# 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**

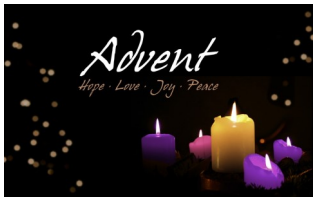
**December 2018**

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

From our Interim Pastors

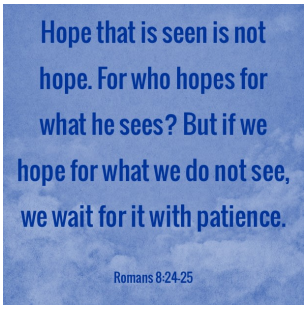
As human beings we have the need to mark time. Yet, at the same time, we know that all time is not the same. There are some times, some days, some events that are more significant than others. For example, June 30 comes every year

This distinction in time is captured in the church's calendar. The season of the church year that is drawing to a close is Pentecost, also called ordinary time. And it is long, encompassing nearly half of the church's year.




On the other hand, the season of Advent, which begins on December 2, is one of the shortest. But it is a highly significant period of time, because it is a time of preparation and anticipation. It is a time of waiting and hope. A time for prayer, devotion and worship as we prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus at Christmas. These preparations are important, so we try to squeeze them into an already frenzied tie of shopping, entertaining, decorating, and cooking; we do all of these things as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Likewise, in the life of the




congregation, there are those seasons or times that stand out or are remembered. One such time is that period between pastors. While it can be an anxious time, it is also a hope-filled time, allowing everyone to dream of the congregation's future. As we live in a time of transition at Saint John, Advent, as a time that transitions us to Christmas and the fulfillment of all God's promises, can be a time of preparation in anticipation of future ministry.

As your interim pastors our ministry among you will be to walk with you through this journey and to work with your leaders. But during this time, the ordinary ministry of the congregation will continue as we make visits to the homebound, meet with individuals, council and other committees as well as carry out the other duties of interim ministry, such as updating the constitution and reviewing the congregation's finances and property.

Please, if at any time you have questions or concerns, let us know.

*Pr. Meier and Pr. Barker*

## 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. Gaylon Barker*
  *Rev. Carla Meier*
- *Deacon: Charlene Drewes*
- *Office Manager:*
  *Mrs. Jeana Dwyer*
- *Newsletter Editor:*
  *Mrs. Jeana Dwyer*
- *Congregational President:*
  *Ms. Suzanne Ryan*
- *Organist & Choir Director:*
  *Ms. M. Quinn Anderson*
- *Sexton: Ms. Nancy Kamps-Cook*

**Inside this issue:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Worship Help Schedule | 2 |
| Thank You's | 2 |
| Birthdays | 2 |
| Save the Date | 3 |
| Poinsettias | 3 |
| Christian Education | 3 |
| Special Services | 3 |
| News & Notes | 4 |
| Welca | 4 |
| Social Ministry | 4 |

# WORSHIP HELP SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

**12/2 (Advent Workshop)**
Acolyte: Nolan Mooney
Altar Guild: Renate Petschauer & Christa Tuccillo
Lector: Aidan Sargent
Ushers: Bob Altman & Corey Bogen
Assisting Minister: Christa Tuccillo
Communion Asst: Margaret Neverka
Coffee Hour: Margaret & John Neverka

**12/9**
Acolyte: Collin Roulston
Altar Guild: Nancy Dineen
Lector: Barbara Altman
Ushers: Sue Bogen & Bill Schurade
Assisting Minister: Dcn. Charlene Drewes
Communion Asst: Danielle Branciforti
Coffee Hour: Erin & Faith Dwyer

**12/16 (Prayer & Anointing)**
Acolyte: Eric Sargent
Altar Guild: Dcn. Charlene Drewes & Jennifer Bergman
Lector: Phyllis Oehler
Ushers: Danielle & Frank Branciforti
Assisting Minister: Gail Tomasulo
Communion Asst: Dcn. Charlene Drewes
Coffee Hour: Karen & Tom Brucia

**12/24 (Christmas pageant)**
Acolyte: Sara Forchelli
Altar Guild: Kathy Strouse & Lori Vanderwaren
Lector: Jessica Pagano
Ushers: Nicholas Dowling, Steve Dowling & Tom Sargent
Assisting Minister: Ira Bergman
Communion Asst: Suzanne Ryan
Coffee Hour: Sue Bogen & Tracey Schaeffer

**12/24 (Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m.)**
Acolyte: Nolan Mooney
Altar Guild: Nina Thilesen, Nolan & Makayla Mooney
Lector: Corey Bogen
Ushers: Ira Bergman, Tom Sargent & Thomas Ziminski
Assisting Minister: Dcn. Charlene Drewes
Communion Asst: Lise-Anne Orlich
Coffee Hour: N/A

**12/24 (Christmas Eve 8:00 p.m.)**
Acolyte: Aidan Sargent
Altar Guild: TBD
Lector: Marion Schurade
Ushers: Bill Schurade & Andrew Vogel
Assisting Minister: Christa Tuccillo
Communion Asst: Margaret Neverka
Coffee Hour: N/A

**12/30 (Lessons & Carols)**
Acolyte: Melanie Bogen
Altar Guild: Christa Tuccillo & Renate Petschauer
Lector: Gail Tomasulo
Ushers: Sue Bogen & Ed Finn
Assisting Minister: TBD
Communion Asst: TBD
Coffee Hour: Marion & Bill Schurade

**December Counting Schedule:**
12/2 Marion & Tony Elicati
12/9 Dcn. Charlene Drewes & Lori Vanderwaren
12/16 Bob Altman & Nancy Kamps Cook
12/23 Jeana Dwyer & Suzanne Ryan
12/24 TBD
12/24 TBD
12/30 Marion & Tony Elicati

# THANK YOU

- To John & Margaret Neverka for bringing over the Advent Wreath and the créche.
- Thank you to Angel Zamora for changing the carillon for Daylight Savings tine.
- To Nancy Kamps-Cook for shopping for needed janitorial supplies.
- To Pastor's Barker & Meier and Aidan & Tom Sargent for bringing tables and chairs over to the parsonage and setting up meeting space.
- To Kathy Strouse for dyeing and donating the blue poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary for the Advent season.
- To Margaret & John Neverka for trimming the bushes by the driveway of church.
- To the Altmans and the Chapmans for donating wreaths to beautify the outside of church.
- To everyone who helped to make the farewell gathering for Gloria Chapman special. Whether you set up, cleaned up, baked, cooked or just brought yourself, you made it a special afternoon for Gloria.
- To Pastor Barker for fixing the toilet in the parsonage.

# DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

7 Florence Hettinger
14 Nicole Kamelhar
16 Jeni Hamel
17 Karen Bruicia
21 Sara Rose Forchelli
23 Paul Szabo
31 Russell Tomasulo
31 Blake Anton
31 Paisley Anton

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

*We want to thank everyone once again for all the love and support you have given our family over the past three years. Irina is officially home and a Sargent! The lovely welcome home coffee hour on Sunday, November 25 was so appreciated. She truly felt a part of the Saint John family. Without all of you, it would have been nearly impossible to complete this long journey.*

*The Cline Sargent family*

## Epiphany Celebration

Join us to share a special Epiphany worship service at

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**
1692 Bellmore Avenue,
Bellmore, NY 11710

**Sunday, January 6, 2018**
9:30 a.m.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Sunday school students are beginning to rehearse for "A Christmas Journey" which is our pageant for this year. You can help by rehearsing lines at home (for the children who have speaking parts) as well as the lyrics to the songs. The pageant will be during worship on Sunday, December 23 this year. We will also have music from the Sunday School children and youth choir during the pageant service. The children will be singing at the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

Be on the lookout for our Giving Tree! This year we will be giving our gifts to the New Life School in the Bronx where Danielle Branciforti works.

Please purchase regulation size Basketballs, Makeup/nail polish kits, & Hoodies especially those that have the major Basketball teams on them. Bring items UNWRAPPED back by December 2.....THANK YOU for making CHRISTMAS possible!!!!

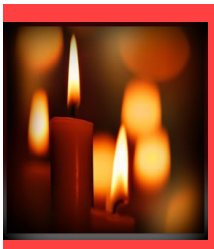
Our next Intergenerational Bible and Bagels will be held on Sunday, January 13 following worship.

### SAVE THE DATE!

**On Sunday, January 13, 2019, all YOUTH GRADES 6 to 12 are invited to a gathering.**

**WHERE? At the PARSONAGE**
**WHAT TIME? Noon to 1:00 pm**

**WHY? For a chance for our Youth to get together with our pastors and to be a part of the planning for our new pastor.**



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5:00 P.M. CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIR SINGING

8:00 P.M. CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
SENIOR CHOIR SINGING

### SAVE THE DATE

Please mark these upcoming dates on your calendar!

**Sunday, December 2** – Advent Workshop following worship

**Saturday, December 8—** Church decorating 10:00 a.m., followed by lunch

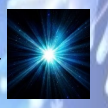
**Saturday, December 22**—Pageant dress rehearsal 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday, December 23**—Annual Christmas Pageant during worship at 9:30 a.m.

**Monday, December 24**—Christmas Eve candlelight services at 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. (St. Francis has a 10:30 p.m. service for anyone interested)

**Sunday, December 30—**Lessons and Carols worship at 9:30 a.m.

**Sunday, January 6**—Join us for a special Epiphany worship service at St. Francis Episcopal Church at 9:30 a.m.



**Sunday, January 13**—Transition team update following worship—Youth meeting at the parsonage at 12:00 p.m.

**Sunday, January 27**—following worship—Annual meeting. Soup & sandwiches will be provided. Our youth will be teaching Sunday school classes so that our adult teachers may attend the meeting. At this important meeting we vote on our budget and other items vital to Saint John. If you head a committee, your annual report is due to the church office on January 8.

### "*Poinsettia Order Form*

(orders must be placed by December 12)

Name:

Number of plants _____
@ $11.00 per plant

❒ in memory of

_____

❒ in honor of

_____

❒ in thanksgiving for

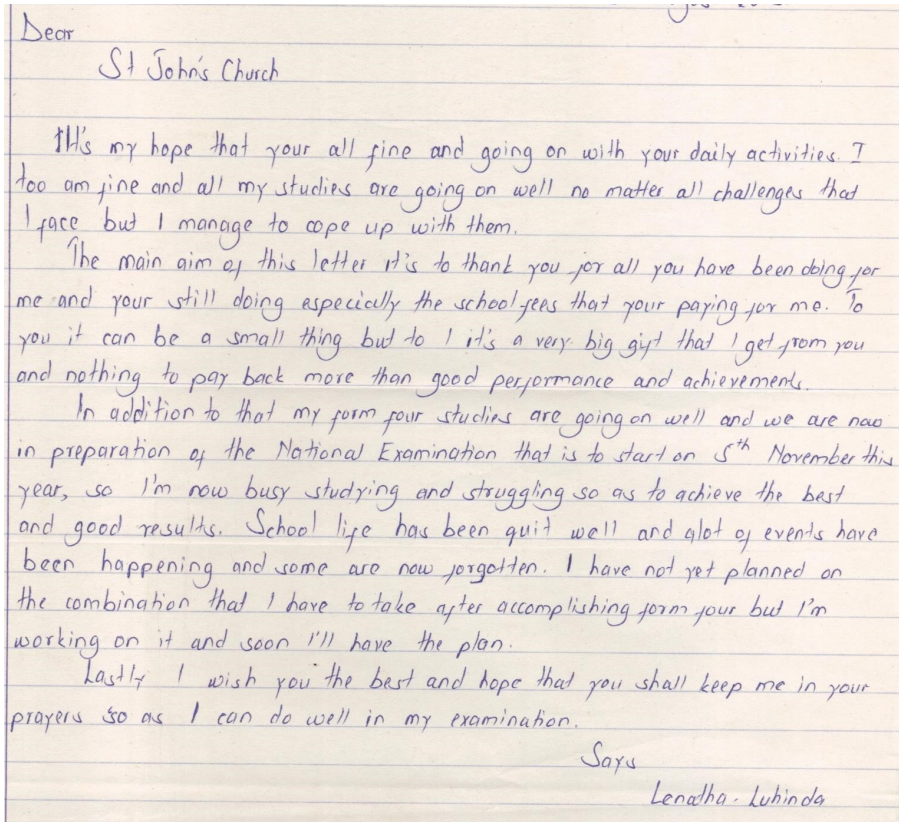
_____

❒ for decorating the church, I contribute

$_____

**Total:** $_____

## NEWS & NOTES



Dear

St John's Church

It's my hope that your all fine and going on with your daily activities. I too am fine and all my studies are going on well no matter all challenges that I face but I manage to cope up with them.

The main aim of this letter it's to thank you for all you have been doing for me and your still doing especially the school fees that your paying for me. To you it can be a small thing but to I it's a very big gift that I get from you and nothing to pay back more than good performance and achievements.

In addition to that my form four studies are going on well and we are now in preparation of the National Examination that is to start on 5th November this year, so I'm now busy studying and struggling so as to achieve the best and good results. School life has been quit well and alot of events have been happening and some are now forgotten. I have not yet planned on the combination that I have to take after accomplishing form four but I'm working on it and soon I'll have the plan.

Lastly I wish you the best and hope that you shall keep me in your prayers so as I can do well in my examination.

Sayu

Lenatha Luhinda

From Deacon Mary in Arizona

I am [almost] settled in my new apartment. The residents here at Desert Winds are very welcoming and friendly. As you can imagine, meeting so many people at one time can be daunting but forgetting names is not taken in an offensive way, thank God!

My computer room/office is still in boxes, but most of my other boxes have been emptied out and discarded successfully! Needless to say, we begin the advent season by opening more boxes – but with wonderful décor and memories!

I am pleased to say that I have immediately found a church that I feel the Lord has led me to! It is called "Community of Grace Lutheran Church". It has three [yes 3] screens which project the worship service and contemporary songs - from Christian concerts I have attended in NY -and love! There is a good outreach program, two pastors, active youth, women's men's programs, bible studies and a theme followed for the sermons which build upon each other and run several weeks/ months depending on the season.

I have joined the YOLO group: "You Only Live Once" who meet for fellowship. However I miss you all and trust that you are progressing in The Spirit as you grow together under the leadership of Pr's Meier and Barker.

Hoping that you all had a blessed thanksgiving holiday and that your Advent will be filled with anticipation of celebrating the birth of our Lord, and in wonder and gratefulness of God's miracles pouring upon and into us daily!

Hoping to be able to stop by and be with you in the New Year!

Blessings of joy, peace and love,

## SOCIAL MINISTRY

Thank you to everyone who brought items in to help support the New LIFE's Thanksgiving basket drive. Please continue to bring food items in for our table to share with the hungry members of our community.

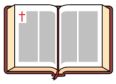
Please remember to drop off your gifts for the New Life School by Sunday, December 2. Danielle will be bringing the items to work with her so the children can receive them in time for Christmas.

Thank you,

The Social Ministry Committee

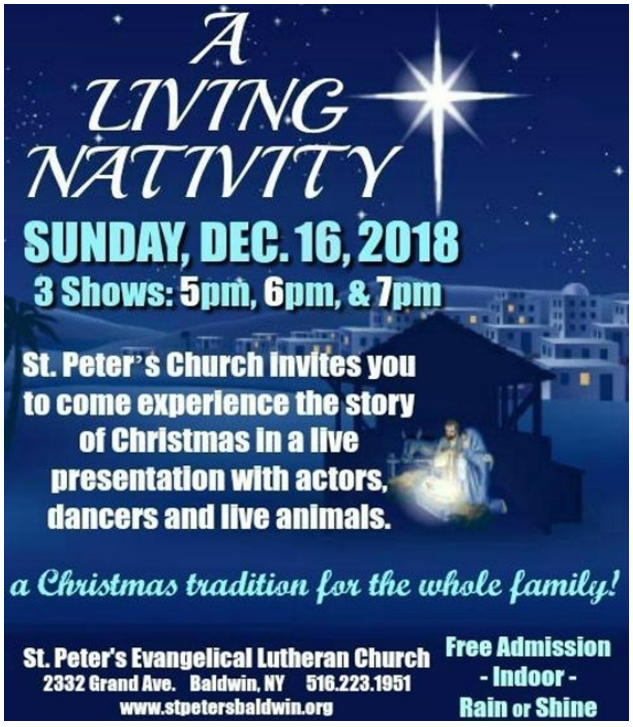
## WELCA

Cooking for the I.N.N. is on Tuesday, December 11 at 5:30 p.m. Helping hands are always welcome.



The next WELCA Bible study will be held not be held until January.

The LWR quilters will be taking a break for the last two weeks of December. They will resume quilting on Thursday, January 3.



# DECEMBER 2018

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 **1st Sunday of Advent**<br>**9:30 a.m. Holy Communion**<br>**Advent Workshop following worship/ Giving Tree gifts due** | 3 | 4<br>**Tai Chi 10:15 a.m.**<br>**A.A. 7:30 p.m.**<br>**Choir 8:00 p.m.** | 5 | 6<br>**LWR Quilting 10:00 a.m.** | 7<br>A.A. 7:30 p.m. | 1<br>8<br>**Church decorating 10:30 a.m./ lunch following** |
| 9 **2nd Sunday of Advent**<br>**9:30 a.m. Holy Communion**<br>**10:45 a.m. Sunday School** | 10 | 11<br>**Tai Chi 10:15 a.m.**<br>**INN Cooking 5:30 p.m.**<br>A.A. 7:30 p.m.<br>**Choir 8:00 p.m.** | 12 | 13<br>**LWR Quilting 10:00 a.m.** | 14<br>A.A. 7:30 p.m. | 15<br>. |
| 16 **3rd Sunday of Advent**<br>**9:30 a.m. Holy Communion**<br>**Council meeting following worship/10:45 a.m. Sunday School** | 17<br>***December Eagle Deadline*** | 18<br>**Tai Chi 10:15 a.m.**<br>A.A. 7:30 p.m.<br>**Choir 8:00 p.m.** | 19 | 20<br>. | 21<br>A.A. 7:30 p.m. | 22<br>**Pageant dress rehearsal 10:30 a.m** |
| 23 **4th Sunday of Advent**<br>**9:30 a.m. Holy Communion—Christmas Pageant during worship** | 24**Christmas Eve**<br>**Candles & Carols Worship Services—5:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.** | 25**Christmas Day**<br>**Office Closed**<br>A.A. 7:30 p.m. | 20 | 27<br>. | 28<br>A.A. 7:30 p.m. | 29 |
| 30<br>**Lessons & Carols 9:30 a.m.** | 31<br>**New Year's Eve** | 1<br>**New Year's Day**<br>**Office Closed**<br>A.A. 7:30 p.m. | 2 | 3<br>**LWR Quilting 10:00 a.m.** | 4<br>A.A. 7:30 p.m. | 5 |

DATES TO REMEMBER:

**Sunday, December 2** – Advent Workshop following worship/Paxton Baptism
**Saturday, December 8** – Church Decorating 10:30 a.m.,
Lunch immediately following
**Sunday, December 9** – Altar Guild/Assisting minister meeting following worship
**Sunday, December 16** – Council meeting following worship
**Saturday, December 22** – Pageant Rehearsal 10:30 a.m.
**Sunday, December 23** – Christmas Pageant during worship 9:30 a.m.
**Saturday, December 23** – Advent IV service 5:30 p.m.
**Monday, December 24** – Christmas Eve services at 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
**Sunday, December 30**– Lessons and Carols 9:30 a.m.


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

2150 Centre Avenue
Bellmore, NY 11710

Phone: 516-785-4331
Fax: 516-785-4331
E-mail: StJBellmore@gmail.com
Web site: www.stjohnbellmore.org

Find us On


E-MAIL NEWSLETTER ARTICLES TO:
STJBELLMORE@GMAIL.COM

**DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE OF THE EAGLE IS DECEMBER 17**

PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE