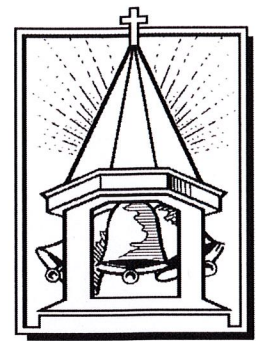


THE CHURCH BELL
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Member of North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

1764 Meyersville Rd.
Meyersville, TX 77974
361-277-8653



June 2016

VOL. 40 NO. 6

Greetings,

Summer is here!! And with it, more family time, changed routines and the risk of sunburn at the lake or the beach. Many of our best memories as children are in this season, school is out, weather is good for being outside, and no homework. As parents it is a time of juggling our schedule to accommodate the needs and desires of our children. There are unique challenges that our spiritual preparation can help us through at this time of year, the added tasks and expense of having the kids out of school, vacations, the heat and the mosquitoes, to name a few. If we look in Galatians 5 at the list of the fruit of the spirit, we see attitudes and attributes that God's Word prescribes for such a time as this (well, really any time): love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. As we draw near to God, His character "rubs off" on us.

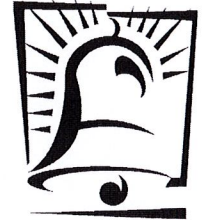
It is important to remember the church during the summer. We have summer camp scheduled for the youth and Vacation Bible School the first week of August. We also have the new volleyball court and basketball court available for use anytime. Please feel welcome to use our facilities.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer and don't forget the sunscreen!!

God's blessings

Pastor John

If you or a family member is in the hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please contact the Church office (361/277-8653) or Pastor John Boor at the parsonage (361/275-9895) or on his cell (361/243-0373). Due to the privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify pastors when a member is admitted or treated. If you know of anyone being taken to the hospital (emergency or otherwise), or who is seriously ill please call.



Ding-a-ling
Corner



"Yes, the disciples followed Jesus...
but not on Twitter."



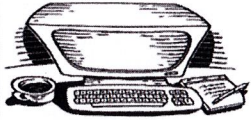
STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 2016														
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	
Infant/Child	2	0	2	0									4	
Adult	0	0	0	0									0	
Total Baptisms	2	0	2	0									4	
Confirmations	0	0	0	0									0	
Weddings														
Members	0	0	0	0									0	
Non-Members	0	0	1	0									1	
Funerals														
Members	0	0	0	1									1	
Non-Members	0	0	0	0									0	
Counseling Sessions	3	4	7	3									17	
Transfer Out	0	0	0	0	1								1	
Transfer In	0	5	0	0	0								5	
Home Visits	7	6	6	8									27	
Hospital Visits														
Members	4	0	0	0									4	
Non-Members	1	0	0	0									1	
Private Communion														
Members	5	6	6	7									24	
Non-Members	34	32	37	34									137	
PLEASE NOTE: LAST MONTH'S STATISTICS ARE TO DATE AS OF PRINTING TIME														
Release of Membership	0	0	0	0									0	
Restore to Membership	0	0	0	0									0	

ST. JOHN EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH CONTACT NUMBERS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastor - John Boor 275-9895 (Cell) 243-0373
Council President - Marvin Sager 275-6029
Vice President - Obert Sagebiel 275-5087
Secretary - Mitchell Jank 575-6816
Treasurer - M'Liss Moore 275-8069
Financial Secretary - Tammy Blain 935-7751

Parish Education - Kathy Dunn 277-9592
Mission/Evangelism - Linda Ruschhaupt 275-2059
Property Team - Dickie Bettge 277-3096
Finance Team - Glenn Ruschhaupt 275-2059
Parish Life Team - Terri Jank 575-6816
Worship Team - Johnny Jank 575-6813



Notes from the Church Secretary

New office hours will be Tuesday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Please see bulletins for any changes.

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER/NAME CHANGES

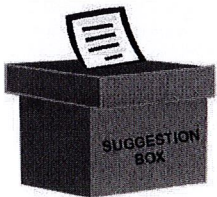
Please notify the Church Office as soon as possible of any change in mailing addresses, and/or phone numbers, and/or name changes. Thank you!

If any elderly person, or youth, needs a ride to Church or youth events, please notify the pastor so arrangements can be made to accommodate these needs.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the July 2016 Church Bell is Friday, June 24, 2016 by 9 a.m. You can drop off your articles at the church office, or e-mail them to stjohnevlutheran@juno.com. Thanks!



Do you have an idea?

Is there something at the church that you think needs fixing or changing? The Church Council and Committee Members would like to have your input. Please feel free to use the 'suggestion box' in the Narthex to pass on your ideas, suggestions, and concerns. Remember, this is your church and your opinion matters. We are eager to hear from you!

ATTENTION ACOLYTES

Please see the acolyte sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed for the upcoming months!



Old Stone Church Committee will now meet at **9:00 am** on the fourth Wednesday of January, March, May, September & November. Thank you.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, contact Evelyn Diebel. And please update your request at least once a month so the list can be kept current. If you wish to receive the Prayer Chain requests, please contact Evelyn Diebel (275-5979).

Our Military and their families:

Nicholas Jacobs - Deployed to Afghanistan
Russell Copeland - Reserves
John Otto - USMC, Cuba
Jonathon Albrecht - U.S. Army
Chase Schroeder - U.S. Navy, USS Philippines
Austin Schroeder - U.S. Navy



Please Pray for:

Lisa Kincart
Adam Womble
Nate Boehl
Pastor Suggs
Crayton Rains-Recovering from surgery

Hospitalized: Helen Sievers- St. Luke's Hospital, San Antonio

Homebound: Cleo Wendel, Helen Mae Egg, Betty Jo Haun

Prayer requests cards are available in the pews and can be filled out and handed to an usher during the first hymn for your request to be included in the day's prayer. If you have a private prayer request please fill out the appropriate side and give to the pastor.

Mission of the Month of June:



This month's Mission Project

The Boys and Girls Club of DeWitt County Mission Statement

In our community there are hundreds of boys and girls left to find their own recreation and companionship in the streets, or who, in increasing numbers, spend many hours at home with no adult care or supervision. These youngsters often form groups or gangs and risk getting involved with the wrong leaders, eventually finding themselves in serious trouble.

The Boys and Girls club mission is to work with youth of all backgrounds, with a special concern for those from disadvantaged circumstances, to help them develop the skills to become productive citizens and leaders.

The DeWitt county community has needed something like this for a number of years. It has been well accepted by the school districts, the City of Cuero and area church leaders. St. John's own Laurie Pokluda sits on the board of this club. If you have questions Laurie will be glad to answer them.

St. John Youth Group

Daren & Dawn Otto

Happy summer! It is the end of another great year for St. John's Youth Group. We celebrated with a camping trip to Pt. O'Connor. 15 of our youth joined together for fishing, beach play, adventuring and most importantly admiration and honor for our veterans. It was Warriors Weekend in POC and there were many activities for the Warriors. The night fishing the Youth Group was scheduled to help with was cancelled due to the weather, but we were still able to visit the main events center where we saw the beautiful sand sculptures erected in honor of the soldiers and other special tributes to the American Heroes as well.

We had a great camping location and only had to reconstruct camp once after a torrential rain storm blew in. Everyone was scrambling and soaked, but this just added to the fun. All the towels that had been packed by everyone were used to shield and dry ourselves and then to *TRY* to dry the tents, but as you could guess God blessed us with a wonderful neighbor who saw our

dilemma and offered her dryer to us for whatever we needed.

Our Sunday morning was shared with three special men who were in POC participating in Warrior's Weekend. They were ex-military, WIA, and shared their message with us. One of which was Nick Lowery, founder of Christian Warriors Retreat. These men shared some of their military experience, but made sure we understood "THAT'S *WHAT* THEY DID, not *WHO* THEY ARE" and who they are - is a child of Christ. Their message to our youth was to know your identity in Christ and to be the person HE wants you to be, not the person society expects you to be! Again, we were blessed with these messengers and they were there strictly to speak to the St. John Youth! Thank you to all who sent food and supplies for our camp out and to all that assisted in any way. Most of all THANK YOU to the parents of our Youth Group kids, we have a great group of kids and wonderful supportive parents. Have a happy & safe summer!

Vacation Bible School



SAVE THE DATE: VBS Day Camp - August 1st through August 5th Monday through Friday 8:30 to 3:30. Would you like to be our local contact person? For more info. call or text Kathy Dunn 361-

275-4322. Last year everyone had a great time growing their Christian faith in this exciting venue of Christian Fellowship, right here in Meyersville, Texas! Our church is graciously paying all expenses. Day Camp is designed as a seven hour program for youth who have completed grades K-5. Older youth are also needed as Junior Counselors.

Cross Trails Ministry will provide...

- A Day Camp Director and one energetic, college-aged staff member for each ten children
- All materials for a complete program including crafts, games, Bible studies, music and worships
- Souvenir camper t-shirts and water bottles
- Leadership of a closing celebration program for families and the congregation as a whole

Our congregation will need to provide...

- A Local Contact Person and one volunteer, age 14 or older, for every ten children you register
- Local housing and one meal per day for the staff



BUSY BAGS IN CHURCH

Busy Bags are available in the Narthex for all children to use. These bags have quiet activities for children to enjoy during Worship. The tote bags have items that younger children might be more interested in while the zipper bags have items for slightly bigger kids. Grab a bag on your way in to church, but please "bee" sweet and return it after the service.

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

April 26, 2016

By Church Secretary, Mitchell Jank

Members present: President Marvin Sager, Pastor John Boor, Dickie Bettge, Kathy Dunn, Mitchell Jank, Terri Jank, Obert Sagebiel, Glenn Ruschhaupt, Linda Ruschhaupt, M'Liss Moore, Johnny Jank and Tammy Blain.

CALL to ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Marvin Sager at 7:00 PM.

DEVOTION: Led by Glenn Ruschhaupt.

MINUTES: Minutes were reviewed and approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Reviewed. Motion to approve by Johnny and seconded by Dickie. Motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Confirmation Sunday will be May 15. Those to be confirmed this year are; Mackenzie Blain, Michele Motley, Seth Wendel, Mason Nagel, Brooke Wendel, and Alyssa Blain.
- I received a letter from Valparaiso University requesting the names and addresses of those being confirmed. They want to send them information about their university. I am not inclined to do this but will leave the final decision to council. *After some discussion it was unanimously decided that the confirmands can request information from those institutions that they wish to.
- Vernell Hartman's daughter contacted me about her daughter's wedding. Initially she wanted to use our church and have the pastor from Faith Family perform the wedding. I advised her he could assist in the wedding but I would be the presiding pastor. Two days later she contacted me and advised that the pastor from Faith Family was going to marry them this weekend due to the fact her future mother in law is dying of cancer and probably won't survive until August but she wanted me to do a mock wedding in the church in August. She advised me that the pastor at Faith Family wouldn't do a mock wedding but he told her I probably would. *In accordance with the church wedding policy, a motion was made by Tammy and seconded by Terri to decline this request. Motion passed.

- Laura Brooke Haun Luchak transferred out on 4-20-16. She transferred to Living Word Lutheran in Katy.
- In reference to the request for transfer to St. John by the Neal Moritz family I attempted to contact the council president in Weesatche and was eventually told that I had the wrong number. I checked with two other people who gave me the same number. I don't know what is going on. I then called the church and left a message but I have not heard from them as of this time. St. Andrew is an LCMC church and they don't always follow the guidelines of other Lutheran Churches. They are all independent and have no policy on transfers. We had hoped they would follow the previous policies but we have had no response.
*Motion to accept request for transfer was made by M'Liss and seconded by Dickie. Motion passed.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Old Business

- No Old business

Finance Team Report

- REVIEW OF LATEST FINANCIAL REPORTS - Reports were reviewed and various details discussed. It was determined that several mis-posted items would need to be re-posted and charged to appropriate accounts. Glenn agreed to discuss these with Sara and ask her to make the applicable corrections.
- Various ideas/suggestions for improving account posting accuracy were discussed. For accounting/posting accuracy and efficiency, it was decided to limit credit card purchases to \$300.00, except in cases of special circumstance, and to issue checks in payment for larger cost items. This should minimize the amount of account breakdown required when paying large multi-item credit card invoices with a single check, while also reducing the possibility of having an additional charge for exceeding our credit card limit within a given billing period. Also, future credit card charges will be recorded in a ledger as incurred. Copies of receipts for all

purchases including all credit card purchases are to be turned in to Sara to reconcile with related invoices for payment, and to better ensure accurate account posting.

- An additional suggestion for increased efficiency was to set up the Lutheran Benefits 403(b) Retirement Plan payments for 3 months in advance to ensure more evenly spaced remittances to same.
- M'Liss provided updated General Ledger individual building project account numbers for the Basement Renovation, Drainage, and Church Remodel projects. Additions to the Chart of Accounts have been made to improve accurate tracking of expenses, and future additions will be made if deemed helpful to improve coding accuracy and/or provide additional expense detail.
- Current memorial fund balances as of 04/09/16 were reviewed and discussed. It was decided to transfer the Geraldine Pullin undesignated balance of \$50 over to the general fund. Utilization of money in several other individual balances is pending, via ongoing communications with applicable family members.
- The need to maintain complete and accurate information in both the congregation directory, and the congregational records ("the Red Book") was discussed. Pastor John agreed to compare his personal records of events and services to those recorded in the Red Book during his tenure here, in an effort to eliminate any existing omissions or errors.

Mission/Evangelism Team report

Members: Pastor John, Marvin Sager, Obert Sagebiel, Cheryl Bramlette, Pam Haun, Candice Cowley, Lloyd and Karon Copeland and Linda Ruschhaupt, Team Leader.

Our mission for the month of May –
Transfiguration Lutheran Church

- Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Garland, Texas was a "synodically authorized worshipping community" of the ELCA. Its pastor was Rev. Pedro Portillo. It was worshipping in an ELCA congregation's building and worship was between 100 – 140 people.

Parish Life Committee Report

Members: Cindy Egg, Candy Cowley, Beth Reinecke, Terri Jank-Team leader.

- Memorial Day Service May 29, 2016. We are planning on giving a small gift such as a pocket cross to each Veteran in attendance. Refreshments to follow service.
- Parish Life Team will meet May 15, 2016 after church.

Parish Education report

Submitted by Kathy Dunn

- Water Sunday went well. Heather Roeske had 7 students including 5 from the confirmation class, thanks to Pastor's encouragement!
- These older students helped the younger students with some of the water games before going to their class. We have moved out the desk and extra furniture from pastor's office and put in a 6 ft table. That is working well unless more than 7 attend.
- We had 5 students in the younger group and they enjoyed these activities about water and conservation and telling others about Jesus:
Word Search
Water condensation
Bingo
Charades
- The adult class participated in the Q & A game and Water conservation tips.
- Linda Ruschhaupt helped Wanda and Kathy, bringing prizes of colorful mini hand sanitizers and Bible verse gadgets
- WE will continue to use the BUZZ Concordia curriculum for the next 5 Sundays and then we will be on "recess" until school starts.
- Mother's Day is May 8th and we will do something special for the students to give their mothers.
- VBS Day Camp is August 1 through August 5th. We have paid the balance/final payment. We should be receiving the packet soon for registration & planning information. We are looking for volunteers to provide housing and food for the camp counselors.
- Education dept. will be using funds from Ralph Egg memorial to purchase a television to be used for the Sunday School opening and other functions.

The Property Team

Maintenance Schedule

May:

- Check kitchen drain lines. OK
- Check Bathroom & Kitchen Supplies– Clean and tidy up storage areas.
- Add bacteria to septic systems.
- Clean church and parish hall carpets.

Items Complete:

- Concrete benches are sealed.
- Fire extinguishers checked.
- Broken pipe in cemetery fixed.
- Oak worms were sprayed at the old stone church before “Church under the trees”.
- Structural Engineers Report is complete. No major structural deficiencies were noted. He strongly recommended implementing the surface drainage project to direct runoff away from the church building. Other recommendations to extend the life of our building were included in the report.

Old Business:

- Patrick Ohrt met with the property team at our last meeting and discussed the plans for renovation of the church and his preliminary cost estimate. These plans do not cover the basement improvements or the interior and exterior walls of the church. We did not want to move on these items until we received the structural engineer’s report. Patrick also developed a poster board visual aid that will be posted in the church showing these plans. We recommend as our next step to call an information meeting for all interested to review these plans and obtain input on basement renovations and interior renovations.
- Three bids for the surface drainage project are as follows:
 - Dunn Services, Inc. \$60,848.
 - Falcon Co. \$65,369.
 - Sylva Construction, L.L.C. \$72,700.The property team voted by email to recommend Dunn Services, Inc. for this work. Property team member, Glenn Ruschhaupt recused himself from all discussion on this project as he will be doing a portion of this work. Council and Congregational approval are needed before moving on this project.

*Johnny moved and Dickie seconded to recommend Dunn Services bid to congregation for approval. Motion passed.

- Septic system plans. The engineer’s estimate for the septic system is \$9,975. Combining of the septic systems was not recommended by Mr. Frankson.
- Insurance requirement policy. Marv will schedule a meeting with James Crain III to review our needs on insurance.

New Business:

Project List:

- Revision of cemetery rules. In progress.
- Signage to close cemetery at night. In progress.
- Inventory of furniture and equipment & report to Church Council. Dickie
- Install holders in parking lot for crosses. Clay will build cross holders and install after Lent.
- Brush clearing at the creek. We will meet to determine what is needed and decide the best method to get accomplished.
- Shade cover for thermometer.
- Need to replace the copper mesh under the gutters (bat deterrent). Dickie checked with Kenny Schreiber with Dunn Services and he will bring lift and take care of the mesh.
- Road to creek. Gravel through the low area. Brian Nethery has offered to donate one load of gravel. Pastor will contact Brian.
- New fans to replace 2 bladed fans in Church and parish hall. Clay will replace the needed fan/fans in the Church. Will continue to search for a blade for the Hunter fan in the parish hall.
- Move water hydrant at volley ball court. This may be installed when Dean installs piping to the tree.
- Move old stage from Joel’s barn into lawn mower barn.
- Plant tree and install water. Dean.
- Door for lawn mower shed. Britton.
- Equipment box at volley ball court. Vance
- Fence on west property line (churches part) needs replacing. Dickie checked with Robert Kainer. Waiting for on-site review.
- Parish hall roof.

Work Day: May 7; 8:00 am – 12.00 noon.

- Remove ball moss in newly planted trees.
- Brush removal along east property line fence.
- Trim trees.
- Dust parish hall fan blades.
- Remove dead tree at the AT&T easement area.
- Remove steel posts at trees planted last year in cemetery.

Items for Council approval:

- The property team recommends that we schedule an information meeting to discuss the proposed renovations as well as get input on what to do with the basement. We would also like to display the poster board visual aid in the church narthex. *After some discussion it was decided that the poster board and other project information and visual aids be available in the church narthex and announcements be made in church to encourage members to review and ask questions.

Worship Team report

The Worship Team met on Thursday, April 21. Members Beverly Bodden, Johnny P Jank, Virginia Jank, Dawn Otto, Carol Ann, Noreen Sager, Bruce Weise, Marv Sager, and Pastor John Boor.

Old Business:

- Discussions about Water Sunday service. A short video clip will be played and the children's message will relay a water message as well.
- The Team also discussed getting the altar cross refinished and agreed to wait until after Pentecost, and confirmation Sunday.

New Business:

- Discussion of confirmation Sunday service. Since this is the 3rd Sunday we would normally do communion by stations. We agreed to have communion at the rail so new confirmands may commune with family members at their first communion.
- Memorial Day Service was discussed and we are going to develop a service with focus on those who have served our country with military service. We are also going to attempt

to get Col Petrash to speak at the service,

- Worship Team also discussed scheduling another "Fill the Church" Sunday and agreed September may be a good spot for that event.
- There being no additional new business we discussed assigning songs for 15th May through 29th June 2016.

Council New Business

- Kathy made a motion to set a 'Called Congregational meeting' for May 22 after church services to discuss the drainage project and get congregation approval on bid acceptance. Motion was seconded by M'Liss. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Keep up with St. John online



St. John Meyersville

<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnmeyersville>

Or visit our website at: stjohnmeyersville.org

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH:

June 5

- Greeters - Marvin & Norrean Sager
- Reader - Beverly Bodden
- Acolyte - Marlee Blain

June 12

- Greeters - Glenn & Linda Ruschhaupt
- Reader - Jeffery Bennett
- Acolyte - Please sign up

June 19

- Greeters - John & Margie Swannack
- Reader - Marlene Dreier
- Acolyte - Caroline Roeske

June 26

- Greeters - Kernell & Elaine Moritz
- Reader - Wanda Hays
- Acolyte - Mackenzie Blain

June Communion Assistant

Brian Wendel

June Altar Guild

Carol Ann Sagebiel & Cathie Bettge

June Nursing Home Visitors

Diane Chavez

LOOKING AHEAD...

July 3

- Greeters - Marvin & Norrean Sager
- Reader - Beverly Bodden
- Acolyte - Marlee Blain

July Communion Assistant

Dickie Bettge

July Altar Guild

M'Liss Moore & Carly Waters

July Nursing Home Visitors

Dianna Bartosh

Volunteers: If you are down for a service, you are responsible for getting a substitute if you cannot make it. Please let the church office know if you have switched so the correct names can be in the bulletin.

Happy Birthday to:

- 2 - Morgan Bartlett
- 3 - Alyssa Blain
- 4 - Karen Jacobs
- 5 - Brad Haun
Doug Bishop
- 10 - Alyssa Fric
Michael Chavez
- 12 - Seth Wendel
- 13 - Mitchell Jank
- 14 - Cody Rangnow
Timothy Rangnow
- 15 - Marigayle Ohrt
- 17 - Dawn Otto
Mike Cowley
Dylan Ohrt
- 18 - John W. Moeller
- 20 - Kenny Brown
Cleo Wendel
- 21 - Tamany Brown
- 23 - Dennis Nagel
- 26 - Lloyd Copeland
Mary Wagner
- 28 - Angela Giles
Mark Jacobs
Norman Pruet
Sheila Noack
- 29 - Michael Parsons
Heather Roeske
- 30 - Kerilyn Kay Wendel



Anniversary Greetings to:

- 4 - Bobby & Letha Blain
- 6 - Will & Heather Roeske
- 8 - Jason & Joy Hoy
- 9 - Arlen & Barbara Mueller
- 11 - Matt & Stacy Nelson
- 13 - Dwight & LeAnn Jander
- 14 - Britton & Sara Blain
- 18 - John Lloyd & Brenda Gohmert
- 21 - Clifford & Bette Jo Haun






Our apologies if we have missed your special date. Please contact the church office to help with corrections. Thank you.

June 2016

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Meyersville, TX

Missions of the Month:
The Boys & Girls Club
of DeWitt County

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 1:30 PM Quilters	2	3	4
Third Sunday After Pentecost 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship  Holy Communion	6	7	8 10 AM Comm. Service Yorktown Manor 1:30 PM Quilters 7 PM Women's Bible Study	9	10	11
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost 8 AM Property Team Meeting 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	13 7 PM Finance Committee	14 Flag Day	15 10 AM Comm. Service Cuero Nursing & Rehab. 1:30 PM Quilters 7 PM Men's Bible Study	16	17	18
Fifth Sunday After Pentecost 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship <i>Father's Day</i>  Happy Father's Day  Holy Communion	20	21	22 1:30 PM Quilters	23	24	25
Sixth Sunday After Pentecost 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	27	28 7 PM Council Meeting	29 1:30 PM Quilters	30	**Committee Reports Due, please email to Council Members. **Newsletter deadline. Please have all articles to office.	Office Hours: *Please see the bulletins for office hours. 