SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

THE EAGLE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
2150 CENTRE AVENUE BELLMORE NY 11710
(516) 785-4331

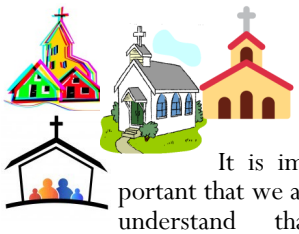
JANUARY 2018

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

Unfortunately, our **SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE** for Advent was canceled due to the weather. Not much snow but there was a fear of ice in the evening. We will pray for better weather in January. If you wish, Saturday night can be your worship experience for the week. For parents and children, there is more time to get to Sunday school the next day. You may bring your regular envelopes and they will be given to Saint John, and any envelopes for St. Francis will be directed there. **Our next service and meal will be January 13 at Saint John at 5:30 pm. We will be celebrating The Epiphany of Our Lord.**

THANK YOU to Deacon Charlene who **purchased and distributed beautiful signs advertising our Christmas Eve services.** And **thanks to all who made our Christmas celebrations so special** in so many ways.

As we begin a new year, we pause to take stock of who we are and what our priorities are. **We hope that the mission of Saint John will be a priority for you in 2018.** There is anxiety about our budget, although we ended the year with a much smaller deficit than originally projected. **Thank you to all who donated to the deficit reduction fund, who increased your giving and/or began to give regularly. Even a small amount given every week makes a big difference.**



It is important that we all understand that **this is not a problem unique to Saint John**. It is affecting most, if not all, of our congregations in our synod. Attendance and giving are down at all four ELCA congregations in our four-mile radius. Trends are so pervasive that even an increase in attendance for Christ the King and Advent was noted at most congregations in our Eastern Nassau Conference.

It is extremely important that you attend our annual meeting on Sunday, January 28, following worship, to help make decisions for the coming year. We are grateful for everyone who helped in 2017 and hope for increased participation in the new year! We are thankful for your commitment of time, talent and treasure.

Attend regularly, **give** regularly – even a modest donation of $5 given every week would be a big help – and **get involved**.

Why is Saint John important to you? Tell your friends and neighbors, **invite** them to church and Sunday school. We are thankful for God's blessings and look with hope to 2018.

Pastor Cline

SAINT JOHN MISSION STATEMENT:

We are a community of faith that is: gathered for worship and fellowship, empowered by Scripture and the Sacraments, strengthened for service and sent forth as witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

STAFF AT SAINT JOHN:

- *Pastor: Rev. Laurie Cline*
- *Deacons:*
  Ms. Mary Barberio
  Ms. Charlene Drewes
- *Office Manager:*
  Mrs. Jeana Dwyer
- *Newsletter Editor:*
  Mrs. Jeana Dwyer
- *Congregational President:*
  MRS. Lori Vanderwaren
- *Organist & Choir Director:*
  Ms. M. Quinn Anderson
- *Sexton: Mr. Nikolai Doviark*

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WORSHIP HELP SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY

1/7
Acolyte: Aidan Sargent
Altar Guild: Jennifer Bergman & Deacon Charlene Drewes
Lector: Corey Bogen
Ushers: Bob Altman & Gail Tomasulo
Assisting Minister: Dcn. Charlene Drewes
Communion Assts: Suzanne Ryan & Marion Schurade
Greeter: Bill Schurade
Coffee Hour: Sue Bogen & Tracey Schaeffer

1/13 (Worship w/ St. Francis)
5:30 p.m. worship
6:15 p.m. shared meal
Location: Saint John

1/14
Acolyte: Elizabeth Kamelhar
Altar Guild: Renate Petschaer & Christa Tuccillo
Lector: Gail Tomasulo
Ushers: Corey Bogen & Tom Sargent
Assisting Minister: Christa Tuccillo
Communion Asst: Danielle Branciforti
Greeter: Ed Cline
Coffee Hour: Margaret & John Neverka

1/21 (prayer and anointing
Acolyte: Erin Dwyer
Altar Guild: Danielle Branciforti
Lector: Phyllis Oehler
Ushers: Bob Altman & Thomas Simone
Assisting Minister: Gail Tomasulo
Communion Asst: Tom Sargent
Greeter: Frank Branciforti
Coffee Hour: Marion & Bill Schurade

1/28
Acolyte: Sara Forchelli
Altar Guild: Nancy Dineen
Lector: Jessica Pagano
Ushers: Sue Bogen & Bill Schurade
Assisting Minister: Dcn Mary Barberio
Communion Asst: Margaret Neverka
Greeter: Steven Dowling
Coffee Hour: Council (annual meeting)

January Counting Schedule:
1/7 Deacon Charlene Drewes & Lori Vanderwaren
1/13 N/A
1/14 Jeana Dwyer & Suzanne Ryan
1/21 Marion & Tony Elicati
1/28 Bob Altman & Nancy Kamps-Cook

THANK YOU

- To Faith Dwyer, Nicole Kamelhar & Kathleen Klatman, for their assistance with the pageant. Thank you to Tina Goodlin and Kathleen Klatman for helping with costumes and to the confirmation students for agreeing to participate in the pageant this year.
- To Jennifer Cline Sargent and Quinn Anderson for directing the pageant and leading the children in singing.
- To Michael Dwyer for help with the microphones, and to Ed Cline, Michael Dwyer and Jim Strouse for hanging our pageant star.
- To Quinn Anderson, and our senior choir: Tom Brucia, Jennifer Cline-Sargent, Nancy Kamps-Cook, Phyllis Oehler, Marion Schurade, Russ Tomasulo, and Caroline Vogel as well as the Sunday School children for their offerings of Christmas music.
- To Faith Dywer, Sara Forchelli, Sophie Orlich & Aidan Sargent for the Advent readings.
- To Pastor Cline for putting together the candles for Christmas Eve.
- To Linda Smith for delivering the Giving Tree gifts to the New Life Center.
- To the Tai Chi ladies, Vivian Devens, Carol-Ann Kehrbaum, Renate Petschauer, Christa Tuccillo and Marion Schurade for decorating the Christmas tree.
- To Ed Finn for taking clothing and food to the New LIFE Center.
- Barbara Waldron for coordinating the Giving Tree program.
- To Tracey Schaeffer and Katie Pellegrino for coordinating the ornament decorating event.
- Margaret Neverka and all of her helpers for coordinating another great Advent Workshop. Whether you helped with a craft, made soup, set up or cleaned up you were part of making this a special day once again.
- To Ed and Michael Cline for getting the tree and decorations from the parsonage garage attic and bringing them over to the church and to everyone else who helped decorate.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3 Khloe Klatman
4 Gloria Balaza
9 Brad Ferguson
9 Ruth Green
10 Carol Dort
11 Jessica Pagano
11 Barbara Waldron
13 Richard Miller
18 Phyllis Oehler
19 Connor Wickline
19 Dylan Wickline
20 Nicholas Waldron
24 Robert Ziminski
26 Kathleen Klatman
28 Marion Schurade
29 Nancy Kamps-Cook
30 Quinn Anderson

Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday in January. Please notify the office if your birthday was inadvertently left off the list.

MEMORIALS & DONATIONS

Designated to current:

In memory of:
Dorothy Braunlich
Kevin Braunlich

Designated to youth:

In memory of
Eleanor Drescher
Robert Drescher and family

In support of the youth of Saint John:
Frank and Danielle Branciforti
Deacon Nina Hunt *(Danielle's Mom)*

Designated to Deficit Reduction

In honor of:
Lillian Guise
Susan & Stanley Casto

LWR Quilting resumes
Thursday January 4
10:00 a.m.

More volunteers are always welcome. You do not need to know how to sew!! There are many ways to help.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The children worked hard on our pageant for this year, "The Night the Animals Sang," held on Sunday, December 17 and once again added something special to our worship service. Thank you to all of the students and parents who made this possible. Special thanks to Quinn Anderson, Nicole Kamelhar, Kathleen Klatman, Tina Goodlin and Faith Dwyer for all of their help.

Quinn Anderson prepared the Sunday School children to sing *There's a Star in the East* as the anthem at the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. The children delivered a great performance once again.

We would like to thank our confirmands who did a great job reading the Advent passages each week and also for participating in the pageant this year. Thanks also to our acolytes and choir who helped with the candle lighting.

Thank you for your terrific response to the "Giving Tree" program once again. We provided gifts to people who otherwise might not have received anything on Christmas. It is always a wonderful illustration for our kids to see how our generosity provides for others who are less fortunate.

Training for new acolytes will take place in late January for those on the new schedule who have not served yet. Sunday School envelopes for the second half of the year will be given out in January.

The next Intergenerational Bible study & bagels will be on Sunday, February 4.

Church Undecorating
Saturday, January 13
201789:30 a.m.

We need helping hands to pack away the inside and outside Christmas decorations at church. Many hands make light work so please consider coming down to volunteer!

Annual Congregational Meeting

Please join us
Sunday, January 28
following worship

This meeting is to discuss and vote on our budget and to plan for the 2018 year. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Soup & sandwich luncheon
Youth will be teaching Sunday School so the teachers may attend the meeting

If you are the coordinator of a committee please get your reports in to the office by **January 10**

ADVENT

Our Journey Together to Christmas...

Hope
Love
Joy
Peace

Thank You to Margaret Neverka for coordinating another enjoyable annual advent Workshop !
Thank you also to all who helped with the children, made soup, sandwiches, delicious baked goods and of course the clean-up committee.
A wonderful time was had by all.
What a nice beginning of our Advent season!

Epiphany Celebration

Saturday, January 13, 2018
5:30 p.m. service
6:15 p.m. shared meal

Saint John Lutheran Church
Howe Room

The Chinese food was delicious and plentiful. Also, thank you to Amy Seroka our "Tastefully Simple" representative who provided delicious samples and donated all proceeds from the demonstration to Saint John. If you were not able to attend, Amy Seroka can be reached at simplyamy@optonline.net. Quick, simple items to take to holiday parties as well as easy hostess gifts! We raised a total of $350 toward deficit reduction!!

Thank you Tracey Schaeffer and Katie Pellegrino for coordinating our "Make Your Own Christmas Ornament" event. Tracey designed the ornaments that were made by everyone herself! What incredible talent we have here at Saint John. Thank you to everyone who attended for helping us make the holiday season just a little more festive!!

Chardonnay—Merlot—Cabernet Sauvignon—Pinot Grigio—Chianti...

Please Join Us ...

W I N E & C H E E S E

T A S T I N G

Bring 2 Bottles Of The Same Wine

(Valued At No More Than $15 Total)

One Bottle Will Be For Tasting, Another Bottle For The Prize.

Three Selected Winners Will Get To Take Home The Wine Of Their Choice.

~ Appetizers Will Also Be Served ~

Please see Tracey Schaeffer for details

Saint John Lutheran Church
2150 Centre Avenue

Bellmore's People of the Year

Did you know that there are celebrities walking among us? Our very own Gloria and Charlie Chapman have been chosen as Bellmore's People of the Year by the Bellmore-Merrick Herald. To read the full story visit

http://liherald.com/stories/gloria-and-charlie-chapman-are-bellmores-people-of-the-year,98717

SOCIAL MINISTRY

It was a busy last quarter of 2017, and now nature pulls in the reigns. The weather and lack of sun (light) causes our internal clocks and our schedules to SLOW DOWN. Not such a bad thing, right?

The committee hopes you and yours enjoyed your New Year celebration, and that the year will continue to be a happy and healthy one!

We would like to thank each of you for your generous food donations consisting of 110-lbs! We give thanks to Ed Finn for loading and delivering those food items to New Life Center!

We also give thanks to those who donated clothing for babies, and coats and clothing for children and adults. What a joyous reception will be had by the recipients of our work together in Christ Jesus !!!

Let us take this time to reflect on God's greatest gift to humanity, the awesome gift of Jesus the Christ, our Savior. Let us show our thanks by following Jesus' example and incorporate in our lives the nine attributes of a person or community living in accord with God's Holy Spirit- according to St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

God's blessings of peace and joy,
The Outreach/Social Ministry Committee

WOMEN OF THE E.L.C.A

Cooking for the I.N.N. is on Tuesday, January 9 at 5:30 p.m. Helping hands are always welcome.

The next WELCA Bible study will be held on Friday, January 26 at St. Stephen's in Hicksville where Pastor Trubey-Weller will lead us in "Washing Hands with Distant Hearts" from the January/February, 2018 issue of *Gather* Magazine.

Thanks also to the INN meal prep team, who gather monthly to provide a nutritious meal to temporary residents and community members who are in need. We give thanks for the quilters who are providing lovely and needed blankets.

JANUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 **Office Closed in observance of New Year's Day**	2 **Tai Chi 10:15 a.m.** A.A. 7:30 p.m. **Choir 8:00 p.m**	43	4 **LWR Quilting 10:00 a.m.** **Adult Bible study12:00 p.m.** .	5 A.A. 7:30 p.m.	6 **Epiphany of Our Lord**
7 **Baptism of Our Lord** **9:30 a.m. Holy Communion** **10:45 a.m. Sunday School**	8 *February Eagle Deadline*	9 **Tai Chi 10:15 a.m.** **INN Cooking 5:30 p.m.** A.A. 7:30 p.m. **Choir 8:00 p.m**	10 	11 **LWR Quilting 10:00 a.m.** **Adult Bible study 12:00 p.m.** **Cho**	12 A.A. 7:30 p.m.	13 **Church Undecorating 9:30 a.m./ Epiphany service with St. Francis 5:30 p.m./Dinner 6:15 p.m. (At Saint John)**
14 **2nd Sunday after Epiphany** **9:30 a.m. Holy Communion** **Council meeting following worship** **10:45 a.m. Sunday School**	15 **MLK Jr. Day** **Office closed** 	16 **Tai Chi 10:15 a.m.** A.A. 7:30 p.m. **Choir 8:00 p.m**	17	18 **LWR Quilting 10:00 a.m.** **Adult Bible study 12:00 p.m.** **Belair 2:00 p.m.**	19 A.A. 7:30 p.m.	20
21 **3rd Sunday after Epiphany** **9:30 a.m. Holy Communion** **10:45 a.m. Sunday School**	22 Garden Club 12:00 p.m.	23 **Tai Chi 10:15 a.m.** A.A. 7:30 p.m. **Choir 8:00 p.m**	24	25 **LWR Quilting 10:00 a.m.** **Adult Bible study 12:00 p.m.**	26 **WELCA Bible study 10:00 a.m.** A.A. 7:30 p.m.	27
28 **4th Sunday after Epiphany** **9:30 a.m. Holy Communion** **10:45 a.m. Sunday School** **Annual Meeting following worship, lunch included** 	29	30 **Tai Chi 10:15 a.m.** A.A. 7:30 p.m. **Choir 8:00 p.m**	31	Matthew 2:10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.		

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Monday, January 1 – Office Closed in observance of New Year's Day
Saturday, January 13 – Church un-decorating 9:30 a.m.
Saturday, January 13 – Epiphany service 5:30 p.m., Shared meal 6:15 p.m. with St. Francis ***(at Saint John)***
Sunday, January 14 – Council meeting following worship
Monday, January 16 – February Eagle deadline
Friday, January 26 – WELCA Bible study at St. Stephens Hicksville 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, January 28 – Annual congregational meeting following worship ***(reports due by January 10)***

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DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE EAGLE IS JANUARY 16

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