

St. James'-St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
119-15 135th Avenue
South Ozone Park, NY 11420

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We Worship Every Sunday at 10:00 am
Visit us at SouthOzoneParkChurch.org

The Messenger

January 2023 Edition

A New Year Prayer by Pastor Dabee

As we reflect on another unusual year 2022, I wish to share a few thoughts and prayer with you:

While some among us are getting ready to quit some New Year's resolutions or try something different, there are countless others feeling the effects of natural and human caused wars and disasters—some thousands of miles away and some closer to home.

Further, COVID-19 or variants still have a grip on our family and friends in this winter season—the “triple-demic.” Food lines are getting longer and there is a cry for a job or better working conditions to offer comfort, healing, help, and hope to those in need.

In the Book of Psalms (66:8-9) we read, “Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.” Yes, we “survived” thus far, however I cannot help myself but ask why – why am I still here when millions across the globe have already succumbed to this deadly disease and disasters?

Church family, there must a reason why God has kept you and me among the living – there must a reason why God has not let our feet slip. I am convinced that as a “Called Out” community of believers also known as the church, that reason is to serve – be engaged in ministry and live out your baptismal vows to “let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16) So, how would you shine in the year 2023?

Let us pray... Almighty and everlasting God, you have kept us among the living and brought us into another year. We pray that you would preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin or be overcome in adversity. In all we do, O God, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Christmas 2022





Food Ministry

Part of our mission as a called-out community of believers known as the church is to bring the gospel (the good news of Jesus) to the world. St. James'-St. Matthew's has identified a need in our community for food, and a Food Ministry was launched.

In collaboration with Stacey's Pantry and Key Food Supermarkets, we launched this new ministry providing a monthly service —the next program is set for Thursday, **January 19th from 3PM to 4PM...**and Thursday, February 16th, 2023 from 3 PM—4PM.

Yes, volunteers are always welcome! What this means is that there is a wonderful opportunity to enrich your lives of service to God and your neighbors. Please contact the Church office either by phone, 718-845-8770 or email stjstm@aol.com and let us know if you have any resources, be it time, talents, and treasures, to grow this new ministry.

ANNUAL MEETING



Our **Annual Congregational Meeting** scheduled for Sunday, **January 29th**, immediately following the 10 AM Worship.

All are invited to participate in this important meeting as we hear about the State of the Church heading into 2023.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

Now is the time to join our Church family and immerse yourself in ministry. Anyone wishing to be baptized, baptize their child or children, or are longing in becoming a member of St. James' - St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church are asked to contact Pastor Dabee or the Church office.



...Still Wanted !

Yes, we still need **Ushers, Lectors, and Assistant Ministers**. Please contact Pastor Dabee or the Church Office to indicate your willingness to help make worship a welcoming and meaningful experience for everyone in attendance.

We have resumed the distribution the **Holy Communion** as we used to in the past...more help needed.



We would like acknowledge and thank everyone who continued to contribute their offering towards the ministry of our Church.

For those of you who are wondering how to make your contributions, you may:

1. Mail-in your Offering Envelopes to the Church Office.
2. Drop off **in-person during worship** or (please, checks only) Offering Envelopes in our mail slot on the side door, or
3. Contribute via PayPal Accounts... <https://www.paypal.me/StJamesStMatthews>



Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

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Contact us by Mail:

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Pastor Romeo Dabee

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