



# **ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER**

## **November 2013**

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Worship Services**

**9:30 AM**

**Sunday School Classes (K-Grade 6)**

**9:30 AM**

**Confirmation Classes (7-8 Grades)**

**Wednesdays 7:00 PM**

## Calendar of Events for November 2013 ~

|                        |                                                                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, November 17    | Worship, 9:30 AM<br>Sunday School 9:30 AM                                   |
| Tuesday, November 19   | W.E.L.C.A. Meeting 7:30 PM                                                  |
| Wednesday, November 20 | Confirmation Class 7:00 PM                                                  |
| Thursday, November 21  | Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM<br>New Member Class 7:30 PM                         |
| Sunday, November 24    | Worship 9:30 AM – Christ the King<br>Sunday School 9:30 AM                  |
| Tuesday, November 26   | Evangelism Meeting, 7:30 PM                                                 |
| Wednesday, November 27 | No Confirmation class<br>Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Temple Am Achad |
| Thursday, November 28  | Thanksgiving Day                                                            |

### Looking forward to December.....

|                       |                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, December 1    | Worship 9:30 AM ~ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT<br>Sunday School goes to church!<br>WELCA sponsored <b>Advent Wreath Family Workshop</b> after<br>9:30 AM Worship |
| Tuesday, December 3   | Music and Worship Meeting 7:30 PM                                                                                                                          |
| Wednesday, December 4 | Advent Prayer Service 7:30 PM<br>Confirmation Class 7:30 PM                                                                                                |
| Thursday, December 12 | WELCA sponsored Holiday Luncheon 12:00 PM                                                                                                                  |

## **SERVER SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2013**

| DATE            | ACOLYTES |               | ASSISTING MINISTERS |                 | LECTORS |                 |
|-----------------|----------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| <b>11/17</b>    | 9:30 AM  | Victoria Dunn | 9:30 AM             | Susan Masciello | 9:30 AM | Susan Masciello |
| Christ the King | 9:30 AM  | Jesse Pace    | 9:30 AM             | Roger Vargas    | 9:30 AM | Anna Lenz       |
| <b>11/24</b>    | Crucifer | Jesse Pace    |                     |                 |         |                 |

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

# ***A Message from Pastor Alex ~***

Grace and peace to you from God our Creator and our Lord Jesus Christ!

Thanksgiving is just a few weeks away. Thanksgiving!? Already? Before we know it, Advent and Christmas will be here! It's amazing how the holiday season always seems to sneak up on us. I mean it's not like we don't see the signs. The days have gotten much shorter, the leaves have come down, and the weather is certainly getting colder... I must say that I had a big smile on my face when I saw our first little snowfall this morning ☺ There's the commercials and catalogs with all the must have gifts for the holiday season and the department stores, which have been stocked with Christmas stuff since before Halloween. We can't say we didn't see this coming!

It's funny how quickly time flies. These first three months at St. John's have been a joyful blur. And as I thought about what I wanted to share with you this month, a part of me wanted to avoid the obvious cliché of simply expressing what I'm thankful for. I figured I could offer something more deep, creative, and profound for this Thanksgiving season (Ahh the lofty ambitions of a rookie pastor...). But as I reflect on my time here thus far, I realize that the *only* thing I can do is give my heartfelt thanks and praise to God for all the ways in which I've been blessed this year. I give thanks to our loving and gracious God for blessing me with the opportunity to serve your congregation. I give thanks to the amazing call committee, who put in so much of their time, hard work, and prayer into the call process. And I give thanks to YOU for all the love, respect, and support that you have given me during my short time here. From warm meals and yummy snacks to cough medicine and toys for Jasper and Lily, you have spoiled me with care and kindness. Your honesty and advice has helped me grow in my young ministry. I am a very lucky pastor, and I know that God has placed me in the perfect place for the start of my ministry.

At the end of October, we celebrated my installation here with a worship service and reception and what a marvelous day it was! Words cannot express my thanks and gratitude for all who helped make that day possible. I know that my family really appreciated it as well. Many thanks to those who were involved with the planning and preparation and who donated the food and beverages for the reception. Your thoughtful cards and generous gifts (including two new stoles from the congregation and a special worship book from the call committee) were gracious and undeserved. So again thank you from the bottom of my heart. It was a day that I will never forget.

May you and your loved ones have a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

Peace+

**Pastor Alex**

***If you wish to email Pastor Alex, his email address is: [rev.alexkennedy@gmail.com](mailto:rev.alexkennedy@gmail.com)***

# St. John's News

***Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> begins the Advent Season. During this time we prepare and anticipate Jesus' birth. To symbolize this, we light the Advent wreath each week during Worship. If you and/or your family would like to be a part of lighting the Advent Wreath during Advent, please let us know either by emailing the church office or signing the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.***

*Advent Services will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM in the church. The services will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>.*

## SEASONAL CHOIR

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! We meet Thursday nights at 7:30 PM to prepare for our Christmas Eve Worship Everyone – male & female; young adult & “senior”; soprano, alto, tenor, or bass – is welcome. Starting date to be announced. Interested or have questions? Talk with Allison Koehler, choir director.

***The Pony Express is making its rounds throughout our church community! Keep an eye out for the Stewardship Saddlebag as it makes its way to you.***

Thanks to your generous contributions, we were able to donate over 200 lbs of food to the LSS for the Thanksgiving Baskets!



Donations have been made to the  
St. John's Memorial Fund in memory of  
Frank Whelan  
by Eleanor Haslett and Julia Schramm  
Mike Scalza  
by the Delcastillo Family



## **Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service** **The Lynbrook-East Rockaway Clergy Association**

will hold their annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Prayer Service

Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM

This year the service will take place at

Temple Am Achad

One Saperstein Plaza

Lynbrook

All are invited as we gather as an Inter-Faith Community to

Thank God for his Many Blessings



## ***THE ADVENT WREATH*** ***FAMILY WORKSHOP***

*Sponsored by WELCA*

*Come join us on **December 1<sup>st</sup>** after the 9:30 AM*

*Worship and create your own family advent wreath!*

*A pizza lunch, including soda and dessert will follow.*

*A free-will offering will be received to help cover the*

*costs of pizza and craft supplies.*

*If you will be joining us, please add your name and the number of people attending to the sign up sheet in the narthex call or email the church office.*



*The WELCA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON will be held on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon. Please add your name and the number of guests to the sign up sheet in the narthex or email or call the church office.*

