

Saint John's

Lutheran Church

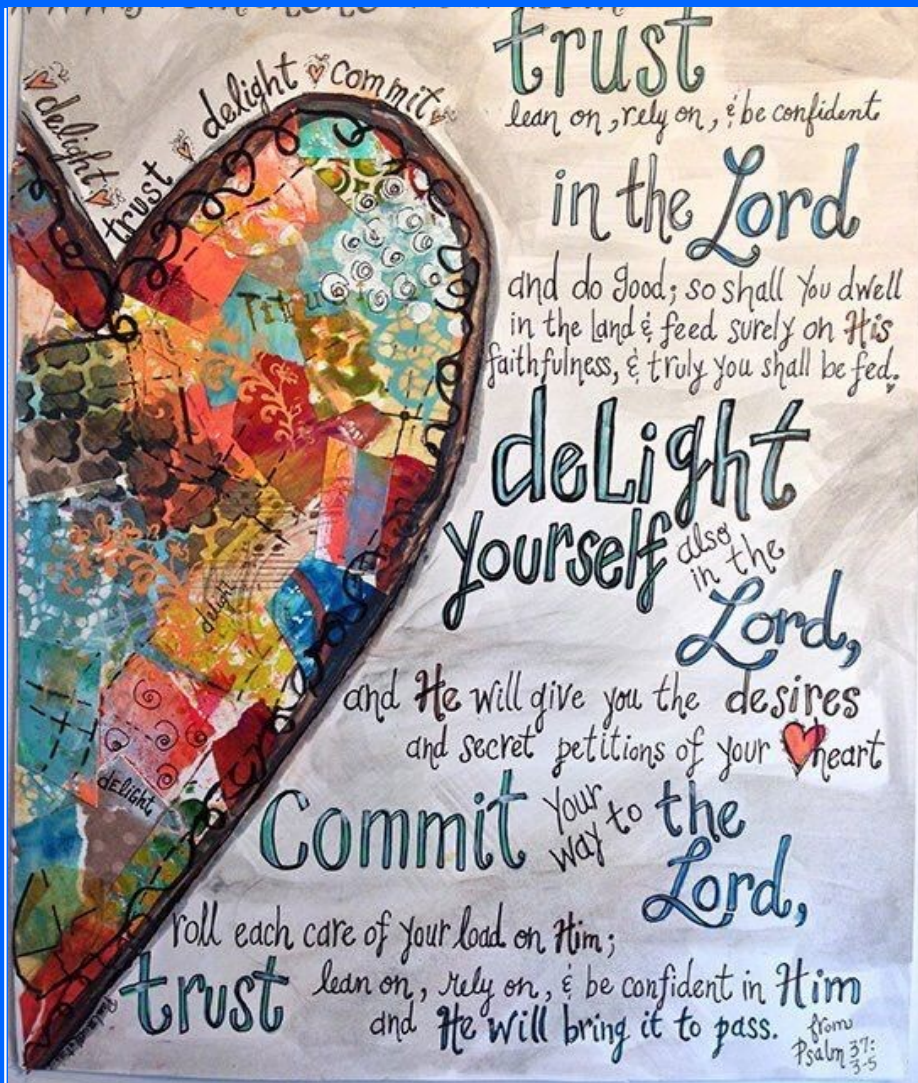
THE EAGLE

September 2019

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Pastor's Page

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. Matthew 28:19-20

When Jesus left his disciples with the Great Commission at the end of Matthew 28, I wonder what was going through their minds. After witnessing his brutal death, then being awed by his resurrection, now he was leaving again! And more than just leaving, he was leaving them in charge of the mission. They were the ones who were now called to make disciples the way Jesus made disciples!

One of the most challenging questions any Christian can face is: “Who are your disciples?” It’s so intimidating because we think there’s no way we could disciple people the way Jesus did. Of course, that’s true, but he tells us to do it anyway.

If we’re going to get good at this, our lives had better look like his. As Jesus lived his life in three directions (UP, IN & OUT) so we too can live with these three priorities in mind.

This month, we’ll be sharing our new Vision Statement for Saint John’s. The Council and the staff and I have been working hard to refine a memorable and meaningful Vision that we can keep before us as we serve together.

We’ll also be sharing some ideas about a new Logo for Saint John’s. We’ll have a few choices and your input will be so helpful.

It’s going to be a great fall. See you in worship!

Grace & Peace,
Greg

PS I’ll be slinging soup as a “Celebrity Server” at this year’s Empty Bowls fundraiser on Wednesday, September 18th. See page 14 for more info on this important cause.



Up Coming Events

Wednesday, September 18, 11:00 to 1:30 pm.

Empty Bowls Community Luncheon to benefit the Homeless Coalition. It will be held at St Patrick's Church Hall at 501 Fair Oaks Avenue, AG. For tickets and additional information, contact Lynn Kaloian or Emanda Miller. (see page 14)

Coastal Clean Up Saturday Sept. 21, 2019 from 9am-12pm

Grover Beach/Oceano Dunes at Grand Avenue
(meet in the parking lot by Finn's, look for Cleanup signs)
(see page 4)



Tuesday Morning Bible Study is Back!
Learning to Listen to God
with the Old Testament Prophets
Starts Tuesday, September 10th at 9am

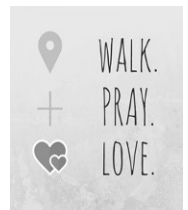
Join Pastor Greg Tuesday mornings at 9am for a great time of studying God's Word together. No experience needed. If you're new to Bible study, we'll help you feel right at home. If you're a Bible study pro, we need you too! This fall, we'll be learning to listen to God from the Old Testament prophets. Do you ever wish you could hear God's voice and follow where he leads? This is the class for you.

Come at 8:45 am and join us in prayer for Saint John's.

Prayer Walk and Talk @ the Beach

Thursdays 8:30-9:30 am

Prayer is one of the most important aspects of living as authentic followers of Jesus. Through prayer we have the privilege to communicate directly with our awesome God and other believers! Join us any Thursday for a time of prayer, conversation, and a bit of exercise.



Coming Soon!!!

Women's White Elephant & Bake Sale
Friday & Saturday October 4th & 5th

(see page 16)



Kids Up and Coming News



KidsChurch continues Sundays at 9:30 and we are really excited for a new series this September on Psalms for Kids. Psalms is currently the most shared, tweeted, and quoted book in the Bible. It encourages people and it is important for children to get familiar with the Psalms. They can begin at an early age to do what dozens of generations have done before them —coming closer to God by words of praise, faith, and encouragement, written by King David and the other psalmists. It is a great time to get involved!

Coastal Clean Up Saturday September 21, 2019 from 9am-12pm

Grover Beach/Oceano Dunes at Grand Avenue

(meet in the parking lot by Finn's, look for Cleanup signs)

Our kids & youth learn about opportunities to serve in God's beautiful world whenever there is a 5th Sunday of the month. This month we are learning about caring for the earth with a special follow up lesson to this event on September 29 during KidsChurch. Be a part of the no plastic straws, save the turtles buzz and come help us and 60,000 volunteers across the state cleanup our beaches and waterways. All ages welcome. ***Kids 6th grade and under need a guardian present to participate.*** A California Coastal Commission Coastal Cleanup day waiver is required from all participants and can be completed that day. Reduce your environmental footprint and take on the California Coastal Commission's "Bring Your Own" philosophy.



Bring your own:

- ♦ bucket, reusable bag, or container like a milk carton for collecting trash
- ♦ gardening gloves instead of disposable gloves
- ♦ kitty litter scooper for a hands free way to grab trash and leave sand behind
- ♦ a filled, reusable water bottle

Get the CleanSwell phone App and start logging your trash pick up! For more information about the CA Coastal Commission Coastal Cleanup: www.coastal.ca.gov

For questions please contact: Cindi cindi@saintjohnsag.com

Chrissy Ravera ccravera@gmail.com or 805-709-2746

Save the Dates

Sunday, October 27 is Reformation Sunday. We'll celebrate our Lutheran heritage during worship, pray specifically over all our kids and youth, and give Bibles to kids in grade 3 and up who have not yet received their bible.

Trunk or Treat Halloween Party coming again to Saint John's **Sunday night, October 27.**

Get your ideas flowing and start collecting trunk decorations.

Advent Night - Sunday December 1st 5-7 pm Fun for all ages! Join us for dinner, making advent wreaths & care packages, plus decorating and singing around the Christmas tree.

Youth Group News

Frisbee Golf Outing Sunday, September 29th

Wear comfortable shoes and join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship learning a new skill. *Thanks Jeff Metcalfe!* Following 9:30 worship, we'll eat pizza at Saint John's and head out to the course in Santa Maria. We will return to church about 3:30 or 4. Please let Cindi know if you are coming so we have enough seatbelts arranged.



Confirmation begins!

We are so excited to have a great group of 7th-9th graders exploring their faith and diving deeper into the Scriptures and our Lutheran heritage. Confirmation will consist of two main parts with occasional outings, retreats and events throughout the year.

1st & 3rd Sunday evenings from 6-8 pm: Confirmation with Pastor Greg
This year will cover the Case for Faith & the Lutheran Handbook with Small Catechism

2nd & 4th Sunday mornings during 9:30 am worship: Old & New Testament foundations with Neita Oates and Wes Drysdale. We are so thankful for this incredible team!

Sunday Youth Group Continues

We will continue to gather on Sundays for all students in 7-12th grade. Be sure to watch your emails, newsletters and bulletins for updates and specific times throughout the year. Our general rotation will flow as follows:

1st & 3rd Sunday evenings 6-8 pm: 7th-9th confirmation and 10th-12th High School small group discipleship

2nd Sunday evening 6-8 pm for Youth group with games, topical discussions, and fellowship all 7th-12th graders together.

4th Sundays together 7th-12th graders will put our faith into action, work together and care for God's people, his world, and others around us. We will serve Iglesia Luterana in Santa Maria in the afternoons on 8/24 and 9/22.

5th Sundays will be outings, field trips, fun events, or game nights for 7th-12th graders combined. These will be great opportunities to invite friends!

Dress a Girl

Next Dress A Girl Workshop is Sat. Sept. 14th. We meet from 9 am to 2 pm. If you haven't attended Dress A Girl before, this would be a great time to come and see what we do. We will have a Guest Sewer taking part in the activities on the 14th, so make sure you come by and see who's joining our group! Another reason to visit Dress A Girl on the 14th of September - lunch is being provided for everyone, thanks to a Thrivent Grant.



Finally, coming to a Dress A Girl Workshop, even for part of the time that we meet, will give you a good sense of the great fellowship we experience as a group - sewing dresses (and shorts for boys) is just an extension of God's hand of blessing on the workers, the children receiving the dresses & shorts, and all those who support Dress A Girl with their time, donations & money.

Be Blessed - Make a Dress!

Pamela Glenn

Dress A Girl Coordinator for Saint John's &

Dress A Girl Ambassador for the Central Coast of CA



Knitting Scarves (& Hats)

Our Scarf knitting has been quite prolific this year - we still have four months to go and we already have 109 scarves, many with hats! and we already gave away 15 scarves earlier this year. Thanks to all the scarf & hat knitters! You all are just awesome! If you haven't ever joined our group, you're missing a whole lot of fun, conversations and fellowship!. We meet once a month on the second Weds of the month at Saint John's, with Sept. 11th being our next meeting. And we also meet once a month on the last Friday at Carol Johnson's house in Nipomo, on Sept. 27th. God continues to bless this ministry and we hope that you will join us for the blessing.



Welcome New Members

Getting to know you.....



Ray Houser

Ray was born in Cleveland, Ohio. His dear wife passed away four years ago. He has an adult daughter, Kerye, and an adult son Jason. His career has been in education.

(Patty Ouimette was very happy to have him substitute teach her precious medically fragile students!!) Ray enjoys the beach and his family and hopes to find a good church at Saint John's. He plans to serve as a worthy member and volunteer. Ray has been very blessed by his wife, children, and grandchildren.



Welcome! Welcome!! Welcome!!!

**We look forward to worshipping, fellowshiping, and serving together
in ministry with you as brothers and sisters in Christ!**

The Good News Team

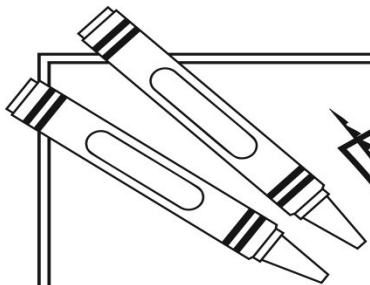
China Boundless Love Camp

July 16-19, 2019, July 23-26, 2019

We provided English skills that included writing, speaking, and reading. These English skills included learning about animals, colors, sports, listening to skits in English, body parts, and clothing. The games were organized and included sports that are frequently played in America such as soccer, volleyball, tag, running, basketball, hockey, and more. The students learned the skills of these sports and how to play them in a game setting. English games were ones that are frequently played in America such as UNO, spoons, English word puzzles, tag, and a variety of card games. There was also English songs at the beginning and ending of each day. These songs included “head, shoulders, knees, and toes,” “Itsy bitsy spider,” and “Shake another hand.” There was also a variety of skits that leaders put on to help students with English skills as well. The crafts were common ones done in America such as baseball key chain, beading, yarn kite, friendship bracelets, animal face masks, picture frames, and New Years Hats.

Kathy Lindstaedt



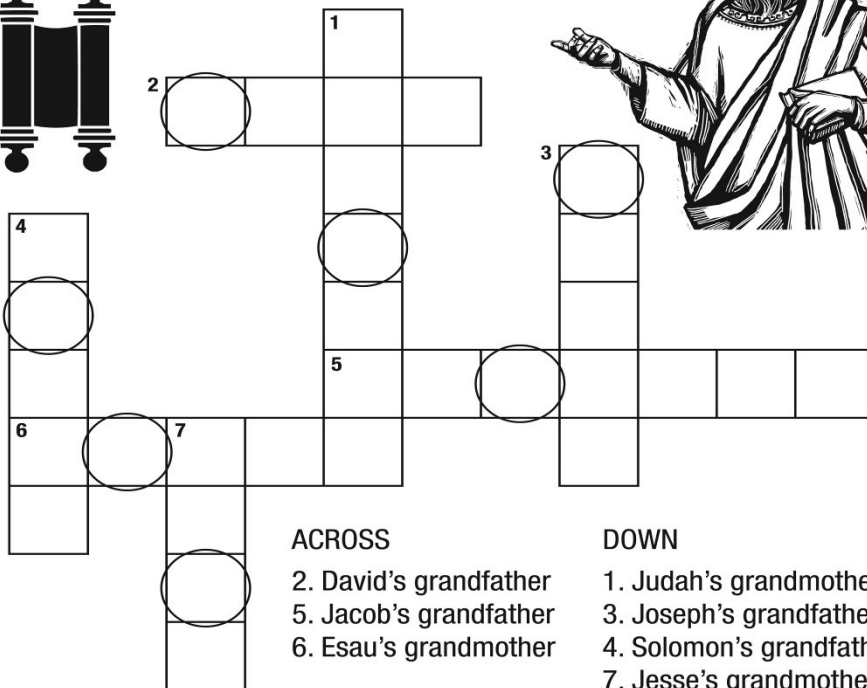
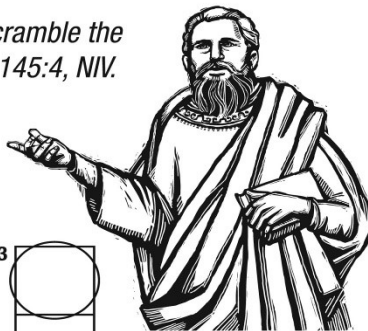


PUZZLE

Grandparents of the Old Testament

Can you name these biblical grandparents? If you get stuck, find an Old Testament family tree in your Bible or online.

Directions: After filling in the crossword, unscramble the circled letters to complete Psalm 145:4, NIV.



ACROSS

- 2. David's grandfather
- 5. Jacob's grandfather
- 6. Esau's grandmother

DOWN

- 1. Judah's grandmother
- 3. Joseph's grandfather
- 4. Solomon's grandfather
- 7. Jesse's grandmother

One G _ N _ _ _ _ N commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. Psalm 145:4, NIV



SOS
Social Ministry
Committee

“Transformation of our Country, One Child at a Time” by Pastor Randy

Just getting to nine year old Arua Community Church and its main mission ministry, their six year old Solid Rock Christian School, is a learning lesson in itself! Flying about 580 miles per hour for nearly 10,000 miles at 34,000 ft above sea level, with a choice of at least 60 movies/tv shows to watch, is first world technology at its flashiest. On our 3rd flight we landed on a soaked and spongy dirt runway in a 19 passenger plane. Once off the paved road, the last 1/2 mile to the school campus in our tour guide's bus took what seemed like 15 minutes as we swayed, tilted, and navigated deep ruts in rain washed gullies of dirt pathways. Almost no one owns a car and most walk, so who needs a smooth country road, anyway? Life in northern Uganda country side's thatched huts is all about surviving - no electricity, no running water, no natural/propane gas, no oil lamps that we saw, no horses or tractors to plow little fields; just turning rows of soil by hand with a heavy hoe, hard packed dirt floors, blankets over doorways, sticks to fuel little fires, one pot to cook in, eat standing up or sitting on the ground, washing clothes at the brown watered creek, walking up to one mile carrying 3 gallon jerry cans of potable water - this is third world.

Pastor JP told me only those who make \$50/month or more pay government taxes, so none of these Villagers pay taxes, most don't have paying jobs - they are on their own, pretty much, to scratch out a shortened, tough life cycle that has been unchanged for centuries.

It was to this region that Pastor John Paul and his wife, Rose, answered God's call to begin a Christ-empowered church and Christian school for these villagers. But how to finance a dream that required land, classrooms, teachers, desks, food, and tuition/uniforms for the villages' children? Then along come Drs. Mick and Elaine Lebens some 8 years ago to set up a two week medical clinic - invited by Pastor JP, to serve those sickened and weakened by dysentery, ringworm, skeletal stresses, malnutrition, and more. Each day Patty and I have become more impressed with Mick and Elaine's heart of faith, commitment to do something about it, love for the children, and command of the financial, educational, medical, and spiritual needs. By establishing the Zozu Project in Templeton as a 501c3 non-profit organization, they created the Christian funnel for our far away love to be turned into HOPE, LIFE, AND A NEW FUTURE for these Ugandan Children of God to become our sponsored students. You who are sponsors - your students and families love you!

I got goose bumps when the devoted and impressive Principal David said their goal is the TRANSFORMATION OF THEIR COUNTRY, ONE CHILD AT A TIME! And they are doing it in amazing ways! Long walks to school, early starts at 7AM, long six day school weeks, inspired singing of praise songs to the Lord Jesus Christ, two protein rich meals a day, health clinic care for the students and families - at no charge - all of this is paid for by our Christian donations. Every day at Solid Rock these children's mind and hearts are being transformed.

These young girl students can break the poverty cycle of being married off at age 14 for a bride price and having an average of 6 children in the family hut. These girls and boys will never be the same because of this wholistic life at Solid Rock - minds stretched with knowledge and values, faith filled with grace and truth, bodies built up with medical and nutrition care, and a sacred community created around the Cross of Christ and the Swirling of the Holy Spirit! And boy, does it swirl!

I am grateful that Pastor JP entrusted me with preaching two times, Sunday and Wednesday. I thank you for your prayers because God's Word is always good, powerful, and uniting. While up front, giving this message one phrase at a time, with the translator speaking it in the local language, I felt so strongly the bonds of Christian faith from across continents.

Some other highlights are: going with Richard, the school Social Worker, on eleven home visits and being so gratefully received; singing with these Spirit filled children; helping the students write thank you letters to you, their sponsors; Patty and I sharing this mission trip with our wonderful brother and sister in Christ, Frank and Sandy Lebens: and being blessed to witness the **transformation of Uganda - one student at a time.**



**This is Solid Rock's twice a week morning Assembly
with student leadership, singing, and guidance**

Make a Difference



SOS
Social Ministry
Committee

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!



Wednesday, September 18, 11:00 to 1:30 pm.

Empty Bowls Community Luncheon to benefit the Homeless Coalition. It will be held at St Patrick's Church Hall at 501 Fair Oaks Avenue, AG. Enjoy a luncheon of soup and bread prepared and donated by the region's best chefs and served in a beautiful handmade bowl donated by area artists, community members, and students. Savor the meal and you get to keep the bowl knowing you made a difference. Pastor Greg will be a "Celebrity Server" from 11am-noon. For tickets and additional information, contact Lynn Kaloian or Amanda Miller.

Sunday, September 29. Let's hear about Solid Rock Christian School and the amazing life changing events that are happening in Arua, Uganda. Pastor Randy and Patty Ouimette and Frank and Sandy Lebens will share stories from their recent ZOZU Project trip to Uganda at the church services that morning. Don't miss the opportunity to hear what support from Saint Johns and other churches is accomplishing in this Ugandan village as we strive to "make disciples of all nations".



Monthly Food Donations For The 5 Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry
The Social Outreach Services team is asking for you to join with us in donating specific foods each month to the Food Pantry as follows:

October-Peanut Butter

November-Pasta and/or Sauce

December-White Rice, Dry Pinto Beans, Masa Harina for Iglesia Luterana de Santa Cruz.



September-Canned Chili

Dave Ramsey's

Financial *Peace*
UNIVERSITY

Join Financial Peace University (FPU)

Dave's FPU classes are outrageously fun and helpful to EVERYONE...regardless of how much they have or how much they owe. In the weekly video-based classes followed by small group discussions, you will get all the tools needed to better your life financially and a 7-step plan you can easily follow that can literally change your life, marriage and family. To Learn more or watch a preview video about FPU check out www.daveramsey.com

Tell your friends, neighbors, co-workers, or family about our class and the website where they can learn more or register, plus the first class is FREE to just try it out. Childcare is available! Class begins Sept 10th – November 5th on Tuesday evenings in rooms 7 & 8.

Fellowship Folks

Our thanks go to our hosts Diane Muraski and Theresa Masicampo for hosting our China adventures evening. The evening started with a couple of delicious deserts, and a birthday cake to celebrate Mavis Trelstead's 88th birthday. We had a small gathering this evening and those that missed the program missed a good one. Thanks also go to Mim and Pastor Jeff Nellermeoe for an interesting program concerning our church sponsored mission in China. Jeff provided their accomplishments and the goals for their mission program.

SEPTEMBER 2019

We do not have hosts for our September gathering so keep your eyes peeled for the news of our gathering. Looking ahead, WE ARE LOOKING FOR HOSTS. October and November we're looking for hosts. December we'll tie Fellowship Folks in with Advent night. You can pick the date, time and what you would like to do for any of the months available. Just let us know by either jotting a note down on the welcome card or give Frank Drake a call, 343-2200, so we can provide any assistance you might want.



Looking forward to a year full of fun and fellowship your faithful servant Frank Drake



Women's Ministry

Coming up in September

Potluck Luncheon

Wednesday, September 11th at 12:00 noon.

All women are invited to attend!

Bring your favorite salad and enjoy the fellowship.

The board will furnish dessert.



Collecting for *Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits*:

Look for the poster and bin in the Commons.

Items to donate:

- ◆ Metal nail clippers
- ◆ Sturdy combs
- ◆ Adult-size toothbrushes
- ◆ Four-ounce bars of soap



Women's Ministry



Coming Soon!!! White Elephant & Bake Sale Friday & Saturday October 4th & 5th



Hours of the sale: Friday October 4th- 8:00 AM- 1:00 PM & Saturday October 5th 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Clothing: We are only accepting Jackets, Coats, Cardigan Sweaters and shoes. Items must be clean, without tears or rips.

What to Donate: household items, glassware/china, antiques, sporting goods, tools, garden equipment, jewelry, purses, linens, holiday items, books, tapes, CDs, games, toys, small electrical items and appliances and small pieces of furniture. **ALL ITEMS MUST BE IN WORKING CONDITION!!**

What not to Donate: Large pieces of furniture, magazines, textbooks, wall cabinet, cosmetics, lotions, and perfumes (even if unopened).

When to Donate: Bring donations to Ouimette Hall on Monday 9/30 thru Thursday 10/3. **No donations can be accepted after Thursday!**

Baked Goods: May be dropped off from 9:00 Thurs 10/3 until 12:00 Friday 10/4

Volunteers: We need your help in the following ways:

Setting up Ouimette Hall on Sunday 9/29 after 1st service.

Help with unpacking, pricing and staging articles, Mon. - Thur. 8:30 – 1:00.

Cashiers and Floor Workers on Fri and Sat @ 7:30 for the sale.

Let Carol Johnson know if you can help with the Bake Sale.

Help with cleaning up the hall after the sale closes on Saturday.

Men - need your help with set up and selling in the Man Cave.

Rena Weiger & Kay Werner - White Elephant & Bake Sale Co-Chairs



Church Highlights

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Thanks to all who helped with last month's carpet cleaning.
- ◆ Finalized new Vision Statement.
- ◆ New submissions for new Saint Johns logo were reviewed . We plan to present these to the congregation for input in September.
- ◆ Completed Internet wiring upgrade for office use and streaming.

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Its from our church... we've been called up for active duty."



Income/Expenses:

	July 2019	YTD
Income	26,930.20	208,532.99
Expenses	<u>35,771.12</u>	<u>246,252.04</u>
	-8,840.92	-37,719.05



ATTENDANCE

Aug. 4	Aug. 11	Aug. 18	Aug. 25
110	152	134	138
(Family Sunday) VBS	includes 19 in Kids Church	includes 15 in Kids Church	includes 18 in Kids Church



SEPTEMBER

2 JACOB DAY

4 FRED TUGGEY

11 DAWN DRYSDALE

15 KENT PENNINGROTH

20 ALAN KALOIAN

24 SHARI BOWMAN

25 NATALIE FOSSUM

26 LOUISE TAYLOR

27 ABIGAIL COLTON

30 KENT FOSSUM



5 GENE & YVONNE STEPHENS

9 CAL & KERRY WOOD

10 STEVE & LINDA CZIRAKI

23 FRED & SHARLINE TUGGEY

30 BRECK & PRISCILLA THOMAS



Prayer Ministry

Our friends & family:

Shirley, Marcy, Mark, Steve, Alan, Robin, Patti, Candy, Brandon, Barbara, Arianna, Ted, Axel, Tim, Rose, Karen, Jim, Belinda, Janice, the Stegall's son, Eric.

October Newsletter

Deadline is Sept. 15th

Thanks to all the volunteers who have been such a blessing to the office. It would be impossible without you!

CONTACT information



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Church Website www.saintjohnsag.com

Office Assistant	Pam Glenn
Bookkeeper	Cheryl Apfel
Child & Youth Director	Cindi Wallace
Chancel Choir Director	Janice Goodwin
Handbells Director	Shari Bowman
Songfest Director	Cal Wood
Choir Accompanist	Shari Bowman
Organist	Dawn Russ
Nursery Attendant	KC Siddle
Financial Secretary	Kerry Wood

2019 Church Council

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David Goodwin

VICE PRESIDENT

Cal Wood

TREASURER

Brian King

SECRETARY

Mark Ravera

Property

David Goodwin

Social Ministry

Sandy Lebens

Worship & Music

Cal Wood

Youth & Christian Ed

Steve Kapka

Good News Team

Cheryl Price

Stewardship

Roseann Carroll

Tim Myer

Children's Ministry

Mark Ravera



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Saint John's

The Eagle

Is published monthly by
Saint John's Lutheran Church
959 Valley Rd.
Arroyo Grande, CA. 93420
(805) 489-1259 Fax 489-8719
office@saintjohnsag.com
www.saintjohnsag.com

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