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

January 2022

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!

Can you believe it?!? … how it is already the middle of January and our newsletter still hasn't reached your email in-box or snail-mail letter box? Well, before the month ends – let me take this opportunity to wish each one of our members at Saint John a most happy, healthy and blessed new year! I pray as the positivity rates for the Covid-19 virus begin to slowly decrease after the holidays that we will begin to see some of the horizon as it takes its leave of us or at least finds a balance with nothing new developing. May this new year be at the very least a turn on our journey through this pandemic toward the last days of it and the coming days of a new adventure in ministry to our community. We had a beautiful Christmas Eve liturgy and hope you had a chance to view it if you did not attend – many thanks to both **Karen Brucia**, for being behind the camera to live stream & record, for **Tom Brucia** as our cantor, for **David Schmidt** (from Merrick) who filled in at the organ for Quinn who was not well over the holidays, for our Altar Guild volunteers and for **Margaret Neverka** who took care of being primary usher as well as a host of other duties to make things happen.

Yes, as we enter the new year we are awaiting the next **Annual Congregational Meeting** on the last Sunday of the month **[Jan. 30th]** following our worship for the day. Please come and join

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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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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Follows Worship on January 30, 2022

Welcome to Worship
9:00 am

"You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, … for the LORD delights in you,… "

Isaiah 62:4

January Worship Schedule

1/2 - Epiphany Sunday
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

1/9 - Baptism of Our Lord
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

1/16 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

1/23 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Deacon Charlene
Service of the Word

1/30 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

January Birthdays

Happy birthday to:

4 Gloria Balaza
9 Ruth Green
10 Carol Dort
11 Jessica Pagano
18 Phyllis Oehler
24 Robert Ziminski
28 Marion Schurade
29 Nancy Kamps-Cook
30 Quinn Anderson

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

News, Notes & Greetings

We have decided to make EVERY Tuesday @ 12:30 a ladies afternoon. We will cook every 2nd Tuesday @ 12:30pm but will also do quilting, crocheting, etc or whatever everyone would like to do. This will be a social event. Everyone is welcome, just come down.

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" .

Happy New Year! While many of us were dealing with COVID issues during the holiday season, we still managed to do an outdoor program with the Sunday school kids on Sunday, December 19. Thanks to help from the teachers and Ms. Quinn, each class made a craft or ornament to hang from the trees outside. We also had several readers, including a couple who filled in at the last moment, and sang "Joy to the World" and "Go Tell It On the Mountain."

(See photos below)

Due to the current COVID surge, we are continuing to maintain social distancing and requiring masks for Sunday school classes. If your child has any symptoms or is not feeling well, we ask that you please keep them home. Our Sunday school teachers are working hard to continue to provide classes even under less than ideal conditions, so we thank them for that! Please note the Sunday school calendar, we do have class on January 16, but will be off February 20 for President's Day weekend.

INFANT LAYETTE PROGRAM

Lutheran Social Services of New York
New LIFE Center Long Island
311 Uniondale Avenue
Uniondale, NY 11553
516-483-3240

The Infant Layette Program of Lutheran Social Services of New York – New Life Center – Long Island is a ministry that helps mothers and families in need by providing them with basic necessities for their new babies. The mothers that are referred to us, by social service agencies, hospitals and clergy, receive a generous amount of infant clothing sized Newborn to 24 months packaged as a layette. They also receive diapers, formula, blankets and may of the other essential items listed below.

The New LIFE Center has been blessed to have generous support from numerous congregations, organizations and individuals. Through baby showers, social ministry projects and individual donations, we are able to reach out to many families who struggle to provide even the basics for their infants. The number of layettes that we distribute continues to increase and donations are always needed to meet the challenge.

Please consider supporting the Infant Layette Program. There are many ways to contribute to this ministry: making a donation, organizing a colelction of items or by hosting a baby shower. Please feel free to contact us, Your support is a blessing to our infants and their families.

ITEMS NEEDED

BABY FOOD
CEREAL
FORMULA
BIBS*
BURPCLOTHS*
PACIFIER*
BOTTLES*
DIAPERS – NEWBORN – 6*
DIAPER BAGS*
LOTION*
WIPES
SHAMPOO*
BABY WASH*
Q-TIPS
COTTON BALLS
OINTMENT
SAFETY ITEMS
SMALL DISHES
CUPS & UTENSILS
CRIB SHEETS
CHANGING PADS
SMALL COTTON HATS
INFANT SOCKS*
SOFT SHOES*
ONESIES*
STRETCHIES*
SLEEPERS
SACKS
RECEIVING BLANKETS*
QUILTS
FLEECE BLANKETS*
INFANT TOWELS
WASHCLOTHS
OUTFITS 0-24MOS.
INFANT JACKETS
SWEATERS
INFANT TOYS (SMALL)*
CLOTH BOOKS*
STUFFED TOYS (SMALL INFANT)*

(* DENOTES ITEMS MOST NEEDED AT THIS TIME)

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us and lend your voice in both prayer, praise, thanksgiving and a vote at the gathered assembly to continue supporting the ministry of our parish community. Yes, there still remain a number of challenges in the year ahead, but we already know that – what we often forget to lift up is that things are slowly coming back into shape to show a zestful sign of life among us – there are some increased numbers in worship (although you could add to it when you're ready) … there are children attending Sunday School (and they did a great job with their Outdoor Pageant in December) … there is a Ladies group meeting every Tuesday and on the 2nd Tuesday, we cook for those in need… and we are trying to plan a "Three-Church Baby Shower for the New Life Center in Uniondale coming up this year… with more things coming – but they can only happened with your support.

All of this news - - - good and challenging - - - reminds me that Saint John is still a congregation alive and in the business of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the neighborhood. In the days following the Feast of the Incarnation Jesus revealed to all people that He has come for but one purpose – to save us from our sins that keep us from loving God perfectly. By His words and deed, His parables and miracles we see the eternal God made flesh in Jesus of Nazareth – dwelling with His people. My dear friends, when Jesus lives in your heart, your only legitimate response is to share that peace, joy, happiness and love with those who transect your path in life.

The Season of Time after Epiphany can be a great chance for all of us and especially within our three-congregational talks, to rededicate ourselves to the mission of Jesus and His church. "What is that mission?" you may ask … To help all people love and glorify their Savior. We, as a congregation, resolve to do all that we can to bring people to Jesus, whether it is here in this particular place or in another place that God will bring us. Living each day in His light and love as we grow in grace by the strength of Word & Sacrament, we join the throngs of all those before us who bring people to God's redeeming love.

Blessings to you and yours filled with the light of Christ as we journey forward in faithful mission together this New Year of possibilities!

✠ 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: December 31, 2021. Please email articles to stjbellmore@gmail.com.