

**The Eagle  
March 2025**

Encounter Jesus Experience Family Embrace the Broken

**There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.   
Romans 8:1**

A person and person taking a selfie on a beach

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Pastor’s Page

*“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.” Matthew 4:1-2*  
  
40 days to a new you! That’s what the miracle cures, diet plans, and habit gurus all agree on. Are they right? Lots of studies show that making behavioral changes that stick requires at least a month or more to take root. Have you ever tried to quit smoking? Was it easy or did it take some time?  
  
Lent may not be a miracle cure, but God can do a lot with us in 40 days together. It all starts on Ash Wednesday, March 5th at noon and 7pm. We remember our fragile mortality and turn to the one who has overcome the grave. During this season, many make a Lenten vow to give up something or to add something. I’ve fasted from caffeine, soda, chocolate, and alcohol over the years. Some have abstained from Social Media or television. Others add things like reading through the Gospels or extra times of prayer. There’s no rule about it. You don’t have to do it, but what if you did? What might you give up or add to make more time for God to work?  
  
We’ll also enjoy a simple meal together each Wednesday night at 6pm along with some prayer and devotional time. These Soup Suppers are a wonderful way to grow together (just don’t give up soup for Lent). We’ll be handing out Baby Bottles during Lent again this year to collect your spare change for Lifeline Pregnancy Center in Grover. They are making a huge difference in our community.  
  
Keep an eye out for your Lenten Journal. We’ll be focusing on Romans 8 and trusting God to feed us. I always say that Easter is more meaningful when we do the work of Lent. Dying to ourselves and taking up a cross daily isn’t easy but during this season, let’s focus on the cross together.  
  
Peace,  
  
Greg

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A purple and white banner with text and a person with a soup bowl

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Life Together

**Chili Cook-Off Sunday February 2nd 4 pm**

Don’t forget – we’ll be having our annual Chili Cook-Off at the beginning of February! (see page 5 for all the details.)

**Ash Wednesday Worship March 5th, Noon & 7pm**   
*“Remember you are dust and   
to dust you shall return.”*   
This somber remembrance marks the beginning of our Lenten Journey.   
Come at noon or 7pm for the Traditional Imposition of Ashes  
and a time of   
Holy Communion together.

**Baby Bottles**

Be sure to grab a mini Baby Bottle from Lifeline Pregnancy Center in Grover - They’ll be sharing with us on Sunday, March 2nd at both gatherings. You can take a bottle home during Lent and fill it with spare change (or $100 bills) to support this amazing ministry.

**Soup Suppers   
Wednesdays at 6pm   
Starting Wednesday, March 12th**

Come share a simple meal together and a short devotion time in the Commons. Different groups are providing soup and salad and bread each week. Come and make Lent special as we share this time. You can even bring a friend.   
It all starts at 6pm and   
we’re usually out by 7:30pm

**New Member Orientation Saturday, March 8th 9am**   
Are you new? Do you want to learn more about life at Saint John’s? Join Pastor Greg & Cindi for a lively morning talking about faith and life together. There’s no pressure to join, but if you want to, this is how you do it. We start at 9am and end with lunch together. Sign up in the Commons or talk with Pastor Greg.

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**Join us for KidsChurch most Sundays!**On fifth Sundays & holidays, kids will stay in worship with their family, celebrating Family Sundays.   
Nursery care will continue to be offered each Sunday.

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**Tagline:**Bible Lessons Based on LEGO Bricks.  
**Idea:**We can build all kinds of awesome things with LEGO bricks. If we are willing, God will build something awesome in us.

**New March Series: Some Assembly Required**

**Memory Verse:***“Every house is built by someone.  
 But God is the builder of everything.”*   
 Hebrews 3:4 (NIV)

**A red pepper with a green stem

Description automatically generated**

4

**Chili Cook-off Sunday,   
February 2 at 4 pm!**

Come out for a good time of great food, games, and prizes! Help us judge and vote for the best chili or just sample e of the most delicious chilis! Want to enter your chili? Here are the guidelines:

* RED Chili only
* $25 entry fee per person/pot of chili
* Bring a large slow cooker of chili heated
* No additional ingredients can be added for judging (cheese, sour cream, crackers, etc)

Funds raised goes towards scholarships for youth trips and camps!

**Youth & Children’s Ministry**

**Youth & Children’s Ministry**

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We are so grateful for the generous support for this great group of young men. Thank you for supporting our Chili Cook Off last month as well as giving additional donations to scholarship Winter Camp at Hume Lake.

**Congratulations to our   
Annual Chili Cook Off winners:**Dawn Drysdale was awarded 1st place for the second year in a row! Congratulations also to   
Greg Wallace &   
Bryson Maughmer.

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

**Youth & Children’s Ministry**

A group of people standing outside a building

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**A group of people holding cutting boards

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Growing Together

**A blue and orange logo

Description automatically generated**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.

A close up of a ring

Description automatically generated**Marriage Course Sunday, March 23rd 5pm**  
The Monthly Marriage Group will be meeting at Gordon & Robin Eiland’s home in Avila. Check in with Pastor Greg if you’re interested in coming.

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**A pink and white logo

Description automatically generated**

Dress A Girl

A group of girls standing in front of a door

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A group of children making a face with their hands

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A child holding a dress

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A child in a dress

AI-generated content may be incorrect.A child holding a dress

AI-generated content may be incorrect.Come one, come all! Dress a Girl is ramping up for another year of making beautiful dresses for girls around the world, who may have never had a brand new dress of their own – sometimes do not have clothes! This ministry is a work of love for God’s children living with minimal resources, lack of life’s minimal standards of living & often are victims of abuse, human trafficking, hunger and always in fear of what tomorrow might bring. Dress a Girl plays a small part in giving the young girls, often in third world countries, but also in our own back yard, a new outlook and confidence in themselves and how they can affect change in their lives and the lives of others…all because they are children of a loving God who has a plan for their lives. We hope that the stories you hear and the actions of all who are involved, will inspire you, as it has inspired so many who can’t stop making dresses for the girls. This year because of a grant awarded to Dress a Girl through NALC, we will be able to upgrade our sergers, service the ones we have (now 6 or 7 years old), buy a couple more sewing machines to use during our workshops, and to buy the many supplies we need, other than fabric, which is typically donated. If you are new to Saint John’s and are looking for a ministry that will bring joy to your heart, please come join us – you won’t regret it! If you’re not new to Saint John’s, please feel free to join us anyway – we’d love to have your company! Dress a Girl meets every month at Saint John’s in the Fellowship Hall on the second Saturday of the month – In March, it’s on March 8th from 9 am – 2 pm. Any questions, please contact Pam 805-710-7941 or dressagirlagca@gmail.com.

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**Men’s Breakfast  
Saturday, March 1st 8am**  
Calling all the guys.   
Join us for one hour for a hearty breakfast and some meaningful discussion on being   
a Jesus-following man  
 in our crazy world.   
We end at 9am for those helping with the church workday.

**Knitting Scarves & Hats**

**Wednesday, March 12th 9 am**

Knitters (and crocheters), we’ll be meeting on Wed. March 12th in the Church office. Bring your sticks & bring your yarn – or pick some up when you come to knit & crochet. Fresh coffee and who knows what kind of treats we might have??!!   
See you at 9 am on the 12th!

**Good News Team**  
In February the Good News Team met via Zoom meeting. We will meet again by Zoom, on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:30pm. Please join us! Give us your ideas on how we can best re-create our Good News ministry If you are new to Saint John’s we would love to get your feedback. You can make a big difference – please step up and share.   
Please contact Louisa

805-710-5067 by text.

**More Activities**

**Fun, Fitness and Fellowship   
Avila Ridge Hike   
Saturday, March 15th 9am**  
Join Pastor Greg and the Fun, Fitness, and Fellowship group for a hike with a view you won’t soon forget. We’ll start at the Bob Jones Trail parking lot at 9am. We’ll start up the trail and cross over the bridge to Sycamore Springs. There’s a road through the woods that takes us to the top of Avila Ridge. It’s about 2 miles up and 2 miles back with 700 feet of elevation gain. If you just want to walk the Bob Jones Trail part, that’s fine too. Questions?

Talk to Pastor Greg.

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**March 2025**

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**Celebrating Flo Sasse at 103!!**

| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **23** | **24** | **25** | **26** |
| **2**  9:30am Worship & Communion  11:00am Worship-Holy Communion  12:00pm Youth Group | **3**  11:00am Handbells Rehearsal  6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice | **4**  10:00am Bible Study | **5**  **Ash Wednesday**  12:00pm Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion 7:00pm Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion |
| **9**  **Daylight-Saving Time Begins**  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**  9:00am AG Rec Quilters Session 1  10:00am Bible Study  11:30am People's Kitchen  12:00pm Al Anon Meeting | **12**  9:00am Knit a Scarf  6:00pm Lenten Soup Suppers  6:30pm Worship Team |
| **16**  9:30am Worship-Holy Communion  11:00am Worship-Holy Communion  12:00pm Youth Group | **17**  **St. Patrick's Day**  10:30am OA Meeting  11:00am Handbells Rehearsal  1:00pm Literacy Group  6:00pm Council Mtg  6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice | **18**  10:00am Bible Study | **19**  6:00pm Al-Anon Mtg  6:00pm Lenten Soup Suppers  6:30pm Worship Team |
| **23**  9:30am Worship  11:00am Worship  12:00pm Youth Group  5:00pm Marriage Group | **24**  11:00am Handbells Rehearsal  6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice | **25**  10:00am Bible Study | **26**  11:00am Staff Mtg  6:00pm Lenten Soup Suppers  6:30pm Troop 13 Meeting  6:30pm Worship Team |

**March 2025**

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| **Thursday** | **Friday** | **A questionnaire with a list of names  AI-generated content may be incorrect.Saturday** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **27** | **28** | **1**  8:00am Men's Breakfast  9:00am Property Day  8:00pm A.A. Speakers |
| **6**  6:30pm Choir Rehearsal | **7**  **OFFICE CLOSED** | **8**  9:00am Dress A Girl Workshop  9:00am New Members Orientation |
| **13** | **14**  **OFFICE CLOSED** | **15**  9:00am FFF Avila Ridge Hike 9:00am Nipomo Quilting Guild  11:00am Scleroderma Group |
| **20**  **First Day of Spring** | **21**  **OFFICE CLOSED** | **22** |
| **27** | **28**  **OFFICE CLOSED** | **29** |

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**Music, Music, Music**

**l**

**A black and white image of a musical note

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

**WE NEED YOU!!!!!!**

Are you a new member?

Are you an old member?   
 Are you thinking about becoming a member?

Can you count to 4?

Can you read music?

Can you read?

Do you like to sing?

Do you only sing in the shower or in the car?

Our Choir and Bell ministry need you!! There are no auditions -- if you love to sing or would like to ring, it's as easy as coming to rehearsals:

- Bells: Every Monday at 11am in the sanctuary

- Choir: 2 Thursdays/month at 6:30pm in the Choir Room

(schedules are found in the Choir Room bulletin board)

We would love to have you join us for a morning/evening of music, laughs, sharing stories, prayer -- it's as easy as 1-2-3-4!! Our Choir sings a variety of pieces, ranging from gospel to contemporary to traditional to folk -- there's something for everyone. And our Bells are so easy to learn -- we color code each of your bell notes and mark in the 1-2-3-4 timing, so come ring with us!

Some of our group have travel, family, and other commitments, so often they just come to the rehearsals prior to their available dates. Some come every week. We're flexible and most of all, form that "small group" that perhaps you've been seeking. We laugh together, pray together, and make beautiful music for our worship experiences.

You can just show up, or call/text me if you prefer at 805-904-9332. We would love to count you as a full-time, part-time or any-time member of our music ministry here at Saint John's. Come share your talents and find deeper meaning through music!!

Shari Bowman, Director, Choir & Handbell Ministries

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**March Memory Verse**

A cross and a building in the water

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**70th Wedding Anniversary**

**Elizabeth & Lester Blank**

**Happy 70th to**

A person and person standing together

AI-generated content may be incorrect.An older person and person sitting together

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1955 2025

We want to congratulate the Blanks as they celebrate their 70th anniversary this month! We miss seeing you, Elizabeth & Les, but it’s obvious you have a life well-lived with God’s blessings of love, joy and happiness. We are blessed to have you as part of our Church family. From all of us at Saint John’s.

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**March Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Fun, Fitness & Fellowship**

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A red banner with white text

Description automatically generatedA black text with dots and hearts

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**MEL GOMEZ 3/2**

**JENNIFER STOWE 3/5**

**PAMELA GLENN 3/14**

**KERRY WOOD 3/17**

**GALEN RULE 3/20**

**RONALD & KAY WERNER 3/17**

**LESTER & ELIZABETH BLANK 3/19**

**RICK & SHAR TERBORCH 3/29**

A blue and white sign with black text

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**March Workday   
Saturday, March 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.

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Pastoral Emergencies 310-613-0283

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Pamela Glenn Office Manager office@saintjohnsag.com

Cindi Wallace Child & Youth Ministry Dir cindi@saintjohnsagcom

Mark Haley Council President i\_hover\_2@yahoo.com

Prayer Ministry Cindi Wallace cindi@saintjohnsag.com

Kerry Wood Financial Secretary financialsecretary@saintjohnsag.com  
Church Website www.saintjohnsag.com

Please pray for:  
Heidi, Travis, Sarah, Shar, George, Bruce, Morgan, Rena, Kay, Betty, Emanda, Sean.

**March  
Food of the Month - Peanut Butter**Your donation will benefit   
Five Cities Christian Women Food Bank

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

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**Council Highlights**

Highlights from Council Meeting January 20, 2025

* The Council has renewed membership of the South County Chamber of Commerce for another year. The purpose of to promote Saint John’s to the greater community of the Five Cities. Anyone interested in attending any Chamber events, please talk with a Council member.
* The Council was encouraged by the attendance at the Congregational Forum on Sunday, February 16th. All opinions were expressed and heard. The Council awaits the outcome of the Congregational meeting on Sunday, February 23rd regarding any further work on the Children’s Center project. Future work may include the removal of the existing BBQ pit and enclosing a portion of the grass area with a fence. The BBQ cover will remain.
* The security camera system is broken and needs new equipment and upgrade. Working on bids, more to follow in March.
* Cleaning projects: The Nursery rug needs cleaning; bids are being taken.
* Look for an update on furniture renovation of the Commons in the near future.
* The Saint John’s ballcap, first seen at the Harvest Festival this past fall, can start a conversation. The Council is looking at getting some more, ask about ballcaps in March.
* The Council voted against entertaining any interest in a battery storage lease on church property at the present time.

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Staff

Pastor Greg Wallace

Office Manager Pamela Glenn  
Asst. Office Manager Barbara Howard

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 KC Hitchcock

Children’s Ministry Intern Lydia Wallace

Student Ministry Intern Matthew Harter



**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

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Cindi Wallace Child & Youth Ministry Dir cindi@saintjohnsagcom

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

**STAFF**

A group of people smiling

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**Your 2025 Church Council**

[Sidebar Title]

[Sidebars are great for calling out important points from your text or adding additional info for quick reference, such as a schedule.

They are typically placed on the left, right, top or bottom of the page. But you can easily drag them to any position you prefer.

When you’re ready to add your content, just click here and start typing.]

A person in a suit

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**Mark Haley  
Secretary**

A group of people smiling

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**A person smiling at camera

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**Property Liaison**

**Good News Liaison**

**Adrienne Rule  
At Large**

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Property Liaison

**The Eagle**

Published monthly by

Saint Johns Lutheran Church

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Arroyo Grande, CA. 93420

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Editor: Cheryl Apfel

**Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
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