

ST. JOHN-INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

MESSENGER

MAY 2020



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

Calendar of Events

***Our building continues to remain closed** due to COVID-19 quarantine, and as of right now we do not have a scheduled date for reopening. Sunday worship and Thursday night Vespers will continue remotely via ZOOM with bulletins being sent through email and regular mail. Please contact the church office if you know someone who would like a copy of the bulletin so we can be sure to send it.

Sun. 5/17, 5/24, 5/31	Worship	9:30am
Thurs. 5/14, 5/21, 5/28	Evening Prayer Service	7:30pm

Sun. 5/17	Virtual Paint Event	3:00pm – 5:00pm
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5/23–5/24	New Life Center Food Drive	All Day
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Mon. 5/25 **MEMORIAL DAY**

Sun. 5/31 **Pentecost** **Wear your RED pajamas!**

LOOKING AHEAD TO JUNE:

Sun. 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, 6/28	Worship	9:30am
Thurs. 6/4, 6/11, 6/18, 6/25	Evening Prayer Service	7:30pm

Sun. 6/21 **HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!**

Please pray for...

Larry Lipitz	Arlene	Bill Gibbs
Anthony Posimato	Sandy	Charles
Donna Valenti	Bill	Karissa Heap
Stephen Suppa	Joe	Orlando Castrence
Eleanor Haslett	Joanne	Alisa Queen
Scott Masciello	Ryan	Tad Sheppard
Sherry Powell	Grace	Harold Walker
The Carver Family	Sue	Bernadette Harten
John Michael	Faith	Mike T.
Vivian Monaco	Carmel Wright	Mary Rebando
Larry Rienecker	Joshua Emswiler	Ben Lynch
Colton Youdelman	Amie Hanna	Our Homebound
Christel Hild	Vito Richetti	Our Military
Marina	John G	Healthcare Workers
Ann B.	May	First Responders
Ross D.	Ginger Freise	Those we pray for silently or aloud

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.

All worship services will be conducted virtually until further notice. If you have been assigned to be a lector, you can still do the readings. Just let Pastor Alex know you will be reading.

SERVERS FOR MAY 2020

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
3	8:15			Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	
	9:30	Sam Barry	Sam Barry	Dan Gonzalez	Dan Gonzalez	Suzanna Thomas & Victoria Ramirez
10	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Christopher Dunn	Claire Lenz	Hank Lenz	Janet Powell & Kristen DeStefano
17	8:15			Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	
	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Tyler Rouse	Janet Pescatore	Chris Shelton	Robert Reckhart & Sean Rouse
24	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
	9:30	Kaitlyn Gavin	Kaitlyn Gavin	Kim Carlstrom	Kim Carlstrom	Carol Clemente & Janet Pescatore
31	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
Pentecost	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Victoria Ramirez	Andrew Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Doug & Kristina Palmer

SERVERS FOR JUNE 2020

DATE	TIMES	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
7	8:15			Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	
Trinity Sunday	9:30	Victoria Dunn	Victoria Dunn	Dan Gonzalez	Chris Shelton	Dorothy Criscuolo & Susan Masciello
14	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
	9:30	Kaitlyn Gavin	Kaitlyn Gavin	Claire Lenz	Hank Lenz	Janet Powell & Kristen DeStefano
21	8:15			Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	
	9:30	Sam Barry	Sam Barry	Susan Masciello	Anna Lenz	Andrew & Alexandra Dunn
28	8:15			Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	
	9:30	Christopher Palmer	Christopher Palmer	Janet Pescatore	Janet Pescatore	Doug & Kristina Palmer

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.

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ALEX...

I was up in our church steeple recently to change one of the lightbulbs on our cross that had burned out when an old song from my childhood suddenly came to mind:

The church is not a building,
the church is not a steeple,
the church is not a resting place,
the church is a people!

I am the church!
You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus,
all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!



Yes, my friends, **we are the church together, even when we're apart!** I have missed you all so much during this long and unprecedented pandemic (it's been over 60 days now since we last gathered at SJILC), and even though I have been in our church building almost every day and have been able to lead worship from our sanctuary, it still hasn't felt like church. Not even "remotely" close!

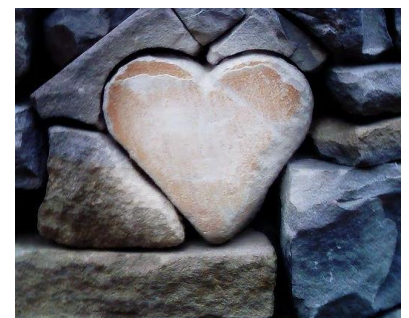
Don't get me wrong, I'm very thankful for these amazing video conferencing platforms like WebEx and Zoom which have helped us stay connected over the past two months. Being able to hold live worship services and meetings where we can see each other, converse, and offer mutual support has been a wonderful blessing for us, to be sure. But it's still not the same. When I look out at the empty pews each week and imagine all of you sitting there, I'm reminded of what that old Sunday School song taught me: the church is not a building, but a **people**.

1 Peter 2:5 tells us that we are like living stones who are being "built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." Granted, we don't tend to think of stones as being alive or living, and obviously the author of 1 Peter is referring to a spiritual house here rather than a physical one! However, as we approach the end of this Easter season and look forward to Ascension and Pentecost, I cannot help but think of another stone – the one that was rolled away on that first Easter morning. Because of Christ, our chief cornerstone, and the good news of the resurrection, we are not only given the promised hope of new life in Him, but we are also joined to him and to one another through the waters of our baptism.

So as we continue to wait out this virus and look forward to that day when we can come together once again as a church, may we remember the unity we share in the love of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Trusting in this good news, we can live without worry or fear, so that, in the words of 1 Peter, "we may proclaim the mighty acts of Him who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light."

In Christ +

Pastor Alex



Join us for worship on ZOOM!

Sundays at 9:30am &
Thursdays at 7:30pm

Online:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5165990778>

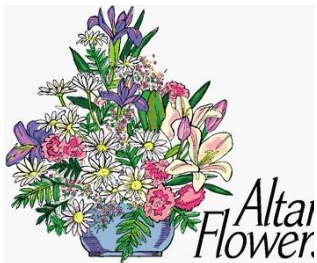
Meeting ID: 516 599 0778

By phone:

1-646-558-8656 US (NY)

Meeting ID: 516 599 0778 #

No attendee code. Just press #



If you would like to donate flowers in honor or memory of someone for our virtual worship services, please mail your donation to the church office with the date, names, etc. Suggested donation is \$30.

New Life Center Food Drive

In this difficult time we do not want to put any additional stress on anyone. If, any only if you can while feeling safe, please drop off any food items you can donate. The following is a list of most needed items, but of course they will accept anything. There will be a box in the stairwell to the Knotty Pine Room off Pastor's driveway. Please drive by and drop items sometime this weekend...Saturday 5/23 or Sunday 5/24. The items will be gathered and cleaned and dropped at the New Life Center on Monday 5/25/20. The Evangelism Committee is also asking everyone to say lots of prayers for all who are suffering and to keep reminding each other this too shall pass. God will always be with us.

Most needed items:

Cereals	Oatmeal	Syrup	Pancakes
Rice	Pasta	Tuna Fish	Mixed Vegetables

If instead, you would like to help with a monetary donation... checks should be made out to:

Lutheran Family & Community Services
c/o Grace Lutheran Church
311 Uniondale Avenue
Uniondale, NY 11553

Any questions call Susan – 516-554-2207. Thank you!!!



EASTER FLOWERS

We would like to thank the following people for helping to beautify SJILC this Easter with flower donations:

In Memory of

Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Frank Feltkamp
Frida Thumm
My Loved Ones
Doris & John Kortlang, Amy &
Shelli Kortlang, Tony & Katie Posimato
Loved Ones
Our Loved Ones
My Loved Ones

Carol Clemente
Charlene Comastri
Pauline Feltkamp
Christel & Paul Hild
Joan Pirrone

Judy & Anthony Posimato
Don Roth
Chris & Blanche Shelton
Paula Williams

In Honor of

The Music and Worship Committee
Karen & Anthony Posimato
Our Grandchildren
Our Risen Lord
My Godson-Bruce Feltkamp & Family

Bruce & Karen Feltkamp
Judy & Anthony Posimato
Chris & Blanche Shelton
Paula Williams
Grace West

Give to SJILC using PayPal!

Here's how it works:

Log in to your PayPal account, choose the "send" option to send money, and type in our new email address: **stjohnincarnation@gmail.com**.

Once you have entered the amount you would like to give, please select the "Sending to a friend" option to send your donation for free. (**Otherwise, PayPal will charge you a small transaction fee.**) Confirm payment and you're done!

It's a fast and easy way to support the ministry of St. John-Incarnation!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



On **Sunday, Sept. 13**, congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will come together for **“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday**.

This year our church — and our world — are living through the COVID-19 pandemic. Physical distancing has changed the way we worship and serve. We miss gathering with family and friends to share God’s love in person. But the need is great, and God’s church is at work.

While we’re not sure what the impact of this crisis will look like in September, we continue to be **church together**. We are witnessing the outpouring of love and concern that God’s people have for one another. Our congregations continue to maintain feeding ministries, serve communities that are disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 infection and assist those who are financially burdened by the economic downturn.

As church, we are guided by our life in Christ to share the love of Jesus and serve our neighbors — even if these acts of service take place from our homes or from a safe distance.

*** If you have any ideas or suggestions for what we can do as a congregation for **“God’s work. Our Hands Sunday”**, please contact Susan Masciello, Pastor Alex or Andrea at the church office!



God Bless
St John. Incarnation Family
keep safe and
faithful. You
Thoughts pray
Dot



Food for Thought...

Ascension Day this year is Thursday, May 21, which will be the 40th day of this Easter season. We also just finished Lent, a season that lasted 40 days (not counting the Sundays).

The Latin root of the word "quarantine" is "forty".

So what does the Bible say about 40?

The flood lasted 40 days.

40 years Moses fled Egypt.

40 days Moses stayed on Mount Sinai to receive the Commandments.

Exodus lasted 40 years.

Jesus fasted for 40 days.

40 days after Jesus died he was taken up into heaven!

40 days for a woman to rest after giving birth.

Optimum number of weeks for human gestation is 40.



A group of theologians thinks the number 40 represents change.

It is the time of preparing a person, or people, to make a fundamental change. Whenever the number 40 appears in the Bible, there is a "change".

Please know that during this "quarantine" rivers are cleaning up, vegetation is growing, the air is becoming cleaner because of less pollution, there is less theft and murder, healing is happening, and most importantly, people are turning to Christ.

The Earth is at rest for the first time in many years and hearts are truly transforming.

Remember we are in the year 2020, and $20 + 20 = 40$.

Also, 2020 is the year of the United States Census.

Jesus Christ, the savior of the world, was born during a census.

Lastly, 2020 is perfect vision. May our sight focus on the Lord and living according to His perfect vision for us knowing He holds us in the palm of His hand.

