

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Vine

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to lovingly proclaim the Gospel among all people in order to form and nurture loving communities which confess by word and deed that Jesus is Lord and Savior



The April Vine 2011

The Newsletter of St. John's Evangelical
Lutheran Church & School
(718) 761-1600

Divine Service:

Sunday @ 9:00 AM with Holy Communion

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Church:

216 Jewett Avenue (Corner of Jewett & Post)
Staten Island, NY 10302 **(no mail)**

Church Email: stjohnslutheranchurchoffice@gmail.com

Church & School Website: www.stjohnslutheransi.org

School & Church Office

663 Manor Road **(Mail Accepted)**
Staten Island, NY 10314

Volume 2011

Issue #4

**Rev. Wade A. Miller
Vacancy Pastor
(347) 459-5206**

**Roster of Officers
St. John's Lutheran
Church & School**

Mr. Fred Bock---President

Mr. Jerry Valles---Vice President

Mrs. Janis Szoke---Secretary

**Mr. Les Szoke---Chairman
Board of Properties**

**Mr. Tom Sax---Chairman
Board of Elders**

**Mr. Dan Wuerdeman---Chairman
Board of Social Ministry**

**Mr. Bob Holls---Chairman
Board of Christian Education**



**A Message from the Elders
April 2011**

Greetings in the Name of Christ Jesus,

I am happy to report that on Saturday March 5, 2011, Pastor Miller and the elders had 14 students attend acolyte training at the church. Students were instructed by Pastor Miller on the duties and responsibilities of an acolyte, as Fiona Gannon and James Hart demonstrated their years of experience as tenured acolytes. The 2 hour training ended with a pizza party in the basement. The elders have also decided to make Fiona Gannon our new acolyte coordinator. Her responsibilities will be the scheduling of the acolytes as well as mentoring our rookie crew. At the present time, we have 18 acolytes, providing everyone fulfills their commitment.

As we said good-bye to Alleluia, we celebrated Transfiguration Sunday in the school gym in recognition of the beginning of Lutheran's School Week. Thanks to our parishioners and some of SJLS staff, we had 105 people in attendance. A special thank you to our adult choir for their beautiful voices as we bid farewell to Alleluia, and began our solemn journey of Lent.

NEW WORSHIP TIMES FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY!

**MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:30 P.M.
GOOD FRIDAY 7:30 P.M.**

In Christ,

Thomas Sax
Elder Chair

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13 KJV

Serving as Church Elders;
Thomas Sax
Walter Francis
Bruce Mohlenhoff
David Decker



More on Stewardship.....

As we start the month of April, this year we find Easter is still several weeks away. In effect, we have more time to prepare ourselves for Holy Week. In this time of great joy we have the warmer weather to repent, pray, and fast. This might make the season more “attractive” than in other years for some people, with the new growth of “things of the Spring;” but for others, it makes little difference. The Easter season IS the most important time of the year. While it is confusing to much of the world, it is awesome and magnificent to the body of Christ. Christianity cries out with thanksgiving to great God Almighty for the day of our Lord’s resurrection.

To stewards, this day is a definition of stewardship. He recognizes and accepts the reality that our human existence, and personal resources, the earth’s resources, and above all, the Gospel itself. Depend on God’s creative and redemptive work. While all this is fresh in our minds we should ask ourselves, are we good stewards? We know a good steward shares his God-given gifts. From time to time we should reflect on the many gifts received from our Creator. The greatest gift we can have is our risen Savior. We also have the many gifts of the Holy Spirit and the opportunity to live in the power of His Spirit. We all have certain gifts, talents and possessions. As stewards we are required to always acknowledge the source of every gift. Being sinners, we sometimes call them our own and claim then for ourselves, exclusively. However, we know they are not our own, but rather we have a trusteeship over them. Do we give some portion back to God? Do we give away a portion to those who have less than ourselves?....To those in need....To our church whose mission is to spread the god news? The list goes on....Are we good Stewards? May God grant that we are.

The Stewardship Committee
Walter Francis

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER



Lutheran Schools Month was fabulous. Many of the church ladies, assembled by Mrs. Hermann, shared their time and worked with various classes at St. John's School.

The "crew" included Ms. R. Roscheska, Mrs. J. Mohlenhoff, Ms. R. Browne, Mrs. E. Hansen, Ms. M. Persans, Mrs. L. Haldeman, and Mrs. B. Hermann. A million thanks for all your help !

The deadline for S.I. Yankee tickets is April 1st. That is also the day of our Auction !! Teachers have a Professional Development that day - students are off, no school.

Last day of school before Easter Break is Wednesday, April 20th. School resumes Monday, May 4th.

Mrs. Palisay

LENT SERVICE SCHEDULE

MIDWEEK-WEDNESDAY'S
Soup/Supper 6:00PM-7:00PM
Worship Service
7:30PM

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday – 7:30PM
Good Friday – 7:30PM
NO SERVICE ON HOLY SATURDAY

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST

April 24, 2011

7:30AM-8:30AM

Reservations are requested so the committee
can plan the food needed.

Eggs, bacon, etc., fresh fruit, bagels, muffins,
orange juice, beverages.

This breakfast is at NO charge

There will be a "Free Will" offering

Please call or e-mail the church office to make your reservation
(718) 761-1600

e-mail: stjohnslutheranchurchoffice@gmail.com

Name: _____

Adult(s) # _____

Child(ren) # _____

Worship Service 9:00AM

St. John's Ladies Guild

April 7, 2011

Everyone is welcome to join us in the
CHURCH BASEMENT @ 7:30 PM

SEVEN LICENSED PROFESSIONAL NURSES
WILL BE PRESENTING A PROGRAM ON
HEALTH ISSUES/CARE ON S.I.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT JULIA DRAPER
(718) 442-8037

Hope to see you then!

Brigitte Hermann, President
Joan Mohlenhoff, Secretary

Saints and Church Dates

April 2011

17 – Palm Sunday

21 – Maundy Thursday

22 – Good Friday

23 – Holy Saturday

24 – Easter Sunday

25 – St. Mark, Evangelist

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**Susan Neitzel will be honored on March 27, 2011**

**At the Staaten for: Advocates For Children during the 10th annual John J.  
Bruno Children's luncheon for the benefit of Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St.  
Benedicta School.**



Once again we will be serving soup, bread and dessert during Lent, beginning March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6PM through April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Each week we will need four (4) soups. (Each soup 4-6 quarts)

Eleanor Hansen will provide homemade bread each week.

If you are able to provide a soup or dessert, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

During the Advent Season we served between 28-36 people.

COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

If you have any questions, please see or call  
Rhoda Browne  
(718) 698-3356

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## Evangelical Pamphlets

The Evangelism Committee of St. John's offers for your interest, booklets published by the Lutheran Laymen's League, pertaining to everyday problems and concerns. The following booklets are available at the display rack in the Narthex of the church. If there is a subject of concern not listed, please contact Rhoda Browne (718) 698-3356

Alone, Alive, Fulfilled

Alzheimer's

Battles with the Bottle

Coping with Cancer

Dealing with Depression

Finding Peace

Forgiveness Is for Giving

Has God Abandoned Me?

How to Know What's Right...And Do It

No Need to Fear

Now You're Talking

Overcoming A Painful Childhood

Parenting with Purpose

Prayer and Thoughts for Caregivers

Setting Priorities

Raising Your Children with Respect

So You Prayed for A Miracle...

Surviving A Loved One's Suicide

Surviving Breast Cancer

Take Heart in Your Grief

Talking with God

The Purpose of Living, The Purpose of Dying

The Truth About Angels

"THHPPTT!" *And Other Helpful Ways to Manage Anger*

Too Much to Do, Too Little Time

Unlocking the Prison of Guilt

When in Doubt...Read the Book!

Where's God in All of This?

Why Should I go to Church?



Psalm 100:1-2

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness!  
Come into His presence with singing!*

Dearest Friends in Christ Jesus,

I just want to remind everyone that Lent will begin next month. Midweek Lenten services will begin on Wednesday, March 9, and continue each Wednesday evening ending on April 13. The adult choir will sing on the first Wednesday which is Ash Wednesday (**March 9 at 8:00 p.m.**), the children's choir and school chorus will sing the remaining five Wednesday's in Lent (**March 16 - April 13 at 7:30 p.m.**) which will be preceded by a **6:00 p.m.** soup supper. Please call me if you are unsure when you're scheduled to sing. (917 696 5227). This year our adult and children's choir will also sing during Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. During Holy Week the adult choir will sing on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Please check the church calendar for service times. Some of our service times had to be adjusted this year since we are sharing Pastor Miller with Trinity Lutheran of Bay Ridge. We apologize for any inconvenience as we begin the call process.

In Christ,

Thomas Sax



***Adult choir Tuesday Nights 8 - 9 p.m.**  
**Children's choir Sunday Mornings 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.***

**For your convenience the serving schedule  
is in the Narthex**

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**Please remember  
the following deadlines:  
Weekly Bulletin every  
Tuesday @ 10AM  
Monthly Newsletter  
the third Monday  
of every Month @ 11AM**



## **An Easter Prayer**

*Lord, send me a surprise.*  
One that catches me off guard and makes me wonder.  
Like Easter.

*Send me a resurrection*  
when everything looks dead and buried.

*Send me light*  
when the night seems too long.

*Send me spring*  
when the cold and frozen season seems endless.

*Send me an idea*  
when my mind is empty.

*Send me a thing to do*  
when I am just waiting around.

*Send me a new friend*  
when I am alone.

*Send me peace*  
when I'm afraid

*Send me a future*  
when it looks hopeless.

***Send me Your resurrection when I die, Jesus.***



**PLANT ORDER FORM**

To place lilies and/or plants at the altar for Easter Sunday, please fill out the following form and return it to the Church Office together with your check payable to St. John's Lutheran Church.

**Order must be in the church office no later than April 18, 2011**

# of Lilies: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$7.00 per plant= \_\_\_\_\_

# of Plants: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$7.00 per plant= \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Given by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
In honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Given by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Check one:

- I will pick up my plant after the 9:00am service  
or  
 Please deliver my plant to a St. John's "shut-in"

Total amount  
Enclosed for Easter plants:

\_\_\_\_\_



St. John's Lutheran School is looking for someone in our congregation who has experience in writing grants to help our principal to investigate grant-writing opportunities.

We are also looking for someone to develop alumni lists so that we can establish a greater relationship with our alumni.

If you can help in either of these areas, or know someone who could, please contact Mrs. Palisay at the school office.  
(718) 761-1858

Thank You