
Total Citizen's State Bank - GF	289,794.95
Citizens State Bank MM	51,765.54
ELCA Endowment E272908	232,127.13
ELCA Endowment E272909	27,440.48
ELCA Endowment E273030	50,000.00
Industry State Bank- CD Cemetery	80,753.37
Petty Cash	100.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$747,888.88
Total Current Assets	\$747,888.88
Fixed Assets	
12488 Newberg Rd., Cat Spring	110,813.00
208 Madison Avenue	141,458.24
Carport Canopy	12,515.48
Choir Loft Risers	2,451.19
Fellowship Hall	132,941.75
Furniture & Equipment	16,281.03
Land (School Lot)	33,365.00
Lots 3 & 4, Block 15	30,000.00
Parsonage	175,000.00

	TOTAL
Revenue	
CSB MM Interest	14.89
CSB Operating Account Interest	58.27
General Fund Contributions	16,160.30
Senior Day	157.00
Total Revenue	\$16,390.46
GROSS PROFIT	\$16,390.46
Expenditures	
Auto Reimb	78.96
Education - Youth Curriculum	238.06
Electricity	389.76
Garbage	87.87
Insurance	9,637.50
Office Supplies & Equipment	670.61
Online Giving Expense	10.50
Payroll Expenses	
SALARY - MUSIC DIR	400.00
SALARY-BOOKKEEPER	720.00
SALARY-HOUSEKEEPING	660.00
SALARY-SECRETARY	1,108.95
Salary-Youth Director	1,332.70
Taxes	322.95
Total Payroll Expenses	4,544.60
Special LYO Fund	237.07
SPECIAL SENIOR DAY	85.94
Supply Pastor	450.00
Telephone	407.11
Water	59.91
Worship Supplies	521.20
Total Expenditures	\$17,419.09
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$-1,028.63
NET REVENUE	\$-1,028.63

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY



10-4 Deanna Ling

Finn Restivo

10-8 Brenda Becker

10-9 Kenna Schram

10-10 Bill Barr

10-13 Carol Wenzel

10-14 Eric Ordner

10-15 Karla Rice

10-16 Gloria Tipp

10-20 Regina Nelson

10-22 Reese Reichardt

10-24 Sandra Haney

10-26 Margie Lovell

Lyla Graham

10-28 Debbie Reichardt

10-29 Dessie Steinhauer

Glenda Kloss

10-14

Danny and Betty Hengst

10-27

Ryan and Tara Reibenstein

10-28

Jerry and Carol Henneke

Dear St. John Lutheran Church,
Thank you for taking the time after
Easter Sunday to Baptize Rianna, and
for the beautiful blanket. Our family
truly appreciates your time to welcome
Rianna to the church.
Love,
Nathan, Janie, Ryker & Rianna

Welcome **Rianna Lane
Brittain**, St John's new-
est member ! Rianna
was baptized on Easter
Sunday, 2025

Parents Janie and Na-
than and big brother
Ryker. Grandparents
Randall and Marsha
Tipp and great grandma
Delores
Dittert. Reverend Ken
Weiss, officiant.

Secretarial apology for
being late getting this
in newsletter .



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

Alfred Tomasek

Tristan

Jerry Henneke

Theresa Luetge

Zachary Schulke

Kathy Painchaud

William Hegemeyer

Sara Wit

MaryAnn English

Victor Smith

Charlotte Reichert

Hope Griffin

Brian Dahl

Bubba Bencal

Nathan Schulke

Kathy Weiss

Shirley Hering

Carol Smith

John Carr

Steve Lackey

Neely Fay Grawunder

Jerry Walsh

MEMBERS IN OUR CARE

Sealy Avir

Delores Dittert

**Argent Court –
Brenham**

Carrie Froebel

HOMEBOUND:

Katherine Washburn



Worship Attendance

Date	In Person	Online Views
8/30	40	
9-7	48	
9-21	44	
9-28	51	

Thank you so much for giving to The Lutheran World Relief Fund ! Because of you we made 26 school kits at the last WELCA meeting !!!

Great
Job!
26
School
Kits !!!

LWR School Kits !



Thank you so much for donating to the LWR . Because of your donations we made 26 School Kits to donate!

Senior Service

Best Costume Contest

Prize Awarded !

Oct 15th 11:00 am

Sloppy Joes, Good
Friends, Good Times !

It will be a ghostly
affair....

Come if you dare !



St. John Lutheran of Cat Spring, Tx

Statement of Activity January - May, 2025

	TOTAL
Revenue	
CSB MM Interest	74.40
CSB Operating Account Interest	281.33
ELCA Disaster Relief Fund Contributions	750.00
ELCA Endowment E272908 Distribution	2,169.10
ELCA Endowment E272909 Distribution	256.40
ELCA Endowment E273030 Distribution	464.40
General Fund Contributions	73,020.52
ISB CD Interest	1,622.22
LYO Fund Contributions	477.17
Memorial Fund Contributions	295.00
QUILTER GUILD	163.89
SALE OF PLOTS	1,000.00
Senior Day	467.00
Thrivent Choice Dollars Fund Contributions	414.00
Total Revenue	\$81,455.43
GROSS PROFIT	\$81,455.43
Expenditures	
Auto Reimb	833.56
Contract Svcs-Cemetery Labor	720.00
Education - Youth Curriculum	255.55
Electricity	2,595.53
Garbage	438.77
Insurance	9,637.50
Office Supplies & Equipment	4,938.96
Online Giving Expense	44.19
Payroll Expenses	
SALARY - MUSIC DIR	2,600.00
SALARY-BOOKKEEPER	3,960.00
SALARY-HOUSEKEEPING	3,630.00
SALARY-SECRETARY	5,920.35
Salary-Youth Director	7,329.85
Taxes	1,793.18
Total Payroll Expenses	25,233.38
Postage	292.00
Propane	1,663.15
Special Building & Property Fund	544.40
Special LYO Fund	237.07
Special Scholarship Fund	2,833.33
SPECIAL SENIOR DAY	446.42
Supply Pastor	2,950.00
Telephone	2,035.50

Accrual Basis Monday, June 2, 2025 09:19 AM GMT-05:00

1/2

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1/2

St. John Lutheran of Cat Spring, Tx

Statement of Activity January - May, 2025

	TOTAL
Water	307.20
Worship Supplies	1,186.75
Total Expenditures	\$1,493.95
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$66,961.48
NET REVENUE	\$66,961.48

October News



**YOUTH
GROUP**



SUNDAY SCHOOL

A good start for our youth Sunday school! Our classrooms have a fresh coat of paint and Thanks to Malcolm Ditter we have new Dry erase boards that he hung on the wall for us! Lacy has been busy teaching from the books of Matthew and Luke. The boy Jesus in the Temple, Jesus calls Mtthew and The Prodigal Son. Also some fun activities and craft from racing cars to glitter glue. 😊

Jr High and High school has been studying the book of Genesis getting a deeper look and Adam and Eve, Cain and Abil and the Flood.



The play ground area is looking great! Each week the kids enjoy going out to see the progress. A lot of excitement! They are already making plans to have a bible class in the log play house.



The Great Bake Off

The youth have four teams ready to test their baking skills this October. The teams will have their baked item ready for you to taste and pick a winner on Oct. 19th after the worship and special vote meeting. Good Luck Youth!



Acolyte Schedule:

October– 5th Layla Ordner 12th Hunter Hewson 19th Rhett Reichardt 26th Rinley Nelson
November– 2nd Riley Hewson 9th Rhett Reichardt 16th Layla Ordner
23rd Rinley Nelson 30th Bexley Nelson



Good News Journal October 2025

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 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 /Children's Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Sunday School / Choir Practice 9:00 Worship Service / Children's Church 10:00 am Don Allphin St John Ringers	6 St John Bell Choir Practice 4.00 pm	7 St John Bell Prayer Shawl Ministry 9.00 am	8	9	10	11
12 Sunday School / Choir Practice 9:00 Worship Service / Children's Church 10:00 am Don Allphin	13 St John Bell Choir Practice 4.00 pm Council Mee4ting 6:15 pm	14 St John Quilting Ministry 9:00 am	15 Senior Service 11:00 am Wear your costume !	16	17	18
19 Sunday School / Choir Practice 9:00 Special Congre- gational Meeting ! After Worship Service. Vote will happen today. Please attend St John Singers Perform today !!	20 St John Bell Choir Practice 4.00 pm	21 St John Bell Prayer Shawl Ministry 9.00 am	22	23	24	25
26	27 St John Bell Choir Practice 4.00 pm	28 St John Quilting Ministry 9:00 am	29	30	31	

October 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 fulfil 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	Worship Leader	Council on Duty	Acolyte	Reader	Flowers
10-5	Don Allphin	Robin	Layla Ordner	Ruth Walker	Emmy McDaniel
10-12	Don Allphin	Tim	Hunter Hewson	Pauline Lapham	Cheryl Mellenthin
10-19	Don Allphin	All Council-Vote	Rhett Reichardt	Janet Allphin	Cheryl Mellenthin
10-26	Don Allphin	Laurie	Rinley Nelson	Nancy Hartmann	Gwen Reichardt

In red indicates change from original calendar

<u>October 2025 Altar Guild</u> Nila Klaus Pauline Lapham Flower Guild <i>Ruth Walker Gwen Reichardt</i>
