

October  
2012

# The MESSENGER

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

www.stjohnslynbrook.org

## *A Message from Pastor Jeff Laustsen~*

*"The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever." – Isaiah 40:8.*

A few months ago, I took another step into 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology when I acquired a Kindle Fire, an e-reader that also has access to the internet. While I'm not getting rid of my traditional library (and I still buy books in which I write notes and highlight passages), it's been a nice way to read and purchase a wide assortment of books and magazines. I'm currently reading the latest novel by Dean Koontz and the third volume of the biography of Lyndon B. Johnson, and I've enjoyed being able to have many books contained in a fairly light electronic devise.

One of the volumes contained in my Kindle Fire is a copy of the New Revised Standard translation of the Bible, which is testimony to the ever-increasing access of Holy Scripture on these new electronic platforms. We are blessed to live in an age when people have the Word of God available to them in more formats and in more languages than at any other time in history. While there was once a time in the life of the church when only a certain few had the Word of God at their fingertips, today we can read and access the Holy Bible on our smart phones, tablets, computers, and even in more traditional printed form. No matter where you may be, you're never far away from the Word that remains *"a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."* (Psalm 119:105).

This universal availability of the Word of God is the latest chapter in the legacy we celebrate on Reformation Sunday: Martin Luther's translation of the Bible into the language of the people, so that all might hear the Word that proclaims the good news of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. As Lutherans around the world once gain celebrate our heritage with festive worship services and the joyous singing of such great hymns as "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" and "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word," we give thanks for Luther's bold initiative in placing the Word of God into our hands so that *"in our own*

*languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."* (Acts 2:11).

Many Lutheran congregations celebrate Reformation Sunday by giving Bibles to the children in their Sunday Schools. In obedience to the promises we make to our children on the day of their baptisms, they will place in their hands God's Word as we continue to provide for their instruction in the Christian faith, *"so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace."* (ELW Holy Baptism). As these children mature in an age when technological advances will continue to amaze us, they will have access to the life-changing Word of God in countless platforms, so that the good news of Jesus Christ might shine its light into every day of their lives.

But as with every version of God's Word – from Luther's German translation to the English Bible on my Kindle Fire – the Bible will bless us only when we open its pages and allow God's Word to transform. That's why it's especially important for Lutherans who celebrate our Reformation heritage as "people of the Word" to recommit themselves to regular reading of God's Word along with gathering for worship around the Word which we know is the "word of Eternal Life." No matter if it's the old family Bible on your bookshelf or the latest Bible app on you I-Phone, God's Word will bless us *only* when we turn to the Word, which will always bless us as people of God.

As we join with Lutherans around the world in celebrating the Reformation this month, may we commit ourselves to remain steadfast in the Word of God in whatever means it comes to us, living in obedience to the promise of our Lord that *"if you continue in my Word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."* (John 8:31-32).

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Jeff Laustsen

# THANK YOU!

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*It is the small things we think no one notices that count the most!*

September 6, 2012

To: Bob, Cora, Dot, Susan, Paula, Merle, Mike;

A very big thank you for the Get Well Wishes

sent to me. It was so very kind of everyone to do. I have a good attitude, Good Doctors, and God on my side - My Triple Play to keep well.

And thank you for sending the altar flowers to my mother, Carol Roberts. They really brightened her day.

Thank you again,

Paul John Simchock

## **AND A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU**

To the St. John's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee and all those who helped put together one amazing year of celebrating the first 100 years of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church!

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Dorothy Criscuolo for being Honored by the Woodmen of the World Family Lodge 467 at their Annual Awards Banquet where she will receive

**THE CARING FOR OTHERS AWARD.**

*WAY TO GO DOROTHY!*

# ST. JOHN'S MINISTRIES' NEWS

## SEWING MINISTRY



St. John's Sewing Ministry is looking for new faces to join in the fun of making items that will go to the New Life Center and to the Holly Patterson Extended Care Facility. Our projects include such things as blankets, tote bags, burp cloths, crocheted sweaters, walker bags, lap robes, booties, pillows and wheel chair bags. If you know how to use scissors, like crafts, and would like to learn how to use a sewing machine, we will put you to work.

We meet on Tuesday morning from 9:30 – 12:00 pm in the knotty pine room and then enjoy our bagged lunch until 1:00 pm. All are welcome.

Sincerely,  
Christel Hild, Carol Clemente, Ruth Williamson, & Joan Pirrone

## YOUTH MINISTRY

The Sunday School and Youth Group will go pumpkin picking on **Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**. Everyone is welcome to come, and bring a friend or two! **PLEASE** let us know if you will be coming so that we will know to wait for you. **You can call or email the church office to let us know you are coming.** We will meet in front of the church at 9:30 am (rain or shine) and then meet at Lewin Farms in Wading River. Join us for a fun day!



### Youth Group News

*Thank you to everyone who donated items for Seabury Barn, a Youth Shelter on Long Island. Everything will be delivered to them in early October.*

*Pumpkin picking will take place on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. The Sunday School and Youth Group will pick pumpkins at Lewin Farms in Wading River.*

*Please stop by our table at the Harvest Festival on October 14<sup>th</sup>. We'll be selling pumpkins, T-shirts, sweatshirts and more!*

***Lori Fernéz & Janet Powell***



## Calendar of Events – October 2012

Sunday, 10/7	Worship, 9:30 AM Sunday School, 9:30 AM Youth Group Meeting, 9:30 AM
Monday, 10/8	Columbus Day
Tuesday, 10/9	Worship & Music Ministry Meeting, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 10/10	NO Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, 10/11	Special Profile Meeting – Call for Pastor, 7:30 PM Any Member welcome
Saturday, 10/13	Pumpkin Picking Outing, Lewin Farms
Sunday, 10/14	Worship, 9:30 AM Harvest Festival, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Tuesday, 10/16	Worship & Music committee, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 10/17	Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 10/21	Worship, 9:30 AM Sunday School, 9:30 AM
Tuesday, 10/23	Evangelism & Social Ministry Meeting, 7:30 PM
Wednesday, 10/24	Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM
Sunday, 10/28	Worship, 9:30 AM – <b>REFORMATION SUNDAY</b> Sunday School, 9:30 AM
Wednesday, 10/31	Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM HALLOWEEN

### And looking forward...

Sunday, 11/4	Worship, 9:30 AM – <b>ALL SAINTS</b> Sunday School, 9:30 AM
Tuesday, 11/6	Council Meeting, 8:00 PM
Wednesday, 11/7	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, 11/11	Veteran's Day

## SERVER SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 2012

DATE	ACOLYTES		ASSISTING MINISTERS		LECTORS	
10/7	9:30 AM	Kyle O'Connor	9:30 AM	Roger Vargas	9:30 AM	Arlene Moglia
10/14	9:30 AM	Victoria Dunn	9:30 AM	Dorothy Richetti	9:30 AM	Dot Richetti
Harvest Fest						
10/21	9:30 AM	Jessica Gonzalez	9:30 AM	Joan Pirrone	9:30 AM	Joan Pirrone
10/28	9:30 AM	Katie Lenz	9:30 AM	Hank Lenz	9:30 AM	Anna Lenz
Reformation Sunday	Crucifer	Mike Fernéz				
	Torch Bearer	Jen Dalton				
	Torch Bearer	Erin 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  
Jill Pace: Acolytes and Torch bearers- 599-8896 Claire Lenz - Lectors: 872-2063

## St. John's Parsonage Roof Appeal – Fundraising Update

As many are aware, the roof of the parsonage at St. John's must be replaced. This project can no longer be put off and is the most important capital project currently underway at St. John's. To date, the Parsonage roof appeal has raised \$7,100 out of a goal of \$20,000. **AND THERE IS BIG NEWS!!!** A very generous member of St. John's congregation has pledged to **match additional roof appeal pledges up to a total of \$5,000**. This generous pledge means that your gift is worth twice as much and will help us reach the goal even faster!!!

As we mark St. John's 100th Anniversary, the Stewardship/Finance committee requests that you please consider "buying shingles" at \$100.00 each. With the matching funds, we now have a great opportunity to make goal this year and have the roof replaced before winter sets in! Thanks to all for supporting this worthwhile project!



### Parsonage Roof Shingle Gift

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# of Shingles/ \$Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your contribution to:

St John's Lutheran Parsonage Roof Fund

13 Blake Avenue

Lynbrook, NY 11563

Or, please drop it in the offering plate on Sunday.

Thank you!!!