



ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER

May 2015

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Services

9:30 AM

Sunday School Classes (K-Grade 6)

9:30 AM

Calendar of Events for May 2015~

Sunday, May 3	Worship 9:30 am – Fifth Sunday after Easter Sunday School & Nursery Program – Beanie Bingo Music & Worship Meeting
Wednesday, May 6	Confirmation Class 7:00 pm
Thursday, May 7	Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
Friday, May 8	Brownie Meeting 3:15 pm
Sunday, May 10	Worship 9:30 am – Sixth Sunday after Easter - Mother's Day Sunday School & Nursery Program
Tuesday, May 12	Church Council Meeting 8:00 pm
Wednesday, May 13	Confirmation Class 7:00 pm
Thursday, May 14	Ascension of Our Lord Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
Friday, May 15	Girl Scout Meeting 6:30 pm
Sunday, May 17	Worship 9:30 am – Seventh Sunday after Easter Sunday School & Nursery Program
Wednesday, May 20	Last Confirmation Class 7:00 pm
Thursday, May 21	Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
Sunday, May 24	Worship 9:30 am – PENTECOST
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day- we will be handing out water in front of the church
Thursday, May 28	Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
Friday, May 29 & May 30	Synod Assembly
Sunday, May 31	Worship 9:30 am – Holy Trinity Sunday School Moving Up Day

June:

Sunday, June 7	Worship 9:30 am - CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
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SERVERS FOR MAY 2015 – 9:30 AM

DATE	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
5/3	Elizabeth Hanson	Elizabeth Hanson		Claire Lenz	Dorothy & Vito Richetti
Mother's day 5/10	Kyle O'Connor	Kyle O'Connor	Janet Pescatore	Hank Lenz	Heidi Scalza and Carol Clemente
5/17	Victoria Dunn	Victoria Dunn	Bill Lindman	Debby Lindman	Dan Gonzalez Aurelius Gonzalez
Pentecost 5/24			Susan Masciello	Dan Gonzalez	Dorothy Criscuolo
Trinity Sunday 5/31	Erin Milano	Erin Milano	Kim Carlstrom	Roger Vargas	Doug & Kristina Palmer

SERVER SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2015 -9:30 AM

DATE	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
6/7	Emma Lenz	N/A	Dorothy Criscuolo	Anna Lenz	Claire & Hank Lenz
6/14	Christopher Dunn	N/A	Roger Vargas	Janet Pescatore	Bill & Debby Lindman
Fathers Day 6/21	Kaitlyn Gavin	N/A	Dorothy Richetti	Susan Masciello	Kevin Hanson Kevin Hanson Jr.
6/28	Parker Sloan	N/A	Claire Lenz	Hank Lenz	Jane Sloan 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: Pauline Feltkamp: Ushers 599-2273; Andrea Sommella: Assisting Ministers – church office 599-0778; Jill Pace: Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch bearers & Gospel bearers- 599- 8896
Claire Lenz: Lectors – 872-2063

WE NEED YOUR HELP:

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

*For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me.
~ Matthew 25:16 ~*

Have you ever experienced hunger in your life? I'm not talking about feeling hungry; we've all had the growling stomach from not eating enough or missing a meal. No, I mean real hunger. Actual starvation. Being so severely famished that your body is debilitated and dysfunctional. Do you have any idea what that's like? I certainly do not, and my guess is that you don't either.

We are very fortunate that the experience of hunger is foreign to us, that we've never suffered such a painful craving for sustenance. Sure, we may take part in periods of fasting like during the season of Lent, but that's not hunger. That's a choice to be temporarily hungry. A decision that we make freely knowing that we can start eating again whenever the discomfort becomes too much to bear.

But there is nothing intentional about those who hunger. When food is scarce or inaccessible, opportunities to eat are few and far between. Thus, instead of having the luxury of choosing *when* to eat or *what* to eat like we have, people who hunger are constantly faced with this frightening dilemma: **HOW** are we going to eat?

This is where our call to discipleship becomes vital as we remind ourselves that following Christ is much more than just proclaiming the Gospel. The author of the book of James tells us that without action, our faith accomplishes very little: "If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and you say to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,' and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that?"

There isn't much good in that, and that's why our church commits itself to reach out and share God's unconditional love to the poor, especially those who hunger. Aside from the money that we give to ELCA World Hunger, one of our strongest ministries here at St. John's is our food pantry. Last year, we donated 1,317 lbs of food to the New LIFE Center in Uniondale, which given the size of our congregation, is pretty amazing! I commend you for your faithful generosity, and I encourage you to continue to bring in those canned goods and non-perishables. There are many people and families in our community who need them.

I'm also very excited to share that we are in the beginning stages of planting a vegetable garden, which is located behind the parsonage. This endeavor is being led by our very own Elizabeth Hanson and will serve as her Silver Award project for Girl Scouts. Elizabeth really wants to help people who are hungry and this garden will provide fresh vegetables for her to accomplish just that. Please offer her your encouragement and support. This will be a wonderful new ministry for our congregation in the years to come!

Peace +

Pastor Alex



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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April 12, 2015

Dear Members and Friends of St. John's,

The finance committee would like to thank you all for your donations to the Air Conditioner Fund. Because of your quick and generous response to this fund we will have air conditioning this summer in the church!

We have \$28,522.37 in the fund that includes \$1,464.87 that was left over from the Roof Fund. With the generous donation of \$15,000.00 for Matching Funds by one of our members, we were able to raise \$12,057.50 in a year. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

There was much thought put into the design of the air conditioner system and we thank all who participated in any way to make this possible. Work is already in the process!

God Bless You!

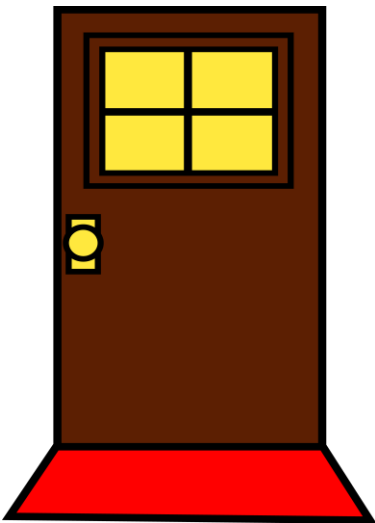
The Finance and Stewardship Committee

Thank You!



Thank you to all those who have joined the Lawn Rangers and have volunteered to keep the grounds of St. John's beautiful!

A big and sincere THANK YOU to Doug Palmer for donating and replacing the augers on our snow blower! This winter your generosity and skill was so appreciated!



Another thank to Doug Palmer for fixing the side door of the church.

Thank you to Joe Pace for replacing the smoke detectors throughout the church.

