



Encounter Jesus Experience Family Embrace the Broken



Your kingdom come. Your will be done on
earth, as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:10

The Eagle
February 2025

Pastor's Page

*"Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth
as it is in heaven."*
Matthew 6:10



When we pray, things change. We change because we've been in the presence of God. Our hearts are linked to him in conversation. As we sit at his feet, we get his perspective. Prayer is about connection. Of course, when we pray, we're trusting that situations can change as well. Bad things can turn into good things, struggles into joy, night into day. We long for that change as we cry out in prayer. We persevere patiently (or not so patiently) waiting for God to bring change.

So we change, the things we pray for change, but what about God? Does he change based on our prayers? It's a tricky question since God knows everything, including the future. His perfect will is accomplished because he's God. However, he seems to like partnering with us in accomplishing his will. I like the way Martin Luther puts it, "The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also." God may not need us, but he wants to be with us, to love us, and shape us. He hears our prayers and sends Heaven's resources when we pray, "Your kingdom come." Any good dad loves to meet his kid's needs & loves to be asked!

This month, we're continuing to learn how to pray. I'm so grateful Dan Harter, our missionary prayer warrior to the Middle East, will be with us on Sunday night, February 23rd at 6pm for a Prayer & Pie Party. You're going to love praying with pie!

The Scouts will be with us in worship on February 2nd. We're so blessed to have these two amazing troops on our campus. That night, we'll enjoy our annual Chili Cook-off to support our students. Come and enter your chili or just come and taste. We've got a Congregational Meeting this month to decide on launching a Christian Children's Center at Saint John's. If you're new, we've got a New Member Orientation coming on March 8th.

Praying for the Kingdom!

Greg

Life Together



Prayer & Pie Party with Dan Harter

Learn how to pray more effectively
Sunday night, February 23rd at 6pm
for a Prayer & Pie Party, led by
Dan Harter.



Fun, Fitness & Fellowship

On Saturday Feb 22nd we will
meet at 9:30 at the Elfin Forest
in Los Osos for a lovely morning
walk along the boardwalk.
Bring your binoculars to check
out the birds and take in the
beauty of God's creation.
Questions, please contact
Louisa Troemel. 805-710-5067

Youth & Children's Ministry

KidsChurch change! In February, **KidsChurch** will start meeting every Sunday of the month. **Family Sundays** (kids stay in the sanctuary with parents) will move to Holidays and 5th Sundays. Nursery care will continue to be offered every Sunday.

February Series overview



4-WEEK CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CURRICULUM

Idea: When you're a kid, one of the best and easiest ways to shine your light for Jesus is to be a good friend. The friendships in the Bible display friendships that protect, mentor, and are honest with each other. Most importantly, we can learn what a friendship with Jesus is all about.

Memory Verse:

**"As iron sharpens iron, one person sharpens another."
Proverbs 27:17**

Youth & Children's Ministry



Chili Cook-Off Sunday February 2, 4 pm

Be sure to come back to the church at 4 pm to enjoy some of the best chili you'll ever have! Good times, great food, games, & prizes! Help us judge and vote for the best chili or just sample some of the most delicious chilis! \$25 to enter and a free will donation to help send our students to Winter Camp!

**Weekly youth group happens
each Sunday afternoon
following the 11 am worship.**

Winter Camp February 21-23, 2025



*Please pray for our youth and leaders for our time away for fresh mountain air, lots of worship, snow play and fellowship time!

*Camper details: Cost \$100 plus spending money. The remaining cost is covered by fundraising so make sure to participate!

*Meet at Saint John's Friday morning.

*Return before dinner on Sunday

Camper's Packing List:

Bible, flashlight, sleeping bag & pillow, towel & toiletries, winter clothes: jacket, hat, gloves, boots, spending money enough for 2 travel meals plus extra snacks at the camp store.

We don't know about snow yet but even with limited snow, we will be doing Winter camp activities (like ice skating and snow tubes!)

Growing Together

G R E A T E R

A Study in the Book of Hebrews

You're invited to study God's Word together on Tuesday mornings at Saint John's. Pastor Greg leads this engaging study each Tuesday morning in the Commons at 10 am. This season, we're studying the New Testament Book of Hebrews. Come and join us. No experience necessary. All are welcome.



Pastor Greg & Cindi are excited to lead a new monthly-ish Marriage Group. Want to make your good marriage even better? Come and check out the first meeting at the Rule's home in Arroyo Grande, on Sunday, February 16th at 5pm. We'll have a potluck dinner and then a small group time. Childcare will be provided. For our discussions, we'll be using The Marriage Course from Alpha. Come have fun and grow together. Questions? Talk to Pastor Greg.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday February 1st at 8 am in Rooms 7/8

Dress A Girl



Dress a Girl had an amazing year in 2024! God really loves the little children of the world! I say that because in 2024, after giving the bulk of the dresses we collected almost exclusively to Operation Christmas Child, who does an excellent job distributing the dresses where they are needed most. That being said, part of the excitement of being a part of Dress A Girl is finding new-to-us organizations who want to take dresses into the countries they minister in. Of course that also involves getting our sewists and those in the other groups that sew dresses and send them to us, to sew more dresses to answer the demand. In August, I was feeling pretty comfortable with the production we had going on – we had enough dresses to provide OCC with all the dresses they asked for plus another few hundred dresses requested from a group called Life Impact, the leader being a friend of our Simi Valley OCC coordinator....And then as I was packing up those dresses, I received another request from a new ministry, Friends of Hope International, wanting 500 dresses! My first reaction was that there is no way we can make another 500 dresses in such a short period of time! Then, I realized, this was a request from God that needed to be addressed. We had a serious conversation about believing in & trusting the power of Almighty God, particularly when He wants something done. At the end of that conversation, even though I was still worried about how I, me, myself was going to make this happen! God's answer was quick and sure – "You aren't, but I AM!" Was I humbled? You better believe it! By the time we were supposed to have 500 dresses, we had 735! In 2023 we had a total of 1700 dresses – 2024, we had 2065 dresses to give away. God's power is overwhelming! The only caveat is that we must believe in He who is greater than we are, allowing us to walk on water with Jesus, if only we believe.

Dress A Girl meets once a month on the second Saturday from 9 am to 2 pm. If you'd like to experience a "walking on water" experience, come join us – you won't regret it.

Pamela Glenn, Dress A Girl Coordinator for Saint John's &
Dress A Girl Ambassador for the Central Coast

Scarf & Hat Knitting & Crocheting

Join us for knitting and crocheting scarves, hats, & blankets for the homeless and needy. We meet every second Wednesday of the month. In February on the 12th at 9 am in the Church Office.

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
26 9:30am Worship 10:45am Congregational Meeting Part II 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Youth Group	27 11:00am Handbells Rehearsal 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	28 10:00am NO Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting	29 6:30pm Worship Team
2 Scout Sunday 9:30am Worship & Communion 11:00am Worship-Holy Communion 12:00pm Youth Group 4:00pm Annual Chili Cook-Off	3 11:00am Handbells Rehearsal 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	4 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting	5 6:30pm Worship Team
9 9:15am Handbells Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Youth Group	10 11:00am Handbells Rehearsal 1:00pm Global/Community Missions 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	11 10:00am Bible Study 11:30am People's Kitchen 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting	12 9:00am Knit a Scarf 6:30pm Worship Team
16 9:30am Worship-Holy Communion 10:30 am Forum – Children's Center 11:00am Worship-Holy Communion 12:00pm Youth Group 5:00pm Alpha Marriage Group	17 Office Closed Presidents' Day 11:00am Handbells Rehearsal 6:00pm Council Mtg 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	18 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting	19 6:30pm Worship Team
23 Women's Retreat – Cambria Pines 10:00am Worship (one service only) 11:15am Congregational Meeting – Children's Center 12:00pm Youth Group 6:00pm Prayer Party with Pie led by Dan Harter	24 11:00am Handbells Rehearsal 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	25 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting	26 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm Troop 13 Meeting 6:30pm Worship Team

February 2025

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31 OFFICE CLOSED	1 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am Property Day 8:00pm A.A. Speakers
6 6:30pm Choir Practice	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8 9:00am Dress A Girl Workshop
13 11:00am Stephen Ministry	14 OFFICE CLOSED Valentine's Day 3:00pm Troop 13 Set-Up for Pinewood Derby on 15th	15 9:00am Troop 13 Pinewood Derby 1:00pm Paonessa Memorial
20	21 Women's Retreat – Cambria Pines OFFICE CLOSED	22 Women's Retreat – Cambria Pines 9:30am FFF – Elfin Forest Boardwalk
27 11:00am Stephen Ministry 6:30pm Choir Practice	28 OFFICE CLOSED	1 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am Property Day 8:00pm A.A. Speakers

FEBRUARY 2025

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

We're reading through the New Testament together. When you read just five chapters per week, you'll read through the entire New Testament in 2025!

As you read ask yourself these three questions:

- ♦ *What is God saying to me?*
- ♦ *What am I going to do about it?*
- ♦ *Who can I share this with?*

Mo Feb 3 ☐ John 21
 Tu Feb 4 ☐ 1 Cor 1
 We Feb 5 ☐ 1 Cor 2
 Th Feb 6 ☐ 1 Cor 3
 Fr Feb 7 ☐ 1 Cor 4

Mo Feb 10 ☐ 1 Cor 5
 Tu Feb 11 ☐ 1 Cor 6
 We Feb 12 ☐ 1 Cor 7
 Th Feb 13 ☐ 1 Cor 8
 Fr Feb 14 ☐ 1 Cor 9

Mo Feb 17 ☐ 1 Cor 10
 Tu Feb 18 ☐ 1 Cor 11
 We Feb 19 ☐ 1 Cor 12
 Th Feb 20 ☐ 1 Cor 13
 Fr Feb 21 ☐ 1 Cor 14

Mo Feb 24 ☐ 1 Cor 15
 Tu Feb 25 ☐ 1 Cor 16
 We Feb 26 ☐ 2 Thess 1
 Th Feb 27 ☐ 2 Thess 2
 Fr Feb 28 ☐ 2 Thess 3



Women's Retreat

Janice Goodwin has organized a three-day Women's Retreat at Cambria Pines on March 21-23. The focus will be upon prayer (UP), building our sisterly bonds (IN), and service to others (OUT). If you are interested, there is a sign up sheet available during fellowship time after worship on Sunday. Contact Janice for more info: email janice@saintjohnsag.com; text/call 805-235-4505.

Women's Ministry

The Women's Ministry will be on hiatus this first quarter of the year with the next business meeting scheduled for June 11th at 1 pm.

Fields of Grace

There's a place That I love to run and play;
There's a place That I sing new songs of praise
Dancin' with my Father God In fields of grace
Dancin' with my Father God In fields of grace



Stephen Ministry

Resources to Help Cope with a Life Crisis

Life is not easy, and we all face crises along the way. God is always with you, and here at Saint John's we are also blessed with a wonderful church family that reaches out and helps each other when the need arises, just as Jesus commanded us to do. In addition, we have over 100 books, pamphlets, and prayer guides dealing with all types of life's challenges. And we are also blessed to have several church members who are professionals in specific disciplines.

In many cases, we find a Stephen Minister can be a huge support too. Our Stephen Ministers at Saint John's are trained to provide one-to-one, confidential, Christ-centered care. They have a compassionate heart for those who are hurting, and they're equipped with caring ministry skills through their training by our Stephen Leaders. The relationship with your Stephen Minister can last a day, a week, a month, a year, or longer. You determine the length. We honor confidentiality in every relationship. We listen, we pray, we hug, we care! Stephen Ministry is appropriate for people experiencing:

Grief	Hospitalization
Terminal illness	Job loss
Military deployment	Long-term care
Spiritual crisis	Divorce
Cancer	Chronic illness
The onset of a disability	And Many other life struggles
Physical rehabilitation	

Encounter Jesus. Experience Family. Embrace the Broken.

Your Saint John's Stephen Ministry Team,  

Gordon Eiland, Robin Eiland, Ruby Burke, Barb Johnson, Bruce Metzler,
Pastor Greg

P.S Could God be calling you to serve as a Stephen Minister? Ask any of us how you can join this amazing ministry.



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Council Highlights

Highlights from Council Meeting January 20, 2025

1. Gordon gave another detailed review of our finances. December giving was far above average, putting us in a more positive position ending 2024 and allowing us to come in much better than budgeted! Trends are very positive.
2. Pastor Greg reported that attendance is also trending up with new families and activities being well attended.
3. Janice reported on the restoration project for the Commons. Currently Saint John's will have a deductible of \$5,000 of the total costs. Project completion will be in February.
4. Nominating Committee has submitted new council member names for congregational approval. Many thanks to outgoing members Louisa and Jeff for their tireless service these past 3 years.
5. Council voted unanimously to provide a business plan for a potential Christian Children's Center to the congregation. A forum will be held prior to a congregational vote, in February.
6. Council voted unanimously to put forward to the congregation for vote a conditional proposal for the rental of land space for use by a cell tower company. Substantial income is possible from this project, if approved.

Congregational Forum – Q & A: Children's Center Proposal Sunday, February 16, 2025

We will have a Forum discussion Sunday February 16th at 10:30 am, between worship services, to discuss having a Children's Center here at Saint John's.

Congregational Meeting – Children's Center Proposal Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 11:15

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday February 23rd after a 10 am worship service, to vote on potentially having a Children's Center here at Saint John's.

February Memory Verse



Matthew 6:10

**Your kingdom
come.
Your will be done
on earth,
as it is in heaven.**

February Birthdays & Anniversaries



ROBIN EILAND	2/2
PATRICIA STURCKE	2/4
TRISTAN CHANLEY	2/10
GREG WALLACE	2/10
JERRY DE VOS	2/11
WILLIAM LARSEN	2/11
MARCY RICHARDSON	2/16
VALERIE LUND	2/19
ADRIENNE RULE	2/19
DAVID IMMEL	2/23



No Anniversaries in February
for current members



Please pray for:
Heidi, Travis, Sarah, Shar, George,
Bruce, Morgan, Rena, Kay, Betty,
Emanda, Sean. As a grateful
Congregation, give high praise to
our Father in Heaven for every
blessing we have received after the
flooding in the Commons right
before Thanksgiving. We have been
blessed by the work of the
mitigation team as well as the re-
construction team, all who have
been considerate and eager to
please with their work. We are so
grateful to our Abba Father, Who
used what satan surely meant for
our harm & destruction, to instead
give us a new hope for our future as
a part of the chosen ones helping to
bring in the harvest.

February Workday

Saturday, February 1st 9 am

Come one come all & lend a hand
to help keep our property beautiful!
Feel free to come any day you are
able and pick up trash or help Lois
with trimming - there's never a lack
of things to do.

**March Newsletter Deadline
for submission of an article is
February 15th!!**

**February
Food of the Month
Pasta & Sauce**

Your donation will benefit
Five Cities Christian Women Food Bank

CONTACT information



Church Council 2025

PRESIDENT

Janice Goodwin

VICE PRESIDENT

Bob Weiger

TREASURER

Gordon Eiland

SECRETARY

Mark Haley

Youth & Children

Dawn Drysdale

Worship & Altar Guild

Louise Taylor

Stewardship

Gordon Eiland

Property

Mike Johnson

Global Missions

Good News

At-Large

Ed Muraski

Staff

Pastor
Office Manager
Asst. Office Manager
Children & Youth Director
Music Coordinator
Chancel Choir & Handbells Director
Songfest Director
Choir Accompanist
Organist
Nursery Attendant
Children's Ministry Intern
Student Ministry Intern

Greg Wallace
Pamela Glenn
Barbara Howard
Cindi Wallace
Janice Goodwin
Shari Bowman
Cal Wood
Shari Bowman
Dawn Russ
Audrie Greene
Lydia Wallace
Matthew Harter

Saint John's Office Phone	805-489-1259
Pastoral Emergencies	310-613-0283
General E-mail	office@saintjohnsag.com
Greg Wallace Pastor	greg@saintjohnsag.com
Pamela Glenn Office Manager	office@saintjohnsag.com
Barbara Howard Asst. Office Manager	barbara@saintjohnsag.com
Cindi Wallace Child & Youth Ministry Dir	cindi@saintjohnsag.com
Janice Goodwin Council President	janice@saintjohnsag.com
Prayer Ministry Cindi Wallace	cindi@saintjohnsag.com
Kerry Wood Financial Secretary	financialsecretary@saintjohnsag.com
Church Website	www.saintjohnsag.com

Your 2025 Church Council



Janice Goodwin
President



Bob Weiger
Vice President
Women's Ministry
Liason



Mark Haley
Secretary



Gordon Eiland
Treasurer
Stewardship Liason



Dawn Drysdale
Youth & Children's
Liason



Mike Johnson
Property Liason



Ed Muraski
At-Large
Member



Louise Taylor
Worship & Altar
Guild Liason



Adrienne Rule
At Large

The Eagle

Published monthly by
Saint Johns Lutheran Church
959 Valley Rd.

Arroyo Grande, CA. 93420

805-489-1259

Fax 805-489-8719

office@saintjohnsag.com

Non-Profit

U.S. Postage Paid

Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

Permit No. 17

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED