

News of Elizabeth Lutheran

August Highlights

August 3, 10, 17 & 24th

Town Hall meeting after worship

August 16th

Community pantry

August 27th

Council Mtg @ 5:30

August 27th

Newsletter info deadline @ 10 am

Elizabeth Lutheran Church

165 CR 307 (PO Box 675)

Caldwell, TX 77836

Office: 979-567-4286 (Mon-Thurs 9-1)

office@elizabeth-lutheran.org

www.elizabeth-lutheran.org

Pastor Mark's email:

pastor@elizabeth-lutheran.org

Prayer Chain

Lisa Blum

Margaret Hibbeler

Clair Schulle

Connie Suehs

Debbie Skrabanek

Twana Benner

Sue Brinkman

Christie Havemann

Becky Goetsch

Penny Neal

Dianna Curington

Council Members

President – Cody Novosad

Vice Pres – Devin Gerland

Secretary – Christie Havemann

Treasurer – Vince Neal

Property – Jaxton McNair

Worship – Devin Gerland

Cong Life – Melanie Woods

Christian Education – Shawn Faust

Membership – Maryanne Rogers

Evangelism – Gabbo Goetsch

Pastor – Mark Neumann

Loving God, loving others, sharing the Word.

Pastor Mark's Post

Resetting the Rhythm: A Fresh Season Begins

As August arrives, we feel it: the sun still shines warmly, yet there's a quiet shift in the air. Summer adventures begin to wind down, and preparations for the school year quietly take shape — new schedules, sharpened pencils, and fresh hopes. It's a time of resetting the rhythm.

Here in the church, we're doing the same. We've used the summer months to rest, reflect, and renew. Now, we're making ready — not only for the return of our regular programming, but for a deeper engagement in ministry together. New teams are forming, spiritual gifts are being discovered, and opportunities to serve and grow abound.

As we step into this new season, Scripture offers us encouragement: "Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9). These words remind us that every act of service — big or small — sows seeds for a kingdom harvest. So let's enter the fall with renewed hope and a commitment to steadfastness in ministry.

This isn't just a shift in calendar. It's a spiritual invitation. Let's ask: Where is God leading me to invest my time and talents? How can I contribute to the life of this church family? What rhythms is the Spirit inviting me to reset — in my devotion, my relationships, my faith?

As we prepare for fall, we're not just organizing events. We're preparing hearts. I pray you'll join us in embracing this sacred shift. A new season is upon us — and God has good work in store.

Grace and Peace,



Pastor Mark Neumann

pastor@elizabeth-lutheran.org

CELEBRATIONS*

August Birthdays



August Anniversaries



August Baptisms



Nick Havemann	1	Vince & Penny Neal	1	Tammy Stevenson	8
Rylee Curington	4	Jimmy & Pat Tobolka	1	Erin Supak	9
Avery Stevenson	7	Paul & Clair Schulle	6	Makala Gerland	17
Blair Groce	12	Cody & Tammie Novosad	30	Rachel Novosad	17
Bruce Finstad	12			Nathan Blum	26
Brittan Blum	13			Frances Zgabay	29
Levi Weatherly	15				
Hadleigh Novosad	16				
Becky Goetsch	16				
Sharon Novosad	16				
Diana Curington	17				
Frances Zgabay	19				
Sue Brinkman	21				
Bryan Woods	22				
Connie Suehs	23				
Eileen Barnes	23				
Libby Titzman	23				
Hollis Novosad	25				
Kim McManus	29				
Tiffany Parkin	31				
Doris Sebesta	31				
Gertrude Zgabay	31				

*For corrections or additions, please email office@elizabeth-lutheran.org

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Town Hall Mtg after worship/fellowship Youth & Children	No Women's Morning Bible Study until Fall.					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Town Hall Mtg after worship/fellowship Member Care				Pantry Volunteer 6 PM	Pantry Volunteer 9 AM	Community Pantry 7 to 10 AM
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Town Hall Mtg after worship/fellowship Worship & Music Blessing of the Backpacks						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Town Hall Mtg after worship/fellowship Marketing & Communication			Council Mtg @ 5:30 pm Newsletter info deadline by 10 AM			
31						

Monthly Financial Information:

2025 Annual Budget: \$287,635.00
 Amount needed monthly: \$ 23,969.59
 Amount needed weekly: \$ 5,531.45
 General Funds rec'd in July: \$ 15,468.00
 Building Funds rec'd in July: \$ 805.00 (725.0000 current principle balance owed)
 Average Sunday attendance: 83

August Worship Responsibilities

9 AM Service	Aug 3	Aug 10	Aug 17	Aug 24	Aug 31
USHERS	Mike McManus, Bubba Frieda, Emmitt Wolz, Fritz Wolz and Jeff Zgabay				
ALTAR GUILD	Makala Gerland and Julianne Gerland				
ACOLYTES	Jackson Lloyd	Lila Supak	Jenna Hibbeler	Savanah Faust	Avery Stevenson
READERS	Makala Gerland	Hudson Novosad	Gail Broussard	Willie Hobbs	Hadleigh Novosad
AUDIO/VISUAL	Gerlands	Gabbo Goetsch	Vince Neal	Britt Lloyd	Novosads
COMMUNION SERVERS	Melanie Woods & Shawn Faust	Gabbo Goetsch & Vince Neal	Jaxton McNair & Christie Havemann	Maryanne Rogers & Devin Gerland	Cody Novosad & Shawn Faust

WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

- ✚ All women are invited 😊
- ✚ Do you know of someone in need of prayer? Prayer chain contact info on the front page or call the church office @ 567-4286.
- ✚ Join us this fall for Bible Study each Monday @ 10 a.m.! We are not meeting during the summer. We will start a new study this fall.
- ✚ All ELC women, 18 years and older, are automatically WOW members!

How can I serve my Church?

- Help Us Replenish the Fellowship Cookie Supply!
We're in need of volunteers to bring cookies for our fellowship time. These cookies are used when we don't have anyone signed up to host fellowship. If you enjoy baking and would like to contribute, we'd be so grateful. Just drop them off in the church kitchen on Sunday mornings and we will get them put in the freezer.
- We need volunteers to host fellowship after church and bring weekly flowers. Please sign up if you can.



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



We Are Family

As I sit down to write this edition of the *Mission Moment*, final preparations are underway for the 16th Annual Texas District Gathering. This year marks my 11th Gathering, and I find myself reflecting on the gift of this family of faith that we have in Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC). While it is accurate to refer to us as a “church body” or an “association,” I prefer the term “family” to describe what we are and should aspire to be.

While we find many metaphors for the church in the New Testament, family is a rich image for us. Consistently Jesus referred to his disciples as siblings, his brothers. After Jesus ascended, Jesus’ followers claimed this familial title as they referred to one another as brothers or sisters in Christ. Paul frequently used this language as he addressed Christ followers throughout his missionary journeys. And I believe that of all the biblical metaphors for the church, the image of family elevates for us God’s desire for our relational connection to and for one another.

For several years, I heard Mark Vander Tuig, retired LCMC Service Coordinator, say that “LCMC Gatherings were like family reunions... but with family you actually like!” While Mark’s comment always drew raucous laughter, no one can deny the truth beneath the punchline. LCMC is more than a church body or an association: We are family!

Today I had a conversation with someone who decided not to attend our Gathering. He shared with me that he felt like an outsider and that the Gathering was not for him. As he shared this, I hurt for this brother and his experience of disconnection. I did my best to dissuade him of this idea of being an outsider, encouraging him to give it a try and come and see. I see him as simply newer to the family than others. I hope in the future he and all who are a part of our body can see and experience for themselves the gift of being a part of the family.

As family we have much in common. Our DNA is our common confession of faith, our shared core values, and our mission to be and make disciples of Jesus. Yet as family we have great diversity, too. Each congregation and member lives out their faith in their own unique way. Like families we celebrate both that which we have in common as well as that which is unique and special about each individual family member. We love one another, pray for one another, encourage one another, and help one another. Even at times when we don’t agree with one another, we still respect and appreciate one another.

I invite you to join me in praising God for the gift of our family of faith of which we are a part. I pray that the gift of this family can be a source of strength for each member. If you have not been to one of our gatherings or retreats, I hope you will join us soon for one of our family reunions. By participating, connecting, and relating, I am confident that you will both be blessed... and a blessing to others!

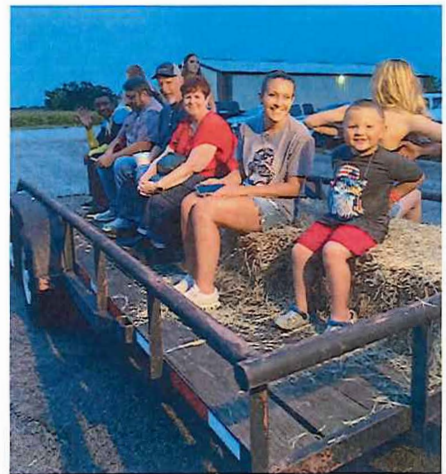
Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at www.harvestworkers.net). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Please contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org.

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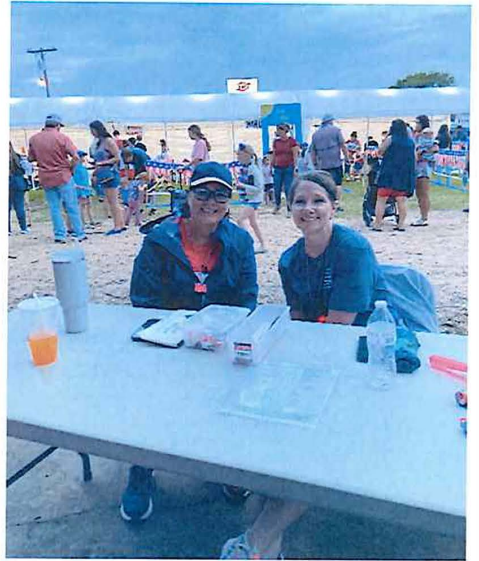
August 2025

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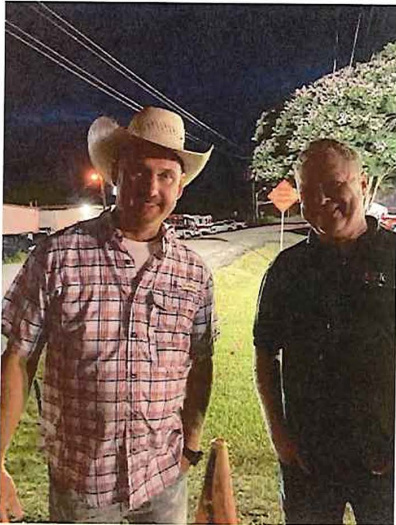
The July 3rd celebration was a huge success once again! The rain did not stop the fun or fellowship. Thank you to everyone who has a hand in making this event so special for our church and community.



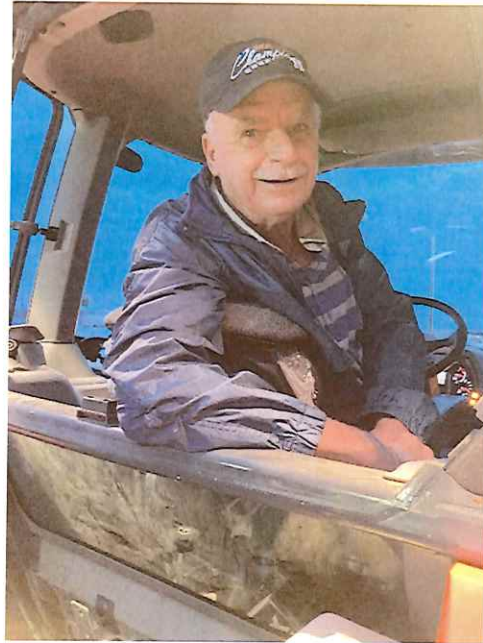
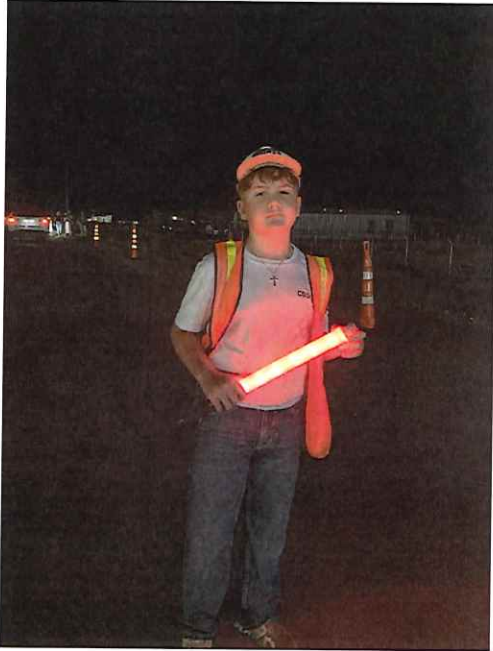
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Another successful July 3rd Celebration is behind us and I continue to be amazed at the influence our efforts have on the community. While the support that we receive from non-members of our church is very impressive, we could not possibly put on an event of this magnitude without the help and support of you, the members of Elizabeth Lutheran Church. Whether it's from your sponsorship and donations to the raffle or silent auction, or purchasing and selling raffle tickets, or purchasing silent auction items, or the random donations, it takes a full team effort to make all our work successful. And speaking of raffle tickets, I'm happy to say this is the first year we sold all the raffle tickets we had printed for the event. I would also like to thank all of you who worked at this year's celebration. We needed every one of you! The weather really made things challenging especially with take-down but we persevered.

As is the case every year, we assemble a team of coordinators for various duties. These coordinators are the backbone of our July 3rd Celebration every year and are instrumental to the event's success. Please take the time to thank them for the work they do. Our coordinators this year were as follows:

- Advertising - Makala Gerland
- Children's Games – Christy Faust and Tammie Novosad
- Financial – Sue Brinkman
- Food Vendors – Sharon Burgess
- Parking – Jeff Curington
- Raffle – Betty Sue Gold
- Raffle Ticket Sales – Joni Cook
- Shuttle – Keith Maresh
- Silent Auction – Becky Goetsch and Penny Neal
- Wrist Bands for Children's Games – Christie Havemann
- Watermelons – Keith Schroeder
-

Our wrap-up meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 4th at 6:00 pm. We will review the numbers and discuss what worked, what didn't, and what changes need to be implemented for next year. If you have any ideas, please talk to me or one of the coordinators. Of course, as always, everyone is welcome to attend!

Blessings,

Vince Neal

Raffle Donation and Winners

Item #	Raffle Item	Donated by	Name of Winners
1	Tikka T3X Hunter 6.5 Creedmoor/Leupold VX-HD 3.5-10/40 CDS-ZLDuplex Scope	Elizabeth Lutheran Church	Emmitt Wolz
2	Ruger American Gen 2, 6MM Creedmoor	Ray & Randy Brinkman, Kevin McManus, Trent Groce & Jaxton McNair	Joe Janac
3	Ruger American 308 Win Gen 2 Gry Rifle	Gabbo & Becky Goetsch	Pastor Mark Neumann
4	Savage A22 Magnum 22WMR 22" 10rd Rifle	Buddy Warren, Mike Cook & Gabbo Goetsch	Jayne Wolz
5	Ruger 10/22 Sporter .22LR SS/WD 18" Rifle	Ray & Randy Brinkman, Kevin McManus, Trent Groce & Jaxton McNair	Andy Allman
6	Gforce 12 GA Shotgun	Ray & Randy Brinkman, Kevin McManus, Trent Groce & Jaxton McNair	Cameron McCuller
7	Omie's Ranch Haus in Fredericksburg Two Nights for Six	Elizabeth Lutheran Church	Kelly Houghton
8	\$250.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	Caldwell Dry Cleaners & Laundry	Patty Vychopen
9	\$250.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	Sharon & Ben Novosad	Lynn & Marcia Post
10	\$200.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	Mike & Joni Cook	Julie Weatherly
11	\$200.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	Henry & Dianna Curington	David Schmidt
12	\$200.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	Becky & Gabbo Goetsch	Maryanne Rogers
13	\$150.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	ELC Women (WOW)	Adele Morehead
14	\$150.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	ELC Women (WOW)	Helen Paul
15	\$150.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	ELC- Altar Guild	Kyle Ondrasek
16	\$150.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	ELC- Altar Guild	Tonya Laird
17	\$100.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	Pat & Marilyn Seymour	Benny Degelia

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Item #	Raffle Item	Donated by	Name of Winners
18	\$100.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	Pat & Marilyn Seymour	Jessica Schmidt
19	\$100.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	Frances Zgabay	Julie Weatherly
20	\$100.00 Gift Certificate (Check)	Burleson County Co-Op	Pam Nichols
21	Rigid 3 Gallon Wet/Dry Vac	Home Depot	Becky Goetsch
22	Oil Change & Tire Rotation	Wilde Auto Plus	Terry Evers
23	Craftsman 1/2" Drill/Driver Kit	Napa Auto Parts	John McNair
24	\$50 Gift Certificate	Masfajita's Mexican Rest.	Sharon Novosad
25	\$50 Gift Card	Cracker Barrel	David Jackson
26	\$50 Gift Card	Cracker Barrel	Jayne Wolz
27	\$45 Gift Card for Deluxe Pedicure	LT Nail Spa	Helen Paul
28	\$40 Gift Certificate	Texas Seafood & Steakhouse in Caldwell	Vance McManus
29	\$40 Gift Certificate	Joe's Italian Grill - Caldwell	Steve Kocurek
30	\$30 Meal Gift Card with Chips n Dip	Chuys	Travis Suehs
31	\$30 Meal Gift Card with Chips n Dip	Chuys	John Laffere
32	Golden Corral Choice Buffets for Two	Golden Corral	Christine Nicholls
33	Golden Corral Choice Buffets for Two	Golden Corral	Becky Goetsch
34	Golden Corral Choice Buffets for Two	Golden Corral	John Hoffman
35	\$25 Promo Card & Shake	Grub Burger	Pablo Alvarez
36	Super Spud & Drink for Two	McAlister's Deli	Shawn Faust

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Item #	Raffle Item	Donated by	Name of Winners
37	Super Spud & Drink for Two	McAlister's Deli	Christie Havemann
38	\$25 Gift Card	Cracker Barrel	Adrian Sheppard
39	\$25 Gift Card	Cracker Barrel	Mandy Novosad
40	\$25 Gift Card	Chili's	Tommy Tietjen
41	\$25 Gift Card	Chili's	Liz Rogers
42	\$25 Gift Card with Queso	BJ's Brewhouse	Teddy Dusek
43	\$25 Gift Card	Olive Garden	Arnold Manuel
44	Prox One Car Care Kit	O'Reilly Auto Parts	Tammy Stevenson
45	\$50 Gift Card	J Cody's Anywhere	Penny Neal



Silent Auction Items and Winners

#	Silent Auction Description	Donated by	Name of Winners
1	Brahmin Handbag, Melbourne Collection, Anchor Ezra	Rodney & Christie Havemann	Helen Paul
2	Round of Golf for 4 People including Carts at Phillips Event Center	Phillips Event Center	Betty Gold
3	Crayon Quilt	Barbara Warren	Sarah Broaddus
4	Travel Bag	Maryanne Rogers	Helen Paul
5	American Darling Handbag with Wallet	Emmitt & Jayne Wolz	Leslie Lauck
6	Houston Astros Tickets for Four	Citizens State Bank	Susan Skrabanek
7	HomeWorks by Slatkin + Co. Gel Lavender Hand Soap with 64-oz Refill	Jo Ann Degelia	Judy Daly
8	Blackstone 28" Griddle	Lowe's	Judy Daly
9	Subway 6-foot Party Sub	Subway	Jennifer Supak
10	Consuela Jamie Grab-n-Go Jumbo Bag	Jo Ann Degelia	Penny Neal
11	Homemade Peanut Brittle	Pat & Marilyn Seymour	Sonja Brinkman
12	Weekend at The Minnie Sweet	Maryanne Rogers	Victoria Sandage
13	"Watermelon" Picnic Necessities	Becky Goetsch	Joni Cook
14	Wine Tasting for 6 at Messina Hof Winery	Messina Hof Wine Cellars	Brittany McManus
15	Texas Shaped Cutting Board with Puzzle Coasters	Jo Ann Degelia	Patricia Jennings
16	American & Beyond Tote	Jo Ann Degelia	Kim Holle
17	BJ's Brewhouse Gift Card	BJ's Brewhouse	Anthony Wilson
18	Cutco Drop Point Hunting Knife	Gabbo Goetsch	Sharon Novosad
19	Case Trapper Knife	Gabbo Goetsch	Anthony Wilson
20	Rotating Americana Spinner	Michael & Kim McManus	Mary Lange
21	Paul Mitchell Express Ion Unclipped 3-in-1 Ceramic Curling Iron	Keith & Cindy Maresh	Penny Neal

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#	Silent Auction Description	Donated by	Name of Winners
22	Bamboo Melamine 6-Section Service Platter w/Lazy Susan Base and Lid	Michael & Kim McManus	Sarah Broaddus
23	Suet 'n Seed Chicken Bird Feeder with High-Energy Suet and Seed	Larry & Lisa Blum	Kim Holle
24	Jesus' Praying Hands Cross	Shirley Telschow	Connie Suehs
25	"Texas" Swig Cup, "Buck Naked Cowboy" Candle, and Comical Horse	Becky & Gabbo Goetsch	Sue Brinkman
26	Stanley Wine Gift Set	Carol Coker	Kim McManus
27	Swig Life Loopi Tote Bag with 22-oz Swig Life Tumbler	Carol Coker	Mary Lange
28	Log Cabin Pinwheel Amish Quilt	Lynn & Marcia Post	Lisa Blum
29	"Chef" Crocheted Terry-Cloth Kitchen Towel and Woven Hot Pad	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Marilyn & Pat Seymour
30	"Sunflower" Crocheted Terry-Cloth Kitchen Towel and Woven Hot Pad	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Joni Cook
31	"Lemon" Crocheted Terry-Cloth Kitchen Towel and Woven Hot Pad	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Joni Cook
32	Pair of Crocheted Hot Pads	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Sandra Westerberg
33	Pair of Crocheted Hot Pads	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Sue Brinkman
34	Set of Crocheted Hot Pads	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Tammy Stevenson
35	Pair of Crocheted Hot Pads	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Pam McCulloch
36	Set of Crocheted Hot Pads	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Penny Neal
37	Hand-Stitched Dresser Set	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Joni Cook
38	Embroidered Dish Towels	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Sonja Brinkman
39	Handcrafted "Camo" Stick Horse	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Kelsey Hoffman
40	Handcrafted "Whoa Nellie!" Stick Horse	Raisin Schwerdfeger	Susan Skrabanek
41	Turquoise-Accented Wood/ Metal Cross	Betty Gold	Tammy Stevenson
42	"Celebrating Freedom" Handmade Quilt	Twana Benner	Jayne Wolz

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#	Silent Auction Description	Donated by	Name of Winners
43	128-Piece Crescent Tool Set	Fritz Wolz	Devin Gerland
44	Diva - Tyler Candle Company Gift Basket	Giftive Hallmark/Tammy Stevenson	Reese McManus
45	Psalm 46:1 Quilted Lap Blanket	Ray & Sue Brinkman	Judy Daly
46	RTIC 3-Gallon Halftime Water Cooler	Randy & Sonja Brinkman	Brittany McManus
47	"Church Blessings" Platter with Easel	Thrivent	Sue Brinkman
48	Birdfy Smart Bird Feeder	Margaret Hibbeler	Kim McManus
49	Standing Wooden angel	Thrivent	Elvira Saucedo
50	Gerber Fixed Blade Knife with Sheath and Multi-Plier with Sheath	Mike & Joni Cook	Devin Gerland
51	Happy Garden Turtle	Sonja & Randy Brinkman	Kathy Cornett
52	Pair of Star-Shaped Patriotic Pillows with God Bless America Candle	Julie Weatherly	Sue Brinkman
53	Patriotic LED Cornhole Boards with Bags by Triumph	Mike & Joni Cook	Judy Daly
54	Assorted Outdoor Games in a Handy Wooden Box	Mike & Joni Cook	Brittany McManus
55	"American as Apple Pie" Candle	Levi Weatherly	Anthony Wilson
56	Fabric Floral Basket of Comfort and Fun!	The Cottage	Sharon Novosad
57	18 Holes of Golf plus Carts for Four!	Copperas Hollow Country Club	Keith Maresh
58	2-Night Stay at the "Small Town Getaway" Riverfront Cabin	Kevin & Brittany and Trent & Blair	Patricia Jennings
59	Two Embroidered Patriotic Dish Towels and Cutting Board	Lisa McNair	Jennifer Supak
60	Blue Bell Ice Cream Basket of Goodies	Kelli & Darrell Stoner	Mary Lange
61	Plumeria Plant	Jaxton & Bailey McNair	Emma Kovasovic
62	Wooden Dough Bowl of Capri Blue Products	Gail Davis	Penny Neal