



St. Luke Lutheran Church

20 Candlewood Path
Dix Hills, NY 11746

Pastoral Ponderings

By

Reverend Charles W. Froehlich

April 4, 2007

The entire staff at St. Luke Lutheran Church and Preschool wishes you and your family a blessed celebration of our Lord's Resurrection. If you are traveling we pray that you will worship with the family of God wherever you might be and if you are in town we hope you will join us for Maundy Thursday Upper Room Communion at 5 or 7:30pm, Good Friday 12 Noon Family worship and 7:30 Service of Darkness all of which culminates in our joyous Easter celebrations at 7:30, 9 & 11am with brunch after the first two services.

All of these worship experiences focus on the gracious and merciful God who gave His life as a ransom for us and that is something to celebrate with our church family. It is also something that we do each week throughout the year as each Sunday is a mini Easter celebration. Faithful gathering to hear God's Word and to receive the Sacrament are marks of our faith and provide us the strength to face the challenges of daily living. It is good when the family of God gathers around the Word and Sacrament and then is dispersed into the community to support one another. I find great joy in greeting you at the table each week.

NEWS AND NOTES

- Following Easter we will begin a new series of Bible classes on Sunday mornings at 9:30am, Monday evenings at 7:30pm and Wednesday evenings at 9pm. Each of these will offer you the opportunity to grow in your faith through group discussions. These classes will run through the first week in June. I am also planning on offering a class for those interested in becoming members of St. Luke on six Tuesday evenings beginning on May 1st and continuing until June 12. It is also a great time for members to do a review and a time for the members to get to know new people.
- The Ammerman Center for Creative Aging (a part of the Lutheran Counseling Center) will offer a special program on May 6 at 9:30am entitled "The Third Age: Opportunity and Challenge." The speaker will be Ellen Bartoldus from the Lutheran Counseling Center and the former Director of Lutheran Center for the Aging in Smithtown.
- Youth grades 6-12 on Saturday April 14th there will be "A Special day in New York City." Young people below 8th grade will need to have an adult chaperone. We will be taking the train in and will have a special New York City Day Pass. The Day Pass includes the NBC Studio Tour, a tour of Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum, and a Tour of the Empire State Building and lunch at Planet Hollywood which entitles you to a free kid's meal and a discounted rate for an adult meal. The cost is \$65. Any questions contact Lisa Wenz 499-8339 or Jim Dorner 499-8656. We need to be in the city by 9:30am. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board across from Jim's office.
- The 3rd annual Alec's Run will be on Saturday April 28 at Half Hollow Hills West High School. This is a 4 Mile Race and Walk that begins at 9:30am and there will be a special 1K Fun Race for children at 9am. More information and registration forms are available

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at church or you can go to Active.com to register or contact Bill or Adriann Nelson at adriannraschdorfnelson@yahoo.com. There are also many opportunities to help if you do not want to participate in the run or walk.

- College Acceptances: I am pleased to report that many of our young people have shared with me the choices they have made for colleges for the fall, Matt Fisher -Sacred Heart, Kyle Geed -Towson State, Christopher Gerges -C.W. Post, Diana Rivkin -Virginia, John Rogener -Siena. I am still waiting to hear from others about what their final choices might be but we wish all these young people God' s blessings as they begin this new and exciting chapter in their lives.
- Some Dates for the future: April 28 Mission Sunday when we will hear about Amy and Jareb McClain' s mission work in Indonesia. May 19 5pm Family Service. Thursday May 24 the first summer worship at 7:30pm and May 27 at 10:45 Rite of Confirmation. June 10 Awards Sunday and we move to our 9am worship for the summer. June 16 the annual Clam Bake. July 2 the Annual Golf Tournament.
- This summer St. Luke will be hosting a young woman Kim Tessman from Germany who will be serving an internship in Youth Ministry from June 19 through August 7. We will be looking for people to host her for a week at a time so that she can have a great experience of meeting many of our people as well seeing what goes on in our ministry here at St. Luke in all aspects of our programs. If you would like to be a host for a few days please speak with Pastor Froehlich or Jim Dorner.

May the Lord richly bless you during this Holy Week and may you find great joy in celebrating our hope for life eternal at Easter. I look forward to greeting you in worship.