



SPRING WORSHIP SCHEDULE



**Regular Worship Services
at 8:30AM & 10:00AM**

**Sunday School (K - Grade 6)
Sundays at 10:00AM**

“A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all.”

- Psalm 34:19

The Messenger

is a monthly publication of
St. John's Lutheran Church
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Kimberly Carlstrom, Editor

Anyone wishing to include an article in
The Messenger should email it directly to
the Editor @ KCProducer@aol.com or
mail it to the church (Attn: Editor).

Deadline for all submissions
is the 20th of each month.



PASTOR'S MESSAGE



“As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God’s faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?”

(ELW, service of Holy Baptism, p. 228)

On February 19, Andy and I brought Norah to receive God’s gift of baptism. As part of the service, we were reminded of the responsibilities listed above, and asked if we promised to follow through on them. When infants or children are baptized, their parents and baptismal sponsors (aka Godparents) make these promises on their behalf. Older children or adults who come to be baptized make these promises for themselves. When you are confirmed, you are asked these same questions. “Do

you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism?” (ELW, P. 236).

Because many of us were baptized as babies, we don’t really remember the moment of our baptism. (And for those of you who were older and do remember, the rest of us are a little jealous!) I encourage parents to celebrate their child/ren’s baptismal day each year - to light the candle given to them, to show them pictures, to tell them the stories of who was there and how they reacted when the water was poured over them. Baptism is a pivotal moment; God changes everything right then - and we want our children to be able to claim it, to know that it is real, that it matters. Most especially, we want them to know that God has claimed them as God’s child forever, no matter what.

Lent is an opportunity for us to do that in our own lives - to return to the waters of baptism and claim God’s promises for ourselves, to renew our commitment to the covenant God has made with us in baptism. It’s a chance to go deeper, to listen again to the stories of what Christ has done for us, and to let the Holy Spirit put to death all the things within us that pull us away from God and God’s ways, so that we may be raised to new life! One gospel acclamation sung during Lent calls us to “Return to the Lord, your God...” That is the invitation for us all this Lent - to come back to the waters of baptism, to put ourselves once again in God’s hands, and to respond to God’s gift of love with the offering of our whole lives. The promises we have made are a good place to start!

See you in worship!

Pastor Becky

**Lent Begins with
Ash Wednesday Worship -
March 9 at Noon and 7:30 PM**

Worship with us as we hear the call to repent and return to the Lord our God as we begin our Lenten journey. Receive the ashes as a reminder of our mortality and frailty, and be nourished by God's meal of Holy Communion.

**Ecumenical Lenten Worship
Thursdays at 7:30 PM**

Come to worship with our neighbors from the churches in East Rockaway and Lynbrook. Beginning on March 17 and continuing Thursdays through April 14, we will gather together for evening prayer and fellowship. Each week a different church will host our worship - look for details in the bulletin and on the bulletin board, or check the website (www.stjohnslynbrook.org) once the schedule is finalized.

**Bible Study
Thursdays at 10:00AM
March 3, 10, 17 & 24**

This four-week series will examine the lives of some of our faith ancestors (Adam, Abraham, Sarah and Jacob). We'll learn about their stories and see what their lives have to teach us about our own. Drinks and snacks provided. Participant book is \$6. Please sign up on the bulletin board or talk to Pr. Becky.

MEMORIAL FUND

Donations have been made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Al Geier by Joan Pirrone and Robert Kaempf; and in memory of Reynaldo and Andro Castrence by Joan Pirrone.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Upcoming events and activities:

BOWLING NIGHT

Fri., March 11th, 8PM Woodmere Lanes

Everyone welcome - join us!! Price is \$9 per person and includes 2 games and shoes. We will meet at the bowling alley at 7:30/7:45 pm; please be prompt, as we will need to set up lanes. Sign up sheet in narthex!

SUPERMARKET BINGO

Friday, April 8th, 7:30 PM.

Supermarket Bingo is regular games of bingo with themed baskets of food for prizes. Price is \$5 per person, and includes 2 Bingo cards and refreshments. Extra cards \$1 each. All monies raised will benefit the Barbara Semmig Scholarship Fund. All are welcome - bring family and friends to what should be a fun night!! If you can help donate food items for our Supermarket Bingo, it would be very much appreciated. Please see flyer in narthex for a list of items needed by March 20th.

The Youth Group would like to thank Judy Opatow and Allison Koehler for all their help with the music for Youth Sunday. We couldn't have done it without you!

THANK YOU...

To the congregation,

Thank you for all your generous donations of shoes and chewable vitamins. They were an integral part of our supplies that were administered all throughout Nicaragua and Costa Rica. It was truly an amazing experience and I will be sure to come down one Sunday to share stories and pictures. Thanks again,

Karl Feltkamp

Thank you to everyone who came to, participated in, or helped with worship and the reception on the day of Norah's baptism. It was an inspiring worship service and a special occasion, and we were glad to share it with all of you! Thank you also for the gifts and cards. As always, we were reminded of how blessed we are to be a part of this faith community, and we give thanks to God for the outpouring of love you continually show us.

Pr. Becky, Andy & Norah

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

Many of you know that St. John's offers people the opportunity to honor or remember a loved one or occasion by donating the altar flowers for worship on Sundays. Again this year, we invite you to do so in advance, so you won't have to rush to remember to do it later in the year.

If you donate flowers on a given Sunday, your donation will be acknowledged in the bulletin on that day. You may either take the flowers home with you or leave them, in which case they will be delivered to a homebound or ill member of St. John's. If you would like to donate flowers, please fill out the form below, and send it to the church with your check. You may also fill out a flower envelope (found in the pew rack) and place it in the offering plate during worship. You may request a specific date, but due to overlapping requests, we may need to adjust your request to a week before or after. Also, remember that in keeping with the simplicity of season, we do not have altar flowers during Lent or Advent. In 2011, those dates are March 13 - April 17 and November 27 - December 18.

Cost of flowers is \$25/vase. Please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church, and note in the memo line, "altar flowers". Thanks!

FLOWER DONATION

In honor of:

And/or in memory of:

Given by:

Date requested:

Obama Announces Intention to Appoint ELCA Presiding Bishop to Council

CHICAGO (ELCA) -- President Barack Obama announced Feb. 4 his intention to appoint the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), to the President's Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

The advisory council brings together religious and secular leaders, as well as scholars and experts in fields related to the work of faith-based and neighborhood organizations, to make recommendations to the government on how to improve partnerships, according to a White House news release.

"I am pleased to announce that these experienced and committed individuals have agreed to join this Administration, and I look forward to working with them in the months and years ahead," Obama said.

In 2009 Hanson was appointed to a White House task force on interreligious dialogue and cooperation, through the Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

**Taken from ELCA NEWS SERVICE, February 4, 2011 (www.elca.org)*

**WELCA Baby Shower
Tuesday, March 29 - 7:30 PM**

Come shower the Layette Program of Lutheran Social Services (LSS) in Uniondale with baby gifts! LSS provides necessary baby items to parents and babies in need through this program, and we get to be part of sharing God's love through our annual baby shower. Clothes, diapers, toys, bottles, baby shampoo and soap, books - if a baby needs it, they'll take it! Look for sales and stock up, and then come out for a fun night with good food, good company, and guest speakers from LSS. And if you can't come, you can still donate at any time of year - we'll even drop them off for you. Just place items in the food bin in the entry way of the church, and we'll make sure they get there. Thanks for your support.

SERVER SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

DATE	ACOLYTES	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS
3/6	8:30AM Danielle Dake	8:30AM Bruce Feltkamp	8:30AM Walter Wright
	10:00AM Nils DeStefano	10:00AM Bill Lindman	10:00AM Arlene Moglia
	Crucifer Kristin Lindman		
3/19	Noon	Noon Dorothy Criscuolo	Noon Bob Koehler
ASH WED.	7:30PM Matthew Fernéz	7:30PM Bob Koehler	10:00AM Janet Pescatore
3/13	8:30AM Jennifer Dalton	8:30AM Dorothy Criscuolo	8:30AM Arnelle Blinderman
	10:00AM Kyle O'Connor	10:00AM Kim Carlstrom	10:00AM Joan Pirrone
3/20	8:30AM Elizabeth Hanson	8:30AM Jason Lipitz	8:30AM Bill Benson
	10:00AM Carrie Feltkamp	10:00AM Karen Feltkamp	10:00AM Karen Feltkamp
3/27	8:30AM Jessica Muck	8:30AM Roger Vargas	8:30AM Roger Vargas
	10:00AM Ryan Milano	10:00AM Debby Lindman	10:00AM Claire Lenz

If you cannot serve on a day you are scheduled, please find a replacement and notify the church office and the appropriate coordinator:
 Bob Koehler: Assisting Ministers and Crucifers/Gospel bearers- 678-6623
 Dot Richetti: Acolytes and Torch bearers- 599-8702
 Claire Lenz: Lectors - 872-2063

MARCH 2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 3/1	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM; Worship & Music Committee, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 3/2	Choir, 7:30 PM; Confirmation, 7:30 PM
Thursday, 3/3	Bible Study, 10 - 11 AM
Sunday, 3/6	Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday; Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM; Sunday School, 10 AM Fellowship after worship (Fastnacht Sunday)
Tuesday, 3/8	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM; Council, 8 PM
Wednesday, 3/9	Choir, 7:30 PM; Confirmation, 7:30 PM
Thursday, 3/10	Bible Study, 10 - 11 AM
Sunday, 3/13	1st Sunday of Lent/Daylight Savings Time Begins! Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM; Sunday School, 10 AM; Stewardship & Finance, 11:15 AM
Tuesday, 3/15	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM
Wednesday, 3/16	Choir, 7:30 PM; Confirmation, 7:30 PM
Thursday, 3/17	Bible Study, 10 - 11 AM; Ecumenical Lent Worship, 7:30 PM, location TBA
Sunday, 3/20	2nd Sunday of Lent - Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM; Sunday School, 10 AM
Tuesday, 3/22	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM; Evangelism/Social Ministry, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 3/23	Choir, 7:30 PM; Confirmation, 7:30 PM
Thursday, 3/24	Bible Study, 10 - 11 AM; Ecumenical Lent Worship, 7:30 PM, location TBA
Sunday, 3/27	3rd Sunday of Lent; Worship, 8:30 & 10 AM; Sunday School, 10 AM
Tuesday, 3/29	Sewing Ministry, 9:30 AM Baby Shower for Lutheran Social Services, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 3/30	Choir, 7:30 PM; Confirmation, 7:30 PM
Thursday, 3/31	Ecumenical Lent Worship, 7:30 PM, location TBA
Looking ahead to April...	
Wednesday, 4/13	SW Nassau Conference Lent Worship, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 4/17	Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion
Thursday, 4/21	Maundy Thursday Worship, 7:30 PM
Friday, 4/22	Good Friday Worship, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 4/24	Easter Sunday