

# ST. JOHN EPISTLE

February, 2016

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

02/03 - Barbara Putnam

02/06 - Evelyn Rohlack

02/06 - Geraldine Richter

02/09 - Amanda Meyer

02/09 - Brian Whitlow

02/09 - Glen O'Banan

02/09 - Doris Carlson

02/12 - Caitlin Kennedy

02/12 - Patricia O'Banan

02/14 - Willie Herzer

02/15 - Jimmy Luton

02/21 - Raeghan Carlson

02/24 - James Wuthrich

02/25 - Kayla Klotz

02/25 - Lawrence Brown

## ANNIVERSARY

02/01 - Joe & Aundrea Abernathy

02/05 - Steve & Debbie Ging

2/27 - Doug & Joy Moehnke

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

January 10, 2016

## Old Business:

1. **Sunday Feb. 7 – Potluck Luncheon – Pastor Bryce will be our Guest speaker at the worship service.**
2. **Youth Pancake Supper was moved to Sunday, Feb. 14**
3. **Lenten offering will go to: Shepherd’s Heart, Upbring (Lutheran Social Service) and the Youth Fund.**
4. **Reminder 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of St. John is in 2017**

## New Business:

1. **Passed a request to consider purchasing an ad for a 4’ x 8’ banner to be put on the Thrall High School baseball and softball fields for \$800 plus the cost of the banner. It will be moved to and used at the football field during football season. Annual renewal will be \$500.00.**
2. **Pastor had a request to help supply the military Bible stick to our service people. A basket will be put at the back of the church for donations for this project.**

## Financial Report for Dec. 2015

General/Bldg B/F	\$ 58,887.52	Expenses/General –	9,253.28
Income	12,684.12	Expenses/Bldg	-
Total Income	\$71,571.64	Total Expenses	9,253.28

**Gen Acct – \$44,753.07**

**Bldg. Acct 17,565.29**

**Balance in Bank as of Dec 31, 2015 \$62,318.36**

**Balance in Savings Acct. 15,152.32**

**Total in Checking & Savings \$77,470.68**

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

Offering per Sunday in Dec. were as following:

Dec, 6 - \$2585.00	Misc: Pastor’s Phone Bill –	16.90
Dec. 13- 2000.00	Reimb/SS	11.47
Dec. 20 – 2065.75	Thrivent Choice	19.00
Dec. 27 – 1186.00	Ed Center Rent	100.00
<b>7836.75</b>	Bldg Fund	4,700.00



*Texas District*

# Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt  
Director of Mission Growth

## Why Plant Churches? The Biblical Mandate

## Why Plant Churches? The Biblical Mandate

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A friend and colleague recently asked this question: "Why should we be concerned with planting churches?" That's a great question. What's the big deal? Don't we have enough churches already? Don't we just need more effective congregations? For the next couple of months, I'd like to take a closer look at these important questions. To start off, we will examine our biblical mandate to plant churches. Now you might be thinking: "I don't remember Jesus saying 'go and plant churches.'" And you're right: Jesus didn't exactly use those words! But he did say in Matthew 28: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing, ... and teaching them...."

It is absolutely true that making disciples does not require a new church. In fact established congregations should hold this mission as primary for their community of faith and strive towards it always. But it is a proven fact that even in areas where there are many healthy, established congregations, new church plants are far more effective at discipling the unchurched. Why? Because for a new church plant, evangelism and discipleship is the only focus.

In addition to more effectively fulfilling the Great Commission, church planting is the natural progression of the church we read about in the New Testament. As believers went from place to place sharing the Gospel and doing ministry, they gathered new believers into communities of faith. The local congregation is the community of faith in which baptizing and teaching takes place. New disciples gather around word and sacrament to help one another mature and continue to engage in mission. And as new believers mature, they are trained up and sent out to plant a new church by gathering together a new group of people to begin following Jesus, too.

Unfortunately for many denominations, the work of church planting largely was disconnected from the

local church and handed over to the denomination. But the motto of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ is "A First Century Church for the 21st Century," meaning that we are seeking to return to a biblical model of how to be the church. As we return to this first century New Testament model of ministry, we realize that church planting is a hallmark of a healthy and faithful congregation. It is my hope and prayer that the LCMC Texas District congregations will answer the call to train up disciples and send out missionaries to plant new churches!

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*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)*

## ***SPECIAL THANK YOU***

***A very special thank you to our outgoing council: Mo Hamann, Cara Ging, and Kevin Klotz, we appreciated your service to St. John the past two years.***

***Newly elected officers of the council are: Chris Meyer, President; Linda Richter, Vice-President; Stephanie Bachmeyer, Secretary; Jimmy Luton, Treasurer. Other council members are: Debbie Ging, Richard Jansky, Frances Jirasek, Romadene Mohel, and Chad Richter.***

## **CHILI FUNDRAISER**

**A very special thank you to all who helped with the annual chili fundraiser! Your help was greatly appreciated.**

<b>Gross income</b>	<b>5430.00</b>
<b>Supplies &amp; Meat</b>	<b><u>1538.60</u></b>
<b>Profit</b>	<b>\$ 3891.40</b>

**Proceeds will go in the Building Fund.**

# February 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9am Sunday School 10:15am Worship/Holy Communion Potluck Luncheon	8	9	10 2pm Circle 5pm Ash Wed. Service/Holy Communion	11	12	13 8:30 am Shepherd's Heart
14 8am Church Council 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship 5pm – Youth Pancake Fundraiser	15	16	17 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Lenten Service	18 Polling Site	19	20
21 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/Comm	22	23	24 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Lenten Service	25	26	27
28 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	29					

# AMBASSADORS FOR GOD

	<b>Feb. 7</b>	<b>Feb. 14</b>	<b>Feb. 21</b>	<b>Feb. 28</b>
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Kaleb Hamann	Cade Koehne	Cheyenne O'Banan	Katie Richter
<b>READER</b>	Erin Koehne	Debbie Ging	Kathy Bielfeldt	Susan Wuthrich
<b>FLOWERS</b>	Peggy Ging	Steve & Debbie Ging	Kayla Klotz	Open
<b>GREETER</b>	Erin Koehne	Glen O'Banan	R. Mohel	Peggy Ging
<b>NURSERY</b>	Open			
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	D & J Beran		D & J Beran	
<b>USHER</b>	Donald Beran	D. Beran	D. Beran	D. Beran
<b>OFFERING HELPERS</b>	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth
<b>COUNCIL SERVERS</b>	Debbie Ging, Richard Jansky, Chad Richter, 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.**

# MEMORIALS

**In Memory of Angie Becker**  
**Howard & Nancy Leshikar**  
**Herman & Doris Kaase**  
**Evelyn Rohlack**  
**Jim & Geraldine Richter**  
**Doris Carlson**

**In Memory of Glenn Roy Widmer**  
**Peggy Ging**  
**Dianna Huff**

**In Memory of Henry Jordan**  
**Doris Carlson**

**In Memory of Emil & Olga Walther**  
**Wandeen Sakewitz**

## THANK YOU

**Thanks to Janet Herzer for delivering the food items to Shepherd's Heart In Taylor.**

**Thanks to all who helped with the Chili Fundraiser!**

**Thanks to Lucille Rosenthal for helping each week in the office.**

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

**Thanks to Doug Moehnke for keeping our lawn neat.**

**Thanks to Joy Moehnke for providing the treats for the children on Children Sermon Sundays.**

**Thanks to Howard Meyer and Jack Stolle for doing the needed repairs around the church.**

# Youth Activities

## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

**Shepherd's Heart** – Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, St John is scheduled to help in the distribution of food stuff.

### **Youth's Annual Pancake Supper Fundraiser**

The youth will hold their annual pancake supper on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 5-7p.m. Let your friends, neighbors, and family members know! Funds raised will go toward summer camp expenses.

**Lenten Soup Suppers** will begin Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be in the back of the church during the next three Sundays, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, and Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> to sign up for soup, sandwiches, and desserts. Youth who help set up and clean up afterwards will receive credit towards their camp expenses. This is a free-will donation fundraiser for the youth.

**Softball Concession Stand Camp Fundraisers** dates have been set. One is scheduled for Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. The second one is scheduled for Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. These will be the last fundraisers before camp.

**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:**

- People, line pins, are useless when they loose their heads.
- Where there is an inquisitve mind, there will always be a frontier.
- The difference between flatter and a compliment is sincerity.
- The hardest decisions in life are deciding which bridges to cross and which ones to burn.
- \* A grudge is one thing that doesn't get better when it is nursed.