

# A History of Antique Event Activities at St. John's Lutheran Church of Warrenton

St. John's has been involved in the activities of Antique Weekend since the outset of the Original Round Top Antique Show. The ladies of the St. John's WELCA group (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) originally sold homemade baked goods as a fund raiser for the church during the antique show at the Round Top town square inside the courthouse.



*Bake Sale at Round Top Courthouse 1993*

As the Round Top Antique Weekend event grew and branched out to the community of Warrenton, St. John's expanded their fund raising venture by selling food concessions in Warrenton at Granny McCormick's yard. The menu originally consisted primarily of sausage, sauerkraut and drinks. St. John's Food Booth and Bake Sale eventually both relocated to the church property in Warrenton and the church also began to offer parking and vendor space for the growing number of antique enthusiasts who continue to visit the community each year. Antique week activities at St. John's Church in Warrenton have expanded over the years along with what is now referred to as the Warrenton



*First "Food Booth" at the Church 1990*



*Food Booth at the Church - Mid 1990s*

The activities of Antique Week provide a unique ministry opportunity for St. John's. The members strive to offer a place for weary shoppers and vendors to rest and be replenished in mind, body and soul. Church members wholeheartedly reflect their motto of

**"Serving the Lord and Good Food"**. Friendly smiles abound as do the welcoming invitations to share in worship and fellowship. While proceeds from the Antique Week activities at St. John's in Warrenton are essential to sustaining the ministry of the church, the generous support of the ever increasing number of Antique Week visitors over the years has additionally enabled St. John's to offer financial support to several other ministries and organizations:

- **Lutheran Seminary and Seminarian Student Rosie Rivera** – *Lutheran Seminary Educates leaders for Christian communities. Seminarian Student Rosie Rivera was a special guest in our community as she researched rural ministry.*
- **Habitat for Humanity** – *a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing organization building simple, decent, affordable housing in partnership with people in need.*
- **The Fayette County Rainbow Room** - *The Rainbow Room is an emergency resource center where Child Protective Services Case-workers can pick up new items and quickly deliver them to needy children.*
- **Lutherhill Ministries** – *A Summer Camp and Year Round Retreat Center for youth and adults to explore God's world and word.*
- **Bluebonnet Coalition of Congregations** – *Serving congregations of the ELCA Gulf Coast Synod supporting ministries and helping new ministries get started.*
- **ELCA Youth Gathering**- *A powerful way for young people to hear the gospel in compelling ways, and practice their faith in a safe and engaging community of Christian peers.*
- **AMEN** - *Area Ministry for Emergency Needs provides emergency needs of Fayette County residents including food, utility bills and rent*
- **St Johns Ellinger Building Renovation Project** – *a partnering member of Shared Lutheran Ministry*
- **Round Top-Warrenton VFD** - *The volunteer fire department providing emergency response to the 76 square mile area surrounding the town of Round Top and the community of Warrenton*
- **ELCA Good Gifts Water Well Project** - *Water is a basic necessity of life. Helping a community construct and maintain a water well opens a world of opportunity. With each working well, as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe drinking water. People no longer thirst. They are healthier and stronger. Sanitation improves. And best of all, women and children who used to spend several hours each day fetching water can reallocate their time to school, work and family*
- **Lutheran Social Services (LSS)** - *The LSS mission is to provide help, healing and hope in the name of Jesus Christ. The ministry of LSS includes adoption, children's residential treatment, foster care, assisted living, retirement centers, nursing homes, assistance to the poor, and disaster response.*
- **ELCA World Hunger Buck-A-Chick Program** - *Providing families living in poverty with chickens - a source of food and income*
- **Bastrop Fire Recovery** - *Providing support to those affected by the Bastrop Fire*
- **Meals on Wheels** - *Providing home-delivered meal services to people in need*



*Food Booth at the Church 1998*

**THANK YOU!**  
for supporting St. John's Lutheran  
Church of Warrenton!

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF WARRENTON**  
**FOOD BOOTH**  
HOT FOOD, COLD DRINKS,  
AND  
WARM SMILES