

September
2012

The MESSENGER

St. John's Lutheran Church/ 516-599-0778

www.stjohnslynbrook.org

A Message from Pastor Jeff Laustsen~

“But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.” – James 1:22.

Labor Day is a federal holiday observed on the first Monday in September that celebrates the economic and social contributions of workers. Since the 19th Century, the day has been set aside to pay tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers. It also symbolizes the unofficial end of summer, and is celebrated with parties, parades, and athletic events in communities across both the United States and Canada.

Labor Day has also had another meaning for many people: it means that summer vacation is over, and school is about to begin. While it was meant to be a holiday (and was the weekend when my family gathered at Culver Lake for our annual Laustsen family picnic), it was a day of sadness for me and my friends, because it meant that within a matter of days we would once again have to go back to school, back to our regular routines, and back to coming home to homework. Labor Day for us meant that it was time to get back to work.

While Labor Day is neither the beginning of a new calendar year nor a new church year, for many congregations Labor Day marks the beginning of a new year of church activity. The Sunday after Labor Day is traditionally Rally Day, when we begin a new year of Christian education in our Sunday schools. September is the beginning of many new activities in our congregations; it is also a time when we welcome many newcomers who are searching for a church home. Even though the church never takes a “summer vacation” (as we hear in our Communion service, *“it is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should **at all times and in all places** give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ”*), it is a time when the slower pace of summer is replaced by the renewed energy of our fall programs. Labor Day reminds us as Christians that it is time for us to be *“doers of the word,”* to get to work on the ministry our Lord has entrusted to us as the Body of Christ.

For the people of St. John's, this Labor Day brings with it a unique time of celebration as the congregation celebrates its 100th anniversary of mission and witness to the Lynbrook community. It is the culmination of many months of hard work and dedication on the part of many people, and this month's celebration will be a time to give thanks to God for all who have labored at St. John's so that the love of God may be known to all. It is my privilege as coverage pastor to share this time of celebration with you, and to work with you during these days of transition and discernment as you begin your second century in service to our Lord and Savior.

I hope you all had a great summer (I have fond memories of our trip to Utah and our time on the beach in Cape May, NJ); but now that Labor Day is here, it's time to get back to work in the name of Jesus Christ!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jeff Laustsen

P.S. – As coverage pastor, you won't be seeing me at Sunday worship, but I am available for any pastoral care needs during the week. I can be reached via my cell phone (516-244-8827) or email: laustsen@optonline.net.

SUMMER NOTES:

St. John's had a busy summer. Council met on Aug 7th with Pastor Jeff Laustsen and all went well. Council began work on putting together the Ministry Site Profile. To continue putting the profile together we need your help. In this month's Messenger there is an attachment copy of the profile questionnaire. If each of you would fill this out and return it to St. John's it would be invaluable to the profile committee. This Ministry Site Profile must be done before a Call Committee is chosen. Please return your completed profiles as soon as possible. You can either mail them to St. John's or leave them in the offering plate. Thank you in advance for taking the time to contribute to this important part in the Call Process.

In trying to be sure our worship services continued without a pastor, we had a wonderful worship experience on Sunday August 26th. Since we did not have traditional pastoral coverage, Bruce Feltkamp and Dorothy Richetti agreed to preside at our Sunday Worship. Dorothy spoke to us in an inspiring and heartfelt sermon about communion and faith in our Lord. In relating her own personal experience in faith, she touched so many of us who are on their own journeys of faith. The previous week Pastor Ernst Pflug consecrated enough communion wafers so we would be able to have communion at the Aug. 26th worship. With Judy at the organ and Bruce in the chancel, communion became a wonderful community experience. Bruce chose to have communion in the round with each member giving the bread and wine to the person next to them while saying the words of Christ and ending with the sharing coming back to Bruce. It was such a beautiful, personal experience and truly gave us a deeper sense of what it means to be members of St. John's church community. We are thankful that St. John's is blessed with these three dedicated members to guide us in our worship.

In Other church news: Starting on September 16th Pastor Annemarie Noto will be with us every Sunday to lead us in word and sacrament. Council and the Worship committee have agreed that during our pastoral vacancy we would benefit by having one service each Sunday. We decided that a common convenient time for all members would be to continue with the 9:30 AM worship schedule. So please note that there will be no Winter Schedule change this year. This also means that Sunday School will be held at 9:30 AM as well as the Youth Group meetings. Please watch the bulletin for times each week.

Our 100th Anniversary celebration is fast approaching. On Sept 30th we will have a special 10 AM service. Please note that this is a special time because we had already made arrangements with Bishop Rimbo to preach at the service and for the following reception at Pompeii Restaurant.

If you have not received your invitation and plan to attend the reception, please call Joan Pirrone at 593 4922 or the church office at 599-0778. There is also a response form in this month's messenger that can be completed and either mailed or dropped off at the church. Please respond with your payment as soon as possible so final arrangements can be made.

You may have noticed that the parsonage is active again! That is because on August 10th Pastors Michael and Terri Church and their 5 year old son Theodore have moved in. Pastor Terri and Michael were missionaries to Romania and have returned to the US. The NY Synod, who sponsor our missionaries have rented the parsonage from St. John's so the Church family has a place to live while they wait for a call or we have need of the house for our future pastor. This is truly a blessing for St. John's because it gives us an additional income and keeps the house occupied. Both Pastors have offered their services to preach if we have a need. Theodore is already enrolled in the Kindergarten Center in Lynbrook school district. We welcome Terri, Michael and Theodore to our community.

And finally, please remember:

1. We will have only one worship service on Sundays at 9:30 am
2. Send in your responses for the 100th anniversary as soon as possible
3. Sunday school begins 9/16 at 9:30 am. The first Youth Group meeting will also be held on 9/16 at 9:30
4. The Harvest Festival will be held on October 14th. Items for the Bric- a-Brac sale should be dropped off in the Church's auditorium. If you would like to donate an AWESOME prize for our Raffle Table please contact Pauline or the church office as soon as possible.

In His love.

Pauline Feltkamp

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

PARSONAGE PREPARATIONS:

A big thank you to Joan Pirrone and Pauline Feltkamp for helping get the parsonage in Tip Top Shape for Pastors Terri and Michael Church and their son Theodore.

KEEPING IT GREEN:

A big thank you to Bruce Feltkamp for trimming the shrubs in front of the church, keeping them green and growing!

KITCHEN CONNECTION:

A big thank you to Bill Davison for installing a new side spray in the sacristy kitchen.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

THANKS FOR A SUCCESSFUL BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE!

This summer we again had an appeal to collect Back to School Supplies for families in the area that we live in that are needy. Again the Holy Spirit was working within us all; again the members of our church family saw and felt the need to help others and not to just feel the need within to help ourselves and our current needs. As usual we should feel proud of ourselves. As evangelists it is always better to give to others, than to receive. We will receive our bounty in heaven. Peace and Love, Evangelism Committee

ST. JOHN'S FUND DONATIONS

A gift was given to the St. John's Fund in memory of Regina Wellington Davison by Bill Davison.

ST. JOHN'S MEMORIAL FUND

A gift was given to the St. John's Memorial Fund in memory of Irene Muck by Carol Clemente and Dorothy Criscuolo.

THE BARBARA SEMMIG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Gifts were given to the Barbara Semmig Memorial Scholarship fund as follows:	
Nan Moser	in memory of her husband William Moser.
Nan Moser and Family	in memory of William Moser's birthday.
Ann Rothman	in memory of Pastor Conrado Castrence
Cora Sarver and Family	in memory of William Moser.
WELCA	in memory of William Moser.

**THE RECIPIENTS OF THE BARBARA SEMMIG MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP SAY THANK YOU**

Dear Nan Moser, Cora Sarver and Pauline Feltkamp,

I'D like to thank WELCA for awarding me a Barbara Semmig Scholarship. I plan on using it to purchase schoolbooks and further my education. St. John's has always been a large part of my life, and I greatly appreciate receiving such a generous gift from it.

Sincerely,
Chris Powell

Dear Members of the Barbara Semmig Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for your generous scholarship. The award will help me reach my goals during college. I appreciate the generosity. Thanks again!

Sincerely,
Ryan Dusenbury

Dear WELCA Members,

Thank you so much for the very generous Barbara Semmig Scholarship Award. I really appreciate it! I truly enjoy being a part of the St. John's family, and will never forget you guys while I am at Marist. Thanks again!

Love,
Danielle Dake

Dear WELCA,

I want to thank you for the generous Barbara Semmig Scholarship Award. I am honored that I received this scholarship. St. John's Church has been a big part of my life and I appreciate your gift. This will be helpful in getting ready for college.

Sincerely,
Carrie Feltkamp

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

*Our next meeting will be on Sunday, September 16th at 9:30 am.
Please note the time change!!!*

The first Youth Group activity/project has already begun. We are collecting donations for a Youth shelter on Long Island. Please see further information in this newsletter, weekly bulletins, and posted in the narthex that give details on the items most needed. All donations are due no later than September 23rd. The Youth Group will then organize and deliver these items to the shelter in early October.

Lori Fernez & Janet Powell
❖

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR GRADES K THROUGH 6TH
Classes begin Sunday, September 16th at 9:30 AM

HARVEST FESTIVAL NEWS

BRIC-A-BRAC - HARVEST FESTIVAL 2012

Please bring all of your merchandise down to the stage in the auditorium as soon as possible. All of your items are greatly appreciated for the upcoming sale. WE will be holding pre-sales on Sept. 23rd & Oct. 7th. Thanking you! The Bric-A-Brac Committee



HARVEST FESTIVAL RAFFLE DONATIONS

The raffle table has always been one of the Harvest Festival's biggest fundraisers. If anyone would like to donate an "AWESOME" item that will generate ticket sales or if you know a company or business that would like to donate, please contact the church office via email or phone by September 15th. Thank you. Harvest Festival Committee

BUILD A SCARECROW

We are going to have the inaugural Build-a Scarecrow table at this year's 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:

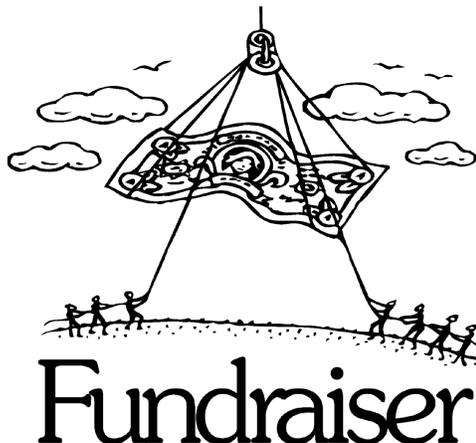
1. Long sleeve shirts (Flannels preferably for the authentic scarecrow look, adult or children sizes)
2. Pants...denim or carpenter pants or whatever you can spare. (again, adult or children sizes)
3. Any wood or lumber that could be used to make the armatures for the scarecrows. Just need something 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, and then attach it to an armature so the scarecrow can be planted in your yard.

If you 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 place them in the bin in the Narthex.

Thanks for any donations you can make for this effort!

Dan Gonzalez
spammesilly@gmail.com



Calendar of Events – September 2012
SEPTEMBER

Sunday, 9/2	Worship, 9:30 AM
Monday, 9/3	Labor Day
Tuesday, 9/4	Church Council, 8 PM
Wednesday, 9/5	Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 9/9	Worship, 9:30 AM – New Fall Worship Schedule 9:30 AM
Tuesday, 9/11	Worship & Music committee, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 9/12	Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 9/16	Worship, 9:30 AM RALLY DAY for Sunday School, 9:30 AM Youth Group Meeting, 9:30 AM
Tuesday, 9/18	W.E.L.C.A. Meeting, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 9/19	Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 9/23	Worship, 9:30 AM Sunday School, 9:30 AM NO EVANGALISM MEETING
Tuesday, 9/25	Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 9/26	100 th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Sunday, 9/30	Worship at 10:00 AM , Reception at Pompei at 12:30 PM

And looking forward...

Wednesday, 10/3	Confirmation Classes begin in Oceanside
Sunday, 10/14	Harvest Festival

SERVERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2012

DATE	ACOLYTES		ASSISTING MINISTERS		LECTORS	
9/2	9:30 AM	Jennifer Dalton	9:30 AM	Michael Ferneź	9:30 AM	Arlene Moglia
9/9	10:00 AM	Jason Pace	10:00 AM	Janet Pescatore	10:00 AM	Janet Pescatore
9/16	10:00 AM	Erin Milano	10:00 AM	Karen Feltkamp	10:00 AM	Karen Feltkamp
9/23	10:00 AM	Jesse Pace	10:00 AM	Susan Masciello	10:00 AM	Anna Lenz
	Crucifer	Michael Ferneź				
9/30	10:00 AM	Matt Ferneź	10:00 AM	AM Dorothy Criscuolo	10:00 AM	Bruce Feltkamp
100 th Anniversary	Crucifer	Jason Pace		AM Dorothy Richetti		
Worship	Torch Bearer	Kyle O'Connor				
& Dinner	Torch Bearer	Ryan Milano				
	Gospel Bearer	David Powell				

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

Claire Lenz - Lectors: 872-2063

Jill Pace - Acolytes and Torch bearers: 599-8896



Youth helping Youth:

PLEASE HELP ST. JOHN'S YOUTH GROUP COLLECT DONATIONS FOR A LONG ISLAND YOUTH SHELTER!

The Seabury Barn Program in Mount Sinai, NY provides a safe haven for boys and girls, ages 12 through 17, who are experiencing a family crisis. These children are homeless or runaways due to domestic violence, child abuse, substance abuse, abandonment or neglect. During these troubled economic times, they are in great need of supplies to help these children during their stay at the shelter.

St. John's Youth Group is beginning a collection through September 23rd to help provide items needed at the shelter. We will be organizing and delivering all donations in early October. Anything you could donate would be greatly appreciated. **Please leave donations in the box labeled "Donations for Youth Shelter" by September 23rd.**

Items most Needed:

Shampoo & conditioners

Q-tips

Toothpaste (but no toothbrushes, please)

Deodorant

Sanitary napkins

Soap

Tissues

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

Other toiletries not listed here

Towels

Linens (twin size)

Blankets (twin size)

Boxer Shorts (any Boys size small through XL)

Socks (boys or girls sizes)

Other Items Appreciated by the youth shelter;

Small gift cards (ex. \$5) to Walmart, Target, 7-11, Movies

*Books (appropriate for ages 12 – 17)

*CDs or DVDs (nothing R-rated or explicit)

*board games

*hand held video games

*video games for Nintendo Wii, PlayStation

** All items marked with asterisk may be new **or** used (but in acceptable condition)

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND
GENEROSITY!!**

St. John's Lutheran Church
Is Celebrating the
100th Anniversary of
"Sharing God's Love"
On Sunday, September 30, 2012
Worship Service at St. John's – 10:00 AM
Followed by a Reception
12:30 – 4:30 PM
at Pompei Restaurant
401 Hempstead Avenue
West Hempstead, NY 11552

We would be honored if you would join us for the festivities.
Reception Tickets are: Adults: \$40.00
Children under 12: \$20.00
(Make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church)
Please RSVP by September 9th

St. John's Lutheran Church 100th Anniversary Reception
September 30, 2012 – Pompei restaurant

Name _____

How many will attend?

Adults _____

Children _____

I/We prefer to sit with:

Please enclose your check made payable to St. John's Lutheran Church.
RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 9TH so final arrangements can be made.

