

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

Greetings favored ones,

Saturday, January 27th was International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Why January 27th you may ask? Well, it was on that day in 1945 that the Auschwitz concentration camp was liberated by the Red Army. Such acts were purely demonic – the epitome of evil which resulted in the genocide of a third of the Jewish people, along with countless members of minorities by Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945.

Last summer, on a study trip to Germany, my colleague Michael Kennert took us to the platform in Grunewald, on the outskirts of Berlin - there Jews were loaded onto cattle-cars and sent to Auschwitz. It was eerie to visit the memorial and see the tracks that led so many to their death. On 29th January, 1943 the last train load of 1,000 Jews from Berlin departed from that station.

Today, neo-Nazism is on the rise across Europe and here in these United States. I can understand the tensions in the middle-east, but right here in New York City as well? And such acts of hatred are not only reserved for Jews, everyone else or the “other” is also being subjected to the same discrimination and hatred.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in his Letter from the Birmingham Jail addressing some clergymen questioning his civil rights protests wrote, “The ultimate tragedy is not the oppression and cruelty by the bad people, but the silence over that by the good people.”

Do not be silent—shine the Epiphany light of Christ on the evil around you, but most of all, “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Romans 12:21)

The Messenger

February 2024 Edition



Ash Wednesday — February 14, 2024

*Worship Service with Ashes and
Holy Communion at 7 PM*



*We journey through the season
of Lent with weekly*

Mid-week Devotions at 7 PM

Beginning February 21, we will explore

The Liturgical Church Year:

The Seasons of Advent—February 21

Christmas—February 28

Epiphany—March 6

Lent & Easter—March 13

& Pentecost—March 20



Lenten Soup Supper at 6 PM

Wednesday, February 21 to March 20

Please sign up now to host !



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 partnership with Stacey's Pantry (St. Jacobus, Woodside), St. Paul's, Richmond Hill and Key Food and Stop and Shop Supermarkets, we launched this new ministry providing a monthly service —the next program is set for Thursday, **February 15th from 3PM to 4PM**...and Thursday, March 21st from 3 PM—4PM.



Yes, volunteers are always welcome at 1 PM! 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.



...Still Wanted !

We still need worship leaders like: **Ushers, Lectors, Assistant Ministers, Communion Assistants, Altar Guild members.** 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. Thank you helping with sharing the gospel—the good news of Jesus in this place !



Meeting Update

Council and Officers for 2024/5 are:

- President—Scott Campbell
- Vice President—Ashley Sawh
- Secretary—Eileen Varano
- Treasurer—Ella Bisember
- Financial Secretary—Ralph Green
- Worship—Tricia Harduwar
- Altar Guild—Babsy Khargie
- Faith Formation—Gale Kirchner
- Pastor—The Rev. Romeo Dabee

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Palm Sunday**—March 24 at 10 AM
- Maundy Thursday**—March 28 at 7 PM
- Good Friday**—March 29 at 7 PM
- Children's Easter Program**
Saturday, March 30 at 10 AM
- Easter Sunday**—March 31 at 10 AM

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

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Contact us by Mail:

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