ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
ROBSTOWN, TX

November 2026

Viewing the Harvest

"Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'" - Matthew 9:37-38

As Jesus saw the crowd that is harassed and helpless, he has compassion for them. It's then that he tells his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful." Jesus didn't look out and go "Whoa, what are we going to do about all this!" He also didn't look out and say, "Yep that's about right and what I expected." Jesus' response sees something beyond the surface where we easily get caught up.

It's tempting to look out at the world and see what's lacking. The flood of political advertising ahead of the election doesn't help change that narrative either. However, Jesus' statement that the harvest is plentiful doesn't discount the difficulties that the people are facing. It's not a pep talk for the disciples to simply ignore the reality of what they see. As any farmer will tell you, there are times when the harvest is not plentiful.

So what is Jesus seeing? First off, Jesus is seeing the people. It's not just one entity, but different needs and stories. Individuals that need compassion. That certainly hasn't changed in our time. People still want to be seen, known, and loved. What Jesus is also seeing is that the experience of these people won't be the same forever. They don't always have to be harassed and helpless. That's where the laborers can go out into the harvest to share something different.

Jesus is also seeing, remembering, and reminding his disciples of whose harvest this is. It's God's harvest. God is the creator and sustainer of the world! Though the laborers may be few at this moment, that won't always be the case. God will continue to call laborers out to help. At this harvest time, God give us eyes to see the world as you do. Remind us of the plentiful things that come from you when life seems lacking. Send us out into the harvest to labor and share your compassion with everyone.

In Christ,
Pastor Jonathan

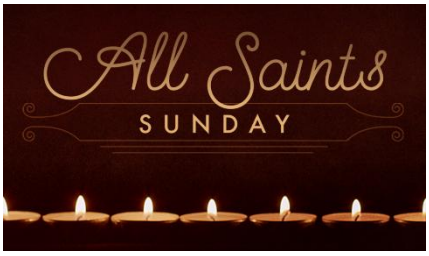
Free will offering meal includes:

Hotdog with options of chili, cheese, onions, relish, mustard, ketchup, mayo

Bag of chips, cookie, tea, water, lemonade

Day Light Savings Time
Sunday, November 1st at 2:00am.
Turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday, October 31st.

All Saints Sunday
On November 1st during our 9:00am worship we will recognize our members, family, and friends who passed away since November 1, 2025.
We look forward to sharing this special and meaningful worship with you.



Halloween & All Saints: A Historical Perspective
Presented by Verne Benson.
Sunday, Nov 1st after worship.
All are welcome to attend.

Confirmation Class
Sunday, November 1st at 3:30pm,
helping set up for Fall Festival.
Sunday, November 15th at 2:00pm, regular class.
See Pr. Jonathan for questions.

Ladies Bible Study
Tuesday, November 10th @ 11:30am
Bring your sack lunch. Drinks will be provided.
Desserts will be provided by
Shotzie Adami and Mary Sue Scheible.

Studying "Together by Grace Bible Conversations: Psalms" by Rachel Wrenn, lead by Pastor Jonathan – page 45 "Anger in the Psalms." Come for quality God/good time.

Healing Worship Service
Sunday, November 15th during 9:00am Worship
We will have a time during worship for laying on of hands and prayers for healing.

Doubles and Singles
Sunday, November 15th at 4:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a covered dish to share.
We'll have dinner and play games.

St. John Food Pantry
Wednesday, November 18th, 9:00 – 11:00 am
Third Wednesday of Every Month.
Thank you to those who serve!
Volunteers appreciated, arrival time 8:15am.
Mark donations as "Feeding Ministry" or donate now through our website.

Newsletter Deadline
Thursday, November 19th
stjohnrobstown@gmail.com

Noisy Offering
Sunday, November 22nd beginning of worship
Bring noisy coins or quiet bills to donate toward our outreach ministries.

October & November offerings go to **Corpus Christi Rainbow Room**, a 24/7 emergency resource center for abused and neglected children. Rainbow Room meets children's immediate needs by providing clothing, diapers, hygiene items, and supplies to support Nueces County CPS caseworkers. The CC Rainbow Room is part of the Texas DFPS "Rainbow Room" network, a statewide initiative to address the needs of children in crisis. rainbowroomcc.org for details.

Thanksgiving Church Office Hours
The Church Office will be closed Wednesday – Friday, November 25th – 27th. Happy Thanksgiving!

Advent Devotionals Coming Soon!
They'll be available mid-November.
We'll have Devos for Adult and Calendars for Families.

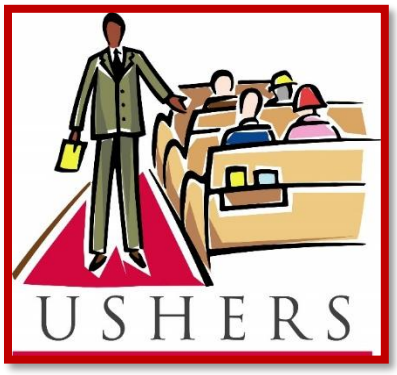
Unlock $3 Million in Support
On Giving Tuesday, **December 1st**, Thrivent is making a shared pool of up to **$3 million in grant funds available** to boost donations made through Thrivent's giving platform. **Anyone can give**, not just Thrivent members. Use their portal, **thrivent.com/give**, to search for and give to qualifying organizations. Locally this includes St. John Lutheran, Robstown and Metro Ministries of Corpus Christi.

Christmas Decorating
Saturday, December 5th at 9:00am
It's time! Please join us to decorate the Sanctuary and narthex for Advent & Christmas. You'll help make our spaces look festive as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus! Please contact Nola Gustafson with any questions.

Sunday School
8:30am – Children's Sunday School is held in the Sunday School classrooms (first door on the left as you go down the hall toward the Fellowship Hall).
Following Worship – Adult Sunday School
in the Fellowship Hall.

St. John's Quilters
Wednesdays at 9:00am
Extra hands appreciated! *No experience necessary.* Join for a time of fellowship & service.
On break Wednesday, November 25th for Thanksgiving.

Ushers Needed & Usher Schedule



Ushers are a vital part of our worship here at St. John, guiding us during the service and welcoming visitors and members. Can you volunteer one or two months a year? Training is available. Contact Janice Kimball or the church office if you can help.

Current Ushers: Janice is preparing the 2027 usher schedule. If you need to change which month you serve, please contact her. Otherwise she'll keep it the same. Please reference the calendar in the usher's room or contact the church office.

2027 Budget Approved

Thanks to those who were able to attend our 10/25/26 Congregational Meeting. Along with hearing from Pastor Jonathan, our Board Directors, and our Council President, members in attendance voted to approve the proposed 2027 budget. If you would like to view these now approved items, contact the church office.

Name Tags

We'll have more visitors on All Saints Sunday! To help these folks know us, please remember to wear your name tag on Sunday mornings. *If your name tag is missing, please contact the church office and Lauren will create one for you.* Thanks!

Thank you for an amazing Ingathering!

We're grateful to have continued this great tradition on October 4th. A special thank you to the men who prepared & served the BBQ meal ~ the Roecker Family, Ernest Ham, Robert Knetig, Pr. Jonathan, Steve Miller, and Derek Schulz. Thank you also to those who brought desserts. The food was so delicious and the fellowship together with St. Mark's Lutheran was wonderful.

Ingathering Donations

Thank you to those who gave an Ingathering offering. Once meal expenses were reimbursed, the total was $2,449.93 as of 10/29/26. Wow! Church Council will discuss distribution of these funds at their next meeting.

St. John Lutheran's 2026 Calallen Homecoming Float

What a blast! Volunteers gathered on October 21st to decorate. We had a good crew of all ages blowing up ballons, adding finishing touches to the signs our Sunday School students created, and "tinseling" the trailer.
A small but mighty bunch represented St. John for the parade on October 22nd, including Mike & Cindy Fair, the Ham Family, and the Lys Family (including a couple of neighborhood friends). We gave out so many candies and church brochures that we ran out halfway through the parade! Special thanks to the Ham family for providing supplies and their truck & trailer, and to Misty Ham for coordinating everything. *(Pictures: next page)*

St. John Lutheran's 2026 Calallen Homecoming Float!

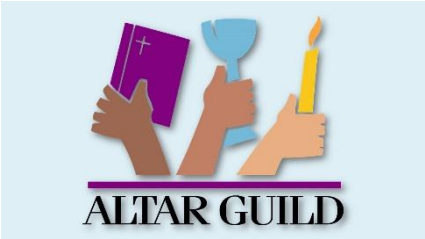
November Birthdays

5	Emmett Ham	11	Jeremy Garza
15	Roxey Scholz	16	Nola Gustafson
21	Regina Emshoff	23	Monica Byars
24	Ervin Brooks		

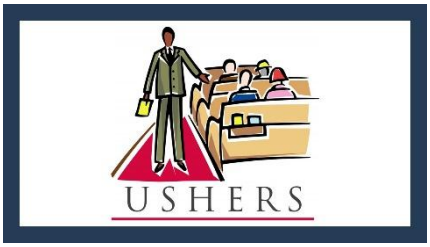
Altar Guild Volunteer Schedule

Contact Nola Gustafson if you can volunteer.

Jan	Paula C., Shotzie A.	Feb	Jennifer J., Misty H.
Mar	Cindy R., Janice K.	Apr	Amelia S., Karen B.
May	Nola G., Karen B.	June	Paula C., Shotzie A.
July	***vacant***	Aug	Priscilla J., Amelia S.
Sept	Paula K., Cindy R.	Oct	Lauren M., Karen D.
Nov	Sally F., ***vacant***	Dec	Stephanie V., Monica B.



November Ushers	December Ushers
Capt._____	Capt. Butch Roecker
Mike Fair	George Johnson
Curtis Fox	Mando Vasquez
Don Thigpen	Mason Vasquez



Yard Care – Help Needed

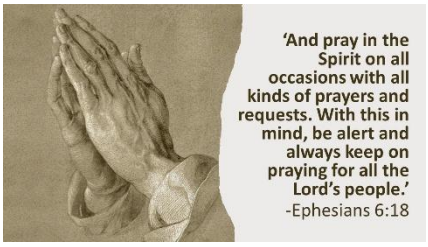
Contact Howard Fels if you can join the volunteer lawn crew rotation. Many hands make the job light!

October	26-31	Don Thigpen
November	2-7	Mando Vasquez
November	9-14	Howard Fels, Terry Signor
November	16-21	Terry Signor
November	23-28	Don Thigpen
Nov-Dec	30-5	Mando Vasquez

October Worship Attendance

First Sunday	78		
Second Sunday	54		
Third Sunday	45		
Fourth Sunday	47		

Prayer Concerns List



Prayer requests are removed after four weeks unless the church office is otherwise notified.

Long-Term Prayers remain until requester asks for removal.

Prayer list submissions can be emailed to stjohnrobstown@gmail.com or submitted with the Sunday attendance card.

Members:

10/11: **Robert Knetig**
10/4: **Curtis Fox**

Family & Friends:

10/25: **Katelynn Jackson** (Suffered stroke. Pr. Jonathan Lys' sister's friend); **Jack Zeller** (Knee replacement. Bette Bernsen's request); **Ralph Lesmiester** (Mary Sue Scheible's request); **Katty Gorbet** (Charlie & Terry Signor's request)
10/20: **Sonny & Francis McGee** (Sonny suffered a stroke. Parents of Nicole McGee, community member.)
10/18:
10/11: **Pansy White** (Mary Sue Scheible's requests)

Long-Term Prayers:

Paula Campbell; Regina Emshoff; Margie Fair; Paula Kennedy; Loleta Riley; Donnie Schwirtlich; Dee Tavares (Brain tumor, Bette Bernsen's request); **Mando Vasquez**

Not Able to Attend Worship in Person?
Our 9:00am Sunday Worship is always available to view on St. John's YouTube & Facebook pages. Don't forget to register your online attendance!: stjohnrobstown.org/onlineworship

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Online Giving available at stjohnrobstown.org through the "Donate Now" button. Thanks for your support of our ministries!

General Fund				Special Fund Bal Sept 30, 2026	30,046.01
Cash at August 31, 2026		65,500.80			
Current Benevolence	18,122.00			Mem Fund Bal Sept. 30, 2026	33,010.58
Resistution Payments Rec'd	816.00				
Trans from Special Fund	60.00				
Trans from Memorial Fund					
Less: Monthly Expenses	(15,456.35)				
	3,541.65	3,541.65			
Change in Short term liabilities		430.32			
Cash at September 30, 2026		69,472.77			
Year To Date General Fund Cash					
Cash at Jan 1, 2026		73,429.06			
Cash at September 30, 2026		69,472.77			
Change in cash 2026		(3,956.29)			

Stewardship
a way of life

Thank you for your continued support of St. John Lutheran Church and its ministries.

The following is a synopsis of important discussions and actions taken during the Church Council meeting held on **October 5, 2026:**

- The Board of Christian Education continues to plan for the Fall Festival. They are also looking forward to the upcoming ELCA Youth Gathering.
- New locks have been installed around the outside of the church.
- The council voted to start a special fund for unexpected repair costs and voted on how to fund it.
- The council voted to approve the budget that will go to the congregation for congregational approval.

Blessing Bags
are available in the narthex (gathering space) to take and share as a tangible sign of God's love with someone in need. *Take as many as you need and restock when your supply runs out.*

Coffee Mugs & Brochures
Visitors, please take home & enjoy a free **coffee mug!** *A freewill offering is appreciated from members who would like a mug.* And **brochures** are available to share with those around you.
(A ministry of Evangelism Board)

St. John Lutheran Church
3316 Hummingbird Lane, Robstown, TX 78380-6067

November 2026

Church Office: (361) 387-9481, stjohnrobstown@gmail.com
Pastor Jonathan: (979) 255-4148, pastorjlys@gmail.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 **2:00am Daylight Savings Time Ends,** turn clocks back **8:30am** Children's Sun. School **9:00am All Saints Worship** **10:00am Halloween & All Saints:** A Historical Perspective **3:30pm** Confirmation **5:00pm Fall Festival**	**2** **7:30pm** Church Prop	**3** **6:00pm** Worship Board	**4** **9:00am** Quilters	**5** **6:00pm** Stewardship	**6**	**7**
8 **8:30am** Children's Sun. School **9:00am** Worship **10:00am** Evangelism Mtg. **10:15am** Adult Sunday School	**9**	**10** **11:30am** Ladies Bible Study **2:00pm** Lay Ministry	**11** **9:00am** Quilters **6:00pm** Christian Ed	**12**	**13**	**14**
15 **8:30am** Children's Sun. School **9:00am Healing Service Worship** **10:15am** Adult Sunday School **2:00pm** Confirmation Class **4:00pm** Doubles & Singles	**16**	**17** **6:00pm** Church Council	**18** **9:00am** Food Pantry **9:00am** Quilters	**19** **Newsletter Deadline**	**20**	**21**
22 **8:30am** Children's Sun. School **9:00am** Worship/Noisy Offering **10:15am** Adult Sunday School	**23**	**24**	**25** *Church Office Closed*	**26** **Happy Thanksgiving!** *Church Office Closed*	**27** *Church Office Closed*	**28**
29 **8:30am** Children's Sun. School **9:00am** Worship **10:15am** Adult Sunday School	**30**					