

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Regular Worship Services

Begin September 11th

8:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Sunday School (K-Grade 6)

Begins September 18th

Sundays at 10:00 AM

Calendar of Events – September 2011

Sunday, 9/4 – Worship, 9:30 AM

Monday, 9/5 – Labor Day

Tuesday, 9/6 – Worship & Music Committee, 7:30 PM

Sunday, 9/11 – **Return to fall worship schedule**, worship, 8:30 & 10 AM

Tuesday, 9/13 – Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM
– Church Council, 8 PM

Wednesday, 9/14 – **Choir Rehearsals Start!** - 7:30 PM

Sunday, 9/18 – Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM
– **Rally Day** for Sunday School, 10 AM

Tuesday, 9/20 – Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM

Wednesday, 9/21 – Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
– **Confirmation Classes begin** for 7th & 8th graders
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Sunday, 9/25 – **100th Anniversary Kick-Off Celebration** – 1 worship at 10 AM

Tuesday, 9/27 – Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM

Wednesday, 9/28 – Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
– Confirmation, 7:30 PM

And looking forward...

Sunday, 10/2 – Harvest Festival, 11A – 3P

Pastor's Reflections

Each week in worship, our participation in Communion includes a Eucharistic Prayer. *Eucharist* means “thanksgiving,” and so each prayer is a prayer of thanks to God, kind of like saying grace before a meal.

These prayers, however, are more than thanks for the food before us. They offer up praise and gratitude to God and at the same time serve as a reminder to us of the many ways God has been at work throughout all of history to reach out to humanity, to draw us closer, to redeem us and all of creation. And so, each week, we are reminded of [God's] creative and saving power and, in these or similar words, give thanks

“for the grace shown to God's people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and this the end of all the ages, the gift of [God's] Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to [God's] will, even to giving his life.” (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 66)

What strikes me so often as I lead these prayers is this reminder of how God has been active not just in looking down from on high and pulling strings, but through making the Divine Self known to particular people in particular places and inviting them into a relationship, calling them to speak God's word of comfort, hope, and encouragement (or sometimes of reprimand and admonishment!) to others. I think of the stories that fill the Old Testament, tales of very ordinary people called to do ordinary things. They were people like Abraham and Sarah, who God promised to bless so that they would be a blessing; people like Jacob who became Israel, Moses who led his people forth from slavery into freedom, and David, the shepherd boy who became a king; people like the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah and many others, who were given words to speak to God's people. All of them and so many more were just average, flawed people (if you read their stories, you will discover just how flawed they were!), and yet God used them, and through them and through other people down through history, we learn of God's deep love for us, of how God will never abandon us or give up on us, no matter what situation we might be in, no matter how often we turn away. God's story intersected with their stories and through them with our stories, changing the world one person at a time.

As we begin a year of events celebrating 100 years of God working through the people of St. John's, I invite you to look back and give thanks for the people in your life who God used to bring God's love to you, whoever they may be, the people who served in many and various ways through this church to be a visible witness of what God is doing in the world. And I encourage you to think about the ways God may want to work through you, so that you may carry out the baptismal charge to “let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” From serving on a committee or as a Sunday School teacher or worship assistant, to your relationships with your family, friends, neighbors, and strangers, to the ways you serve the wider community – God can use you to be a light in the darkness. How will the love of God shine through you today? This week? This year? You may only be an ordinary person, but God can work in you to do extraordinary things!

Seeking to shine with you,

Pr. Becky

Worship News

There are lots of special events happening in September, which means some changes in our schedule – so mark your calendars now!

September 11 – Return to our fall worship schedule with 2 worship services at 8:30 and 10 AM.

September 18 – Rally Day – Sunday school kicks off with some fun events at 10 AM!

September 25 – 100th Anniversary Kick-off Celebration – 1 worship service at 10 AM, with guest preacher, Pr. Christine Anderson, followed by a reception with food & drink, guest speakers, and a special presentation as we begin a year of celebrating the ministry of St. John's since 1912.

October 2 – Harvest Festival



St. John's Sewing Ministry

The sewing group meets on Tuesdays from 9:30am-12:00pm in the Knotty Pine room and then enjoys a bagged lunch until 1:00pm. We will be starting our first meeting of the fall season on September 13th.

We are looking for new ideas and new people to sew, knit, crochet, or share a craft that we can bring to our friends at Holly Patterson Extended Care Facility and The New Life Center Layette Program. Check out some of the projects that we have made and have on display in the entryway of the church.

Please come and join us and help us make a difference in someone's life.

Christel Hild Carol Clemente Ruth Williamson
Jan Arena Joan Pirrone

Sign Update

We are moving ahead with the work that needs to be done to get our new sign installed in the “triangle” at the corner of our property. We are currently in the process of having a new survey done, so that we can then apply for the necessary permits from the Village of Lynbrook. We can't do any actual construction until that happens, but once the permits are in hand, we will continue. When the actual work for the electric and sign can begin depends on how long it takes to get the permits. We'd love to be able to do the work this fall, but if the ground freezes first, we'll have to wait until spring. We'll keep you updated as we go along. Thanks again to all who contributed to the sign fund! It will be a great way to communicate with our community about what is happening at St. John's.



In Sympathy...

We extend our prayers and sympathy to the family of Mildred Brady, who passed away on August 8, and to the family of Betty Johnson, who passed away on August 11.

† Rest eternal grant them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them. †



Thank You...

From Recipients of the Barbara Semmig Scholarship..... (Sponsored by WELCA)

Dear Mrs. Moser and the Ladies of WELCA,
I was deeply honored to receive the Barbara Semmig Scholarship. It means a lot to have the support of my church during this next important phase in my life. I plan on using this money towards the purchase of my books. I am extremely grateful for the generosity this has afforded me. Thank you all again for this wonderful gift.

Sincerely,
Kristin Lindman

Dear St. John's W.E.L.C.A. Committee,
Thank you so much for the generous scholarship. I am honored and grateful to receive it. Over the years St. John's has provided me with so much support and guidance, and this scholarship is yet another way in which the community of this church has helped me. I look forward to using this gift to help fund my education at college. Thank you again so much!

Sincerely,
Margaret Milano

Dear WELCA,
Thank you very much for choosing me to receive the Barbara Semmig Scholarship. It is an honor to receive such an award from the church. Your gift will help to pay college expenses that lie ahead, and I appreciate this thoughtful gesture.

Sincerely
Michael Fernež

***If you have been one of the recipients of the Barbara Semmig Scholarship in the past, please write, call or email us and let us know what year you received the scholarship. Thank you*

Thank you so much for your generous offering of \$500. It's going towards the things I need to complete my dorm room. I appreciate everything the church has done for me all throughout Sunday School and Youth Group. I loved participating on Council and I'll miss each member dearly. When I'm back home I'll surely visit. Thanks again!

Love,
Tori Lynne DeStefano

And from the Girl Scouts.....

Dear Pastor Becky and the Members of St. John's,
The members of Cadette Troop #2378 would like to thank all of you for allowing us the use of your wonderful space, and offer this small token to show our appreciation.

Thank you again,
Alexa, AiMei, Jillian C., Jillian D., Colleen, Paige, Eva, Sara, Katie, Rhiannon, Caroline, Annamarie, Emily, Gabby, Amanda

Dear Pastor Becky and the Members of St. John's,
The members of Brownie Troop #2000 would like to thank all of you for allowing us the use of your wonderful space, and offer this small token to show our appreciation.

Thank you again,
Hannah, Liz C., Ami, Nicole, Maddie, Janie, Camden, Casey, Emily, Emma, Abigail, Meghan, Liz M., Soffia, Kimberly, Jolie, Kiera, Caitlin

YOUTH GROUP NEWS.....

“No other day has the power of 9/11 to transform our collective understanding and commitment to service, and to engage people to step forward to help others ...” – David Paine, president of MyGoodDeed

Dear Youth Group Members,

No doubt tragic and horrific images from 9/11 will always haunt us. Yet we also must never forget the heroic sacrifices and good deeds that helped our country through these worst of times. In honor of the National Day of Service and Remembrance and the 10th anniversary of 9/11, we will once again be planning a day to honor good deeds and acts of kindness by helping to make the day a little brighter. And what better way to help others than right here within our own church family! We are planning to make and deliver gift bags of cheer for our homebound members.

On Sunday, September 11th, we will have our first Youth Group meeting of the year. During that meeting, we will put together the gift bags filled with goodies and then, following church, we will make short visits to each of our homebound members. **To make this more time efficient than last year’s visits, we will first go as a group to all the Lynbrook homebound members. Then, we will split into smaller groups and go to those in neighboring towns.** We are hoping to return to St. John’s approximately 1:00 or 1:30 pm. If time allows, we may also try to visit the Lynbrook 9/11 memorial some time that morning.

Donations for the gift bags would be greatly appreciated. Please see the list of suggested items below and email us what item(s) you can bring that day so that we will not have too many duplicate items. If you are unable to join us but can donate something, please bring it on or before Sept. 11th so that we can include it in the gift bags. Any parents who can help with making the gift bags or driving, your help would also be appreciated!

If you will be joining us for this activity, please let us know on or before Sunday, Sept. 4th. We can really use your help and you will really be making some people very happy!

Suggested items:

Apples (approx. 10)

Bananas (2 bunches)

Pears (approx. 10)

Grapes (1 large bunch)

Oranges (approx. 10)

Homemade cookies or brownies (in individual zip lock bags)

Hard Candies

Small boxes or packages of raisins, crackers or pretzels (snack size)

Chocolates (individually wrapped, so they can be separated between the bags)

Medium to large sized Gift Bags

Tissue paper and ribbon

Thanks so much! - Lori Fernez & Janet Powell



*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Celebrating 100 Years
Of
Sharing God's Love
1912 - 2012*

Dear Alumni, Members and Friends of St. John's,

Travel back in time with me to the year 1912: the town formerly known as Pearsall's Corners is now Lynbrook. Horse drawn carriages travel down dirt roads. Trolley cars run through town. Bicycles are all the rage. Farmlands stretch far and wide. A community of homes, schools, and small town stores is rapidly growing. And in a small public theater known as the Lyceum Hall on Union Avenue, approximately a dozen people gather to worship and spark the beginning of what will become St. John's Lutheran Church.

Fast forward to 2011 where St. John's Church presently stands at Merrick Road and Peninsula Boulevard. The church, originally constructed from an old boat factory building, has expanded along with its membership. Within its walls, for nearly a century, generations of families have united in faith and fellowship, working together to do God's work. And beyond its doors, community outreach has extended from Lynbrook to as far away as the distant shores of Tanzania, Africa and beyond. Surviving the Great Depression and two World Wars, St. John's continues to provide a sanctuary where those who seek to hear the word of God can gather and profess their faith.

A very special milestone in our history approaches, as St. John's will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2012. In anticipation of this joyous event, we will begin a kick-off to a year-long celebration on September 25, 2011. We request the honor of your presence as we gather for a special service that morning at 10 am, followed by an equally special reception where guest speakers will be present, moments in our history will be remembered, and fellowship will be shared.

We hope that you can join us on this special day in St. John's history. If you know of any family member or friend of St. John's who perhaps has not received this invitation, please extend the invitation to them. We encourage you to join in this special celebration of Sharing God's Love.

Sincerely,
Pastor Becky

Lori Fernez Kick -Off Chairperson

PLEASE JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION!

KICK-OFF SUNDAY

*SEPTEMBER 25, 2011
10AM SERVICE ONLY
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IN THE KNOTTY PINE ROOM*

MUSIC SUNDAY

BEL CONTO CHORALE DECEMBER

HISTORY MONTH

FEBRUARY

**GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATING
100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY**

MARCH 4, 2012

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

*MARCHING IN THE PARADE
MAY 28, 2012*

CHURCH PICNIC

JUNE 3, 2012

**100TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE
CELEBRATING WITH BISHOP RIMBO**

*SEPTEMBER 30, 2012
10 AM SERVICE ONLY
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW*

POMPEI RESTAURANT

12:30-4:30pm



Opening the Memory Box

Letter from Grace West

Congratulations on 100 years!

I am writing to let you know how important St. John's is in my life.

At about the age of 5 my parents took me to Sunday School and joined St. John's (1940).

I met lifelong friends, Pauline and Frank Feltkamp about that time.

My father Robert became a Church Council member and mother Mary was active in the Blue Circle.

As the years went by I joined the Junior Choir and was confirmed in 1949. My brother Bob (lives in Florida) was confirmed a year later. Thanks to devoted parents we never missed a Sunday.

After college (1957) I returned home and joined the Senior Choir, taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School and became Superintendent.

I caused raised eyebrows when I was the first woman elected to the Council-under Rev. Robert Arnold. I also was a Synod Delegate.

I bought a summer home in Southhold in 1983 and joined St. Peter's Greenport in 1985.

Upon retirement (1990) I moved here permanently with my Mom.

Church has always been important to me.

I served on St. Peter's Council and now am acolyte coordinator of about 20 young people, and V.P. of WELCA. I'm also a lector and communion assistant.

I'm also on the owners' board of San Simeon by the Sound Nursing Home and weekly volunteer.

I will always have the fondest of memories of St. John's and the great people I met there.

God's Blessing and Good Luck,

In His Service,

Grace West

Enjoy reading this story? Let's hear yours:

100th Anniversary Memory Box

Don't forget to send in your memories or bring them to the church. Thank you to Charlene Comastri who made the beautiful replica of St. John's Lynbrook Church which you will find in the entryway of the church for this purpose. We are looking forward to filling the church with your special memories which will be a part of St. John's history.

1912 *MEMORABLE MOMENTS* 2012

On Sunday, September 29, 1912, a year after Lynbrook's incorporation as a village, the first service was held in Lyceum Hall (a two story frame building on Union Avenue, opposite the present Lynbrook High School) which was later destroyed by fire. Thirty nine people were in attendance and on October 6th the church was organized and a constitution adopted.

In 1912 St. John's Sunday School was started. Walter Bonn, one of our charter members walked the streets knocking on doors and invited the children to come to Sunday School.

Jan Arena

SERVERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2011

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS
9/4	9:30AM	Jessica Muck	Bill Lindman	Dot Richetti
9/11	8:30AM 10:00AM	Sebastian Percy Ryan Milano	Janet Pescatore Claire Lenz	Walter Wright Claire Lenz
9/18	8:30AM 10:00AM	Katie Lenz Kyle O'Connor	Roger Vargas Kim Barbaro	Roger Vargas Susan Masciello

9/25 - 100th ANNIVERSARY KICK-OFF SUNDAY - ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 AM

Acolyte	Nils DeStefano
Assisting Ministers	Dorothy Criscuolo Joan Pirrone
Lector	Joan Pirrone
Crucifer	Matthew Fernež
Torch Bearers	Jesse Pace Jason Pace
Gospel Bearer	David Powell
Ushers	Members of the Youth Group

Dear Alumni, Members and Friends of St. John's,

We have all heard the phrase "keep a roof over your head". It's a simple message, reminding us to look after ourselves and stay safe, secure, and comfortable.

If you own a home, you also know that the roof needs to be maintained and that without attention, an old roof jeopardizes all you place underneath it. The roof of the parsonage at St. John's is nearing the end of its useful life and needs replacing. This is a critical project for the upkeep of the building and is not a task that can be put off or ignored.

In order to complete this project we need to raise funds to fully cover the cost of the work and we are looking to members of the congregation and friends of St. John's to help by 'buying a shingle' for the roof.

Help us cover the cost of replacing the roof of the parsonage and adjacent garage by buying a shingle. Two hundred shingles represents the total we need to meet our goal. Each shingle costs \$100. You can buy more than one, or you can get together with others to share the cost of a shingle. Check the model house in the entryway to see our progress. The more shingles on the house the closer we are to our goal.

We'd love everyone to participate in this project. We need your help to make this appeal a success.

Thank you on behalf of the Stewardship & Finance/Roof Committee.

Roof Shingle

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Name _____

Envelope # _____

Please enclose this form in an envelope and place in the offering, or send it to the church.