



Encounter Jesus Experience Family Embrace the Broken

THE EAGLE



JULY 2025

Pastor's Page

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

Colossians 1:19



I am so grateful to be your pastor. These last eight years have been such a huge blessing for me and my family. Saint John's has been a true family for us. God has blessed me beyond measure.

I am so grateful for this renewal time away. This three-month Sabbatical is such a gift. I know God will use it to draw me closer to him, recharge my batteries, and fill me with new dreams. I'm particularly looking forward to being in the book of Colossians. Our memory verse for July is such a good reminder that everything we need to know about God is in the person of Jesus. You can read on page 6 more about what I'll be doing during these weeks away. It will be full, but not too full.

I am so grateful that Cindi will be taking a month off of unpaid leave to join me for part of the Sabbatical. She has a lot of work to do preparing to launch the new Children's Center at Saint John's.

I am so grateful to our Church Council, Staff, and key volunteers for taking care of things while I'm away. If you can find a way to help out, please do. Janice, Pam, and Cindi will need lots of help, so check in with them as you have time to serve. Not to mention all the usual needs around the campus!

I am so grateful for all the preachers who will be sharing the Gospel with us. It will be wonderful to go deep into the Parables of Jesus. You can read on page 6 who will be speaking and what Parable they'll be preaching on.

Finally, I am so grateful for your prayers this summer. Thanks for your support and encouragement to take this time away. I can't wait to get back with you and share what we've all learned during this time.

Keep Pressing On,

Greg

See page 5 for all the details!



Ohana means Family! You're invited to invite everyone you can to this fun fellowship time together. Pick up postcards on Sunday morning and help us spread the word. Remember, we're all together for one gathering at 10am.



See page 7 Fun, Fitness & Fellowship article for details

Youth & Children's Ministry

Weekly KidsChurch - Kids begin with their family in the 9:30 worship service for the first 10-15 minutes before heading off to a special time in KidsChurch!

Weekly Youth Group happens Sunday afternoons following the 11 am worship service.

July KidsChurch Series Overview – Teaching Kids All About Heaven



Tagline: Heaven is our real home, and we can prepare for it right now.

Idea: Even though we all hope to live long lives on earth, we will all leave the earth someday. Thankfully, the Bible tells us that death isn't the end of our lives—in fact, it's really the beginning! We'll live forever with Jesus in a place that's so wonderful we can hardly imagine what it's like. Right now, we can start preparing ourselves for spending eternity with God.

Memory Verse: “

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.” Colossians 3:1 (NIV)

Youth & Children's Ministry

Ukulele Sunday & Luau Lunch, Sunday July 27th After 10 am Gathering

Don't miss our annual Ukulele worship Sunday, July 27th at 10 am followed by a delicious Luau lunch. Kids are invited to come for KidsChurch filled with crafts, games, water play, and an inflatable water slide. We have new sunglasses and beach towels for all the kids! Don't forget to wear sunscreen!



Summer Youth Trip July 27-30, 2025

We are so grateful for your support, help, and investment in the youth of Saint John's! Thanks to all who contributed and purchased items at our annual youth fundraiser. A very special thank you to Theresa and Rich for another amazing dinner!

IN: Experience Family

Spots are currently full but talk to Matthew to get on the wait list! High School students join us for an unforgettable blend of thrill, laughter, and meaningful fellowship. From roller coasters and funnel cakes to heartfelt conversations about faith and life.

Details: Meet at Saint John's at 10 am Sunday, July 27

1. Join us for Ukulele Sunday 7/27 worship at 10 am followed by water play and lunch
2. We will return before dinner in the early evening on Wednesday, July 30
3. Bring money for 4 meals (2 dinners + 2 lunches), snacks, and souvenirs
4. Make sure you have a medical release on file
5. We will spend one day at Knott's Berry Farm and one day at Soak City
6. Packing: Comfy shoes for lots of walking, clothes with layers, bathing suit, towel (water park), sun screen, shoes for Soak City, reusable water bottle, pjs, toiletries (deodorant!!), Bible and phone charger!
7. Talk to Matthew with any questions 805-554-1354

Sabbatical Update

Question: Where will Pastor Greg be on his Sabbatical?

Answer: In July, Lydia & Matthew are getting married. Pastor Greg will be walking his daughter down the aisle and performing the ceremony! He's also planning a silent retreat in the mountains and some visits to churches in southern California. In August, he'll be alone in Colorado Springs for about three weeks working on a preaching book and hiking in the great outdoors. At the end of August, Pastor Greg & Cindi will spend a month in Hawaii (Maui and Kauai) resting and celebrating 30 years of marriage together.

Question: What will the Pastor be learning on his Sabbatical?

Answer: Pastor Greg will be spending time in the book of Colossians and the Psalms. Our memory verses for July to October will be from Colossians as well. He'll be reading books on leadership and equipping the saints for ministry to learn how to keep raising up more leaders at Saint John's. In working on a book about preaching, he'll be getting up to speed on current preaching trends and practices.

Question: Who's preaching while Pastor Greg is away?

July 6th Dan Harter
Mark 4:26-29
Parable of the Seed

July 13th Pastor Marv
Combs Luke 18: 9-14 Parable
of the Pharisee and the Tax
Collector

July 20th Pastor Marv
Combs
Luke 16: 19-31 Parable of the
Rich Man & Lazarus

July 27th Ukulele Sunday
Janice Goodwin & Adrienne
Rule Ecclesiastes 4:12:9-12
Ukulele Sunday – Ohana

August 3rd Pastor Randy
Ouimette Matthew 18:23-35
Parable of the unforgiving Servant

August 10th Cindi Wallace
Luke 14:15-24 Parable of the
Great Banquet

August 17th Pastor Randy
Ouimette Matthew 20:1-16
Parable of the Laborers in the
Vineyard

August 24th
Pastor Pat Muran
Luke 12:13-21 Parable of the
rich fool

August 31st Angie Salazar,
Iglesia Luterana San Juan
Bautista Mark 4:30-34
Parable of the Mustard Seed

September 7th Pastor Carl
Nielsen Luke 15:11-32:
Parable of the Prodigal Son
(part one)

September 14th
Katy Griffin, Zozu
Matthew 18:10-14 Parable of
the Lost Sheep

September 21st Pastor Carl
Nielsen [Communion]
Text: Luke 15:11-32: Parable
of the Prodigal Son (part two)

September 28th
Mim Nellermoe,
China Service Ventures
Text:TBA

Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry enjoyed a very inspiring meeting on Wednesday, June 11th. Rick TerBorch gave a formidable and inspiring history of the Police Force from the 1960's to the present. The next meeting is planned for Wednesday September 10th at noon, featuring Robin Eiland, who will speak about the Daughters of the American Revolution. Please plan to come. We will have a salad and dessert luncheon.

Thank You from Louise Frye, Ruth Kapka, Joyce McGhie, Dianna Muraski and Pat Muran.

Fun, Fitness & Fellowship

Fun, Fitness and Fellowship for July - Come one, Come all to the Second Annual Road Rally! Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 19th! For those who raced last year, the course duration will remain the same (one hour), with a BBQ to follow at the finish line.

Start time: 11am of Saturday, July 19th.

Starting line: Location is TBD.

Finish line: You must complete the course to find out!

The course will take the driver, navigator and passengers throughout the roads of San Luis Obispo County. More information to follow during the July Sunday Services. For questions, contact the Race Director, Mark Haley.

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast, Saturday July 12th at 8 am. Invest the time to encourage one another in fellowship and to share with each other what the Lord has done, with humility and grace. We'll pray together, eat together and enjoy the company of our Brothers in Christ. (The Church Workday starts at 9 am, if you can stick around to help for a bit!) Please let us know if you plan to come or if you need a ride. Text or call Bruce 805-550-3434

From Saint John's Youth Group to Ordained Pastor



Erica Thomas, formerly a member of the Saint John's Youth Group, recently celebrated her ordination as a pastor in the state of Michigan. Proud parents Breck & Priscilla Thomas shared pictures of Erica during her ordination and a few more as she starts her new life.



Rev. Erica Thomas is our **NMU Wesley Campus Ministry** Director and Director of Community Outreach and Connectional Ministry. Erica is a California native who is thriving as a transplant in the UP as she enjoys the snowy winters and experiencing all four seasons. She holds a Master of Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and is commissioned by the Michigan Conference as a Deacon. Erica finds joy in empowering youth and young adults to grow into their potential and follow their dreams. When she is not studying or hanging out with NMU Wesley students, she can be found out on the trails with her two pups, Wrenegade and Santiago. She is passionate about the outdoors and enjoys sharing her passion through wilderness emergency medicine instruction and volunteering with search and rescue through the Marquette County Sheriff's department.



The Thomas' moved to Soledad a few years back when Priscilla was looking for a teaching position. Priscilla still comes to Arroyo Grande on occasion to share her time with the Dress A Girl ministry.

Congratulations, Erica, for following God's heart and desire for you.

Music Ministry

MANY thanks to our Choir and Bell members!!

It's been a wonderfully inspiring Spring season as musicians at Saint John's, and I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge the time and commitment of these musical members:

Chancel Choir: Louise Frye, Wanda Parker, Heidi Parker, Louise Taylor, Janice Goodwin, Doreen Ley, Dawn Drysdale, Adrienne Rule, Tim Myer, Wes Drysdale, Greg Wallace, Bob Weiger, Cal Wood and Gordon Eiland.

Heavenly Handbells: Kathy Lindstaedt, Sandy Varley, Pam Webster, Doreen Ley and Karen Correll.

Weekly rehearsals are a big commitment, and your fellow church family members so graciously came to rehearse and make a joyful noise for our worship services. Choir is now off for the summer, but if you'd like to join us this fall, Chancel Choir will begin meeting on a new night -- Wednesdays at 6:30pm beginning August 13th. We will normally sing in worship the 2nd Sunday each month, though that may vary depending on the liturgical season. Fall schedules can be found in the Choir Room (Office wing).

Handbells will continue through the summer months, and rehearse each Monday at 11:00am, most normally ringing the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month.

As with both groups, you can come whenever you know you'll be in town to worship the Sunday we sing/ring. Lots of us like to travel, visit family, sometimes take a little time off -- that's a great thing, and we're flexible, welcoming you back when you're here on the Central Coast.

THANK YOU once again to my dear singers and ringers -- you inspire us, you lift our spirits, you bring messages of hope, redemption, seasonal joy and love!!

-- Shari Bowman, Director

July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
29 9:30am Worship 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Youth Group	30 11:00am Bells Rehearsal 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	1	2 6:30pm Worship Team
6 9:30am Worship 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Youth Group	7 11:00am Bells Rehearsal 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	8 11:30am People's Kitchen	9 9:00am Knit a Scarf 3:00pm Stephen Ministry 6:30pm Worship Team
13 9:30am Worship & Communion* 11:00am Worship & Communion* 12:00pm Youth Group *Communion on Second Sunday one time only	14 11:00am Bells Rehearsal 1:00pm Global & Community Missions 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice 6:00pm Men's M-6 Dinner Meeting	15	16 6:30pm Worship Team
20 9:30am Worship-Holy Communion 11:00am Worship-Holy Communion 12:00pm Youth Group	21 11:00am NO Bells Rehearsal 6:00pm Council Mtg 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	22	23 11:00am Staff Mtg 6:30pm Worship Team
27 Ukulele Sunday 10:00am Worship one service only 11:00am Luau Luncheon 12:00pm Youth Group Summer Trip to SoCal	28 11:00am Bells Rehearsal 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	29	30 3:00pm Stephen Ministry 6:30pm Worship Team

July 2025

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4 Holiday - Independence Day OFFICE CLOSED	5 8:00pm A.A. Speakers
10	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12 8:00am Men's Breakfast 9:00am Dress A Girl Workshop 9:00am Property Day
17	18 OFFICE CLOSED	19 11:00am 2 nd Annual Road Rally 11:00am Scleroderma Group
24	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26
31	1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 9:00am Property Day 8:00pm A.A. Speakers

JULY 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!

♦ *What is God saying to me?*

♦ *What am I going to do about it?*

♦ *Who can I share this with?*

Mo June 30 ☐ 2 Cor 13
Tu July 1 ☐ Luke 1
We July 2 ☐ Luke 2
Th July 3 ☐ Luke 3
Fr July 4 ☐ Luke 4

Mo July 7 ☐ Luke 5
Tu July 8 ☐ Luke 6
We July 9 ☐ Luke 7
Th July 10 ☐ Luke 8
Fr July 11 ☐ Luke 9

Mo July 14 ☐ Luke 10
Tu July 15 ☐ Luke 11
We July 16 ☐ Luke 12
Th July 17 ☐ Luke 13
Fr July 18 ☐ Luke 14

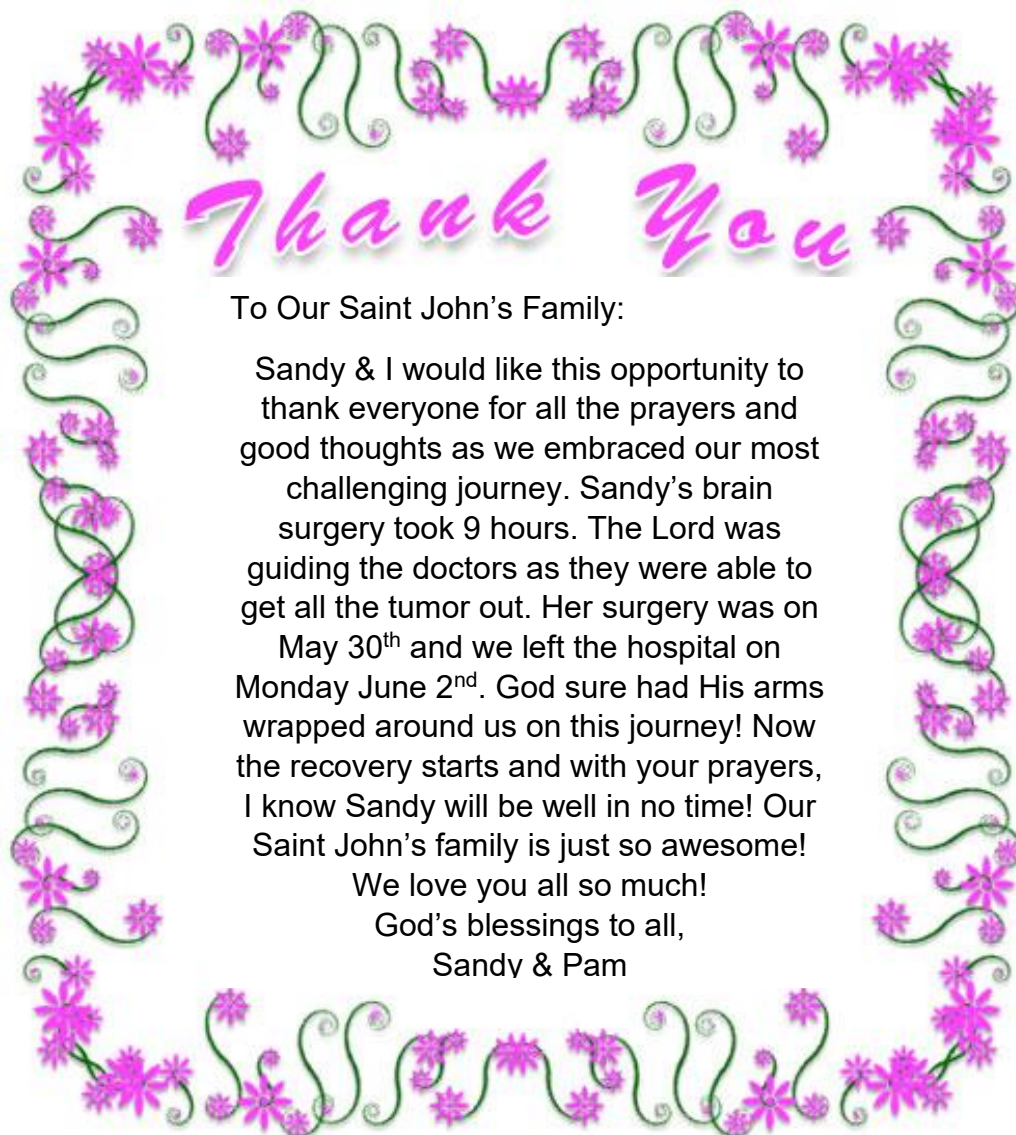
Mo July 21 ☐ Luke 15
Tu July 22 ☐ Luke 16
We July 23 ☐ Luke 17
Th July 24 ☐ Luke 18
Fr July 25 ☐ Luke 19

Mo July 28 ☐ Luke 20
Tu July 29 ☐ Luke 21
We July 30 ☐ Luke 22
Th July 31 ☐ Luke 23
Fr Aug 1 ☐ Luke 24



Good News Team

The GOOD NEWS TEAM, as its name suggests, has an evangelical mission to reach out to members and our community. We provide greeters for the morning services and need more people to help. We try to provide support for those who are ill or going through a difficult period in their lives. Some of the new initiatives include: developing a list of local cultural events members and their friends might do together a few times a year; sponsoring two multi-week sessions that are Bible-based but not strictly a Bible study over the course of 2025-2026; and discussing how the church might best respond to the needs of children and teens the county has deemed “at-risk”. Our next GNT meeting will be by Zoom on October 6. To learn more over the summer months you may contact: Louisa Troemel, Jeff Metcalfe, Earlene Leijonhufvud



Could you be a Stephen Minister?



Stephen Ministers are everyday lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness. Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need. Being a Stephen Minister will be one of the most rewarding experiences you can imagine! We hope you will prayerfully consider God's guidance in your life and how you can serve Him, and join us!

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2
"My command is this: Love one other as I have loved you." John 15: 12

Training classes for new Stephen Ministers begin on August 11, 2025.

Stephen Minister training:

1. teaches principles and skills that equip you to provide high-quality, Christ-centered emotional and spiritual care to others.
2. gives you new insight into the thoughts, feelings, and actions of people who are hurting.
3. equips you with relational and caring skills you can apply to all aspects of your life.
4. helps deepen your faith as the Holy Spirit fashions you into a Christ-centered caregiver.
5. builds a special bond of Christian community and camaraderie among all those in your class.
6. is highly interactive, engaging, and a lot of fun!

Is God giving you a nudge to consider Stephen Ministry?

Just let Pastor Greg know, or turn this in with your offering, and we'll reach out to you.

I would like to learn more about becoming a Stephen Minister:

Name _____

Phone _____

Dress A Girl

Dress a Girl will meet Saturday July 12th from 9 am to 2 pm. You are welcome to join us anytime during those hours. We have all the equipment needed for sewing a dress, but we suggest you bring your own machine if you have one. There's always a lot going on at Dress a Girl – making new kit's, serging raw edges on dress kits (we'll teach you how to use a serger), and of course sewing dresses together. We don't require that you know how to sew – if you want to learn, we can teach you! I am looking forward to seeing all the new faces God is sending us to help make dresses for all His beautiful little girls around the world who need clothes, prayer, a new confidence that God has a plan for each of them and protection from the human traffickers. Who knew that a simple dress inspired by our loving God, could be so powerful! If you would like to be a part of this inspiring ministry, please contact Pam at 805-710-7941 or email dressagirlagca@gmail.com. We meet every second Saturday of the month in the Fellowship Hall.

Knitting & Crocheting

Knitting & Crocheting, Wednesday, July 9th 9 am to noon

Knitters (and crocheters), we'll be meeting on Wed. July 9th in the Church office (Valley Rd parking lot). Bring your sticks & hooks & bring your yarn – or pick some up when you come to knit & crochet. We are currently working on baby blankets & hats for Lifeline Pregnancy Center. Of course, we also continue to work on scarves and hats for the homeless as well, but for a while we will concentrate on the baby stuff. We hope you will join us in this new venture! Call Pam for more info 805-710-7941. See you at 9 am on the 9th!

Property Team

Please come work with the Property Team for our monthly property cleanup on July 12th from 9-12. As always, there is plenty of work to be done! And we are so appreciative of those who have stepped up to help out. Jump in where you can, when you can! Any and all help is greatly needed and appreciated.

July Birthdays & Anniversaries



ELIZABETH BLANK	7/31
ROBERT CARLESON	7/25
DONN CLARIUS	7/16
ANNA DYBDAHL	7/13
LOUISE FRYE	7/21
JANICE GOODWIN	7/22
PATRICIA MURAN	7/19
ED MURASKI	7/31
TOM REILLY	7/18
GREG SMITH	7/21
MARCIA THORNTON	7/20
MICAH WALLACE	7/26



ROGER & JEANNIE ORMONDE	7/24
BRIAN & ANGIE KING	7/18

If you are a member of Saint John's, and your birthday or anniversary is in July, you should see your name here. If you don't, please let Pam know, so we can correct our information.



Please pray for:

Pastor Randy, Rocky, Anthony, Nick,
Penny, Sandy, Lois, Crystal, Shar,
Fiona, Heidi, Travis, Sarah, George,
Bruce, Rena, Kay, Emanda, Sean

Prayers of Praise for healing of Morgan!

July Food of the Month Granola Bars or Protein Bars

Your donation will benefit
Five Cities Christian Women
Food Bank

**August Newsletter
Deadline
for submission of an
article is July 15th!!**

Message from Council President

July sure did arrive faster than I anticipated; How about for you? While I will be missing Pastor Greg a whole bunch while he enjoys his well-deserved sabbatical, I am excited about the great things we have going on this summer at Saint John's and look forward to sharing these with all of you! Selfishly, I am most looking forward to Ukulele Sunday on July 27th! It's always a wonderful time of fellowship and music, and a terrific luau lunch after worship. If this will be your first Ukulele Sunday then you're in for a treat! Dig into your closets and pull out your best aloha attire and get ready as we gather for a single worship at 10:00am (that's the only time we'll have a single service this summer). Ukulele players of all skill levels are welcome to strum along with the band on that Sunday morning, either from up front or from in the pews. The music for the 5 songs that day can be found on the church website or in paper form in the commons. During the message that day, shared by Adrienne Rule, we'll be hearing about how God wants us (and commands us!) to experience His "Ohana," which is "family" in Hawaiian.

Throughout the summer we will be hearing Jesus' message to us through the parables from a terrific lineup of guest preachers. In July we will hear from Dan Harter, our mission partner to the Middle East (and Matthew's dad!), as well as Pastor Marv Combs. In August we'll hear about the parables from Pastor Randy, Cindi Wallace, Pastor Pat Muran, and Angie Salazar from Iglesia Luterana de San Juan Bautista in Santa Maria. Then in September we will be joined by Pastor Carl Nielsen, Katy Griffin from Zozu Project, and Mim Neller-moe from Bethel Lutheran Church in Santa Maria. We are so blessed to be supported by such an outstanding list of guest preachers. You won't want to miss a single Sunday this summer!

Here are a few other things you should know for this sabbatical summer: While Pastor Greg is away we will be relying on our own Stephen Ministers (led by Robin and Gordon Eiland) to walk alongside congregation members in times of need, and our crew of stand-by pastors (Pastor Randy, Pastor Pat, and Pastor Carl) will also be available for pastoral emergencies. Matthew Harter will be sending out the weekly emails and keeping the website up to date. Most everything else is covered by our usual volunteers, but now is a great time to get involved and lend a hand with the work we have going on here on our little corner. If you have needs or questions this summer, or want to know where you can get plugged in, please start with the office main phone number and Pam can direct you to what you need, or you can call or text me, and I'll be available to help with that as well. I'm grateful and blessed to be part of God's Ohana with each of you!




Council Highlights

Highlights from the May 19th, 2025 Council meeting

1. Property Maintenance – You may notice that nearly all of the windows are newly screened. The property committee is working hard to maintain our wonderful grounds and building. If anyone sees an issue, report the issue to the property committee.
2. Planning for Pastor Greg's sabbatical – the Council is actively finishing up all plans for the upcoming sabbatical for Pastor Greg, which begins July 1st. Guest pastors are lined up for Sunday services and pastoral care of our congregation.
3. Dates for the Annual Congregational meetings: Mark your calendars for December 21st as the first Congregational meeting, where the church budget for 2026 will be presented for approval. Anticipate a budget forum to discuss this budget before the 21st. Also, the second Congregational meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 11th, at which the new Council Members will be voted into office. For any questions, ask a Council member.
4. For Fun, Fitness and Fellowship, the second annual road rally will be held on Sunday, July 19th! A different route, but the same rules as last year. More information to follow, a good time will be had by all.



July Memory Verse

A monarch butterfly with orange and black wings is perched on a smooth, blue, oval-shaped stone. The background is a dense collection of similar stones in various shades of blue, green, and brown.

*For in him
all the fullness
of God was
pleased to
dwell.*

Colossians 1:19

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

Good News

Adrienne Rule

At-Large

Ed Muraski

Pastor

Greg Wallace

Staff

Pastor

Greg Wallace

Office Manager

Pamela Glenn

Children & Youth Director

Cindi Wallace

Music Coordinator

Janice Goodwin

Chancel Choir & Handbells Director

Shari Bowman

Songfest Director

Cal Wood

Choir Accompanist

Shari Bowman

Organist

Dawn Russ

Nursery Attendant

Brooklyn Davis

Children's Ministry Intern

Lydia Wallace

Student Ministry Intern

Matthew Harter

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Your 2025 Church Council



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President



Bob Weiger
Vice President
Women's Ministry
Liaison



Mark Haley
Secretary



Gordon Eiland
Treasurer
Stewardship Liaison



Dawn Drysdale
Youth & Children's
Liaison



Mike Johnson
Property Liaison



Ed Muraski
At-Large
Member



Louise Taylor
Worship & Altar
Guild Liaison



Adrienne Rule
Good News
Liaison

The Eagle

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