



**ST. JOHN-INCARNATION
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MESSENGER**

FEBRUARY 2020



**Sunday Worship – 8:15am and 9:30am
Sunday School – 9:30am**

Calendar of Events:

Tues. Feb. 11	Evangelism meeting Church council meeting	6:30pm 7:30pm
Wed. Feb. 12	Confirmation class	7:00pm
Thurs. Feb. 13	Choir rehearsal	7:30pm
Sun. Feb. 16	Worship services	8:15 & 9:30am
Mon. Feb. 17	Yoga class	7:00pm
Wed. Feb. 19	NO Confirmation class	7:00pm
Thurs. Feb. 20	Choir rehearsal	7:30pm
Sat. Feb. 22	Fastnachts baking	10:00am
Sun. Feb. 23	Worship services Coffee and Fastnachts	8:15 & 9:30am 11:00am
Mon. Feb. 24	Yoga class	7:00pm
Wed. Feb. 26	Ash Wednesday: Ashes to Go (Lynbrook Train Station) Ash Wednesday worship	6:30am-8:30am 7:30pm
Thurs. Feb. 27	Choir rehearsal	7:30pm

LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH:

Sun. Mar. 1	Begin collecting for New LIFE Center Easter Baskets	
Mon. 3/2	First Communion Class 	7:00pm
Thurs. 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26	Bread, Bowl & Bible Holden evening service	6:00pm 7:00pm
Sun. 3/8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME! "SPRING AHEAD" 1 HOUR!	SJILC Bowling Outing 	1:30pm-3:30pm
Mon. 3/9	First Communion Class 	7:00pm
Sun. 3/22	Assembling & Packing College Care Kits	10:45am
Tues. 3/24	Baby Shower for New LIFE Center	7:30pm



PASTOR'S REPORT FOR 2019

*“We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly.
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.”*

It was the winning hymn of our March Madness hymn tournament, the theme of our fall Stewardship appeal, and the “mission phrase” for our ministry in 2019: **We Are Called**. Singing David Haas’ beautiful hymn (ELW #720) throughout the year, we were reminded of our shared calling “as sisters and brothers united in love.” Through the waters of our baptism, we have been called by Christ and invited to live in his light, and once again this amazing congregation responded together in faith and in love.

You acted with justice to the needs of God’s people around the world through your donations to the ELCA Good Gifts Program and the cookie tins you gave to the International Seafarers House. You opened your hearts and showed mercy to those in fear of going hungry and not having enough to eat (1,088 lbs. of food donated to the New LIFE Center). You were “hope for the hopeless” as you gave coats, jackets, and personal care items to provide a little warmth during the cold winter months. You served one another in worship and in fellowship. You walked humbly and faithfully with God as church together. Amen!

I thank God all the time for my call here at St. John-Incarnation, and I give thanks to God for blessing our ministry these last 12 months. For me, I had the honor of baptizing one child, Gianna Meloni-Martinelli, giving five children their First Communion (Sam Barry, Bella Lebron, Jacob Lebron, Charles Sheppard and Thaddaeus Sheppard), confirming three youth (Dylan Hovell, Kaylee Palmer, and Parker Sloan) and one adult (Jane Sloan), installing six new members (The Lebron family and Melissa Pinto), officiating one marriage, blessing two homes, and presiding at the funerals of Richard Bulloss and Harry Conklin.

I again offered “Ashes to Go” on Ash Wednesday at the Lynbrook Train Station and gave ashes to about 50-60 people. I co-directed another fun-filled VBS with Gabrielle Barry (many thanks to her and all who volunteered to help make To Mars and Beyond our best one yet!), and I helped direct the Sunday School Christmas pageant, which was very enjoyable and brought back some good memories of the ones I did as a kid. I continued to utilize the Parish Resource Center in Valley Stream, which has been a great resource for our congregation and my own ministry. I also remained involved with the SW Nassau Conference of our Synod attending monthly Ministerium meetings with my Lutheran colleagues in the area.

One of the goals that I set for myself was getting out of the pulpit and preaching from the floor without a manuscript, which I was finally able to do this past year and hope to do more so in the future! Another goal for 2019 was updating our church website. I worked with our web developer, Gregg Rogers, to make some much-needed changes to the site like updating old information, adding new photos of recent events, etc. Gregg’s company also moved our website to a new server, which should allow us to continue to improve our website and make it more user-friendly.

Looking ahead to 2020, the sale of the Cedarhurst building/property remains a primary objective for our congregation as we move forward. Upon its completion, God willing, we will be able to focus fully on our ministry and all the good things that God is doing here at 13 Blake Avenue. That being said, I also have some ideas for outreach that will take us outside our building and into our community. We are called to be light for the kingdom, after all, and that means being visible to those we serve! Finally, we will continue our commitment to making our church a place that is both welcoming and safe. We will try to get more groups and organizations to use our building, but we also hope to apply for federal grants that will help us with security, handicap accessibility, and more. A review of our insurance policies and creating a new constitution will help better protect us from any potential legal issues, which is extremely important to the well-being of our congregation.

In the meantime, our call to discipleship remains. May God continue to ministry as we “shine with the joy and the love of the Lord” here at St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church. For God is good all the time, and all the time God is good!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Alex

SERVERS FOR FEBRUARY 2020

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
2	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
	9:30	Kaitlyn Gavin	Kaitlyn Gavin	Andrew Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Janet Powell & Kristen DeStefano
9	8:15			Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	
	9:30	Christopher Palmer	Christopher Palmer	Janet Pescatore	Susan Masciello	Doug & Kristina Palmer
16	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Victoria Ramirez	Susan Masciello	Janet Pescatore	Suzanna Thomas & Carol Clemente
23	8:15			Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	
Transfiguration	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Christopher Dunn	Dan Gonzalez	Dan Gonzalez	Robert Reckhart & Tyler Rouse
26	7:30 pm			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
Ash Wednesday		Victoria Dunn	Victoria Dunn	Kim Carlstrom	Kim Carlstrom	Alexandra & Andrew Dunn

SERVERS FOR MARCH 2020

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
1	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
Lent 1	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Tyler Rouse	Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	Robert Reckhart & Shaun Rouse
8	8:15			Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	
Lent 2	9:30	Kaylee Palmer	Kaylee Palmer	Andrew Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Janet Powell & Kristen DeStefano
15	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
Lent 3	9:30	Kaitlyn Gavin	Kaitlyn Gavin	Dan Gonzalez	Dan Gonzalez	Susan Masciello & Dorothy Criscuolo
22	8:15			Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	
Lent 4	9:30	Christopher Palmer	Christopher Palmer	Dorothy Criscuolo	Chris Shelton	Doug & Kristina Palmer
29	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
Lent 5	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Victoria Ramirez	Janet Pescatore	Janet Pescatore	Suzanna Thomas & Carol Clemente

If you cannot serve on a day you are scheduled, please find a replacement and notify the church office and the appropriate coordinator: Claire Lenz: Lectors & Assisting Ministers - 872-2063; Pauline Feltkamp: Ushers- 599-2273 Andrea: Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch bearers and Gospel bearers- 599-0778 .

If you are making a change in the schedule, please notify the office so all information can be updated.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!

We are in need of more members to volunteer as worship servers. Please consider helping out during our services. We need assisting ministers, lectors, ushers, acolytes and crucifers. Anyone can serve regardless of age! We can accommodate your schedule. These are easy ways to serve on a Sunday morning and will add to your worship experience



Pastor Alex will be offering training for those who would like to serve in worship as acolyte, ushers assisting ministers and lectors. Please contact the church office or see Pastor Alex if you are interested in serving.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Larry Lipitz
 Anthony Posimato
 Donna Valenti
 Stephen Suppa
 Eleanor Haslett
 Scott Masciello
 Sherry Powell
 The Carver Family
 John Michael
 Vivian Monaco
 Larry Rienecker
 Mary Rebando
 Ginger Freise

Arlene
 Sandy
 Bill
 Joe
 Joanne
 Ryan
 Grace
 Sue
 Faith
 Joshua Emswiler
 Charles
 Christel Hild
 Flo DeVito

Bernadette Harten
 Carmel Wright
 Karissa Heap
 Orlando Castrence
 Alisa Queen
 Tad Sheppard
 Harold Walker
 Mike T.
 Bill Gibbs
 Amie Hanna
 Ginger Freise
 Ben Lynch
 Christian Hubert

If you would like to request prayers for yourself or someone else, please write the name(s) on a prayer request card or call or email the office at 599-0778 or stjohnincarnation@gmail.com. Please write how long you would like the name to remain on the list otherwise it will be removed after three weeks. Feel free to repeat your request at any time; we can all use prayers.

Thank you to Cora Sarver for her generous donation to purchase a piano cover for our new piano in the sanctuary!



Dear St. John-Incarnation family,

I want to thank all of you for all your prayers, cards and flowers that you sent to me while I was home during my recent illness. It was so heart-warming to be remembered by all of you. Each card and prayer made me feel your love and made me feel so much better.

Pastor Alex thank you for your visits, prayers and communion that you brought and reminded me how lucky we are to have you bringing us the Word at church and at home. God Bless.

Love, Pauline

First Communion classes will take place on **Monday, March 2nd and March 9th** at SJILC. Please contact the church office at 599-0778 / stjohnincarnation@gmail.com or speak with Pastor Alex if interested.



Please join us after worship on **Sunday, February 23** as we pack up all the food items from our **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** food collection for the New LIFE Center! We will continue taking donations until **Sunday, Feb. 23**. Please place them in our food pantry in the narthex. **Thank you so much!!!**

ASHES TO GO!

Pastor Alex will be at the Lynbrook Train Station on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 26) from 6:30am–8:30am. Come get your ashes and a blessing to start the Lenten season!

Ash Wednesday worship begins at 7:30pm at St. John–Incarnation Lutheran Church.



IT'S "TUNE"AMENT TIME!

In the spirit of next month's college basketball tournaments, we will be having our 4th annual hymn tournament here at St. John-Incarnation! Last year's "musical madness" began with some very surprising upsets including the top two seeds, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" and our defending champion, "Christ, Be Our Light" losing in the opening round. The championship featured two big underdogs: "We Are Called" vs. "This Little Light of Mine." The competition was fierce and donations increased significantly, but in the end the winning hymn was the #16 seeded, "We Are Called"!

Can "We Are Called" win it again and become our first repeat champion? Or will this finally be the year that "A Mighty Fortress" breaks through? Here's your chance once again to support your favorite hymns and root them on to victory!

A reminder of the rules and format: Please submit your favorite hymn(s) that you would like entered into the tournament by no later than **Tuesday, March 3rd**. The 16 hymns that have the most nominations will qualify with seeding determined by number of submissions. When you arrive at church on **Sunday, March 8th** you will find 16 cups on a table placed in pairs. Each cup will have the name of a hymn on it, and matchups will be based on seeding just like the college basketball tournament (#1 vs. #16, #2 vs. #15, etc.)

Voting will be done each round/week by donations – loose change, cash, or checks made out to St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church. The cup that has more money in each pairing at the end of the morning will be the hymn that moves on to the next round: 16 → 8 → 4 → 2 → 1

2020 Tournament Schedule

Sweet 16 – Sunday, March 8th

Elite 8 – Sunday, March 15th

Final 4 – Sunday, March 22st

Championship – Sunday, March 29th



The hymn that wins the championship will be sung in worship once a month for the next year! The runner-up will be sung quarterly and the remaining two hymns in the Final 4 will be sung three times over the next year!*

* In addition to when they are normally scheduled to be sung (i.e. "A Mighty Fortress" on Reformation Sunday)

BACK TO SCHOOL CARE PACKAGES FOR OUR COLLEGE KIDS!

We will once again be sending care packages to the college students in our congregation!
There are two ways that you can help us with this:

1. Donating one or more of the items listed below (please bring to church by 4/7).
 2. Helping assemble packages in the Knotty Pine room after worship on **Sunday, April 7th**.
- Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

COFFEE MUG
INSTANT OATMEAL
INSTANT NOODLES
EASY MAC & CHEESE
RAMEN NOODLES
CUP OF SOUP
MICROWAVE POPCORN
COOKIES
POWDERED DRINK PACKETS
CORRECTION TAPE

HIGH LIGHTERS
PENS
PENCILS
POST-IT NOTES
TISSUES
HAND SANITIZER
PAGE FLAGS
CANDY
GUM
COUGH DROPS



If you would like your son, daughter or grandchild to receive a care package, please contact the church at 516-599-0778 or stjohnincarnation@gmail.com with the student's name, school, and address. Thank you!

Bread, Bowl, and Bible!

Join us for dinner and worship
on Thursday evenings in Lent:



March 5th
March 12th
March 19th
March 26th
April 2nd



Soup and bread will be served at 6:00 PM
Holden Evening Prayer will begin at 7:00 PM.

We hope you will join us!

SJILC BOWLING OUTING!



Sunday, March 8, 2020

1:30 PM – 3:30 PM



RVC Lanes in Rockville Centre

2 hours of bowling w/ shoes + slice of pizza & soda

ONLY \$14 per bowler!

*To register, please sign the sheet in the narthex or contact the church office at 516-599-0778 or stjohnincarnation@gmail.com
Friends, relatives, and neighbors are all welcome!*

Deadline to RSVP is Friday, March 6th.

Please make checks payable to St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church.



MAKING FUN!

Anyone interested in learning how
to make their own fastnachts?

On Saturday, March 2nd at 10 a.m. we will meet in the church kitchen to make our
own fastnachts for Fastnacht Sunday
and to be able to take some home for your family too!

It will be a fun morning making the dough, cutting and frying and test tasting!!

The recipe will be handed out so you can make them yourself any time!

If you are interested please contact Janet Pescatore at
mrsp061601@optonline.net or 239-7623 or 581-1221.
You can also call or email the church office or add your name
to the signup sheet in the narthex.

Introducing the Congregational Council of St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church!



Richard Dietrich – President
Doug Palmer – Vice President
Kim Carlstrom – Secretary
Bruce Feltkamp – Treasurer
Andrew Dunn
Alois Essex
Dan Gonzalez
Claire Lenz
Susan Masciello
Bob Reckhart
Jeanette Richetti
Don Roth
Chris Shelton
Anne Sheppard



Many thanks to these leaders of our congregation!

SEASONAL CHOIR FOR EASTER

Enjoy singing? Ever thought about joining the choir, but can't commit to coming all year-round? Here's your chance to share your gift of music on a short-term basis! Come Thursday nights at 7:30 PM, to prepare to help lead the congregation in song during worship for the Easter Season. Everyone – male & female; young adult & “senior”; soprano, alto, tenor, or bass – is welcome. Have questions? Talk with Allison Koehler, our choir director!

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member of SJILC please contact the church office at 516-599-0778 or email us at stjohnincarnation@gmail.com

SCOUT SUNDAY AT SJILC!

On Sunday, February 9th, we honored the scouts in our congregation and gave thanks to God for the ministry of scouting everywhere!



WORSHIPPING IN OUR AUDITORIUM!



WINE & CHOCOLATE PAINT NIGHT





*Christ
is
Risen!*
Alleluia

Easter Baskets

Easter is a joyous and glorious time for us as we celebrate our Lord's Resurrection. For many, that joy is overshadowed by a feeling of hunger.

It is our purpose, at the **New LIFE Center – Long Island**, to care for and uplift our neighbors and we invite you to participate in building up the body of Christ.

We are asking for your help in providing Easter Food Baskets for the hungry. These baskets are much more than food. They are a visible sign that carries the message of Christ's love and concern.

Please help by donating any of these suggested items:

Cake Mix/Frosting/Brownie	Cookies/Candy
Juice/Canned Fruits	Tomato Sauce/Spaghetti Sauce
Sugar/Flour/Salt/Pepper	Mashed Potatoes
Mac and Cheese/Pasta	Pudding/Jello
Cereal (Hot and Cold)	Napkins
Pancake Mix/Syrup/Jelly	1Lb. Bag or Boxed Rice
Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate	
Parmalot Milk	

Fresh/Frozen/Turkey/Ham/Chicken

In lieu of food donations, store Gift Certificates would be appreciated.

DISTRIBUTION OF FOODS BASKETS ARE TO BEGIN OF MARCH

AND WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE MONTHS OF MARCH AND APRIL

Lutheran Social Services of New York
New LIFE Center – Long Island

516-483-3240
www.lssny.org

**The New LIFE Center specifically requests extra
hot chocolate, cookies and icing!**

WELCA Baby Shower

Come join us for a fun filled evening on
Tuesday, March 24 at 7:30 PM.
to benefit the New LIFE Center!

INFANT LAYETTE PROGRAM



*Lutheran Social Services of New York
New LIFE Center Long Island
311 Uniondale Avenue
Uniondale, NY 11553
516-483-3240*



The Infant Layette Program of Lutheran Social Services of New York - New LIFE Center - Long Island is a ministry that helps mothers and families in need by providing them with basic necessities for their new babies. The mothers that are referred to us, by social service agencies, hospitals and clergy, receive a generous amount of infant clothing sized Newborn to 24 months packaged as a layette. They also receive diapers, formula, blankets, and many of the other essential items listed below.

The New LIFE Center has been blessed to have generous support from numerous congregations, organizations, and individuals. Through baby showers, social ministry projects, and individual donations, we are able to reach out to many families who struggle to provide even the basics for their infants. The number of layettes that we distribute continues to increase and donations are always needed to meet the challenge.

Please consider supporting the Infant Layette Program. There are many ways to contribute to this ministry: making a donation, organizing a collection of items, or by hosting a baby shower. Please feel free to contact us. Your support is a blessing to our infants and their families.

ITEMS NEEDED

BABY FOOD
CEREAL
FORMULA
BIBS
BURPCLOTHS
PACIFIER
BOTTLES
DIAPERS NEWBORN-6
DIAPER BAGS
LOTION
WIPES
SHAMPOO
BABY WASH
Q-TIPS
COTTON BALLS
OINTMENT
SAFETY ITEMS
SMALL DISHES
CUPS & UTENSILS

CRIB SHEETS
CHANGING PADS
SMALL COTTON HATS
INFANT SOCKS
SOFT SHOES
ONESIES
STRETCHIES
SLEEPERS
SACKS
RECEIVING BLANKETS
QUILTS
FLEECE BLANKETS
INFANT TOWELS
WASH CLOTHS
OUTFITS 0-24 MO
INFANT JACKETS
SWEATERS
INFANT TOYS (SMALL)
CLOTH BOOKS
STUFFED TOYS (SMALL INFANT)

