



St. Luke Lutheran Church

20 Candlewood Path
Dix Hills, NY 11746

Pastoral Ponderings

By

Reverend Charles W. Froehlich

April 12, 2007

The Lord is Risen! Alleluia!!! What a wonderful way to begin the final worship of Holy Week with those words echoing through our church on Easter Sunday. It was again a distinct honor and privilege to be a part of the Holy Week worship as families gathered to sing Hosannas, meet in the Upper Room and celebrate First Holy Communion with 25 young people and then make our way from Gethsemane to Calvary and then meet in true joy at the empty tomb. It was great to see so many members and guests as well as former members and friends during this special week. There were many who I missed seeing either because they were away or they simply chose not to be a part of this important week in our life. One of the things the risen Lord told the disciples as he appeared to them on that first Easter eve was that he was sending them out to tell everyone what they had seen and heard. In the spirit of Easter I ask you to tell everyone what you have seen and heard, but I want you especially reach out to those who you perhaps have not seen in worship for a long time. A call or a note would be so good to remind them that we miss them. We all can make a difference in the lives of others when they know we all care. In the spirit of our Lord's resurrection I ask your help with this special ministry.

THANK YOU

We are so blessed to have so many people who give of themselves to assist us in the ministry that we share. To bring everything together takes a lot of people. As I counted up the number of people who make the weekly worship and the carrying out of the ministry it takes well over 75 volunteers each week to make things happen. Just to give you an idea here is a sampling of those groups who help each week:

Altar Guild

Ushers

Communion Assistants

Readers

Acolytes, Crucifers and Torch Bearers

Nursery Attendants

Cherub Choir

Junior Choir

Senior Choir

Musicians
Offering Counters
Sunday school Teachers and Staff
Custodial staff
Bulletin Folders
Church Office Helpers
Bible Class Leaders
Confirmation Small Group Leaders
Easter Brunch
Baking Communion Bread

We are always looking for help in almost all of these areas but we especially need help in the areas of Ushers, Alter Guild, and Offering Counters. If you can help please speak with Pastor Froehlich, Jim Dorner or the leaders of each of these groups, Bill Meade ushers, Donna Daly Altar Guild, and Barbara Bunting Offering Counters.

EXPANSION UPDATE

At the end of April we complete our first year of our three year Capital Campaign. You will be receiving an update of your pledge and what we have received during the first year. Thank you to all who have shared their gifts with St. Luke as we move ahead with the construction. All pledges and gifts are gratefully received. Please mark your gifts clearly for the "Expansion Fund" so that they can be properly recorded. More Expansion Fund envelopes are available in the narthex or on the literature table in the back tower as well as in the pew racks. The construction continues to be on schedule as they prepare to enclose the building. Major work has been done with the electrical service and some of the demolition of some of the existing parts of the building was completed during the Easter break. We are looking at a special day of dedication in the early fall.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We begin a new series of Bible classes and educational offerings during the season of Easter. Come and join us in sharing the love of Christ as we learn together.

Sundays Mornings 9:30am

An ongoing study of Biblical passages that help us to live out our faith.

Monday Evenings 7:30pm

A study of Galatians called "The Cost of Freedom" begins April 16

Tuesday Evenings 7:30pm

A class for those interested in becoming members of St. Luke or for those desiring to refresh their hearts on what it means to be a church member in the Lutheran tradition. Beginning May 1
for 6 weeks

Wednesday Evenings at 9pm

A study of the book of Acts and the formation of the church in response to Jesus' great commission.

COME AND GROW WITH ONE ANOTHER