One of our members gave me a cartoon clipping last month. It was ‘Dennis the Menace.’ He was sitting in a Sunday School class and his teacher asked, “Do any of you know what a bishop does?” He quickly raised his hand and answered, “Doesn’t he move diagonally?” The truth is that outside of the call process or disciplinary function, very few people know what a bishop does. The role of bishop in the game of chess is more widely known.

I serve as assistant dean for our Heart of Texas Conference. Our NTNL Mission Area is made up of our and many other conferences. In May, we hosted a forum for potential bishop candidates to speak their minds, and answer questions from the floor about what they would do as bishop. Here are some of their answers:

1. Visit churches and listen to their vision for ministry, strengths, and needs. Then develop a leadership model, and ministry vision based on what our churches say.
2. Connect the Mission Area, and help share resources to accomplish our joint ministry.
3. Continue to develop our participation in Lutheran mission outreach abroad to needy persons in the third world.
4. Work toward awareness and advancement on social justice issues.
5. Help to increase the hospitality and outreach ministry of our churches, especially to persons who know the gospel, but have stopped coming to church (this is a sizable group in America today).

Since this newsletter has been published, Frank, Connie, and I traveled to Arlington and helped elect our new bishop. My hope is that we can support and follow his or her leadership, just as we have supported our past bishops. The new bishop’s vision for ministry and leadership may be different than what we’ve known. It may not even be on my list. But that’s ok. The Holy Spirit has moved and called this person to serve and will give us what we need to follow, and do big things in our ministry together in the NTNL Mission Area.

See you in church & Sunday School!
Pastor Joe Woodward
MAY 2016

* Every Sunday Sing Along in the Basement 9:00 am to 9:15 am

* First Monday of the Month Worship Service at Will O Bell Nursing @ 10:00 am

* Following Mondays 3:00 pm Bible Study @ Will O Bell Nursing Home

* Every Wednesday Men’s Bible Group @ Lois & Jerry’s 7:30 am to 8:30 am

* Every Thursday Piecemaker’s 1:00pm to 3:00pm Church Basement

MAY 2016

* May 8—Blessing of the Quilts Mclane’s Children Hospital 10:30 Service WELCA Thank Offering

* May 14—Bartlett Health Fair @ American Legion 8:00am—3:00pm

* May 16—Council Meeting Adult Bible Study Room 6:00 pm

* May 17—Women’s Bible Study - Gathering Room

* May 21—Youth Lakehouse Outing @ Pattersons— time TBD

* May 22—Confirmation Graduation 10:30 Sunday Service

* May 29—5th Sunday Worship @ Mt. Ararat Baptist Bartlett—3:00 pm

* May 29—Senior Recognition 10:30 Sunday Service
STAFF

President        Joe Woodward  254-289-4454 (cell)  joewoodward7@gmail.com
Organist         Garland Kneten  527-4235 Hm  gkneten@sbcglobal.net
Secretary        Pat Bruggman  657-2500 718-1775  bruggman1979@embarqmail.com
Treasurer        Dorothy Marwitz  657-2369 718-6061  ramdam2@embarqmail.com
Financial Secretary  Sharon Koonsen  657-2568  sharonkoonsen@earthlink.net
Property                Steven Wentrcek  718-3106  stevenw1572@msn.com
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Evangelism              Alan Shepherd  760-7401  asalanshepherd@aol.com
W-ELCA                  Sandra Jones  541-9056
W-ELCA                  Sharon Kurtin  527-3898

COUNCIL OFFICERS

President        Duane Kurtin  527-3898  dkurtin@gmail.com
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Secretary        Pat Bruggman  657-2500 718-1775  bruggman1979@embarqmail.com
Treasurer        Dorothy Marwitz  657-2369 718-6061  ramdam2@embarqmail.com
Financial Secretary  Sharon Koonsen  657-2568  sharonkoonsen@earthlink.net

ACTION TEAM LEADERS

Property                Steven Wentrcek  718-3106  stevenw1572@msn.com
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Worship                  Donna Campbell  654-8088  securespc3@gmail.com
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Evangelism              Alan Shepherd  760-7401  asalanshepherd@aol.com
W-ELCA                  Sandra Jones  541-9056
W-ELCA                  Sharon Kurtin  527-3898

OFFERINGS FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2016

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Monthly WELCA Morning Bible Study

Monthly Bible Study is held in the TRC starting at 9:15 on the third Tuesday of the month. The next date is May 17, 2016. A special all day Summer Bible Study will be held on Saturday June 11th. Registration will begin at 9:00 am with Bible Study to begin at 9:30. Additional information is provided in a separate article.

Will-O-Bell Birthday Social

THANK YOU to those who helped with the Will-O-Bell Birthday Social in March!! They were:

Leaders – Janice Atchison and Paula Weir
Helpers – Linda Ferguson, Esterleen Fischer, Shirley Fischer, Rosell Fritz, Connie Horak, Shelby Horak, Allison Janke, Lauren Janke, Sherry Kell, Janice Wentcek, Carol Wolf, Jewel Wolf, Linda Wolf, Sandra Woolley.

KAIROS Cookies

We are so very appreciative of everyone in the area who faithfully contributed cookies for the KAIROS prison ministry in April. Thanks also goes out to the Holland 4-H who baked some of the cookies for us. SPECIAL THANKS to Dorothy Marwitz and Cynthia Gersbach for coordinating this ministry. YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE and we thank you all!!

Thanks to our Youth and Holland 4-H for baking the $159 worth of cookie dough for Kairos and our Church Members for the cash donations and baking cookies as well. We also want to thank you for helping package the cookies. With the help of everybody, "Kairos Cookies" was successful once again.

May God Bless All Of You, Dorothy Marwitz

THANK YOU!

A special THANK YOU to Pat Stroud for delivering 38 quilts to Waco to be sent to Lutheran World Relief!! THANK YOU to all of the Piece Makers for your creative hands in making all of these quilts!!

Recognizing Our Youth

CONGRATULATIONS to Katie Randig and James Steglich who received their First Communion on March 6th! This is a significant step in their Christian growth. They were presented with a $20 gift card to Lifeway Christian Store. Thank you to April Marek for coordinating this gift from WELCA.

On May 29th we will be recognizing our 2016 Seniors Nathan Dague, Jacob Horak, Ryan Kallus, Tyler Kallus, Jordan Kurtz and Landon Rafay.

WELCA at work

Calendar Change

The Polka Worship has been scheduled for September 18th, therefore the Congregational Potluck Dinner and WELCA General Meeting & Election of Officers will be on August 28th.

Thank You Notes - Not for women only!

Recent thank-you notes are on the WELCA bulletin board, located in the hallway of the TRC just across from the Church Office. These notes are to thank EVERY member of St. John. Remember, most of our WELCA funding comes from our annual Advent Fair and it takes all of our Congregation to make this a success. This work matters and makes it possible for WELCA to help change lives in the name of Jesus. Thank YOU!!
Our Synodical Women's Organization also publishes the *Tapestry* newsletter every other month. This publication is now in online format only. *Tapestry* is published on the St. John web page for easy access.

To read about activities of our sisters throughout the North Texas-Northern Louisiana (NT-NL) Synod/Mission Area, check the most recent issues posted on our church website at [www.stjohnbartlett.net](http://www.stjohnbartlett.net) and click on *Tapestry Newsletter* in the column to the right of the group photo of our congregational members.

To receive an email with the latest issue when it is released, contact our current WELCA Secretary, Linda Ferguson, to be added to the distribution list.

*WELCA at work*

**Quarterly WELCA Activity Directors**

The role of Activity Directors was successfully developed beginning in 2010 to help spread the responsibilities of the organization to allow more involvement by the women in our church. It was decided to use Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall Activity Directors.

Each director is in charge of the activities planned during that season. They should work with the chairwomen of events held during the quarter. They are also encouraged to help involve other church women in the events of the season. The current year Activity Directors are also asked to prayerfully consider and offer suggestions to the current year officers regarding members to consider as the following year's committee chairwomen and Activity Directors.

A special THANK YOU to Debra Caldwell, Rachel Burklow and Shelby Pagel for serving as our Winter activity Directors. The 2016 Activity Directors are listed below:

**2016 Activity Directors**

Winter [Jan-Mar] – Debra Caldwell, Rachel Burklow & Shelby Pagel  
Spring [Apr-Jun] – Ruth Janke, Shirley Fischer, Linda Ferguson & Joann Zieschang  
Summer [Jul-Sep] – Pam Fleming, Pat Bruggman & Donna Dawson  
Fall [Oct-Dec] – Peggy Kurtz, Paula Unberhagen & Joey Saverse

*Looking Ahead!*

**Thursdays . . . . . . . 1:00-3:00 p.m. Piece Makers work on Lutheran World Relief Quilts**

**May 17 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 9:15 Morning Bible Study in the TRC – Pat Stroud, study leader**

**May 5 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . National Day of Prayer**

**May 8 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Second Quarterly Thankoffering**

**May 29 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Recognition day for Graduating High School Seniors**

**June 11 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Summer Bible Study – Registration 9:00 / Bible Study 9:30**

**July 9 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Will-O-Bell Social – Leaders: Donna Dawson and Sandra Jones**
Confirmation camp is this summer from July 10-15 at Lutheran Camp Ebert. We hope to take those who want to attend from the graduating class, as well as the upcoming class which will begin instruction in fall 2016. Parents please get those release and information forms to the church office so that we can reserve our week.

The Membership Committee will begin meeting in June to continue the work done by the previous committee. We will be working on updating the membership lists and addresses. The Fellowship Committee has been phoning and visiting shut-ins as well as providing some meals. Anyone who is interested in helping please contact Cedalia Kurtz 657-2588.

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, June 11th, 2016
All women of the church (including High School age) are invited to attend a Bible Study Retreat “The Heart of the Matter.”
March 21, 2016 Chairman, Duane Kurtin called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM, followed by a brief devotional given by Pastor Joe Woodward. Council members present were Duane Kurtin, Frank Horak, Pat Bruggman, Dorothy Marwitz, Donna Campbell, Walt Saverse, Alan Shepherd, Steven Wentrcek, Cedalia Kurtz, Mila Wegner, JR Gersbach and Pastor Joe Woodward. Absent: Deborah Martin.

Secretary’s Report: council members reviewed copies of the regular council meeting minutes, presented by acting secretary Pat Bruggman, held on February 15, 2016. After every one was given time to read over the minutes; a motion was made by Dorothy Marwitz, seconded by Cedalia Kurtz to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried. Mrs. Bruggman also presented council with a card (and gift) to be given to Jill Marwitz for her time and dedication. A free will offering was taken to cover cost and members signed the card.

Treasurer’s Report: council was presented with current copies of the church’s bank account(s). Totals were shown/given and Dorothy Marwitz explained to council where we stand financially at this time. A motion was made by Frank Horak, seconded by JR Gersbach to accept the treasurer’s report as presented. The motion carried. Mrs. Marwitz also reported to the church council that she would be turning in an ‘accounts reports’ to the church’s insurance company.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Woodward presented his monthly report to church council. Pastor Joe wanted to again express his gratefulness for the help that had been offered/given in the church’s office. Council reviewed and accepted the pastor’s report for February 2016.

Property Committee Report: Walt Saverse reported that the church’s gas bill was too high so Atmos was called; it was determined that there was a mistake on the reading of the meter (no leaks were detected). Some of the floor tiles were professionally cleaned in the TRC hallway area and the church property committee reps liked the results they saw; want to order some of the cleaning product ($144.00 thru Buckeye Cleaning Center). Flowers were delivered to Mr. & Mrs. Wentrcek.

Youth Committee Report: Deborah Martin was unable to attend the council meeting, but she did send in her youth report. Youth are getting ready for the sunrise breakfast Easter morning. Deborah will take inventory on donated items and purchase what is still needed. Also, they will be nailing down plans on when youth will be baking, along with Holland 4-H, cookies for the Kairos Jail Ministry.

Evangelism Committee Report: Alan Shepherd reported that he had nothing to report at this time, nor had they met.

Public Relations Committee Report: JR Gersbach said they hadn’t met; no report available. Weldon Kurtz moving the flower crosses to the church for them. Future action for the committee is to review Mr. Garland Kneten’s request to have the church’s organ overhauled.
Lenten meals; approximately 20 members attended the pre-service meals during lent. She had also made hospital visits to Rosie Fritz, and to Myrtle Wood. **Worship Committee Report:** Donna Campbell reported that the committee had ordered palms from Sam’s, on-line, making sure they were delivered on time for services. They also have ordered the Easter Lilies to be delivered 3/27/16, from Debbie at Unique Celebrations. The committee has

**Parish Education Committee Report:** Frank Horak reported to council that there hadn’t been a meeting, but one was scheduled for Sunday, March 27, 2016. Frank did report that the committee will be comprised of Evelyn Steglich, Erin Steglich, Clara Steglich, and Shelby Horak. Frank Horak also reported he has VBS info being sent to the church from Concordia. The committee plans to lead an ‘old fashion’ children’s Sunday School service on Easter Sunday; at 9:00 AM they’ll will start with singing Sunday School songs, have a short lesson, crafts for the smaller children, and follow up with an Easter Egg Hunt (weather permitting).

**Stewardship/Call Committee Report:** Mila Wegner reported to council that she had delivered various items to Family Promise in Temple, she provided a list to council. Mrs. Wegner also reported that she continues to assist Will-O-Bell residents with Arts-n-Crafts at least twice a month, and has also been doing ‘one-on-one’ reading with interested residence at the home. She also expressed a need for stickers, pictures, old cards, etc… to use for their crafting times.

**Old Business:** Council Chairman Duane Kurtin presented council with ‘Job Description of Church Secretary’. After council reviewed the document and held a discussion, there were a few changes made to the job description (attached). A motion was then made by JR Gersbach, seconded by Donna Campbell to accept the document with amendments. Motion passed.

The next item up for discussion was the bookkeeping position. Jill Marwitz, through her employment with Lott, Vernon and Company LC, presented a verbal bid of $1,000 per month to do the bookkeeping for St. John Lutheran beginning April 1, 2016. A motion was made by Frank Horak and seconded by Walt Saverse to accept this bid from Lott, Vernon & Co., motion passed unanimously.

A ‘Work Day’ was set, with the approval of the property reps present for April 9th, 9:00 to 12:00.

Discussion was held on moving the Polka Service; since First Lutheran of Temple is releasing their set time for Polka worship, and the opportunity presented its self for St. John to secure this time slot (September 18th). WELCA had given the board their approval for making this date change and in doing so relieving some of the pressure on WELCA’s busy fall schedule. The church council understood the reasoning and agreed that the scheduling change may prove to be a win, win for all concerned. A motion to move the Polka Service to Sept. 18, 2016 was made by Cedalia Kurtz, seconded by Dorothy Marwitz. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Walt Saverse, seconded by Frank Horak that the council meeting be
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Duties</th>
<th>Assistant Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Lector, Assistant</td>
<td>Wayne Zieschang</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>Assistant, Communion Assistants</td>
<td>Nelwyn Persky</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Huber &amp; Pauline, Usher Captain</td>
<td>Darrell Marek</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Acolyte, Altar Care</td>
<td>Christopher Crum</td>
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<td>May 29</td>
<td>Greeters, Ushers</td>
<td>Hubert &amp; Pauline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>Flowers</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Paula Unberhagen</td>
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**Assistance Schedule**

**May 2016**
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Communion Assistants

- Wayne Zieschang
- Shirley Fischer
- Alan Shepherd
- Hayden Martin
- Collin Randig
- Audrey Rafay
- Charles Gersbach
- Charles Gersbach
- J.R. Gersbach
- Justin Young
- Michael, Joey & Travis, Steglich
- Dale Dawson
- Jimmy Gommert
- Charles Hill
- David Tschoerner
- Hubert & Pauline Wolbrueck
- Gayle Bielss
- Sharon Randig
- Carol & Brenda Kessler
- Jill Marquess
- Jill Marquess
- Jill Marquess
- Jill Marquess
- Jill Marquess

Usher Captain

- Michael Kurtz
- Michael Kurtz
- Michael Kurtz
- Michael Kurtz
- Michael Kurtz

Teller Captain

- Pam Fleming
- Jill Marquess
- Jill Marquess
- Jill Marquess
- Jill Marquess

Asst. Usher Captain

- Mag Thaler
- Mona Smalley
- Pauline Walden
- Mag Thaler
- Pansy Lange
- Glen Janke
- Pansy Lange
- Glen Janke
- Shirley Fischer
- Ruth Janke
- Pansy Lange
- Shirley Fischer
- Ruth Janke
- Duane & Sharon Kurtin
To Gather as God's People
To Grow Spiritually
To Go Empowered by the Holy Spirit
To Share the Gospel as We Serve
To Grow Spiritually
To Gather as God's People
You're Always Welcome at St. John Lutheran Church…
Sunday Mornings
Worship 10:30am
Sunday School 9:15am