

# ST. JOHN EPISTLE

October, 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](mailto:stjohnthrall@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.stjohnlutheranthrall.com](http://www.stjohnlutheranthrall.com)

Doris Kaase - Office Secretary

## Happy Birthday

10/01/15 - Vickie Agee

10/01/15 - Jillian Frase

10/04/15 - Brian Gross

10/10/15 - Vicki Byrd

10/11/15 - Donald Beran

10/12/15 - Janis Gangl

10/12/15 - Janice Meyer

10/14/15 - Chris Koehne

10/16/15 - Katherine Stolle

10/19/15 - Trent Richter

10/19/15 - Clint Chapman

10/21/15 - Dianna Huff

10/21/15 - Macy Whitlow

10/23/15 - Chandee Bachmeyer

10/24/15 - Chad Chapman

10/25/15 - Cade Koehne

10/30/15 - Stephanie Kennedy

## ANNIVERSARY

10/08 - Chris & Kelli Meyer

10/14 - Mo & Millie Hamann

10/15 - Brian & Lesha Whitlow

10/18 - Eric & Stephanie Kennedy

10/21 - Donald & Christy Pick

10/29 - Ron & Sheila Frase

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

September 13, 2015

## Old Business:

1. Discussed expenses for delegates to LCMC National Convention in Frisco.
2. Nominating committee – Mo Hamann, Kevin Klotz, Linda Richter, Herman Kaase, Howard Meyer and Kenneth Beckermann will be meeting to obtain names to be put on the ballot for the election of new council people on Oct. 25.
3. Discussed the OctoberFest coming up on Oct. 18, 2015 – hamburgers and hot dogs will be served. Congregation members to bring sides of chips, dips, desserts, etc.

## New 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.

## Financial Report for August, 2015

General/Bldg B/F \$	<b>51,815.39</b>	Expenses/General –	7,640.92
Income	10,497.52	Expenses/Bldg	20,229.14
Total Income	<b>\$ 62,312.91</b>	Total Expenses	27,870.06

**Gen Acct – \$47,862.53**

**Bldg. Acct (-\$13,419.68)**

**Balance in Bank as of Aug. 31, 2015**      **\$34,442.85**

**Balance in Savings Acct.**                      **35,198.35**

Total in Checking & Savings              **\$69,641.20**

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

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

Aug. 2 - \$2334.00; Aug. 9 – 1695.00; Aug. 16 – 2009.00; Aug. 23 – 1752.00; Aug. 31 – 2073.50

Misc. Income\$ 234.02; Bldg/Mem –\$ 90.00;Bldg. Fund – 310.00

Grand total income for Aug., 2015 - \$10,497.52

## 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 Chad Lenz**

Frances Jirasek  
Jim & Geraldine Richter

### **In Memory of Larry Rohlack**

Mike & Linda Richter

### **In Memory of Robert Vitek**

Mike & Linda Richter

### **In Memory of Gertrude Newman**

Jim & Geraldine Richter

### **In Memory of Doris Wernecke**

Mike & Linda Richter  
Howard & Janice Meyer  
Herman & Doris Kaase  
Peggy Ging  
Clyde & Carmel Newman  
Howard & Nancy Leshikar  
Frances Jirasek  
Jerry & Ellen Hodon  
Harvey & Carolyn Sladek  
Frank & Karen Hines  
Diana Stolle  
Thrall Vol. Fire Dept Auxiliary  
Doris & Melvin Schwettman  
Donald & Joyce Beran  
Kattner Family  
A.J. & Jennifer Batla  
Terry & Genora Twitty

### **In Memory of Ralph Bachmayer**

Howard & Nancy Leshikar  
Herman & Doris Kaase  
Melvin & Doris Schwettman  
Peggy Ging  
Howard & Janice Meyer

## CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Doris Wernecke a long time/faithful member of St. John passed away on Friday, Sept. 4, 2015, one day before her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Services for Doris were held here at St. John on Tuesday, Sept. 8. Survivors include her two daughters, Joy Moehnke, and husband, Doug; Judy Phillips and husband, Jimmy. Five grandsons and two great-granddaughters.

We would also like to express our Christian sympathy to the family of Janelle Baumbach, sister-in-law of Romadene Mohel. Janelle passed away on Sat., Sept. 12, 2015.

Please remember these families in your prayers.

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The congregational meeting to elect new council members will be on **Sunday, October 25**. At this meeting we will need to elect 4 new council members. If you are asked to serve on the council – please give much thought and prayer and say “yes”!

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.

## **OCTOBERFEST**

**Octoberfest will be on Sunday, October 18, 2015 here at St. John – there will be Games inside and outside for all ages!!! There will be a “bouncy house” for the children. Events will begin at 3pm. Hamburgers and hotdog will be provided. People who attend Will bring chips/dips and desserts.**

## **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.**

## **LCMC NATIONAL GATHERING**

**The LCMC National Gathering will be held in Frisco, TX on Oct. 4-7, 2015. Delegates from St. John are Pastor Jon and Kathy, Steve and Debbie Ging, and Barbara Putnam.**

**Pastor Lee Eschberger, grandfather of Erin Koehne, will be leading us in worship on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October, 2015.**

**Please pray for our delegates and the national gathering.**

# AMBASSADORS FOR GOD

	<b>Oct. 4</b>	<b>Oct. 11</b>	<b>Oct. 18</b>	<b>Oct. 25</b>
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	<b>Katie Richter</b>	<b>Sean Kruse</b>	<b>Kirsty Putnam</b>	<b>Dustin Qualls</b>
<b>READER</b>	<b>Joyce Beran</b>	<b>Steve Ging</b>	<b>Kevin Klotz</b>	<b>Erin Koehne</b>
<b>FLOWERS</b>	<b>Fran Jirasek</b>	<b>C&amp;K Meyer</b>	<b>D&amp;J Beran</b>	<b>Koehne's</b>
<b>GREETER</b>	<b>J. Pick</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Erin Koehne</b>	<b>Chris Koehne</b>
<b>NURSERY</b>	<b>Open</b>			
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	<b>K. Klotz &amp; K. Beckermann</b>		<b>K. Klotz &amp; K. Beckermann</b>	
<b>USHER</b>	<b>Kevin Klotz</b>	<b>Kevin Klotz</b>	<b>Kevin Klotz</b>	<b>Kevin Klotz</b>
<b>OFFERING HELPERS</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Youth</b>	<b>Youth</b>
<b>COUNCIL SERVERS</b>	<b>Stephanie Bachmeyer, Cara Ging, Fran Jirasek &amp; Kevin Klotz</b>			

**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.**

# October, 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 Youth Fundraiser in Taylor (Oct 3 &4)
4 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/Holy Communion LCMC	5 National Gathering	6 Frisco	7 Oct. 4-7	8	9	10
11 8am Church Council 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	12	13	14 2pm Circle 7pm Men's Group	15	16	17 8:30 am Shepherd's Heart
18 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/Comm 3pm - OctoberFest	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/ Congregational Meeting	26	27	28	29	30	

# YOUTH ACTIVITIES

**EXCITING 2016 CAMP EAGLE NEWS** – A recent goal of the Texas LCMC churches was to have as many LCMC youth attend Camp Eagle the same week in July 2016. That goal has been reached. As of the writing of this news letter, a total of **230** spots has been reserved by LCMC churches for the junior/senior camp and a total of **96** spots has been reserved for the elementary age group. All **326** youth, along with their sponsors, will be attending Camp Eagle the week of July 11-16, 2016. Can't wait for camp.....

## ***Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars***

**Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> & Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>** – Softball Concession stand fundraiser at softball fields in Taylor.

**Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>** – Food distribution at Shepherd's Heart at 8:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

**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.

**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:**

- ❖ Some so-called open minds should be closed for repairs.
- ❖ If it weren't for the optimist, the pessimist would never know how happy he isn't.
- ❖ A small town has no place to go that you shouldn't.
- ❖ If you want to write something that will last forever, sign a mortgage.
- ❖ The fellow who laughs last may laugh best, but he gets the reputation for being a dumbbell.



*Texas District*

# Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt  
Director of Mission Growth

## The Church is... a Hospital for Sinners

Over the next couple of months, I'd like to share with you three images or metaphors for the church that help to shape our identity and our mission. The first is a Hospital for Sinners: where all may come for spiritual healing and to seek to be made well in Jesus Christ.

In Matthew 9:10-13, we read: "While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and 'sinners' came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?' On hearing this, Jesus said, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick... For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.'"

It is clear to me that calling the sin-sick to spiritual health in Christ is a vital role for the church in all times and in all places. As Paul wrote, "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"... and "The wages of sin is death." These are universal truths that apply just as much today as they did 2,000 years ago. To be consistent with the ministry of Jesus, I believe that the church needs to be a place of healing: a Hospital for Sinners.

But instead of being Hospitals for Sinners, too many churches function more like country clubs for saints like us. Years ago in Baltimore, Maryland, my internship supervisor had the sign outside the church changed to simply say "Sinners Welcome". As you might imagine, not everyone was happy about this message. One man was really upset and that week was in the pastor's office demanding: "What kind of people do you want in here: drug dealers, addicts, drunks, prostitutes?!" Pastor replied, "Yes. And we'll even let hypocrites in too!"

Well maybe he didn't say that last part about hypocrites, but the pastor did go on to cast a vision for the church as place where the doors were wide open to those mired in all kinds of sin. And he also confronted this man with the truth that each one of us already inside the church was also a sinner in need of God's grace.

And so I'd like to encourage you with the lyrics of the hymn, "I love to tell the story." The old, old story of Jesus and His love should never grow old or obsolete or unnecessary, even when telling it to those who know it best. The Good News of Jesus never gets old. Week in and week out church should be a place of healing in Jesus' name: Hospitals for Sinners. After all, we (who are already in the church) need it, too!

*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)*



**PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL TURKEY & DRESSING DINNER**

**SUNDAY OCT. 18, 2015**

**11:00-1:00      \$10.00      *To-Go Only***

3101 County Road 417 Taylor, TX

(Directions on back of tickets)

Roasted turkey breast and homemade dressing with gravy, noodles,  
seasoned green beans and roll.

Homemade desserts made with love available for donation.

Meal Proceeds Benefit the Building Fund

Dessert Proceeds Benefit the Youth Fund

Tickets available at:

Randig Insurance—2403 N Main Street (next to McDonald's)

Sears Hometown Store—2121 N Main Street (Ask for Gem)

Paulette Patschke 512-365-8421 to request yours.

Or Call Church Office 512-365-6155 & leave message

Or any Prince of Peace Member

Be sure to get your tickets in advance – we cannot guarantee that there will be  
any available at the door – Lots of people love our turkey and dressing!!

**October, 2015**

**"Autumn begins with a subtle change in the light, with skies a deeper blue, and nights that become suddenly clear and chilled. The season comes full with the first frost, the disappearance of migrant birds, and the harvesting of the season's last crops."**

**- Glenn Wolff and Jerry Dennis**