



ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER

February 2015

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Services

9:30 AM

Sunday School Classes (K-Grade 6)

9:30 AM

♥ Calendar of Events for February 2015 ~

Sunday, February 15	Worship 9:30 am – Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday School goes to Worship Fasnacht & Coffee after worship LAST DAY TO DROP OFF PALMS FROM LAST YEAR
Wednesday, February 18	Ash Wednesday Worship Service 7:30 pm NO Confirmation Class 7:30 pm
Thursday, February 19	Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
Sunday, February 22	Worship 9:30 am – First Sunday of Lent Sunday School goes to Worship
Wednesday, February 25	Confirmation Class 7:00 pm

March

Sunday, March 1	Worship 9:30 am – Second Sunday of Lent Sunday School & Nursery Program Installation of Council Members Worship & Music Meeting after worship
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ST. JOHN'S LENTEN SCHEDULE 2015



Wednesday, February 18 th *	Ash Wednesday Worship – 7:30 pm (includes the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion)
Thursday, February 26	Bread, Bowl & Bible – Soup and Bread – 6:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer – 7:00 pm
Thursday, March 5	Bread, Bowl & Bible – Soup and Bread – 6:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer – 7:00 pm
Thursday, March 12	Bread, Bowl & Bible – Soup and Bread – 6:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer – 7:00 pm
Thursday, March 19	Bread, Bowl & Bible – Soup and Bread – 6:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer – 7:00 pm
Wednesday, March 25	SW Nassau Conference Lenten Worship – 7:30 pm Here at St. John's.

***If you cannot attend worship that evening, Pastor Alex will be offering “ashes to go” at the Lynbrook train station on Wednesday morning from 6:30 am to 8:30 am.**



*Remember man
that you are
dust and into
dust you shall
return.*

SERVERS FOR FEBRUARY 2015 – 9:30 AM

DATE	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
2/15	Kyle O'Connor	Kyle O'Connor	Dorothy Criscuolo	Bill Benson	Heidi Scalza & Susan Masciello
Ash Wed 2/18	Service is at 7:30 PM	N/A	Dorothy Criscuolo	Anna Lenz	Dorothy & Vito Richetti
2/22	Victoria Ramirez	N/A	Bill Lindman	Bill Lindman	Bill Benson & Janet Pescatore

If you cannot serve on a day you are scheduled, please find a replacement and notify the church office and the appropriate coordinator:

Church Office: Assisting Ministers 678-6623

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

Claire Lenz: Lectors - 872-2063

Ushers: Pauline Feltkamp

SERVERS FOR MARCH 2015 – 9:30 AM

DATE	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
3/1	Emma Lenz	N/A	Need volunteer	Need volunteer	Kevin Hanson & Kevin Hanson Jr.
3/8	Kaitlyn Gavin	N/A	Andrew Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Susan Masciello & Dorothy Criscuolo
3/15	Elizabeth Hanson	N/A	Claire Lenz	Claire Lenz	Richard Dietrich & Bill Benson
3/22	Christopher Dunn	N/A	Hank Lenz	Hank Lenz	Doug & Kristina Palmer
PALM SUN 3/29	Kyle O'Connor	Kyle O'Connor	Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	Debby & Bill Lindman
FOR PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP		TORCH BEARERS: Ashley Gavin & Victoria Dunn GOSPEL BEARER: Erin Milano			

Assisting Ministers, Lectors, Acolytes and Crucifers are needed at St. John's. It is a wonderful way to serve during service. It is small commitment of 1-2 Sundays every three months. Anyone who has made their First Communion is eligible. If you are interested please contact the church office

✝ *A Message from Pastor Alex ~*

I've decided to spice things up this month by beginning my article with a fun little survey... well, I think it's fun but then again, I'm a liturgical pastor so bear with me and just play along 😊

Please rank the six primary seasons of the church year in order from your favorite (1) to your least favorite (6):

Spicy, I know...

_____ Advent

_____ Christmas

_____ Easter

_____ Epiphany

_____ Lent

_____ Pentecost

My guess is that for the season of Lent, you probably put a five or a six. Am I right? It's okay; you can be honest here. This is not a test for your salvation.

It's not surprising that most of us aren't exactly smitten with Lent. It's a solemn and serious time – a season of confession, repentance, almsgiving, prayer, and fasting. Not exactly the most delightful things to do as a Christian. Just “giving up” one thing for Lent can be hard enough!

That being said, it certainly doesn't mean that we have to be sad and miserable for 40 days. Yes, Lent can be very challenging, but it can also be very meaningful and transformative. It's a season that takes us on a journey of faith, consistently reminding us where we have come from and where we are headed – a place where forgiveness and eternal life await.

So join us this Lenten season as we take this journey together once again. In addition to our regular Sunday services at 9:30am, we invite you to gather with us for “Bread, Bowl & Bible” on Thursday evenings beginning at 6:00pm. Not only will we “break bread” together, but we will also worship together afterwards using Marty Haugen's *Holden Evening Prayer*. If you haven't experienced this service yet, I HIGHLY recommend it.

God's Blessings to you this Lent,

Pastor Alex

NEW YEAR, NEW COUNCIL



INTRODUCING THE 2015 CHURCH COUNCIL

President	Dorothy Criscuolo
Vice-President	Daniel Lenz
Secretary	Kim Carlstrom
Council Members	Charlene Comastri
	Andrew Dunn
	Pauline Feltkamp
	Bill Lindman
	Ursula Lipitz
	Susan Masciello
	Doug Palmer
	Joan Pirrone
	Cora Sarver

Bruce Feltkamp will continue as our Treasurer.
Joan Pirrone will take on the position of Financial Secretary and continue as our Financial Recording Secretary.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO ST. JOHN'S



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
LYNBROOK, NY
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
February 1, 2015

Janet Pescatore, outgoing Council President, called the 101st annual congregational meeting to order. The meeting opened with devotions by Pastor Alex Kennedy. After approving the agenda for the meeting, members reviewed last year's minutes. Motion was made and carried to accept minutes as presented, and we moved on to Pastor's report.

Pastor Kennedy addressed some of the new things he did here at St. John's over the last year. He became chaplain of the Lynbrook Fire Department. He was also asked to participate and be a part of a community coalition on Drug Awareness. He initiated Vacation Bible School, and attended a retreat with members of the current confirmation class. He just completed a 4-day workshop for Pastors who are in their first few years of ministry, and he is looking forward to this year and beyond here at St. John's.

Following Pastor's report, Bruce Feltkamp presented the Treasurer's Report. We reviewed the 2014 budget. We received \$5,000 to be put in our Bequest Fund from Allison Koehler in memory of Bob Koehler. He discussed how in six months, our congregation raised over \$26,000 to go toward our new Air Conditioning system. We should have the new system up and running this year. We came in under budget on Pastor's healthcare costs because he is single and we budgeted for the family cost. Also, our heating bill came in under budget due to a slightly warmer winter last year. Our deficit was \$14,526.22. We reviewed the Statement of Fund Balances. Motion was made and carried to accept Treasurer's report as presented.

Motion was made, and carried, to accept the Ministry reports as presented, to be read at leisure by members of the congregation.

Old Business:

Memorial Garden: Last year we approved to the use of the outside garden as a Memorial Garden. A stone is being designed to go in front of the statue of Christ. It will take approx. 2-3 months to be installed. It will match the granite and shape of the base of the stature. Claire Lenz will work on setting up a protocol for the use of the Memorial Garden. Currently, there are 3-4 families who are interested in burying the ashes of their loved ones there.

Organist: St. John's hired Judy Pang as our organist. She is currently working on her doctorate in Piano Performance. We are blessed to have such a talented musician to help us in our worship.

New Business:

Floor was open to questions/discussion regarding worship and ministry. Pastor raised a few questions about why attendance has been down for the last few months (when you compare year to year). We discussed one service vs. two services. We also discussed setting aside designated church time for the Sunday School to attend so the children could get to know Pastor better by being around him during worship.

It was mentioned that Vacation Bible School was a great opportunity for the children to get to know Pastor as he was completely involved in the week of activities of VBS.

Janet encouraged members to volunteer and participate in VBS. It would be great for evangelism and stewardship within our church and our community.

We also discussed why some churches are thriving and have many active members and what we could possibly do as a congregation to see that happen here at St. John's. Pastor encouraged preaching stewardship as a year-round thing.

We currently have no active youth group. Hoping that will change as some of the older children from Sunday School move on and get involved.

Motion was made, and approved to end discussion and move on with the meeting.

Our Nominating Committee came up with five people to join Council this year. They are:

1. Dorothy Criscuolo
2. Ursula Lipitz
3. Douglas Palmer
4. Joan Pirrone
5. Andrew Dunn

Thanks to Cora and her committee for their diligence in getting these members to volunteer to replace the outgoing council members.

Bruce Feltkamp spoke about our proposed 2015 budget. He indicated that it includes a deficit of \$23,755. We currently have 82 pledging units. Pastor discussed the reality of our financial situation and the need to bridge the gap between income and expenses.

Motion was made, and approved, to accept the 2015 budget as presented.

Janet Pescatore volunteered to chair the Harvest Festival. Anna Lenz and Karen Feltkamp volunteered to help her. Dan Lenz was asked to be Lawn Care Coordinator again and he said he would post a flyer and try to recruit some new volunteers to help. Thanks to Vinnie Masciello for his help with snow removal.

Next year's Nominating Committee was elected. It will be Cora Sarver, Anna Lenz and Daniel Gonzalez.

Janet Pescatore and Dennis Fernéz volunteered to be auditors. They will have to audit 2013 and 2014.

Next was the election of delegates to the Synod Assembly in Melville, NY from May 29 - May 30, 2015. Dottie Criscuolo and Allison Koehler will be attending. Pauline Feltkamp will be the alternate.

Before ending the meeting, Pastor said we will be having mid-week Lenten services to be held on Thursday nights during the five weeks of Lent. "Bowl, Bread & Bible" will be the theme. Each week volunteers will bring soup and bread at 6:00PM, followed by Holden Evening prayer service at 7:00PM. Choir rehearsal will be right after the service at 7:30PM. We had enough volunteers who agreed to bring soup or bread to cover all five weeks.

There was a motion to adjourn. Pastor Kennedy led the congregation in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Carlstrom
Council Secretary



COUNCIL MINUTES FEBRUARY 1, 2015

A brief meeting was held directly after the annual congregational meeting to discuss officers of the council. Bruce greed to stay on as Treasurer. Kimberly Carlstrom agreed to stay on as Council Secretary. Joan Pirrone agreed to stay on as Financial Recording Secretary, but she said we would be combining Financial Secretary and Financial Recording Secretary because Joseph Richetti had sent her a letter stating he was no longer going to do it.

We are still seeking volunteers for the positions of President and Vice-President and council members at this meeting agreed we would be table it until our next regularly scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 8:00PM.



Donations have been made to the
St. John's Memorial Fund
in memory of
Nelma McMenamin
by The Richetti Family
by Karen & Bruce Feltkamp



Donations have been made to the
St. John's Air Conditioner Fund
in memory of
Nelma McMenamin by Gerda Weber
Mary Kennedy by Pauline Feltkamp
Mary Kennedy by Cora & Don Sarver
Mary Kennedy by Joan Pirrone



Did you know that the flowers behind the altar are real? Of course you did! These vibrant and colorful flowers are one of the many things that make our sanctuary such a beautiful and sacred space. Unfortunately, fresh flowers like these are not free, and being that we have them nearly every Sunday (except during Advent and Lent), these altar flowers become a significant expense for the church.

So if you're looking for an easy way to support St. John's and our ministry, how about sponsoring the altar flowers for a particular Sunday? You can give them in memory of a loved one, in honor of a special event such as a baptism, birthday, first communion, wedding anniversary, etc., or simply to the glory of God. It's totally up to you! We will include your name and designation in the bulletin for that morning and you can take the flowers home with you following the service. If the flowers are not claimed, they will be given to a homebound member or someone else to brighten up their day!

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, there are envelopes in the pews that you can fill out or you can contact Andrea in the church office. Your generous support of this ministry is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



BREAD, BOWL & BIBLE

Starting at 6:00 PM on February 26th, March 5th, March 12th, and March 19th, we will be trying something new here at St. John's called "Bread, Bowl, and Bible" – a deeply religious experience in breaking bread together as a family in Christ in the Knotty Pine room, followed by a worship service with Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. We have already found some folks who will prepare soup and bread for these four Thursday meals; all you have to do is show up! You can even bring a friend or neighbor if you like!

So please join us as we enjoy some homemade family recipes and worship together. You will be fed physically and spiritually – what's better than that!?



THIS AND THAT...

In 2014 St. John's donated
1,317 lbs. of food
to the New Life Center!
Can we top this in 2015?

Dear Council Members and Congregation,
Thank you for the generosity in sponsoring
me with the fifty dollars to go to the
Confirmation retreat. I had a great time!
We did many activities such as the trust walk
and the meditation hike. Over that weekend,
our group bonded through these activities.

Victoria Dunn

The Girl Scouts of the ELLM Association thank
St. John's Church for allowing them to use the
church for their annual Bake Off and Badge
workshop. Over 75 scouts participated in the
event and a big thank you to Pastor Alex for
being a Bake Off judge.

The winning cake was a delicious carrot cake.

Karen Feltkamp

Many thanks to our College and High
School Students for reading at our
Lessons and Carols Worship Service
on December 28th:

Ryan Milano, Maggie Milano,
David Powell, Kristin Lindman,
Jesse Pace, Carrie Feltkamp,
Mike Fernéz

Fashnacht Sunday
February 15th
after worship

ST. JOHN'S IS GOING BOWLING!

Sunday, March 22, 2015

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

RVC Lanes in Rockville Centre

2 hours of bowling w/ shoes + slice of pizza & soda

For only \$12 per bowler!

*To register, look for the sign-up sheet posted in the narthex or
call the church office at (516) 599-0778.*

Friends, relatives, and neighbors are all welcome!

**Deadline to RSVP & submit payment is March 15th.
Please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church.**



SEASONAL CHOIR BEGINS



Like to sing? Thought about joining the choir, but can't commit to coming all year-round? Here's your chance to share your gift of music on a short-term basis! Come Thursday nights at 7:30 PM, to prepare to help lead the congregation in song during worship on Palm Sunday (March 29) and Easter Sunday (April 5).

Everyone – male & female; young adult & “senior”; soprano, alto, tenor, or bass – is welcome.

Have questions? Talk with Allison Koehler, choir director.

Looking for a church home?

If you are interested in becoming a member of St. John's, or know someone who may be interested, please contact Pastor Alex at the church office or email him at rev.alexkennedy@gmail.com

Pastor Alex will be starting First Communion Classes. If you have a child that would like to receive First Communion, please contact Pastor Alex at the church office or email him at rev.alexkennedy@gmail.com

Empire Safety Council Defensive Driving course is being offered at St. John's on March 21, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The cost is \$30.00 per student. Drivers who complete this 6 hour defensive driving class save 10% on their liability, personal injury protection, and collision insurance for 3 years



Invite a Friend

GOD'S WORK - OUR HANDS



FROM PINECREST

Dear Pastor Alex,

On behalf of the community of Pinecrest – campers, staff, faculty and alumni – I want to thank you and the members of ST. John's for your recent gift to us as part of the proceeds from your Harvest Festival.

Your support for our ministry is so appreciated.

I am happy to let you know that Pinecrest continues to grow and reach out with the good news of Jesus for young people and alumni alike. I have recently “retired” as Director but a close colleague of your Pastor Danielle Miller, has been elected to bring this ministry to a new place.

As financial needs grow we offer more scholarships and your support helps us welcome more people.

Thank you again and my God bless your discipleship,

*In Christ,
Pastor Paul*

From
Recipients
of
Christmas
Gifts



a
Very
Special
Thank
you

New Life
Center
Uniondale



I am forever grateful
for your generosity
and kindness.

I am currently
unemployed, so this
means so much.

I am sure my
children will enjoy
the gifts. Thank you.

Francis Family

JoA Special Group
of Peoples
Thanks

Ronald Evers

Thank you very
much.

by such beautiful
gifts.

We are happy 😊

Thank You

Thankyou verymuch.

my daughter and I appreciate you thinking about us on christmas she enjoyed oppening her presents and she loved everything. I am very grateful to you. you all are in our prayers, may god bless you and your family and have a happy new year.

Tiana
&
Sophia

To all the staff and helpers at the pantry - I wish you for the help you give me and my family. I appreciate your help again and yours.

Love,
Victor
Curtis

Margaret Johnson

Thank you
So very much
for helping
me + my famel
during Christma
We appreciate
all you have
done. Bless you
God Bless you



Lutheran Social Services of New York

Administrative Office
475 Riverside Dr. Suite 1244
New York, NY 10115-0046

Ph: 212.870.1100
Fx: 212.870.1101
www.lssny.org

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& families

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hunger prevention

HOME LIFE
safe & affordable housing

IGNITE YOUR LIFE
aging with purpose
& passion

LIFE CARE CLINIC
quality healthcare
for children

LIFE LEARNING
innovative urban education

LIFE SAVERS
volunteer services

LIFE SHIELD
support for immigrants
& refugees

PROJECT LIFE
disaster response & recovery

NEW LIFE ADOPTION
connecting children
to families

THE NEW LIFE SCHOOL
educating children with
special needs

YOUNG ADULT LIFE
developing tomorrow's leaders

February 5, 2015

St. John's Lutheran Church
13 Blake Avenue
Lynbrook, NY 11563-2600

Dear Generous Supporter,

Lutheran Social Services of New York has been serving individuals, families and communities since that very first child came into our care in 1886. On behalf of all of those we have cared for since then, I want to express my deep gratitude for your generous contribution of \$500.00, and 521 lbs. of Food to our New LIFE Center Long Island program. Your commitment to the work we do through this compassionate gift ensures that the agency can continue to serve daily in its mission of encouraging and assisting all people to reach their full potential.

We are blessed each and every day that you and countless other benefactors through the years have supported our ministries and, with that support, that we have been able to help people in need improve their lives. Your gift today connects you with those who gave life and hope in the past, and continues to encourage people in moving from survival to abundance.

Please stay in touch with us and our ministries at LSSNY.org, on Facebook and on Twitter. Thank you for your presence and participation in living out our mission of service.

Ronald S. Drews
President and CEO

Thank you for your generous support of Lutheran Social Services of New York. All gifts are tax-deductible, as defined by the Internal Revenue Service. No goods or services were provided in return for this contribution.

Please remember Lutheran Social Services of New York in your Estate Planning – Contact Christine Connell at 212-870-1124 or cconnell@lssny.org.

**Lutheran Initiative for Enrichment*



New LIFE Center

(115.)

CHURCH FOOD DONATIONS 2014

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
Advent L. Ch. 1840 Atherton Ave. Elmont	50												50
Ascension L. Ch. 145 Franklin Ave. Franklin Square				144			82			66			292
Bethlehem L. Church 1375 Grand Ave. Baldwin			71			30		95	44				335
Calvary L. Ch. 36 Taylor Ave. East Meadow	412		365	420					120	213	385		1915
Christ Cristo Ev. L. Ch. PO Box 6 Freeport	50		51			56			59		75		291
Christ Ev. L. Ch. 300 Hillside Dr. South New Hyde Park				80			90				261	123	554
Christ Ev. L. Ch. 57 Spooner St. Floral Park	59		142	108	65	40	65	36	85	116	280	100	1096
Christ L. Ch. 3384 Island Rd. Wantagh				41	27	7			2400				2475
Faith Ev. L. Ch. 231 Jackson Ave. Syosset	40		54	954		12	104	20			694	111	1989
Gloria Dei L. Ch. 600 New Hyde Park Dr. New Hyde Park		94	405	168	59			545	160	60	206	178	1002
Good Shepherd L. Ch. 99 Central Park Rd. Plainview		120	415			131					1243		2782
Good Shepherd L. Ch. 3434 Hempstead Turnpike Levittown	87	124		130	98		153		209		231	250	1282
Grace Ev. L. Ch. 1294 Bellmore Ave. North Bellmore	357	179	105	189	92	233	144	107	100	96	284	237	2123
Grace L. Church 400 Hempstead Ave. Malverne	90	109		150		116		109		39	178	43	834
Grace L. Church 311 Uniondale Ave. Uniondale	63	56	114	26	42	41	43	10	56	28	87	27	593
Holy Trinity L. Ch. 240 Lincoln Ave. Rockville Centre	161	162	178	206	147	230	262	858	538	1354	869	205	5170
Iglesia Luterana Resurreccion 311 Uniondale Ave. Uniondale													
L. Ch. of Our Saviour 132 Jefferson Ave. Mineola			113	86	41		52	87	87	165	300	78	1009
L. Ch. of Our Saviour 12 Franklin Ave. Port Washington	50	76		740							1002		1868
L. Ch. of Our Saviour 888 Rockaway Ave. Valley Stream	124			180				65		54	120		543
L. Ch. of the Epiphany 35 Fulton Ave. Hempstead		30	36			65		172		89	249		641
L. Ch. of the Resurrection, 420 Stewart Ave. Garden City	246	206	268	171	71	101	102	144	216	70	2629	186	4410
L. Ch. of the Incarnation 411 Bayview Ave. Cedarhurst													
L. Ch. of the Good Shepherd 230 Brookside Ave. Roosevelt							112						209
New Hope L. Ch. 60 Oliver Ave. Valley Stream							254						484
Oceanside L. Ch. 62 Davidson Ave. Oceanside			171		78		308	335	27	74	29	83	1105
Our Redeemer L. Ch. 2025 Washington Ave. Seaford		264		1125	283		965		5166		4734		12537
Our Savior's L. Ch. 16 Glenwood Rd. Glen Head	132		122	81						74	78	179	666
Our Savior's L. Ch. 1901 Northern Blvd. Manhasset	82	298		107	13			84	26		123		733
St. Andrew Ev. L. Ch. 54 Nassau Blvd. West Hempstead	43	42		63	29		6	133		10	50	109	485
St. Davids L. Ch. 20 Clark Blvd. Mass Pk 11762	100	159	94	198	948		171	43	1350	275	70	160	3568
St. James L. Ch. 116 Elton Rd. Stewart Manor				75				350	90		225		740
St. John Ev. L. Ch. 13 Blake Ave. Lynbrook	90	75	120				425				86	521	1317
St. John L. Church 2150 Centre Ave. Bethpage													
St. Johns L. Church 1 Vann Roo Ave, Merrick 11566			72	168	15	258	43	180	28		172	69	1005
St. Johns L. Church 47 Winthrop St, Williston Pk 11596	210	200	222	202	139	209	114	81	202	315	280	251	2425
St. John's L. Ch. 2150 Centre Ave, Bellmore		120	160			94	25	50			132	135	716

