



## ***Good News Journal***

***November 2022***

***St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring***



### **SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDEULE**

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

**Pastor Stephanie Stark**

#### ***From the Desk of Pastor Stephanie Stark:***

Recently, I traveled to Fort Worth to officiate a wedding for my cousin's son. It was a family affair that lasted three days. While leading up to it I bemoaned having to take a Sunday off and do all those things that come with preparing for a wedding, but I was grateful for time with family. Time was spent laughing and reminiscing moments from long ago when my cousin got married. At the age of 9, I was a Jr. Bridesmaid and my brother, 6yrs old, was the ring bearer. We didn't remember much from that time, but the adults remembered quite a bit. Like my brother passing out during the rehearsal because the church in Pennsylvania didn't have air conditioning, or that we spent time making mints and how my hair was braided. It really was nice to spend time with family just catching up and seeing what life has brought them over the years.

This month we celebrate Thanksgiving. Most of us will gather with family on that day, perhaps mentioning things you are grateful for. This day will come with its on headaches: how many people are coming; are we traveling somewhere; how much food to prepare; who will bring up a topic that makes everyone see red?

Instead of focusing on the burdens of this holiday, relish in the sabbath that this day has the ability to bring. In Genesis, God rested after creating the entirety of the cosmos and invites us to do the same. Rest is so important. Our minds need it, our bodies need it, kids need it even though they don't want it. Beloved, after the chaos of preparing for the day, take time to rest. Share stories with the youngens. Play games, or watch football, or in my case...the National Dog Show after the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, and remember if the Lord God Almighty can take time to rest, I imagine you can too!



***Pastor Stephanie***

***AKA Dairy Queen***

## Oktoberfest was so much fun!

*Each youth walked away with 1 or 2 yummy desserts from the Cake/Treat walk. Thank you to those who spent time making yummy treat for us! We headed outside for some Pinata fun. Everyone took some good swings and hits before all the candy and Halloween prizes fell out. Thanks Chad Divin for helping us out!*



We celebrated our long time Pre-school Sunday school teacher, Melissa Schmidt on October 23rd. We will miss Melissa as she will be spending more time at her property in Winchester getting ready to build a house where she and her husband plan to retire to in the near future. Melissa took so much time and loving care for our younger youth! We will cherish all the memories we share. ♥



Sunday school teacher



Trunk or Treat



Best VBS helper!



Christmas program



Christmas play practice will be coming along soon.! Please let me know if you would like for child to be in the play so that I may plan for it. The Christmas play will be December 18th during church service. Our practices will be Nov 20 and 27 during Sunday school. Dec 4 and 11 during Sunday school and Children's church. Saturday Dec 17 time to be determined.

**Acolyte Schedule: Nov 6-Reese Reichardt Nov 13-Baylee Brandes**

**Nov 20-Cade Thielemann Nov 27-Jolee Meiers**

**December: Dec 4-Brooklynn Logan Dec 11-Cade Thielemann Dec 18-Reese Reichardt Dec 25-Volunteer**



# Good News Journal November 2022

St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring

480 Ross Street Cat Spring Texas 78933 979-865-5444 [www.stjohncatspring.org](http://www.stjohncatspring.org)

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDEULE

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

Pastor Stephanie Stark

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			2  Confirmation 6:30 pm Office	3  St John Handbell Choir 5:30 pm	4  	5  <i>Fall Back 1 Hour at Bed Time</i>
6 Choir practice 9:15-9:45 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am <b>All Saints Day Blessing the Quilts</b>	7 St John Quilting Ministry 8:30 am Staff Meeting 10 am	8 St John Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:30 am <b>Election Day ! Go Vote !</b>	9  Confirmation 6:30 pm Office	10  St John Handbell Choir 5:30 pm	11	12
13 Choir practice 9:15-9:45 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	14 Staff Meeting 10 am  Council Meet- ing 6:15 pm	15	16 Senior Service 11:00 am  Confirmation 6:30 pm Office	17 St John Handbell Choir 5:30 pm  WELCA Meeting 6:30 pm	18	19
20 Choir practice 9:15-9:45 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am <b>Thankoffering Service Noisy Offering</b>	21 St John Quilting Ministry 8:30 am	22	23	24  	25	26
27 Choir practice 9:15-9:45 am Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	28	29	30  Advent Service 6:30 pm			

# November 2022

## Prevailing Prayer

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

11-1 Alan Restivo  
Rhett Reichardt

11-2 Jeff Brandes  
Sharon Peck  
William Ordner  
Scarlet Ordner

11-3 Connie Reibenstein

11-7 Melissa Schmidt  
Tommy Wade

11-8 Tara Reibenstein

11-9 James Tiner  
TJ Menke

11-11 Shirley Hering

11-13 Ellie Haugen  
Ken Wienken

11-17 Charlotte Reichert  
Kaleigh George

11-18 Grant Blackmon  
Riley Hewson

11-20 Peyton Blezinger

11-21 Hunter Hewson  
Warren Severin

11-23 Janie Tipp

11-25 Nicole Otto

11-28 Joy Sorensen

11-29 Layla Ordner  
Rebecca Blackmon

11-30 Rylan Reichardt

### Save the Date:

12-9-22 Austin County  
Chorale Concert with  
Dinner- \$20.00 tickets  
Faith Academy -Details  
Soon

1-12-22 St John Blood  
Drive 4-8 pm

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

11-1 Melvin and Charlotte  
Reichert

11-5 William and Bonnie  
Hegemeyer

11-9 Neil and Deanna  
Ling  
William and Barbara  
Hodges

11-13 Wes and Audra  
Blackmon

11-17 Marty and Karen  
Reichert  
Randy and Debbie  
Reichardt

11-21 Louis and Rebecca  
Blackmon

11-25 John and Martha  
Simpson

11-27 Richard and Ashley  
Hewson

### MEMBERS IN OUR CARE

#### Argent Court Brenham

Cecil and Carrie Froebel

#### Kruse Village-Brenham

Elaine Thielemann

#### Columbus Oaks

Marilyn Wendt

#### HOMEBOUND:

Katherine Ludwig

Katherine Washburn

If someone you know is in need of prayer and you would like them listed in the monthly newsletter, please let the church office know by contacting us at (979)865-5444 or email us or you can also leave us a note on back of your attendance card and then give to the usher ! If you have updates or know of someone who is healed and can be taken off this list, please let us know. Please continue to pray for those in our monthly newsletter, including our shut-ins and those in nursing homes.

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



### THOSE IN OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Tipp

Tomas Divin

Mike Mueller

Billy Schaffner

Allan Boehm

Cindi Harrison

Elrose Kollatschny

David Wilkenson

Fay Rice

Susan Boyett

Robert Klar

Melinda Brod

Richie Butler

Colin Brock

Deana Keller

Paulette Miller

Deanna Ling

Sharon

Bubba Bencal

Carolyn Poehi

Darrell Grasb

James and Carol Wenzel

Kermit Dittert

Clifton and Florine  
Stuessel

Doug Neva

Mike Klar

Katherine Ludwig

Otto Reichardt

Dorothy Mersmann

## November 2022 Worship Service

### *Ministry Schedule*

#### Readers

6 Ethan Meiers  
13 Melissa Schmidt  
20 Jolee Meiers  
27 Ruth Walker

#### Acolytes

6 Reese Reichardt  
13 Baylee Brandes  
20 Cade Thielemann  
27 Jolee Meiers



The Confirmation Class making school kits for Lutheran World Relief!

### **Blue Christmas Service December 21 at 6pm**

The Christmas season is a time of parties and decorations, family get-togethers, and fun carols, but our sadness doesn't just hide away for the festivities. As we celebrate the coming of our Lord, we remember that God is a God of love. He loves us in our times of joy, as well as, our times of sorrow. Whether you are missing someone this year or just want to experience the quiet side of Christmas this service is for you.



### Worship Attendance

Date	In Person	On Line
10-2	63	53
10-9	52	51
10-16	48	26
10-23	56	47
10-30	98	67



### **November 2021 Council On Duty**

November 6th- Jennifer and Melissa  
November 13th- Kyle and Ruth  
November 20th- Jennifer and Ryan  
November 27th- Ruth and Sharon

### November Altar Guild

Sharon Koehne Chris Beckendorff  
Sherry Barr



### November 2022 Altar Flowers

Flower Guild: Ruth Walker

11-6 Open  
11-13 Open  
11-20 Blezinger's  
11-27 Divin's

### **Senior Service**

**November 16th 11:00 am**

The hostesses will be serving turkey, ham and all the trimmings!

*So, there is only one thing to do !*



Worship Service  
Singing  
Games  
Sometimes dancing !





**November 6th 10:00 am**

**All Saints Day**

Light a candle for your loved ones departed.

Blessing of the Quilts

**Come join us !**

***WELCA Thankoffering will be collected and blessed at the***

***November 20th Worship Service.***

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

**The Widow's Mite, Mark 12:41-44**

Women <sup>of the</sup> **ELCA** 

**You Don't Want to Miss the next WELCA Meeting !**

These ladies are having some fun ! Don't miss out !

The next WELCA meeting will be earlier this month due to Thanksgiving.

**THURSDAY, November 17 at 6:30 p.m.**

We will be making SIMPLE Chrismons.

**There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex so that we have enough supplies for everyone.**

*Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. They help Christians to remember that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus's birthday.*

*Chrismon, which is a combination of Christ and monogram (meaning symbol).*



**A Big Thank You  
to all who stayed  
for Cleaning Day ,  
on October 16th!**

***Pics by Connie  
Reibenstein***

**2022 Christmas Season Worship Dates**

Pastor Stephanie has announced the **Holden Evening Prayer; an Advent Service**, on Wednesday nights, this Advent Season.

**The dates will be November 30, December 7, 14, and 21.**  
This service will begin at **6:00 pm** .

A **Blue Christmas Service** will be held for the Advent Service on December 21st, at 6:00 pm . A time to acknowledge that grief and heartache don't go away because it is Christmas. More details in the upcoming newsletter.

**Christmas Eve Service** will be held at **6:00 pm on Saturday, December 24th , Christmas Day Service , December 25, 10:00 am .**



# St. John Lutheran of Cat Spring, Tx

Statement of Activity  
September 2022



## St. John Lutheran Church-Cat Spring Special Meeting Council Minutes October 23, 2022

	TOTAL
Revenue	
CSB MM Interest	10.54
CSB Operating Account Interest	13.18
ELCA Endowment E272908 Distribution	2,045.12
ELCA Endowment E272909 Distribution	241.76
ELCA Endowment E273030 Distribution	437.86
General Fund Contributions	12,756.88
Memorial Fund Contributions	925.00
Senior Day	40.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$18,470.34</b>
GROSS PROFIT	<b>\$18,470.34</b>
Expenditures	
Building Repairs & Supplies	150.00
Contract Svcs-Cemetery Labor	300.00
Education - Youth Curriculum	143.09
Electricity	1,117.71
Employee Contributions	-135.39
Garbage	71.61
Office Supplies & Equipment	1,357.00
Online Giving Expense	17.72
Pastor Housing Equity Fund	250.00
Pastor Pension-Medical-Dental	2,531.58
Payroll Expenses	
SALARY - MUSIC DIR	750.00
Salary- Pastor SECA	345.17
SALARY-BOOKKEEPER	1,080.00
SALARY-HOUSEKEEPING	990.00
SALARY-PASTOR	5,902.93
SALARY-SECRETARY	1,306.13
Salary-Youth Director	1,999.05
Taxes	468.57
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>12,841.85</b>
Telephone	223.58
Water	71.80
Worship Supplies	853.44
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$18,798.99</b>
NET OPERATING REVENUE	<b>\$ -3,328.65</b>
NET REVENUE	<b>\$ -3,328.65</b>

The special council meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m. by Jennifer Logan.

Members present were Jennifer Logan, Melissa [Schmidt](#), [Sharon Meiers](#) and [Ruth Walker](#).

Members absent were Pastor Stephanie Stark, Kyle Eckhardt, and Ryan Reibenstein.

No guests were present.

### New Business:

Motion made by Ruth to accept Melissa's resignation from Church Council effective November 1, 2022 and approve Robin Haugen as her replacement until the end of December 2023. Jennifer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### November Council Assignments-

November 6th- Jennifer and Robin  
November 13th- Kyle and Ruth  
November 20th- Jennifer and Ryan  
November 27th- Ruth and Sharon

Motion was made by Melissa and seconded by Sharon to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Melissa Schmidt*





**St. John Lutheran Church-Cat Spring  
Council Meeting Minutes  
October 10, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 6:21 p.m. by Jennifer Logan.

Pastor Stephanie Stark presented the opening devotional focusing on Matthew 18 Let the little children come to me. She discussed the importance of remembering the wonder we had during our childhood.

Members present were Jennifer Logan, Melissa Schmidt, Ryan Reibenstein, Kyle Eckhardt, and Pastor Stephanie.

Members absent were Sharon Meiers and Ruth Walker.

There were no guests. Christa Klar was absent due to a family emergency.

Motion made by Melissa, seconded by Pastor to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

The September 2022 meeting minutes were read and approved by email. Motion made by Melissa, seconded by Ryan to approve the minutes as read. Motion approved.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed including a statement of activity for September 2022. The total revenue for September was \$16,470. Expenses were \$19,793 so we were \$3,323 short for the month. Expenses included three pay dates, the advertisement banners and cost of joining both the Sealy and Bellville Chambers, and the Millheim Hall rental for the Reformation Sunday service. Motion made by Jennifer and seconded by Melissa to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Pastor Stephanie Stark shared her activities for the past month. The Reformation Sunday Service at Millheim Hall will be on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Advent services will be November 30<sup>th</sup> through December 14<sup>th</sup> focusing on "Waiting". The final midweek advent service will be a Blue Christmas service on December 21<sup>st</sup> acknowledging all those grieving during the holiday season. Christmas Eve Service will be at 6:00pm and Christmas Day will be at the regular 10:00am service time. Motion to approve Pastor's report as presented made by Kyle, seconded by Ryan. Motion passed.

### **Committee Reports**

Christa was unable to attend the meeting, but Melissa discussed how well VBS went with several youth enjoying the Sunday morning activities. Motion made by Jennifer, seconded by Ryan. Motion passed.

Jennifer spoke with Ken and there is nothing to report for the Cemetery this month. However, he would like to attend either the November or December Council meeting to discuss maintenance at the cemetery. Motion made by Pastor, seconded by Melissa to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Kyle reported that all the A/C filters were changed this week. The Airtech A/C repair person was called out and found an intermittent breaker problem that will need to be fixed. There is also a problem with a previous patch done on the A/C pan above the communion room with an estimated cost of \$1,000 to fix. Kyle and Ryan also discussed looking at a rotten two-by-six in the ceiling near the outer wall that will need to be replaced. The church advertisement banners will be moved to Millheim for the Reformation Sunday service and then moved back after the service. Pastor reported that Robin noticed that animals may be chewing away at the fireplace in the office. Kyle and Ryan will check into caulking to prevent damage. Motion made by Jennifer, seconded by Ryan to approve the report as presented. Motion passed.



**Old Business:**

Sally is working on “those not pictured” for the directory. The 2022 Church Directory will then be ready to print. The final edits are being made.

Cleaning day is scheduled on October 16<sup>th</sup> after the Congregational Meeting. The focus will be on cleaning the ceiling fans and the altar areas that are too hard to reach with normal ladders. Jennifer will have Sally send out an email about bringing cleaning supplies such as swiffers, cloths, etc to make the cleaning process quicker. The big cross used at Easter will be moved to the other side of the Fellowship Hall and the old hymnals will be moved from Classroom 4. The safe will also be moved from the outside storage shed into Classroom 4.

The Congregational Meeting will be on October 16, 2022. A quorum of 32 voting members is needed to proceed with the meeting. Nominees for the two upcoming Council member openings are Chad Divin and Cheryl Mellen-thin. Ballots are ready in case there are any write in volunteers.

**New Business:**

Motion made by Melissa and seconded by Jennifer to approve Pastor’s request for 4 Sundays off per year instead of a raise this year. She currently gets 3 Sundays off per year. Motion passed.

Jennifer mentioned that the Prayer Shawls are organized in the Gathering Room closet.

Motion made by Jennifer and seconded by Pastor to approve removing the extra silver wafer tray from the regular communion service. Motion passed.

Pastor purchased a new projector to run a slide show for a recent church funeral. She will turn in her receipt if she decides to get reimbursed.

There is a need for a large TV and stand to present future slideshows. Jennifer will see about donating an extra TV she may have. Motion made by Jennifer and seconded by Ryan to buy or build a TV stand not to exceed \$300. Motion passed.

A member mentioned safety concerns about no lighting on the side of the church with the stairs leading to the side and back parking areas. Ryan will check the mercury light on the side of the church. If it is not working properly, he will check into getting solar lights on the steps to make it safer in the dark. He will report more at the next Council meeting.

**November Council Assignments-**

November 6th- Jennifer and Melissa  
November 13th– Kyle and Ruth  
November 20th- Jennifer and Ryan  
November 27th- Ruth and Sharon

The November 2022 calendar was reviewed. Motion made by Kyle, seconded by Jennifer to approve the calendar as presented. Motion passed.

Everyone joined in the Lord’s Prayer.

Motion was made by Jennifer and seconded by Ryan to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted, Melissa Schmidt**



## ORDER FORM

**RED Poinsettias** will be placed in the sanctuary for Christmas. If you would like to purchase one or more of these flowers, fill out this form and place your order and payment of **\$10 each** into a labeled envelope and place it in the box provided. **Order deadline is December 18, 2022.**

Please place my flower(s):

In **Memory** of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In **Honor** of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Or \_\_\_\_\_ **To the Glory of God**

*Please use the back of this form for additional orders if needed.  
Be sure to indicate "Memory of" or "Honor of" or  
"To the Glory of God" on additional orders.*

**Purchased by:** \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of flowers: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to: St. John Lutheran WELCA**

Please pick up your flowers on Dec 24 after  
the Christmas Eve service or Dec 25 after Worship Service