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

April 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

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 Co-Presidents:

Mrs. Margaret Neverka & Mrs. Nina Thilesen

Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends in Christ!

You know that old saying, ***"April showers, bring May flowers."*** It always amazes me that the once snow covered ground pops with color as the purple crocus spring up, trees and bushes begin to bud, the bright yellow forsythia explodes along with joyful chirping of bird song. Marvelous transformation from winter into spring where each day grows warmer and daylight hours increase. Nature is something, isn't it? All put into motion by a loving God who continues to renew the face of the earth in order that we never tire of the same old thing. God placed us in an ever changing scene that ultimately points to Him and His wonder.

Yet, equally impressive and eternally more important, is the transformation that takes place in a believer's heart from Lent through Holy Week and the season of Easter. In celebrating the Paschal Mystery, that is, the suffering, death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the believer is changed from a life turned in to self to a life turned out toward others in humble service. In the victorious death and triumphant resurrection of Jesus the Christ we come to find our true identity as one fashioned in that mystery of faith when we were baptized. We bear to the world the very presence of Jesus Christ in all that we do, or say, and are. We are His presence at work in the world.

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Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 9th at 10:00 a.m.

Saint John Lutheran Church
2150 Centre Avenue, Bellmore

Come and join us to find the eggs the Easter Bunny left!!

Find a special egg and receive a "Special Easter Basket"

Photo opportunity with the Easter Bunny and refreshments for all!

Welcome to Worship
9:00 am

"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth…"

Isaiah 43:18-19

April Worship Schedule

4/3 - 5th Sunday in Lent
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

4/10 - Palm Sunday
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

4/14 - Maundy Thursday - 12:30 & 7:30
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

4/17 - Easter Sunday
Pastor Kirschbaum
Holy Communion

4/24 - 2nd Sunday of Easter
Deacon Charlene
Service of the Word

April Birthdays

Happy birthday to:

9 Aria Kugler
13 Nina Thilesen
13 Stephanie Kugler
17 Eric Sargent
29 Lynda O' Keefe DiTuri

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

News, Notes & Greetings

Tuesdays at Saint John we have created a ladies day out for anyone who would like to join us. It's a social gathering that may include bringing your crocheting or your knitting or we may do quilting if we like. We also play games and have light refreshments -individually wrapped cakes and Keurig coffee. So come on down at 12:30 on Tuesdays and join us for a little bit of craftiness and fun. All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you all!
Any questions please call Margaret Neverka at 516 978-5270.
The 2nd Tuesday of each month we also make meals for the soup kitchen in Freeport. If you'd care to help.

Clean Up day was a very successful 3 hour effort that was well attended. Thanks to all who came and helped, from young to old! We had all our windows, curtains etc washed, our pews were scrubbed and polished, our kitchen was reorganized and labeled so things are easy to find and old expired things were tossed! Thanks to everyone!! ~ Nanck Kamps Cook

Thank You!

The Sunday school children have enjoyed learning about the gospel lesson each week in class. Hearing it in church and then really talking about what it means for us in our daily lives helps them gain a better understanding of how the Bible and its lessons can guide us as Christians.

We will once again hold our Good Friday gathering this year on Friday, April 15 from 10:30 a.m. - noon. It's open to Sunday school children ages 3 through sixth grade and their siblings. This gathering is designed to help explain the somewhat challenging concept of Jesus dying on the cross to children through crafts, stories and prayer. Please plan to have an adult attend for every two children. The registration form will be mailed out to Sunday school families, please return it to Jennifer Cline Sargent by Sunday, April 10. We could use a few volunteers to help with the crafts and kitchen project.

We thank all of our dedicated Sunday school staff this year, we are always looking for a few more helpers if the Spirit moves you!

Easter Baskets

Easter is a joyous and glorious time for us as we celebrate our Lord's Resurrection. For many, that joy is overshadowed by a feeling of hunger.

It is our purpose, at the **New LIFE Center – Long Island**, to care for and uplift our neighbors and we invite you to participate in building up the body of Christ.

We are asking for your help in providing Easter Food Baskets for the hungry. These baskets are much more than food. They are a visible sign that carries the message of Christ's love and concern.

Please help by donating any of these suggested items:

Cake Mix/Frosting/Brownies	Mac and Cheese/Spaghetti Sauce
Juice/Assorted Drinks	Chef Boyardee/Chili/Canned Meat
Sugar/Flour/Condiments	Mashed Potatoes
Cookies/Candy/Snacks	Pudding/Jello
Cereal (Hot and Cold)	Napkins
Pancake Mix/Syrup/Jelly	1-2 Lb. Bag or Boxed Rice

Coffee Regular/Decaf/Instant Tea/Hot Chocolate/Parmalot Milk

Fresh or Frozen/Turkey/Ham/Chicken

In lieu of food donations, store Gift Certificates would be appreciated.

DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD BASKETS ARE TO BEGIN MARCH 14th

AND WILL CONTINUE UP UNTIL EASTER

Lutheran Social Services of New York
New LIFE Center – Long Island

516-483-3240
www.lssny.org

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday of the Passion ~ April 10th
9:00 a.m. ❖ Solemn Holy Communion at Saint John Bellmore
(With blessing of palms)

Maundy Thursday ~ April 14th
12:30pm & 7:30pm ❖ Solemn Holy Communion at Saint John Bellmore
Located on Centre Avenue just north of Sunrise Highway
(Concludes with the stripping of the Altar)

Good Friday – April 15th
12:30 ❖ Way of the Cross at St. John's Merrick
7:30 p.m. ❖ Tenebrae at St. John's Merrick

Holy Saturday ~ April 16th
7:30pm ❖ Great Vigil of Easter at Grace Lutheran, North Bellmore
Located on Bellmore Avenue

Easter Sunday ~ April 17th
Feast Day of the Resurrection of Our Lord at Saint John Bellmore
9:00 a.m. ❖ Festive Holy Eucharist

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No longer is there room for selfishness, vindictiveness, rage, anger, or petty stuff; no longer is there room for sin, violence, jealousy, death or even war. In Jesus' resurrection we have all been changed from dead and dormant to alive and radiant in our witness of the Christian Faith.

Spring is a great time to get ourselves outdoors and enjoy nature's awakening. And Easter is an even better time to appreciate our spiritual rebirth flowing from the death and resurrection of Jesus to the waters of baptism, to the altar, to our hearts, to our hands, to our lips! It is a time to live what Jesus died for - - - life in all its richness and beauty. I would hope that during Holy Week and the great 50 days of Easter that we would find each other sharing in events of fellowship and worship together here at Saint John along with Grace in North Bellmore and St. John's in Merrick…like our Easter Egg Hunt Family Activity Day and Holy Week.

As we share in a variety of opportunities for worship, fellowship and service, may we thank God for the eternal gift of the resurrection at work in each of us – During the season of Lent, we had focused on ***"Returning to the Lord our God"*** and now we have the great privilege and joy of coming home, especially if we have wondered off the path. If you have not been to worship or the sacrament in some time, I invite you to return today. Easter is about new beginnings. Make this Easter a new beginning for you and for your family!

Alleluia! Christ is risen, indeed!
X Pastor Kirschbaum

From Lutheran Social Services of New York:

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your contribution of 40 lbs. of food and the school supplies which is helping LSSNY serve more than 7,000 individuals in need every day.

We are blessed for you and countless others who have supported our ministries, giving us the resources to assist our neighbors in need and improve their lives. Thank you for the commitment you have shown to our programs over the years, you make lives better every day through our shared mission of service.

Sincerely,

Damyn Kelly, Ph.D., president & CEO

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.

Saint John Lutheran Church

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https://stjohnbellmore.org/

Deadline for the next issue of The Eagle: March 28, 2022. Please email articles to stjbellmore@gmail.com.

Join us **each Wednesday during Lent** as our "3" Church Congregational Family gathers @ **7:30pm –** hosted by **Saint John, Bellmore**: We will share in a prayerful devotion with a focus on stories of Jesus' life from the gospel according to St. Luke – similar in fashion the rosary – but altered to our Lutheran tradition.