

ST. JOHN EPISTLE

September, 2014

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

9/01 - Tyler Richter	9/19 - Joshua Pick
9/02 - Kerri Hillman	9/20 - Mary Ellen Krueger
9/02 - Melissa Qualls	9/20 - Billie Hoermann
9/03 - Bryce Koehne	9/22 - Romadene Mohel
9/05 - Doris Wernecke	9/22 - Travis Carlson
9/06 - Elroy Lieberum	9/22 - Kirsty Putnam
9/07 - Joseph Sandifer	9/23 - Judy Phillips
9/09 - Jason Moehnke	9/23 - Lisa Gilmore
9/11 - Chad Richter	9/24 - Deanna Hall
9/13 - Courtney Ging Edwards	9/25 - Linda Richter
9/13 - Dylan Ging	9/27 - Bill Brees
9/13 - Raeleigh Whitlow	9/27 - Robert Walla
9/14 - A. W. Pick	9/28 - Lesha Whitlow
9/15 - Jacquelyn Pick	9/29 - Merjean Andrews
9/16 - Emily Hall	9/29 - Maybelline Kattner
9/17 - Christine Shaw	

ANNIVERSARY

9/06 - Curtis & Carolyn Kerlin
9/07 - Bradley & Melinda Abrameit
9/07 - Archie & Virginia Abrameit
9/27 - Bill & Tephania Brees
9/29 - Brian & Amanda Drummond

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

August 11, 2014

Old Business:

1. Set Oct. 26 for annual congregational meeting to elect new council members.
2. Set. Oct 26 for annual Octoberfest!
3. Will name nominating committee at August council meeting.

New Business:

1. Set September 28 for Potluck Lunch. Meat will be provided. Free will donation will be taking to offset the cost of the new sidewalk. Bring side dish and dessert to share.
2. Two (2) have signed up for Confirmation
3. Howard Meyer & Barbara Putnam will on the nominating committee from the church council. Need 4 from congregation to serve on committee (need Volunteers)!

Financial Report for July, 2014

Balance/Forward	\$ 35,891.76	Expenses/General -	\$ 7,125.42
Income	9767.15	Expenses/Bldg	
Total Income	\$ 45,658.91	Total Expenses	\$7,125.42

Balance in Bank as of July 31, 2014 - \$38,533.49

Balance in Savings Acct. \$35,160.17

Total in Checking & Savings \$73,693.66

The following amount is needed every Sunday to meet our budget: **\$2227.67.

Offering per Sunday in June were as following: **July 6 –2067.00 ; July 13 – 3641.00;**

July 20 – 1904.00; July 27 – 1853.00. (Average per Sunday for the month of July was - \$2,366.25)

Bldg/Memorials for June was **\$105.00. Misc. Income – 197.15**

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 **Chad Richter and Dalton** for taking care of the flower beds.

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!

SAVE THE FOLLOWING FOR CHURCH

- 1. Canceled postage stamps**
- 2. Box tops for Education from General Mills**
- 3. Campbell soup labels**
- 4. Used Computer ink cartridges**
- 5. Aluminum Cans – Goes to youth**
- 6. Sirloin Stockade receipts (must submit the cash register receipt.)**

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The project for our St. John women this year is Shepherd's Heart in Taylor. Food items of any kind will be appreciated. Please remember to buy an extra can or two when you are purchasing your groceries and bring them along with you to church and put them in the container in the narthex. All the women are invited to attend the circle meetings held the second Wednesday of each month at 2pm in the Education Center. The women are beginning to study the women of the Bible.

SHEPHERD'S HEART

Just a reminder that food is needed at Shepherd's Heart.

Bring your food and put them in the container in the Narthex!

All donations are greatly appreciated.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Dorothy Aderhold

Doris Carlson
Steve & Debbie Ging

In Memory of Lucille Harwell

Evelyn Rohlack

In Memory of Ervin Kaatz

Howard & Janice Meyer

In Memory of Eddie Kollman

Howard & Janice Meyer
Donald & Joyce Beran
Peggy Ging

NEW MAILING ADDRESS:

Clarence & Joyce Koslan

600 Live Oak Trl.
Liberty Hill, TX 78642

Jesse & Courtney Edwards

P. O. Box 32
Coupland, TX 78615

SEPTEMBER 28, 2014

The church council has set a congregational Potluck Lunch for Sunday, September 28 after the worship service. The meat will be furnished. Bring your favorite side dish and dessert to share. Stay and enjoy the fellowship and visit with your fellow members of St. John. Free will donation will be taking to offset the cost of the new sidewalk.

Annual Gathering Meal Packaging Project

October 7, 2014

One of the things that we are hoping to do at our [Annual Gathering](#) in Des Moines, IA is a service project!

[Meals from the Heartland](#) is an agency that organizes people to package meals to send all around the world, as well as to areas here in the U.S. You have maybe seen this happen, or even helped to do so in your area. These efforts are also known as **Kids Against Hunger, Feed My Starving Children**, and others.

Our hope is to get 1,000 people to package meals on Tuesday night during our gathering. If we can do this, we could package 400,000 meals together in two hours.

To purchase the supplies, the packaging, and to pay for shipping will require about \$80,000 to be raised, so we are asking each congregation to begin now to set aside funds in order to bring an offering to make all of this happen. With 706 congregations in the US, this comes only to about \$115 from each church. Again, some of us can do more, some not as much, but we can all do something to help feed the world's hungry. **To Date St. John has collected - \$227.03!**

If you would like to contribute to the worthy

Project – please put your donation into an envelope and mark it as “Gathering Meal” and put it in the offering plate. Your donations will be appreciated!!

HOLY BAPTISM

On Sunday, August 31, 2014 – Elise Eleanor Chapman daughter of Clint & Kristen Chapman will be baptized here at St. John. Grandparents are Jimmy & Judy Phillips and Katherine Schimcek. Great grandparents are: Doris Wernecke and Virginia Gray. We wish God's blessing on this family and we will keep them in our prayers.

September, 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7 9 am Sunday School—Rally Sunday— Breakfast 10:15 Worship/Holy Com.	8 7pm Church Council	9	10 2pm Circle 7pm Men's Group	11	12	13
14 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/Baptism	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/Holy Communion	22	23 First Day Of Autumn	24	25	26	27
28 9 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship/Potluck Lunch	29	30				

2014 LCMC Texas District Convention August 1st & 2nd in Seguin.

Began Friday afternoon by 5:30 with registration, Ministry Displays visitation, supper.

6:30PM Welcome and Worship

7:00PM 1st Business Session: Opened by Rev. David Mayer, Texas District Chairman

1st order of business: Nominations for 5 Texas District Council positions vacated 2014 terms completed:

Outgoing: Rev. David Mayer, St. Paul- Hondo; Ryan Grube, Martin Luther-Giddings; Al Leadaman, Trinity-Blanco; Rev. Jill Duncan (resignation due to health); Carina Dabney, Living Word-Grapevine.

Nominations: Rev. Jeremy Walloch, Martin Luther-Giddings; Judy Henfey, St. Paul-New Braunfels; Ryan Grube, Martin Luther-Giddings; John Sellers, Living Word-Grapevine; Jens Hinderlie, St Paul-New Braunfels.

Keynote Speaker: Pastor Chris Magnell of Christ Lutheran in Florida. "PRESS ON"

It is about the whole race. We need encouragement from others. Important factors:

- Begins with belief God is not done with us.
- Trust that the best days are still ahead of us.
- Willing to let go of the past.
- Can't stand still "**We have to Press On.**"
- Need to approach US as a mission field.
- Got to speak the current language, Face Book, Twitter, and etc.
- Time for opportunity

Business Meeting 2nd Session:

Mission Team Report by Al Leadaman: Team consists of 14 members from 7 congregations. Need more participation. Focus on planting new churches and help struggling churches. Meet quarterly. Need help to cover the entire state of Texas with leads, contacts, and prayers.

Hymns and Benediction followed by snacks and fellowship. Closed at 9:30PM

Saturday started with 7:30 Breakfast.

Blessing of new council members. Presentation of Council and Ministries.

Keynote Speaker, Pastor Chris Magnell: "**Press On, Accept Change, Take Risk**"

God is not done with us, our best days are ahead. Let go of the past and focus on the future. Believe, Trust, Let Go. It is God's church! Not the founding members, nor the pastor's, nor the largest contributor. What is the mission of the church? Reward invention! Erase "We have never done that before." What is worse case scenario? Form a team with a goal, not a committee. Accept change. Need multi media. Need to meet the needs of current culture with current day values.

God don't make no junk! Be willing to fail and allow others to fail. It is OK to have fun, OK to make mistakes, and OK to sing out. Press On, Accept Change, Take Risk.

Break with snack and fellowship.

Your choice of 6 different breakout sessions: 1) Youth and Family, 2) Texas District Mission Team, 3) Eastern Europe Ministry, 4) LCMC Call Process, 5) Lutheran World Relief, 6) Women of the Word.

Breakout Session 1: Women of the Word presented by Beverly Kelling of St. Paul in Hondo: Focused on the Trinity (3 in 1 joined together in unity). If you have any questions about Women of the Word, contact President, Kathy Bielfeldt.

Speaker Pastor Paul Cross of Faith Lutheran – Seguin, TX: Spoke of a valuable lesson he learned in Seminary regarding Press On. When he turned in his 1st paper and it was returned to him with corrections in red all over it, he was fearful that he really did not have the calling and would not become a pastor. At the end of the paper, were the words "Press On". Each paper thereafter had less red and always ended with the same encouraging message, press on. Final paper, the most important test, no red corrections only comment "I knew you could do it, press on." Worship with Holy Communion

B-B-Q Lunch

Afternoon Session, Speaker Pastor Stephen Lien, Coordinator of Pastoral Ministry for LCMC. (Pastor Calls and Seminary Students) **"Keep the Main Thing, the Main Thing."** Eternal treasure in earthen vessels. What matters most is We are children of God! Why do you think it is a hard calling to be a pastor? What are the cultural issues going on that contribute to this situation? Four important things to remember: 1) Worship regularly; 2) Serve willingly, 3) Give generously, 4) Love extravaluablely.

Breakout Session 2: Leadership by Pastor David Mayer of St. Paul – Hondo

Leadership is learning who you are and growing. Change starts with the top leader and trickles down. Get the right people on the bus, who are involved and active, not the ones who don't care. Call the right people for the task, who have hope, determination, with an I think I can attitude. Leadership is lonely. Be willing to be in front. Look for positive things to relate to. The Plan works, if you work The Plan. PRESS ON

Current Texas District Council:

Term expires 2015

Rev. Percy Smerek – Trinity, Stonewall

Barbara Geistfeld – Trinity, Blanco

Rev. C.B. Suggs – St. Andrews, Weesatche

Term expires 2016

Dennis DeReese – First Evangelical, Orange Grove

Rev. Alsen Wenzel – St. John's, Winters

Harry Dietz – Faith, Seguin

Rev. Jon Bielfeldt – St. John, Thrall

Term expires 2017

Rev. Jeremy Walloch – Martin Luther, Giddings

Ryan Grube – Martin Luther, Giddings

Judy Henfey – St. Paul, New Braunfels

John Sellers – Living Work, Grapevine

Jens Hinderlie – St. Paul, New Braunfels

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

We hope everyone enjoyed their summer! On Sunday, August 17th, the youth enjoyed fellowship and water at the swim party. Thank you to Chad & Heather Richter for allowing us to "borrow" their pool and house!

The First Baptist Church in Thrall is hosting a "Fifth Quarter" at their church following all the home football games. Students in grades 6 – 12 are invited to attend. See the flyer included in this newsletter.

Confirmation class begins Sunday, September 14th. Please keep these youth in your prayers as they begin their intense study of the Bible and the Lutheran faith.

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

Fifth Quarter at First Baptist Church, Thrall – September 5, September 19, October 24, November 7.

Rally Sunday, September 7th – We will start off the Fall Semester with a covered dish breakfast starting at 9 a.m. Regular classes will begin the following Sunday, September 14th.

Shepherd's Heart 2014 Service dates – Saturday, October 4th; Service time is from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

2015 Camp Eagle Fundraiser – Saturday, October 4th and Sunday, October 5th; more information to come!

Please remember that the St. John Youth are on facebook. Go to www.facebook.com and search for St. John Lutheran Youth, Thrall, Texas.

Thoughts for the month:

- ❖ When life gives you more than you can stand . . . **KNEEL**.
- ❖ The example **WE** set for our kids – how to act when things don't go our way – is much, much more important than the rules we set for them.
- ❖ Lord, teach my child the value of work. *Proverbs 12:10*
- ❖ Your worst day with **GOD** will be better than your best day without **HIM**.
- ❖ Whenever you do not understand what's happening in your life, just close your eyes, take a deep breath, and say, "**GOD**, I know it's your plan. Just help me through it."

*Have a blessed month,
Russel & Tammi*

(512) 461 – 7277
(512) 461 – 1776
(512) 352 – 8848

Russel
Tammi
home

5TH QUARTER

WHO: 6-12 grade students

WHEN: August 29, 2014

After Bruceville-Eddy/Thrall game
till midnight

WHERE: FBC Thrall Campus
(across from the school)

FOOD & GAMES



St. John Lutheran Sunday School

Main Street, Thrall



Rally Sunday

Potluck Breakfast
Sunday, September 7, 2014
9 a.m.

Come for fellowship and bring a friend!

	Sept. 7, 2014	Sept. 14, 2014	Sept. 21, 2014	Sept. 28, 2014
READER	Linda Richter	Christy Pick	Joyce Beran	Debbie Ging
GREETER	Carolyn Kerlin	Doris Kaase	Jacquelyn Pick	Doris Schwettman
USHER	Open	Open	Open	Open
ACOLYTE	Kaleb Hamann	Chandee Bachmeyer	Dylan Ging	Riley Richter
COUNCIL SERVERS	Gary Almquist, Jimmy Luton, Howard Meyer & Linda Richter	Gary Almquist, Jimmy Luton, Howard Meyer & Linda Richter	Gary Almquist, Jimmy Luton, Howard Meyer & Linda Richter	Gar,y Jimmy, Howard & Linda
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Curtis & Carolyn Kerlin		Curtis & Carolyn Kerlin	
ALTAR FLOWERS	Curtis & Carolyn Kerlin	Marcella Johnson	Peggy Ging	open
COMMUNION WARE				Michele & Doris
CHILDREN'S SERMON		Children's Sermon		Children's Sermon
NURSERY CARE				Open
OFFERING HELPERS	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth

Thanks to everyone who serves! If you can't serve, when scheduled, please find someone to take your place!

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, August 3, 2014

St John Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting Sunday August 03, 2014.

Mo Hamann, Council President called meeting to order at close of service.

Pastor Jon offered opening prayer.

52 members attending.

Item on Agenda: Replacing Concrete Walk Way

Discussion: Reason for the repair is safety issue. Walkway from Education Center to street. Propose replace current 4' wide sidewalk with 6' wide for better access by wheelchairs and walkers. Remove dip at street and make level. At the building apron on both sides in semi-circle. Smooth and level to prevent accidents and liability issues. Council will haul off the removed concrete. We have received 2 bids and wish to award the contract to Leroy Mott at \$2,450.00. Work can be done in August on Monday or Tuesday to be ready to use by Sunday. Current budget has allocated \$10,000.00 for repairs. According to constitution and by-laws, expenditures over \$1,000.00 needs congregation approval.

Russell Putnam made motion: **“We replace the concrete walkway as proposed by council and award the contract of \$2,450.00 to Leroy Mott.”** Donald Pick 2nd. Approved by voice acknowledgement.

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by

Barbara Putnam, Council Secretary