

# ST. JOHN EPISTLE

November, 2015

St. John Lutheran Church- LCMC

409 South Main, P. O. Box 265, Thrall, TX 76578

Pastor - Jon Bielfeldt - 898-2587

Church (512)898-2136

Email: stjohnthrall@yahoo.com

Website: www.stjohnlutheranthrall.com

Doris Kaase - Office Secretary

## Happy Birthday

11/01 - Kevin Klotz

11/02 - Wesley Meyer

11/03 - Darren Hall

11/04 - Kimberley Luton

11/08 - Kathy Bielfeldt

11/09 - Howard Klotz

11/10 - Susan Pick

11/12 - Dustin Qualls

11/13 - Kenneth Beckermann

11/14 - Shelby Walla

11/14 - Emily Frase

11/16 - Doris Kaase

11/18 - Russel Richter

11/20 - Elise Chapman

11/21 - Terry Richter

11/23 - Erin Koehne

11/23 - Diana Stolle

11/24 - Millie Hamann

11/24 - Michele Hander

11/24 - Tori Fifield

11/25 - Colton Luton

11/25 - Karen Rutter

11/26 - Ron Frase

11/28 - Brandt Whitlow

11/29 - Bobby Pick

11/29 - Wade Krueger

11/30 - Lucille Rosenthal

## ANNIVERSARY

**11/10 - Chad & Heather Richter**

**11/12 - Calvin & Nancy Mikulencak**

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## October 11, 2015

### Old Business:

1. Discussed possible fund raisers idea. First will be on Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015 – beef stew and cornbread will be supplied by the council and congregation will be asked to bring desserts with a freewill offering being taken to raise money.
2. Several bids on outside church repairs have come in.

### New Business:

1. Approved to have a walkthrough Live Nativity telling the story in several different scenes presented twice on Dec. 5 on the back lot of St. John Lutheran Church in partners with First Baptist Church of Thrall.
2. Will start working on the 2016 Budget at the November meeting. Will encouraged newly elected council members to attend.

### Financial Report for Sept. 2015

General/Bldg B/F \$	34,442.85	Expenses/General –	9,609.36
Income	9,248.51	Expenses/Bldg	170.00
Moved from Saving	29,049.86		
Total Income	\$63,741.22	Total Expenses	9,779.36

**Gen Acct – \$46,776.68**

**Bldg. Acct 7,185.18**

**Balance in Bank as of Sept 30, 2015 \$53,961.86**

**Balance in Savings Acct. 15,151.27**

**Total in Checking & Savings \$69,113.13**

**\*\*The following amount is needed every Sunday to meet our budget: \$2175.48**

Offering per Sunday in Aug., 2015 were as following:

Sept. 6 - \$2282.00; Sept. 13 – 2019.00; Sept. 20 – 2581.00; Sept. 27 -1100.00 Misc. Income\$ 442.51; Bldg/Mem 675.00;Bldg. Fund – 100.00; Bldg Fund 50.00

### THANK YOU

Thanks to **Janet Herzer** for taking the food items to Shepherd's Heart in Taylor. Canned good may be brought to church on any Sunday. Please put them in the container in the narthex.

Thanks to **Lucille Rosenthal**, for helping in the office.

Thanks to **Doug and Joy Moehnke** for providing the treats for children sermons and to Doug for keeping the lawn neat.

Thanks to **Josephine & Antonio Castro** for keeping our church clean & neat.

# MEMORIALS

## In Memory of Edna Mueller

Peggy Ging  
Donald & Joyce Beran  
Mike & Linda Richter  
Delphine Samuelson  
Ruth Circle

Herman & Doris Kaase  
Howard & Janice Meyer  
Doug & Joy Moehnke  
Kay Bulgerin  
Donald & Joyce Beran

Howard & Nancy Leshikar  
Melvin & Doris Schwettman  
Curtis & Carolyn Kerlin  
Residents of Grace Place  
Evelyn Rohlack

## In Memory of Doris Wernecke

Kay Bulgerin

Doris Kosik

## In Memory of Anita Tieman

Peggy Ging  
Donald & Joyce Beran  
Karen Gossett

Herman & Doris Kaase  
Howard & Janice Meyer  
Sandra Shelton

Howard & Nancy Leshikar  
Kay Bulgerin

## In Memory of Emil Walther

Wandeen Sakewitz

## In Memory of Mildred Zamorsky

Howard & Janice Meyer  
Mike & Linda Richter  
Clyde & Carmel Newman  
Melvin & Doris Schwettman  
Ardene & Burdine Wuthrich

Ruth Circle  
Herman & Doris Kaase  
Doug & Joy Moehnke  
Kattner Family  
Phillip & Janet Schwarz

Howard & Nancy Leshikar  
Evelyn Rohlack  
Peggy Ging  
Jerry & Ellen Hodon

# SYMPATHY

We would like to express our Christian sympathy to the Edna Mueller Family on the passing of Edna Mueller on September 24 and services were held here at St. John on September 28. Edna was 99 years young and would have been 100 on November 5, 2015. She is survived by a granddaughter, Tricia Sheppard and husband, Jimmie, and a greatgranddaughter, Jill Prather and husband, Christopher.

Mildred Zamorsky, 96, passed away on Oct. 9 and services for Mildred were held at Providence Funeral Home on October 15, 2015. Mildred is survived by two sons, Allen and wife Pat; Gary and wife Judith.

Both of these ladies were faithful members of St. John.  
Please remember these families in your prayers.

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The congregational meeting to elect new council members to be held on **Sunday, October 25**. The following have agreed to serve on the council for 2016-2018: Jimmy Luton, Romadene Mohel, Chad Richter, and Linda Richter. The newly elected council people will be installed in January, 2016.

Outgoing council members are: Cara Ging, Mo Hamann, Kevin Klotz and Linda Richter.

Members of the nominating committee are: Mo Hamann, Kevin Klotz, Linda Richter, Kenneth Beckermann, Herman Kaase, and Howard Meyer.

## **FUNDRAISER**

**On Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015 following the worship service – Beef stew and cornbread will be served. Congregation is asked to bring desserts and a freewill offering will be taken to help pay for improvements and repairs to the church.**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**November 15, 2015 – Beef Stew and Cornbread Fundraiser**

**November 25, 2015 – 6pm – Chili Supper before Thanksgiving Eve Service**

**Dec. 5, 2015 – Live Nativity Scene in Lot behind Church**

**Dec. 6, 2015 – 5pm Snoop Party – Potluck – bring a \$3-\$5 gift for each person in your family in a brown paper bag.**

# AMBASSADORS FOR GOD

	Nov. 1	Nov. 8	Nov. 15	Nov. 22	Nov. 29
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	K. Klotz	S. Koehne	B. Whitlow	M. Hamann	K. Hamann
<b>READER</b>	D. Ging	R. Mohel	S. Bachmeyer	E. Koehne	K. Bielfeldt
<b>FLOWERS</b>	H&J Meyer	K&J Bielfeldt	A.W & J Pick	Open	Open
<b>GREETER</b>	J. Meyer	F. Jirasek	Open	C. Koehne	Open
<b>NURSERY</b>	J. Beran				
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Joyce Beran		Joyce Beran		
<b>USHER</b>	Open				
<b>OFFERING HELPERS</b>	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth	
<b>COUNCIL SERVERS</b>	Debbie Ging, Richard Jansky, Chris Meyer, and Linda Richter				

**THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO SERVES! IF YOU CAN'T SERVE WHEN SCHEDULED, PLEASE FIND SOMEONE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE!!!! Please notify the church office by Tuesday if you are placing flowers on the altar & for what occasion.**

# NOVEMBER, 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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1 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/Communion	2	3 7am-7pm Voting in Ed Center	4	5	6	7
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8 8am Church Council 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	9	10	11 2pm Circle 7pm Men's Group	12	13	14
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15 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/Communion Beef Stew/Cornbread Fundraiser	16	17	18	19	20	21
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22 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/ WOW Thankoffering	23	24	25 6pm Chili Supper 7pm Worship	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	30					

# Youth Activities

**Shepherd's Heart** – Thank you to those who came out and helped distribute food bags on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you Chris Koehne for leading the prayer and scripture lesson at the beginning of the distribution. Joyce Beran, Joy Moehnke, Willie & Janet Herzer, Herman & Doris Kaase, Russel & Tammi Richter, and Chris, Erin, Sierra, Cade, & Bryce Koehne were able to attend.

Thank you to Coach Beef (Karl Bielfeldt) for inviting the members of Thrall FCA and their families to the viewing of **Woodlawn**. This is a very inspirational movie and we encourage you to go see it if you haven't already.

Congratulations to **Kirsty Putnam**, daughter of Russell and Lisa Putnam. She was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. The NJHS is based upon the results of five criteria – Character, Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Citizenship. We are so proud of you!

## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

**Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** – Softball Concession stand fundraiser at softball fields in Taylor. An invitation email to sign up through “*Sign up genius*” will be sent out around the beginning of November. Deadline to sign up is Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> by 5 p.m.

There are several Christian faith based movies coming out in the next few months you may want to look for.

**The 33**                      **November 13, 2015**

This is based on the trapped Chilean miners.

**Risen**                      **January 22, 2016**

Follows the story of the Resurrection, as told through the eyes of a non-believer.

**God's Not Dead – 2**                      **April 1, 2016**

When a student grieving the loss of her brother, reaches out to a teacher, their conversation leads to the teacher sharing the hope she finds in Christ. However, when the student asks an question about Jesus in the classroom, the teacher's response lands her in big trouble.

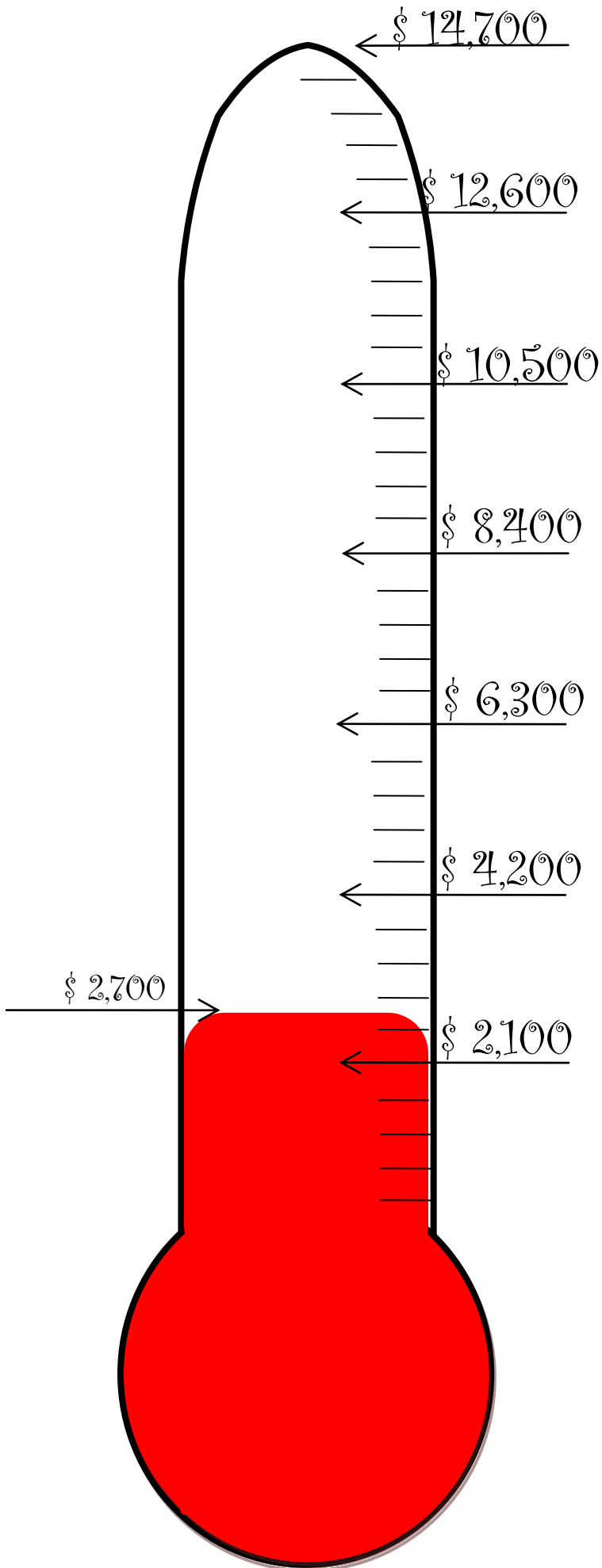
With the principal and superintendant joining forces with a civil liberties group, the teacher faces a court case that could cost her the career she loves and expel God from the classroom.

**Please remember that the St. John Youth are on facebook. Go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search for St. John Lutheran Youth, Thrall, Texas.**

### Thoughts for the month:

- ❖ Good character like good soup is usually homemade.
- ❖ Progress involves risk, you can't steal second with your foot on first.
- ❖ Tolerance is letting people find happiness in their own way instead of your way.

# 2016 Camp Eagle



Every donation counts!





*Texas District*

# Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt  
Director of Mission Growth

## The Church is... a Training Center for Disciples

It's November and time for part two of a three part series on images or metaphors for the church that help to shape our identity and our mission. The first image which I presented last month is a Hospital for Sinners: where all may come for spiritual healing and to seek to be made well in Jesus Christ. The second image is a Training Center for Disciples: where believers are mentored in Christian living and journey with one another seeking to grow in spiritual maturity.

Paul in Ephesians 4 shares that God's will for all leaders in the church is to work in concert with one another "to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." And I like to think we in the LCMC are pretty good at this, emphasizing Bible study and education and teaching sound doctrine.

But I'm afraid where we often fall short in discipleship is in our relational investment. Discipleship requires intentional, focused time one-on-one or in very small groups. In most churches very few people (and sometimes only the pastors) are intentionally trying to disciple others. And one or two people cannot possibly make the personal investment required into very many others. So in many congregations, few are discipled.

So how can we be a more effective training center for disciples? Well I suggest that we begin thinking of making disciples like constructing a building. Paul writes of building up or edifying the body of Christ, frequently encouraging believers to build one another up in the faith. If you were to build a building, you would first start with a blueprint and then begin to plan your construction. If we are building disciples—lives shaped by Jesus—we ought to start with a blueprint for discipleship. What are the qualities of a follower of Jesus that we need to train one another in? Once you have your blueprint, then you can begin to make plans for construction accordingly. And your church can help facilitate the types of relationships and experiences that build faithful followers of Jesus.

So who are you discipling? And who is discipling you? Who is God calling you to pour your life into and make a kingdom investment in? And who are you called to mentor under as you grow in your walk with Jesus? Remember Jesus' marching orders: "Go and make disciples..."

*Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for the LCMC Texas District. Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Feel free to contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or [bryce@lcmctexas.org](mailto:bryce@lcmctexas.org). Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lcmctexas](http://www.facebook.com/lcmctexas)*