

ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Services

8:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Sunday School (K-Grade 6)

Sundays at 10:00 AM



Calendar of Events – October 2011

Saturday, 10/1	Pumpkin Picking – Meet at St. John's at 9:30 AM
Sunday, 10/2	Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM (No Sunday School) Harvest Festival , 11 AM-3 PM
Tuesday, 10/4	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM Worship & Music Committee, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 10/5	Choir, 7:30 PM 1st Confirmation Class , 7:30 PM
Sunday, 10/9	Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM (No Sunday School – Columbus Day Weekend)
Tuesday, 10/11	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM Council, 8 PM
Wednesday, 10/12	Choir, 7:30 PM Confirmation, 7:30 PM
Saturday, 10/15	Synod Worship Day, “Living Partnerships for Living Church”, 9:30 AM – 5 PM @Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 99 Central Park Rd., Plainview
Sunday, 10/16	Coat Drive for Lutheran Social Services Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM Sunday School, 10 AM
Tuesday, 10/18	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Wednesday, 10/19	Choir, 7:30 PM Confirmation, 7:30 PM
Friday, 10/21	Halloween Party & Potluck , 6:30 PM
Sunday, 10/23	Coat Drive for Lutheran Social Services Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM Sunday School, 10 AM – Thanksgiving Food Collection Begins
Tuesday, 10/25	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 10/26	Choir, 7:30 PM Confirmation, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 10/30	Reformation Sunday Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM No Sunday School – Come to worship & celebrate our Lutheran heritage!
Tuesday, 11/1	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM Worship & Music Committee, 7:30 PM
Looking forward...	
Sunday, 11/6	All Saints Day Daylight Saving Time Ends (Turn your clocks back!) Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM Sunday School, 10 AM

Pastor's Reflections †

"Be careful."

I often joke these days that those will probably be Norah's first words because she hears them so often from the adults in her life, especially from me. She's a typical one year old, always busy exploring her world – putting everything she gets her hands on in her mouth, not understanding that those things may be a choking hazard; standing up and trying to walk on the edge of the couch, not realizing that she could fall; rummaging through the recycling while her mama's back is turned, not knowing that the cans and bottles in the bin are not the cleanest things in the world; trying to "pet" the dog or cats (which looks more like hitting than petting), unaware that they have teeth and claws that could hurt her if she accidentally hurts them. And so we are forever and always saying to her, "Be careful."

Yes, we want her to be careful, but at the same time, we know that all of these actions are normal, and even necessary for her to grow and develop as a person. We've done the best we can to baby-proof the house and remove anything truly dangerous from her path and grasp. Falling down and getting hurt are part of growing up though, so we don't hover about her. We haven't wrapped her in bubble-wrap or put a helmet on her to keep her "safe" from the world (yet!). We try not to swoop in to save her from the normal challenges and obstacles a baby runs into, as hard as that sometimes is, because to do so would stunt her learning. She would never "grow up" and become independent if we never let her discover her world and her own limits.

I've been thinking lately that God must do the same thing with us much of the time. I imagine God watching us going through this world and catching God's breath, exclaiming to us over and over again,

"Be careful!" Like any good parent, God would love

for us never to get hurt – physically, emotionally, spiritually. At the same time, however, God knows, far better than we do, that to keep scooping us up out of all harm's way wouldn't benefit us in the long run. Sometimes we're going to get hurt. Sometimes we'll trip over our own two feet and fall down and go "boom". Sometimes someone else will hurt us. And as much as God might long to rescue us from the slightest distress, ultimately, that's not the best thing for us. It is often through our struggles that we learn and grow the most, and certainly it is in the trying times that we learn to turn to and trust God most deeply.

That doesn't mean that God leaves us to face our troubles on our own though (John 16:33). We let Norah check out our world, but we are always there to comfort her when she's hurt or upset, to pick her up when she falls, to hug and kiss her boo-boos away. (She's still young enough that that works most of the time.) And we know that as our loving parent, God is with us in the same way. We know that God hurts with us when we hurt. We know that God promises never to leave us or forsake us (Heb. 13:5-6). We know that God is always there to pick us up and comfort us when we fall down.

I know that a lot of us are struggling these days – with finances, with health problems, with relationships. We may long for God to come in and fix our situations. It usually doesn't work that way. But hold on to the truth that God is with you in the struggle, and that somehow, God is able to work to bring about something good (Rom. 8:28), even out of the darkest situations. That *is* the witness and promise of Easter, after all!

Trusting in God with you,

Pastor Becky

Youth Group News

We'd like to welcome our newest members:
Amanda Barbaro, Jessica Gonzales, Katie Lenz, Alex Oleschuk and Coral White!

The Youth Group enjoyed our visits to our homebound and recently ill members on September 11th. We made gift bags filled with fruit, candies, snacks and homemade goods for each of them. Thanks to all of you who donated items for the gift bags, and a big thanks to Dot Richetti and Cora Sarver for their generous donations, which helped so much.

Thanks also to Nan & Bill Moser for their generous donation for future Youth activities.

The Youth Group will be going Pumpkin Picking on Oct. 1st. We will meet at the church at 9:30 am and head out to Lewin Farms in Wading River. All are welcome to join us – please sign the sheet in the narthex so we know to wait for you.

Next Youth Group meeting: October 9th.

*Our apologies to David Powell. The thank you note from David, also a recipient of the Barbara Semmig Scholarship (sponsored by WELCA), was inadvertently omitted.
Here is his Thank you:*

Dear St. John's W.E.L.C.A. Committee,

Thank you so much for allowing me to receive the Barbara Semmig Scholarship. It's truly an honor to receive this from the church that I have grown up in. I look forward to using this gift to help pay for my college education. This means a lot to me.

Sincerely,
David Powell

Attn: All YOUNG ADULTS NEW group forming in Fall 2011!

If you are college-aged, or in your 20's, we'd love to have you join us this fall for a new Young Adults Group here at St. John's. It will be run by the leaders of the Youth Group, Lori Fernez & Janet Powell, yet it will be quite different from the Youth Group. For starters, we will meet only four times during the year. The meetings will try to be in sync with most college breaks, so that you can participate even if you are away at college.

Another difference is that the group will be a discussion group. It will not be a lesson or a lecture, and it will not even be primarily focused on religion. Topics will be contemporary issues, or interesting topics that we can have a lively, open discussion about. There is never a right or wrong opinion for these topics.

We are hoping to have our first meeting in November (Thanksgiving weekend). Our tentative date and time is Friday 11/25 at 4:00 pm.

If you will not be available for the meeting but would like to participate and send us your thoughts for the discussion, you can do so by email, Facebook, or any other current means of technology or social networking. Our main objective is to keep you connected to the church and each other, and have a group that is yours alone.

We hope you'll give it a try!

Any questions or comments, please contact us at:

Lorif60@aol.com OR tjdc@aol.com

COAT DRIVE

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) needs our prayers, commitment and financial support. LSS has been operating 125 years and their combined NEW LIFE services touch more than 25,000 people annually. In the past St. John's Lutheran Church has supported LSS by collecting food, especially at Thanksgiving and before the summer season. The last few years have seen us collect back-to-school supplies in August to help those in need.

Now we would like to take another step of faith. We will be collecting gently-used folded, clean coats and jackets that can be worn by all ages in the fall, winter and /or spring. We will have a large carton or two set up in the narthex of our church for the Sundays of October 16th and 23rd.

Please support this cause to help others. May God continue to bless us so that we may be a blessing to others!

Thank You for Your Generosity!

Our summer food drive for the New LIFE Center's food pantry resulted in 485 pounds of food being collected. We also gathered a full car-load of school supplies in our back-to-school drive for kids in need. You are making a difference! Thanks!

CONGREGATIONAL ADVOCATES NEEDED

Thrivent Financial recently increased the number of Congregational Advocates in each congregation from 4 to 8. If you are a Thrivent member and would like to join us as a volunteer Congregational Advocate here at St. John's, please get in touch with Monica Kanopka at her office @1-800-816-8031, her cell @1-732-718-4586 or her email:

Monica.Kanopka@Thrivent.com. She will explain how you can help connect Thrivent resources with needs in our congregation and its ministries.

~Kim Carlstrom

MEMORIAL FUND DONATION

Thank you to the following people for making donations to the St. John's Memorial Fund:

Doris E. Kortlang in memory of Ralph Dolce
Jan Arena in memory of Mildred Brady
Cora and Don Sarver in memory of Pasquale Caggiano
Cora Sarver in memory of Mildred Brady
Edward and Arlene Moglia in memory of Betty Johnson
Carole Clemente in memory of Mildred Brady
Dotty Criscuolo in memory of Mildred Brady
Paul and Christel Hild in memory of Mildred Brady
Bob Kaempf in memory of Mildred Brady
Joan Pirrone in memory of Mildred Brady

We also thank the following people for making donations to the St. John's Music Fund:

Joan Pirrone in memory of Betty Johnson
Heidi and Michael Scalza in memory of Betty Johnson and Mildred Brady
Jan Arena in memory of Betty Johnson
Cora Sarver in memory of Betty Johnson
Paula and Merle Williams in memory of Betty Johnson
WELCA in memory of Betty Johnson & Mildred Brady
Carole Clemente in memory of Betty Johnson
Dotty Criscuolo in memory of Betty Johnson
Pauline and Frank Feltkamp in memory of Betty Johnson
Dennis Ferner in memory of Betty Johnson
Paul and Christel Hild in memory of Betty Johnson
Joan Pirrone in memory of Betty Johnson
Gerda Weber in memory of Betty Johnson

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday school is undergoing some changes this year, mainly to do with scheduling. There are many Sundays during the year when the church is celebrating something special, and we want our kids to be a part of that, so on those days (like our recent 100th Anniversary Kick-Off Sunday or the upcoming Harvest Festival and Reformation Sunday), we won't have Sunday school. Instead, we invite all of our Sunday Schoolers and their families to come to worship instead! At the 10 AM service, we'll have a children's message and children's bulletins to help them connect with God's story in their own way, at their own level.

There are also some Sundays that fall during holiday weekends when we will not be having Sunday school. We've noticed that a lot of our families with Sunday School-aged kids go away during those weekends anyway. If you're in town though, we hope you'll come to worship then too!

A schedule was sent home with kids from Sunday school to keep parents informed of when we are or are not having Sunday school. It's also posted in a few places around the church, will be on the church website at www.stjohnslynbrook.org (click on the "Calendar" tab on the home page), and was emailed to parents. (If we don't have your email, please get it to one of the Sunday school teachers or Pr. Becky so we can keep you in the loop!)

This fall and winter, we'll be exploring water stories from the Bible. We started with Noah's Ark on Rally Day, and in October, we'll be learning about the Baby Moses! We're still using the Spark curriculum, with interactive, hands-on activities each week to get to know the stories. Also, Pr. Becky will be part of the start of Sunday school once a month & will then sneak back into worship while the kids start their lessons.

Here's what's coming up in October:

Sat., Oct 1 – Pumpkin Picking, Meet at St. John's at 9:30 AM

Sunday, Oct. 2 – Harvest Festival – No Sunday school – Join us in worship!

Sunday, Oct. 9 – Columbus Day weekend – No Sunday school

Sunday, Oct. 16 – Sunday School

Sunday, Oct. 23 – Sunday School – **Beginning of our Thanksgiving Food Collection**

Sunday, Oct. 30 – **Reformation Sunday** – No Sunday school

We're still in need of nursery attendants and some Pre-K/Kindergarten teachers, as well as substitute teachers who would be willing to lead one or more classes during the year (with help from the regular teachers of course!). Please contact Pr. Becky if you can help in any way as we help our St. John's kids learn about God's love through the ministry of Christian education.





**Friday, October 21,
6:30 PM**

WELCA (Women of the ELCA) invites you to come to our annual Halloween Party and Potluck!

Wear your most creative costume, bring a dish to share, and plan to have a great time! We'll have games for the kids and fun for everyone!

A Special Thank You:

Thank you to all the young people for their nice visit to us and also for the tasty "goodie" bag.

Sincerely,
Nan & Bill Moser

St. John's is updating our files!

If you know of any alumni or friends whom we have lost contact with, please send along their information so we may send them the Messenger and keep them updated on our events. Send information to the St. John's office or email it to stjohnslynbrook@aol.com.

***Rejoicing Spirits* –**

A worship service for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities
Oceanside Lutheran Church will be offering a worship service on the 3rd Sunday of the month, intentionally designed to be welcoming and inclusive of those who are differently-abled. The first *Rejoicing Spirits* worship will be on Sunday, October 16 at 4 PM. They have a ramp and a handicapped-accessible bathroom located on the sanctuary-level of their building.

Oceanside Lutheran Church is located at 62 Davison Avenue, near the public library in Oceanside. Please talk with Pr. Becky if you have questions, or call OLC directly at 766.0136. All are welcome!

Confirmation Classes Begin Oct. 5!

All 7th and 8th graders are invited to our first confirmation class on Wednesday, October 5, at 7:30 PM. Come learn more about what it means to live as a follower of Jesus, and what Lutheran Christians believe

1912 MEMORABLE MOMENTS 2012

The name Lynbrook was voted on to replace the name "Pearsalls" on May 1, 1894.

The Ku Klux Klan burned a cross on Lincoln's Birthday, 1923 at the "Pipeline" behind St. John's Church. 100 people attended.

One member we remember well, Walter Bonn, was in the first confirmation class. He was listed on Nassau County Senior Citizen Honor Roll for recognition of volunteer service to the English as a 2nd language (ESL) for newly arrived students that spoke little or no English.



Opening the Memory Box

A memory shared with Jan Arena by Betty Johnson

When the Lord calls our loved ones home, He leaves a gift of memories in exchange. In August, God called Betty Johnson home, but Betty had an opportunity to share some memories of St. John's with me while I was visiting her in the hospital. As the organist and choir director, Betty recalled with much fondness the children's choir and shared these memories with me. I now share them with you.

Betty joined the Church when Pastor Kirkegaard was pastor. Then she became the organist and choir director when Pastor Smihula was pastor. The children's choir was organized in 1971, with children from ages 6 to 11. Some of the youngest children could not even read or write yet! At that time, the choir room was in the upstairs room where the altar was in the "old" church. Rehearsals were held afternoons after school. Because the younger children couldn't read or write, Betty would make posters cut from magazine pictures to help them follow along.

One Palm Sunday, to help with the anthem, Betty made a poster of a king riding on a donkey. The kids loved it!

Back then the children in the choir wore black skirts with white cottas over the top. Later they changed to red skirts with white cottas over the top. The adult choir took that as a cue and got new robes as well. As time passed the Children's Choir had bright red skirts with white cottas over the top.

Betty recalled the Junior Choir presenting "100% Chance of Rain", a cantata about Noah and the Ark; and how Janine Melk, a soprano, sang so beautifully. You could see the rapture on Betty's face as she remembered Janine's singing. Janine's mouth would make a perfect "O" resulting in a perfect tone. Other choir members she remembered from that time were: Doris Hild, Ursula Hild, Billy Wuerth, Barbara Leahy, Bruce Feltkamp, Janine Melk, Patty Wakuluk, and Ruth Wakuluk.

~ Submitted by Jan Arena

**Thank you to all who helped make
the 100th Anniversary Kick-Off Sunday
a memorable day in the life of St. John's!**

OFFERING UPDATE

Here is an update on how the weekly offerings are tracking through third quarter 2011:

Offering/General Income YTD	\$71,432
<u>General Expenses YTD</u>	<u>\$78,307</u>
Running Deficit for 2011	\$ 6,875

Thankfully, offerings have been generous. However, as of September 30th, there was a \$6,875 deficit between our offerings and general expenses. As a result, it will be necessary to utilize savings to cover our costs for items such as property insurance and organ maintenance.

If you are able, St. Johns would appreciate your help to reduce the shortfall.

Last year, the St John's Fund was established as a means towards maintaining a balanced budget. Would you please consider an additional offering to the St. John's Fund this year? A special envelope is enclosed with this month's Messenger and is also available at each service from your usher.

With your help, St. Johns can have a balanced budget two years in a row!

Respectfully,

The Stewardship and Finance Committee

SERVERS FOR OCTOBER 2011

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<u>ASSISTING MINISTERS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>
10/9	8:30AM	Katie Lenz	Karen Feltkamp	Anna Lenz
	10:00 AM	Kyle O'Connor	Kim Carlstrom	Susan Masciello
	Crucifer	Kyle O'Connor		
10/16	8:30AM	Victoria Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Andrew Dunn
	10:00AM		Hank Lenz	Hank Lenz
	Crucifer	Matthew Fernež		
10/23	8:30AM	Jennifer Dalton	Jason Lipitz	Bill Benson
	10:00AM	Ryan Milano	Debby Lindman	Chris Powell
	Crucifer	David Powell		
REFORMATION SUNDAY:				
10/30	8:30AM	Sebastian Percy	Janet Pescatore	Carol Larsen
	10:00 AM	Matthew Fernež	Claire Lenz	Claire Lenz
	Crucifer	Rick Dusenbury		
	Torch Bearer	Erin Milano		
		Katie Lenz		
	Gospel Bearer	Ryan Dusenbury		