

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 September 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 #9



**Roster of Officers
St. John's Lutheran
Church & School
2011 Church Committees**

President
Vice President
Secretary
Board of Elders
Board of Christian Education
Board of Evangelism
Board of Properties
Board of Social Ministry

Frederick Bock
Gerald Valles
Janis Szoke
Thomas Sax
Robert Holls
Daniel Wuerdeman
Les Szoke
Barbara Pfaff

Board of Elders

Thomas Sax
Dave Decker
Walter Francis
Bruce Mohlenhoff

Board of Properties

Les Szoke
Russ Browne
Michael Clandorf

Board of Christian Education

Robert Holls
Arne Abrahamsen
Lori Chierchio
Brigitte Hermann
Joann Mostovoy
Ruth Roscheska
Beverly Heming

Board of Social Ministry

Barbara Pfaff
Rhoda Browne
Christine Meehan
Joan Mohlenhoff
Nancy Nye

Board of Evangelism

Daniel Wuerdeman
Leonor Abugel
Jenifer Moat
Ricardo Salazar
Bonnie Selletti



A Message from the President

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the bringing down of our debt.

The current figure for Kinetic is \$2,500.

Thank You Again,
Fred Bock
Church Congregational President



**A Message from the Elders
September 2011**

Elders Report

Dearest Friends in Christ Jesus,

I am happy to announce that God has answered our prayers and has sent us a shepherd. At 7:57 a.m. on Sunday, August 28, in the middle of our hurricane, I received the good news from Pastor Russell. Pastor and his family will be moving from Cass City, Michigan during the week of 9/12/11. Pastor's first Sunday with us will be on Rally Day, Sept. 18, 2011. The service will begin at 10:30 a.m. and a block party is due to follow. Pastor Randall Russell will be installed on Sunday, Sept. 25, 2011 at 5 p.m. at the church. Dr. Benke, as well as other pastors, will be participating in the installation service. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Thank you to everyone who kept our church together during these past 14 months. I appreciate everyone's support and hard work. As we await the arrival of Pastor Russell, let us remember you never get a second chance to make a first impression. Being from out of town, with no extended family or friends, it becomes the responsibility of the congregation to extend themselves to the pastor and his family. If we can't show love and extend ourselves to our own pastor, how can we possibly engage our community with the Gospel of Hope? I personally feel that St. John's can do awesome things together. Together, working as one in Christ, not as separate groups, but as one. Always thinking of what is good for our Lord's church, may not always be what's convenient in our own lives. Sometimes we may have to sacrifice a little for our Lord, who ultimately sacrificed His life for us.

Please continue to pray for Pastor Russell and his family as they travel. Also, let Les Szoke know if anyone would be interested in helping clean up the parsonage (vacuum, mop, clean bathrooms etc.) on Mon. 9/12, and Tues. 9/13 before pastor and his family arrive. You may have to bring cleaning supplies; please confirm with Les. You may contact Les at (718) 761- 9843.

In Christ,
Thomas Sax
Elder Chair

The LORD is my strength and my song; and he has become my salvation. Psalm 118:14



More on Stewardship.....

When the summer began we started a new series of thoughts on stewardship. We focused on the identity of the steward.

During the summer months we moved to the changes that happen to Him. This month we will focus on stewardship as a spiritual issue.

Is stewardship mainly an institutional issue or a spiritual one in our congregation, as well as in our entire lives? Yes, buildings and other properties need to be maintained. Workers need to be compensated. And resources for ministry and mission must be provided for those actively involved in spreading the Good News. Too many times, however, these issues are the main focus of our stewardship.

When that occurs the richness and the fullness, as well as the genuine joy in living as a steward is lost.

Some thoughts from Scripture.....

If God created us to us work and take care of his creation, then stewardship is a spiritual issue. If everything we do is to give God glory, if every good thing we enjoy comes from God, if He holds us accountable for how we live, then stewardship is a spiritual issue. Stewardship has to do with God's relationship to us in Christ Jesus and how we live out that relationship. It's also about the hearts of all God's people. Our Lord desires that our hearts be turned to Him, that we follow Him, and that we live in obedience to Him.

Why is stewardship so important to every member of our congregation? It can be answered with one word...SIN. We are all prone to sin and therefore susceptible to mis-management of our lives in general; as well as our time, talents, and treasury in particular to quote a writer of yesteryear "If we are not willing to teach ourselves and fellow believers how to manage our lives for our Savior, the sinful world is more than willing to teach its brand of self-centered living."

We pray that it will not happen to St. John's congregation and that we all become better stewards in everything we do in our daily lives.

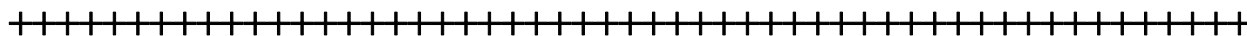
The Stewardship Committee
Walter Francis

IN OUR PRAYERS



Please continue to pray for those who are listed in this month's bulletin.

*Henry Alvestad~Esther Charles~Walter Francis
Samuel Bartzsch~Patricia Barber~Ruth Roscheska*



Underwriters Needed

The School will be ordering new Chapel books.

All God's People Sing-Hard Cover
250 books @ \$12.00 each
Total Cost is \$3,000.00

Each student will be assigned his/her own book from
2nd grade through 8th grade.

This book will stay with them from year to year.

Deadline is **September 28, 2011**

Please contact the church office if you need further information.

THANK YOU





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

"THHHPPPTT!" 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?



Jonah

Performed at the Sight & Sound Theatre, Lancaster, PA.

Saturday May 12, 2012

*Your chartered motor coach will leave the school parking lot, which is located at
663 Manor Road @ 8:30 am SHARP.*

*This show starts @ 1:00 pm. Following the show enjoy dinner at
Miller's Smorgasbord, Lancaster PA.*

*This is an open bus trip. The price includes transportation, show, dinner,
ALL TAXES AND TIPS.*

Payment Plan is available as follows:

Cost

\$125 per Adult \$84 per child (12-14 years)

\$40 per person due on or before November 12, 2011

\$40 per person due on or before January 11, 2012

*\$25 per person due on or before March 11, 2012
(\$25 due after your \$20 deposit)*

*Deposit of \$20 is due on October 15, 2011, this is non-refundable,
to ensure enough seating.*

*Make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran and mail to
Ken Birstler
21 Amelia Court
Staten Island, NY 10310*

If you have any interest, please contact Ken Birstler (718 273-0991)



CHOIR

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,

It's that time again! Please be advised that adult choir will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, September, 13, 2011, at 8 p.m. at the church. The adult choir will sing on 9/18 for Rally Day at the 10:30 a.m. service. The children's first choir rehearsal will be on Sunday, 9/25 immediately following the service. Any student between second to eighth grade may join the children's choir. Anyone above eighth grade may join the adult choir. To join either choir, you do not have to know how to read music. Also, you may choose to make a partial commitment to either choir. The children are scheduled to sing at the service on 10/2. Please look on the bulletin board in the narthex for choir schedules, or on the churches website.

In Christ,
Thomas Sax

***Adult Choir Tuesday Nights 8 - 9 p.m.
Children's Choir Sunday Mornings Immediately Following the Service***





Pregnancy Care Center

**5th Annual WALK FOR LIFE
Saturday, September 24, 2011 @ 9:00AM
South Beach Boardwalk
(Near the Dolphin Fountain)**

This year's theme is HOLD ON TO HOPE. We pray for the day when God's pre-born children are valued and protected. As we pray we work to provide FREE, confidential counseling and care for girls and women in need. The WALK FOR LIFE helps to fund all of our free services.

We need YOU to be a part of the blessing. Please WALK-GIVE-PRAY. Be a walker or sponsor a walker. Together WE are the hands and feet of Jesus, giving and doing for the sake of ALL His precious children.

Please call Joan Mohlenhoff (718) 273-2644.

THANK YOU.

**Joan Mohlenhoff
St. John's Church Liaison**



Pregnancy Care Center



**WELCOME
REVEREND RANDALL S. RUSSELL,
AMY, JAMES AND ELLA**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL SERVICE OF
REVEREND RUSSELL'S
INSTALLATION**

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2011
5 P.M.**

**ATLANTIC DISTRICT PRESIDENT DR. DAVID BENKE
WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE FOR REVEREND
RUSSELL'S INSTALLATION**

**REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW IN THE CHURCH
BASEMENT**



Rally Day
September 18, 2011

Knowing – Growing – Showing

Join the

Christian Education/Rally Day Celebration

Sunday September 18th

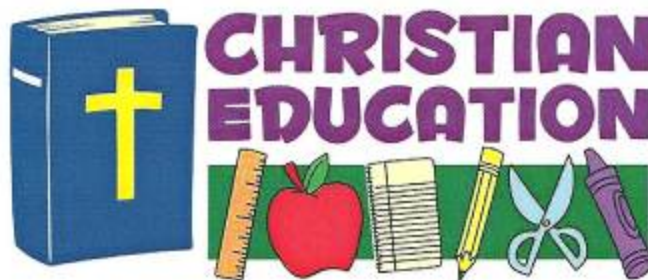
Worship at 10:30 A.M.

Block Party/BBQ follows the worship service

All Invited!

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors!

Bring a dish to share



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Mill Neck Family of Organizations is to enhance the quality of life for people who are Deaf, or who have other special communication needs, through excellence in individually designed educational, vocational or spiritual programs and services. The organizations include Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf, the Mill Neck Manor Early Childhood Center, Mill Neck Services for Deaf Adults, Mill Neck Audiology, Mill Neck Interpreter Service, Mill Neck Foundation and Lutheran Friends of the Deaf. Since the first official Fall Harvest Festival in 1961, proceeds have been used to help support these programs and services.

WAYS to GET INVOLVED

If you are interested in becoming a Festival sponsor or would like to volunteer during the event, please contact Nancy Leghart at (516) 628-4243 or nleghart@millneck.org.

ADMISSION

\$5 admission per vehicle (suggested donation).

DIRECTIONS

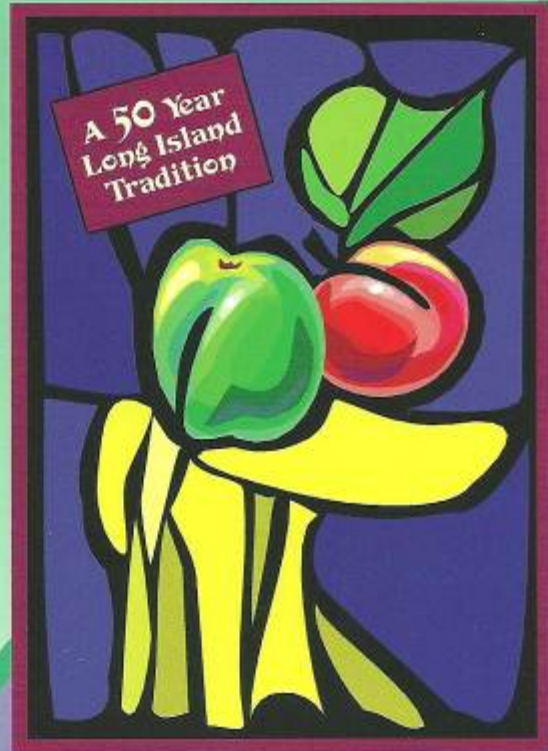
Take LI Expwy. to exit 41N or Northern State Pkwy. to exit 35N. Take Route 106N into Oyster Bay. At light (Hess Station), turn left onto Lexington Ave. At the 2nd light, turn left onto West Main St. Go under RR trestle (West Main becomes West Shore Rd.). At 1st light, make a left onto Cleft Rd. Take Cleft Rd. to Frost Mill Rd., make a left. Our entrance is on the left.



MILL NECK

Family of Organizations

40 Frost Mill Road
Mill Neck, NY 11765
(516) 922-4100 (Voice, TDD)
millneck.org • facebook.com/millneck



Mill Neck Family's Fall Harvest Festival

October 8 and 9, 2011
9 am to 5 pm

Enjoy an exciting Columbus Day weekend on our 86-acre campus, dressed in Autumn's most gorgeous colors! Treat your family to two beautiful days filled with fall activities!

APPLES • CHEESE HOUSE • COUNTRY STORE
BAKED GOODS and SWEETS
SEASONAL PRODUCE • COUNTRY CRAFTS
PUMPKIN PATCH • DELICIOUS FOOD
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES • FACEPAINTING
New HOSPITALITY TENT and SHOP

Sponsorship OPPORTUNITIES



\$2,500 GOLDEN SPONSOR
12 event passes / banner



\$1,000 EMPIRE SPONSOR
8 event passes / event sign



\$500 GALA SPONSOR
4 event passes / listing on sponsor sign



\$250 McINTOSH SPONSOR
2 event passes / listing on sponsor sign



All contributors will be listed in the event program, in press releases, on social networking sites, in newsletters and on the Mill Neck website.

Sponsorship FORM

Fill out, clip and mail to Mill Neck Manor in enclosed envelope.

I (We) would like to be a _____ sponsor.

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

I (We) cannot sponsor the event, but would like to make a contribution of \$ _____.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ made out to Mill Neck Manor.

Please charge \$ _____ to my credit card.

(circle one) VISA MASTERCARD AMEX DISCOVER

Cardholder's Name: _____

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Billing ZIP Code (required): _____

Signature: _____

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL 2011

For more information, contact Nancy Leight at (516) 628-4243 or nleight@millneck.org

Festival ATTRACTIONS

PRE-FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE

Special Friday night performance for the Deaf. Check our website often at www.millneck.org for the latest details.

FACEPAINTING by AGOSTINO ARTS

Sat. 11 am - 4 pm • Sun. 12 - 4 pm

CHILDREN'S GAMES

by Gooseberry Grove, Sat./Sun., all day (weather permitting)

PUMPKIN PATCH

Pumpkin decorating sessions, near apples, Sat./Sun., all day

HEARING VAN

Free screenings, sponsored by the Town of Oyster Bay, foot of hill, Sat./Sun., 9 am - 4 pm

New HOSPITALITY TENT and SHOP

Celebrate Mill Neck's 2011 anniversaries!

Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf **60 years**
Mill Neck Manor Early Childhood Center **20 years**
Mill Neck Services for Deaf Adults **25 years**

Learn about each, purchase related souvenirs PLUS - Alumni and staff will receive a FREE anniversary momento!

2011 FEATURES

Watch for the Festival 2011 Featured Items and Entertainment COMING SOON!



PLEASE NOTE

The Mill Neck Manor House will be closed during this year's Fall Harvest Festival

VBS 2011





A decorative border of colorful balloons (blue, pink, orange) with black strings, arranged in a rectangular frame around the text.

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office is now functioning with volunteers from our parish. Office hours are Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 12p.m.

**Also the new email for the church office is,
sjlchurchoffice@gmail.com**

Thank you, and good luck to Mrs. Sari Garcia our church secretary. Sari has been part of the church office for 4 plus years. All our best as we pray that God would watch and keep her in His love.