



ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER
May 2013

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Regular Worship Services

9:30 AM

Sunday School (K-Grade 6)

9:30 AM

Calendar of Events for May 2013 ~

Thursday, May 2	NO Choir rehearsal, 7:15 PM
Sunday, May 5	Worship, 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM
Tuesday, May 7	Council Meeting, 8:00 PM
Thursday, May 9	Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM
Sunday, May 12	Worship, 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Mothers' Day
Tuesday, May 14	Worship & Music Meeting, 7:30 PM
Thursday, May 16	Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM
Sunday, May 19	Worship, 9:30 AM – Pentecost NO Sunday School COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP Sponsored by the Evangelism/Social Committee
Tuesday, May 21	W.E.L.C.A. MOCK Baby Shower - 7:30 PM
Thursday, May 22	Confirmation Dinner – 6:30 PM
Thursday, May 23	Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM
Sunday, May 26	Worship, 9:30 AM - Trinity Sunday Sunday School 9:30 AM - Pretzel Making Day
Monday, May 27	Memorial Day
Tuesday, May 28	Evangelism/Social Meeting, 7:30 PM
Thursday, May 30	Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM

Looking ahead to JUNE....

Sunday, June 2	Confirmation - Pastor Danielle Miller Presiding Sunday School Moving UP Day
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A Message from Pastor Jeff Laustsen ~

“You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism ...” – Affirmation of Baptism Service, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

In many Lutheran congregations, this is the time of year in which we celebrate Confirmation with our young people and their families. It is the culmination of years of classes, of studying the Bible and the *Small Catechism*, filling out worship notes and serving as acolytes. It is the day in which our young people process into worship in white robes while their families and friends look on with pride as they kneel before the altar and confirm their faith as they *“ask God to help and guide me.”* In the presence of the congregation that has nurtured them in the faith, they receive the laying on of hands as the pastor prays to our *“Father in heaven, for Jesus’ sake, [to] stir up the gift of your Holy Spirit.”* As many congregations celebrate Confirmation on the day of Pentecost, we pray this gift of God’s Spirit will *“confirm their faith, guide their life, empower them in their serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to eternal life.”*

Growing up in a devoutly Lutheran family, I attended the Confirmation services of my cousins every year; and on June 6, 1971, it was my turn to kneel at the altar of my home congregation and be confirm my faith in the presence of my family and friends. I can’t say that I remember much from that day (other than having a really bad haircut and receiving a prayer book that I still possess), but what I do cherish about my Confirmation is that no matter where I have been in these past 42 years – no matter how far I may have strayed from God or tried to live my life on my own terms – God has always been with me. I may not have understood exactly what I was “confirming” on that day, but I know that God was confirming his covenant that I first received when I was baptized on April 28, 1957: that I am God’s child, that God’s love for me is eternal, that nothing can separate me from the goodness of God’s presence that is mine in Christ Jesus our Lord. While what I was confirming on that hot June afternoon was important, what was of greater importance was that God was confirming God’s love for me, and that God has continued confirm that steadfast love throughout all the trials and challenges I have faced in the years since I wore my white Confirmation gown and celebrated that distinctively Lutheran rite of passage with the people of my home congregation.

As I prepare to preside at another Confirmation celebration as pastor of Holy Trinity, I approach the day with the same mixed feelings that are a part of every Confirmation service at which I have presided. While it is a time of celebration for our young people, their families, and the church, it is also a time in which my relationship with them as teaching is coming to an end. While I hope to remain in relationship with them, I know full well that I won’t see many of these young people on a regular basis. I won’t know what will become of them, or where the future will lead them. I hope that God will give us the opportunity to continue our relationship, but there are no guarantees that this will happen. I may be smiling in the class photos, but inside a piece of my heart is also breaking. But I do take comfort in the knowledge that no matter where these young people may go – even if it’s far away from me and from this congregation, that God has confirmed God’s love for each of them, that God will always be with them, and that *“the one who began a good work in you will bring it to completion on the day of Jesus Christ.”* (Philippians 1:6). As we rejoice in the Confirmation of our sons and daughters, we give thanks to God who confirms that God’s steadfast love will abide with them always, so that they can live in trust and hope that nothing will separate them from the love of God which is ours in Christ Jesus our Lord.

“Lord God of our ancestors, we thank you for what you have done and will continue to do with our daughters and sons. Walk with them in life, and keep the evil one from obstructing their path. You see all; you know where the water is deep. Keep them from danger. Order their steps and guide their feet while they run the race of faith. May the good work that you have begun in them be brought to completion at the day of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.” (ELW).

Yours in Christ, Pastor Jeff Laustsen

Youth Group News

Our **Supermarket Bingo** on Friday, April 12th was a huge success! We made a profit of \$642 that will go toward the Barbara Semmig Scholarship fund. A big thank you again to everyone who attended, donated baskets or food items, baked or purchased desserts or chips for the evening's refreshments, helped assemble baskets, bought raffles, sold raffles or helped at the admission table, helped with setting up or cleaning up: we appreciated everyone's help, and the success of the evening was because of all of **you**, so thank you!

A thank you also goes to **Sa Vino's Restaurant** in Lynbrook, for donating a gift certificate for our "Romantic Dinner For Two" raffle basket. We encourage you to consider Sa Vino's in the future when you look for a place to dine, as they were so considerate to us by donating to our fundraiser.

Upcoming Youth Group meetings:

Sunday, May 5th, 9 am

Memorial Garden Clean Up:

Following our Youth Group meeting, weather permitting.

Save the dates!!

The Youth Group will be hosting the **Confirmation Dinner** on May 22nd, at 6:30 pm. Congratulations to those being confirmed this year: **Jessica Gonzalez, Katie Lenz, Alex Oleschnuk and Coral White.**

Last meeting and luncheon on June 9th. Restaurant to be decided at our next meeting. Youth Group families are welcome!

Lori Fernez´ & Janet Powell

Our next meeting is this **Sunday, May 5th.** Please meet us in the Knotty Pine Room at 9:30 am. After our meeting, we will be doing our **annual clean-up of the Memorial Garden**, weather permitting. The more people we have on hand, the quicker it will go, so parents and siblings please feel free to help out if you are able. Bring gardening gloves, rakes, etc. if you have them available. We plan to go ahead with the gardening clean-up unless it is raining after church.

THE LADIES OF WELCA WANT TO THANK THE YOUTH GROUP FOR HOLDING THE SUPERMARKET BINGO AND DONATING A VERY GENEROUS GIFT OF \$642 TO THE BARBARA SEMMIG SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Does anyone collect Llardo statues?
Several were donated for the
Harvest Festival.
If interested speak to
Susan Masciello 599-1956.
Best offer.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee is very excited. We have received our first candidate and are looking forward to an interview with in two weeks.

The candidate's personal Information is confidential but we will keep you updated to our progress.

Keep praying that God sends us our new Pastor real soon!

Susan Masciello, Chairperson
Don Roth, Heather Hanson, Dan Lenz, Bruce Feltkamp,
Ruth Williamson, Allison Koehler,

WELCA "MOCK" BABY SHOWER

TUESDAY May 21st - 7:30 PM

St. John's annual Baby Shower supporting the New LIFE Center will be held at 7:30 on Tuesday, May 21st, in the Knotty Pine Room. We invite everyone in the congregation to join us and support this so that we may have an abundance of baby things to bring to the Center. You may bring anything that a baby might use, from clothes, diapers, baby bottles, and bath supplies. They also appreciate small baby-friendly Bibles or board books with a "God loves you" kind of story. Please join us. Refreshments will be served from the Center staff.

Join us after
Worship on May 19th for a
Coffee Hour
sponsored by the Evangelism/Social Committee



The St. John's Players are a group of musicians who play under the direction of our organist, Judy Opatow. Some of you have played with the St. John's Players in the past for special services such as Youth Sunday, our 100th anniversary, or during the Christmas season.

There will be a brief meeting with Mrs. Opatow in the Knotty Pine Room after church this **Sunday, May 5th** for anyone who has played with or would be interested in joining the St. John's Players.

She would like to discuss with you the interest in doing a future performance, perhaps on a day such as Moving Up Day in June. If you currently play an instrument -- in school or at home -- and you might be interested in being part of this group, please come to the meeting to learn more. If you are unable to come to the meeting, you can also email us to let us know you might be interested and we will pass your email address on to Mrs. Opatow who can send you more information.



Scholarships Awarded

APPLICATION LETTERS FOR THE BARBARA SEMMIG SCHOLARSHIP FUND ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED. THE SCHOLARSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS WHO ARE IN THEIR SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL. PLEASE SEND ALL APPLICATION LETTERS TO THE ST. JOHN'S CHURCH OFFICE **ATTENTION: WELCA SCHOLARSHIP** NO LATER THAN MAY 31ST.

OUR HARVEST FESTIVAL IS ONLY A FEW MONTHS AWAY. IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR HARVEST FESTIVAL COMMITTEES PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE. WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US.



Members of St. John's,

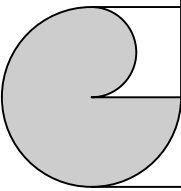
Words cannot express how much we appreciated all of your cards, visits and expressions of sympathy during Dad's hospitalization and funeral. Losing Dad and adjusting to life without him has been harder than we ever imagined, but having the support of our family at St. John's has been a tremendous comfort. So many of you knew just what to say and what to do to let us know that you understood. Dad was born into this congregation in 1935, and 78 years later we said goodbye to him from the very same altar, St. John's was a very special church to him.

We are also so grateful and thank Pastor Laustsen and all that he has done for our family during this time.

God Bless St. John's.

In His Love,

Karen, Bruce, Karl & Carrie Feltkamp





*Memorial
Giving*

donations have been made
To St. John's Lutheran
Church In Loving Memory of

FRANK FELTKAMP

Robert & Elizabeth Flavin
Sylvia & David Hammar
Randall & Margaret Hudson
Barbara Leahy
George & Linda Nagel & Family
Robert & Roberta Ohliger
St. John's Church Council
Vulcan Ladies Auxiliary

DON SIMPSON

Kenneth Hanson
Pauline Feltkamp

LEROY OELSEHLAGER

Pauline Feltkamp

DORIS KORTLANG

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Wall

donations have been made to the
**BARBARA SEMMIG SCHOLARSHIP
FOR**

ROBERT KAEMPF'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

Anna Moser
Cora Sarver

IN MEMORY OF FRANK FELTKAMP

Don Roth



LET'S START PLANNING FOR THE HARVEST FESTIVAL SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH 2013

If you are starting your Spring Cleaning remember the Harvest is October 6th this year. Think about donating some of your gently used items for our Bric – A – Brac table. The **when and where** to drop these items will be announced soon!

And.....do not forget our new Scarecrow building table.

BUILD A SCARECROW

We are going to have the inaugural Build-a Scarecrow table at this years' Harvest Festival. Any one who comes to the table will have the opportunity to create their own custom made scarecrow (for a modest fee... ~\$10- \$15 depending on material costs) to help bring in the fall season. To make this possible, were looking for donations of the following items to use for the scarecrow creations:

- ▲ Long sleeve shirts (Flannels preferably for the authentic scarecrow look, adult or children sizes)
- ▲ Pants...denim or carpenter pants or whatever you can spare. (again, adult or children sizes)
- ▲ Any wood or lumber that could be used to make the armatures for the scarecrows. Just need something in the shape of a cross to put in the sleeves and provide support for when the scarecrows are mounted in the ground.

The plan is to stuff the clothes with newspapers and hay, attach a head to the scarecrow, then attach it to an armature so the scarecrow can be planted" in your yard.

If you do have any of these items that you would be willing to donate, or if you come across any of these items at a garage sale, thrift store etc, please set them aside and contact me so I can get an idea of how many scarecrows well be able to accommodate. I' ll be placing a bin in the Narthex for any donations. Here's to hoping that this will be a success!

God Bless,
Dan Gonzalez
spanmesilly@gmail.com

SERVER SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2013

DATE	ACOLYTES		ASSISTING MINISTERS		LECTORS	
5/05	9:30 AM	Ashley Gavin	9:30 AM	Bill Lindman	9:30 AM	Bill Benson
	Crucifer	Nils DeStefano				
5/12	9:30 AM	Erin Milano	9:30 AM	Bill Lindman	9:30 AM	Kim Barbaro
	Crucifer	Erin Milano				
5/19	9:30 AM		9:30 AM	AM Dorothy Richetti	9:30 AM	Dot Richetti
Pentecost	Crucifer	Jason Pace		AM Dorothy Criscuolo		
	Gospel Bearer	Jesse Pace				
	Torch Bearer	Katie Lenz				
	Torch Bearer	Elizabeth Hanson				
5/26	9:30 AM	Matt Fernež	9:30 AM	Andrew Dunn	9:30 AM	Susan Masciello
Holy Trinity Sunday	Crucifer	Matt Fernež				

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 678-6623

Jill Pace: Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch bearers and Gospel bearers- 599-8896

Claire Lenz: Lectors - 872-2063