Saint John Lutheran Church, Bellmore NY
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

November 2021

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.*

Join us for worship at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

The Eagle

Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends in Christ!

As the well-known hymn goes, **"Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices…who, from our mother's arms, has blest us on our way…" [ELW#840]** We have much to be thankful for and yet still it is shrouded by the anxieties and struggles that we all face (in various ways) due to this health pandemic we continue to move along through. We are encouraged by God's holy word to focus on Him for God will not let our faith be shaken! Here is a portion of a devotion I thought you might like to refocus ourselves at this Thanksgiving time of the year and as we read about "end time" visions during these last Sundays after Pentecost and beginning of the Advent season – let us not be overwhelmed by the "end" but rather see the "new life" and the "hope" that God's promises reveal in scripture - - -

"Everything in your life that flows out of love has come to you from God. Everything in your life that is good has been initiated by God. God has done everything for you, He is everything to you, and He is enriching other lives through you. His generosity is overwhelming, His blessings are limitless, His love is endless. No one has favored

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STAFF AT SAINT JOHN:

Coverage Pastor: Rev. Perry Kirschbaum
Deacon: Ms. Charlene Drewes
Admin. Assistant: Mrs. Anita Fiedel
Organist & Music Director: Ms. Quinn Anderson
Sexton: Ms. Kristina Kamps
Congregational President: Mr. Tom Sargent

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Special points of interest

Welcome to Worship
9:00 am

" Let us come into the presence of the Lord with thanksgiving..."
Psalm 95:2a

November Worship Schedule

11/7 - All Saints Sunday
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

11/14
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

11/21 - Christ the King Sunday
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

11/28 - 1st Sunday Of Advent
Deacon Charlene
Service of the Word

November Birthdays

Happy birthday to:

1 Jonathan Boutet
8 Kristin Venne
12 Christina Brucia
15 Joyce Block
15 Derek Venne
18 Allison Ziminski
23 Michael Cline
23 Jeana Dwyer
24 Michael Klatman
24 Eric Thilesen
25 Thomas Simone
30 Jennifer Simone

If you celebrate your birthday in November and your name has been inadvertently left off the list, please contact the church office.

News, Notes & Greetings

A Note of Gratitude

Thank you to...

* All those that donated for Thanksgiving baskets and back to school supplies. We received 52 lbs. of food. We would also like to thank Nancy Kamps-Cook for delivering the items donated to the New Life Center.

YouTube

Now you can join us for worship with just the click of a button. Thanks to Karen Brucia our Sunday morning worship service will be streaming live on Facebook and then will be posted to our very own YouTube channel. Just click the link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXNbB4vKpPjcIKWpwdUcXzw

or search for Saint John Lutheran Church, Bellmore and scroll down until they see our church picture and/or name. If you would like to be notified when new videos are posted, click on "subscribe" .

Sunday school is off to a good start with the kids enjoying a short video clip about the lesson of the day and then breaking off into classes by age level. We are still observing COVID guidelines including wearing masks and distancing. If anyone is interested, we could still use one more teacher for the 3-5 grade class. There is curriculum to follow, so it would be a minimal amount of prep and you wouldn't need to teach every week.

Although we still won't be able to hold our traditional Christmas pageant, we are working on a Christmas event for the Sunday School kids and congregation to participate in on the Sunday before Christmas. Stay tuned for more details!

The Giving Tree

Once again we will be supporting the New LIFE Center's Christmas gift program. Saint John has committed to purchasing gifts for individuals who would otherwise not receive anything for Christmas. As in previous years, gift tags will be available to take from the tree in the Howe Room. Gifts should be returned wrapped and tagged with the recipient's first and last name and age attached. Gifts should be dropped off under the tree in the Howe Room by

Sunday, November 21

Please call Nancy Kamps-Cook at 516 712-5622 with any questions.

Thank you for your generosity.

Holiday Wreaths

Boy Scout Fundraiser

This beautiful double sided wreath will welcome people into your home this holiday season. It's decorated with pine cones, white and red poinsettias, holly berries, and a big bright red bow.

Boy Scout Troop 656, Wantagh, is selling these Holiday wreaths for only $25 each. Delivery will be no later than 1st week in December.

Best way to reserve a wreath is to email me, John Neverka, at jneverka@hotmail.com or text at 516-589-0437.

Please note that final date for reserving a wreath is Sunday, Nov 14.

Don't miss out on this offer!

Letter from the Council President

Hello All –

I hope this email finds you healthy…and enjoying fall being in full swing. I know I enjoyed (and needed) the extra hour of sleep we received this past weekend.

A few things to share, not the least of which is the return of the **GIVING TREE**. As we approach Advent and the Christmas season we always participate in this event to help those less fortunate than us. The GIVING TREE can be found in the Howe Room, off to the right as you enter. Each "individual tree" on the GIVING TREE represents a family and their needs/requests for the coming holiday season. You may take the entire "individual tree" or any item on it. We encourage you to participate, and please have your gifts back to the Howe Room **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 21**. Thanks for all you do!

Over the last few weeks a few council members have been asked, "Why should I continue to contribute my offering if we are not supporting a full-time pastor and are speaking about shared ministries with two other churches?" Good question. The simple, black-and-white answer is, "it helps to pay the bills." Probably the better answer, with lots of "gray area" would be, "it allows us to continue to meet as a worshiping community and it allows us to be church together." If we were not together and meeting our obligations we would not be able to do the cooking for those less fortunate, as we do every month. We would not have a Sunday School that meets weekly, we would not have a pre-school or AA group meeting in our building, and we would not have 6 young people making their confirmation over the coming weeks. And this is only the start!

We continue to be in discussion with our siblings at Grace, North Bellmore and St. John's, Merrick over future possibilities together. Things had cooled off for awhile with Sunday school, confirmation, and regular school all getting started again for all. The steering committee has recently communicated, and we look forward to meeting at least once again prior to entering the Advent season. As more info becomes available we will certainly let you know.

I hope each of you and your families have a wonderful and healthy Thanksgiving. Should you have any comments or questions please feel free to reach out to me at the contact info listed below. Stay safe and be well.

Tom Sargent – Council President
sarge318@optonline.net
516-485-0677 (home) or 516-659-8695 (cell)

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you more than God. He has removed every stain of your sin, He has cleansed all the defilement of your iniquity, and He has silenced every voice of condemnation that hung over your head. He has saved you, redeemed you, and justified you.

All of God's grace abounds toward you, all of Christ's riches are made available to you, and all spiritual blessings are provided for you. In Christ, you have received the treasures that can never fade away, and the life that will never pass away. As you walk with Jesus day by day, you will find that your thankfulness to Him is an ever-increasing symphony of praise, building into a lifelong crescendo of gratitude that flows from your heart to His (and back again, just like every breath we take). You, who have so little, have received so much, because He has been so generous.

There are so many riches that He has given to you; so many answers to prayer that He has granted you; so many kindnesses that He has manifested to you; so many joys that He has provided for you; so many mercies that He has extended to you; so many benefits that He has showered upon you. Everything you have has come from Him, and that is the reason why your heart can be so grateful (it sings of praise and thanksgiving)."

"Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us, and keep us all in grace, … in this world and the next." [ELW#840]

Blessings to you and yours with Peace in Christ,
✠ Pastor Kirschbaum

Online Worship

Worship is being live streamed on our Facebook page on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. The service will then be posted on our YouTube channel at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXNbB4vKpPjcIKWpwdUcXzw

Or search for Saint John Lutheran Church and scroll down until you see our church picture or name.

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Deadline for the next issue of The Eagle: October 28, 2021. Please email articles to stjbellmore@gmail.com.