



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


March/April 2023



13 Blake Avenue
Lynbrook, NY 11563

Upcoming EVENTS



Sun. 4/2	Palm Sunday – Worship Sunday School Last day for food donations for New LIFE Center Easter Baskets	8:15am & 9:30am 9:30am
Wed. 4/5	NO Confirmation class	
Thurs. 4/5	Maundy Thursday Service	7:30pm
Fri. 4/6	Good Friday Tenebrae Service	7:30pm
Sun. 4/9	Easter Sunday – Worship (No 8:15am service) Easter Egg Hunt 	9:30am after 9:30am worship
Tues. 4/11	Evangelism meeting Church Council meeting	6:30pm 7:30pm
Wed. 4/12	NO Confirmation class	
Sun. 4/16	Worship (No 8:15am service) WELCA Mock Baby Shower	9:30am after 9:30am worship
Wed. 4/19	Confirmation class	7:00pm
Sun. 4/23	Worship	8:15am & 9:30am
Wed. 4/26	Confirmation class	7:00pm
Sun. 4/30	Worship	8:15am & 9:30am



Thurs. 5/4	Evening Prayer & Healing Service	7:30pm
Sun. 5/7	Worship	8:15am & 9:30am
Tues. 5/9	Evangelism meeting Church Council meeting	6:30pm 7:30pm
Sun. 5/14	Mother's Day	

Please note: All 9:30am services will be held in-person AND remotely via ZOOM (8:15am is in-person only) with bulletins being sent by 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.

WORSHIP SERVERS SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2023

<p>PALM SUNDAY, 4/2 – 9:30am</p> <p>Assist. Minister: Susan Masciello Lector: Chris Shelton Ushers: Anne & Tad Sheppard Zoom Host: Bruce Feltkamp</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 4/16 – 9:30am</p> <p>Acolyte: Victoria Ramirez Assist. Minister: Dorothy Richetti Lector: Dorothy Richetti Ushers: Suzanna & Chris Thomas Zoom Host: Jeanette Richetti</p>
<p>MAUNDY THURSDAY, 4/6– 7:30pm</p> <p>Acolyte: Victoria Ramirez Assist. Minister: Janet Pescatore Lector: Janet Pescatore Ushers: Suzanna & Chris Thomas Zoom Host: Dan Gonzalez</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 4/23 – 9:30am</p> <p>Acolyte: Sam Barry Assist. Minister: Kim Carlstrom Lector: Kim Carlstrom Ushers: Heidi Scalza & Judy Posimato Zoom Host: Bruce Feltkamp</p>
<p>GOOD FRIDAY, 4/6 – 7:30pm</p> <p>Acolyte: Kaitlyn Gavin Assist. Minister: Dan Gonzalez Lector: Dan Gonzalez Ushers: Bob Reckhart & Sean Rouse Zoom Host: Jeanette Richetti</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 4/30– 9:30am</p> <p>Acolyte: Chris Palmer Assist. Minister: Andrew Dunn Lector: Anita Marco Ushers: Cora Sarver & Carol Clemente Zoom Host: Bruce Feltkamp</p>
<p>EASTER SUNDAY, 4/9 – 9:30am</p> <p>Acolyte: Kaylee Palmer Gospel Bearer: Chris Palmer Torch Bearer: Sam Barry Assist. Minister: Dorothy Criscuolo Lector: Chris Shelton Ushers: Doug & Kristina Palmer Zoom Host: Joe Bahadur</p>	<p>WANT TO SERVE IN WORSHIP?</p> <p>We would love to have you serve as an assisting minister, lector, usher, or Zoom host on a Sunday morning! Please speak with Pastor Alex or contact the church office if you're interested or have any questions. Children and youth are invited to serve as lectors, acolytes, torch bearers, and ushers.</p>

WORSHIP SERVERS SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2023

<p>SUNDAY, 5/7 – 9:30am</p> <p>Acolyte: Kaitlyn Gavin Assist. Minister: Katie Forte Lector: Katie Forte Ushers: Heidi Scalza & Judy Posimato Zoom Host: Jeanette Richetti</p>	<p>Sunday, 5/21 – 9:30am</p> <p>Acolyte: Victoria Ramirez Assist. Minister: Susan Masciello Lector: Susan Masciello Ushers: Anne & Tad Sheppard Zoom Host: Dan Gonzalez</p>
<p>Sunday, 5/14 – 9:30am</p> <p>Acolyte: Sam Barry Assist. Minister: Kim Carlstrom Lector: Kim Carlstrom Ushers: Carol Clemente & Cora Sarver Zoom Host: Bruce Feltkamp</p>	<p>PENTECOST Sunday 5/28 – 9:30am</p> <p>Acolyte: Kaylee Palmer Assist. Minister: Dorothy Richetti Lector: Chris Shelton Ushers: Kristin DeStefano & Janet Powell Zoom Host: Susan Masciello</p>

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; Andrea: Ushers, Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch bearers, Gospel bearers and Zoom hosts- Church Office: 599-0778.



POINSETTIA DONATIONS

In Memory of:

David Pontius VBFF &
Sue & Matthew Kalny
Pauline Feltkamp

Given by:

Marlyn Pontius

In Honor of:

Robert Kalny
My Children &
Grandchildren

Given by:

Marlyn Pontius

A Message from Pastor Alex

Every Lent begins in dust and ashes and ends at the foot of the cross. The starting point and destination never change, and those familiar traditions of prayer, fasting, and the giving of alms still remain, but each Lenten journey really takes its own unique route. Our annual observance of this holy season invites us to return to the Lord and encounter anew the great mysteries of our faith, trusting that our gracious and loving God is journeying toward us as well! And so, I give thanks to God that I have been able to journey with you through another Lent. With Jesus leading the way and the Spirit dwelling in our hearts, it's good to know that you and I never have to trek it alone!

And what a journey it has been! We started with ashes in church and "ashes to go" at the Lynbrook train station on Ash Wednesday. We also welcomed five new members into the congregation, which is always a blessing as our church family continues to grow and we reach more people both near and far. Our weekly "Bread, Bowl and Bible" gatherings on Thursday nights were very well attended, so much so that we actually had to add more tables the last few weeks! Amen! I want to thank everyone who provided bread and soup for our meals together, and a special thank you also to Janet Pescatore for organizing our trip to Lancaster to see Moses! Hopefully this can become a new tradition for our church, just like our annual bowling outing which was also a lot of fun!

Throughout this Lenten season, we have also read about Jesus' encounters with various individuals in the gospel of John: Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman at the well, the man born blind, and Mary, Martha and Lazarus. These miracles (or "signs" as John calls them) and the conversations that Jesus had with the people he met throughout his ministry remind us that the One we are following is "truly the Savior of the world."

Well, my friends, our eyes too have been opened, and Jesus has met us (and continues to meet us!) in word, water, bread, and wine. Our response has been one of trust and gratitude – donating food and baby items for the New LIFE Center, assembling personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief, gifts made to the "God's Speed" Capital Improvement Appeal, and all the other numerous donations and offerings given to support the mission of St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church. Yes, we love because Christ first loved us!

The journey isn't over though. We still have shouts of Hosanna, a final meal with the washing of feet, and the passion of our Lord ahead. The cross awaits and stands before us reminding us that we, sinners, are indeed deserving of death. Why then do we call Good Friday "good"? Because Jesus paid the price for us and for all people – the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. As Paul writes in his first letter to the Corinthians: "Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!"

Can we, like the Samaritan woman, go and tell others to come and see? Who will be a witness to the healing, salvation, and new life that only Jesus can bring? I hope you'll join me for Holy Week as together our Lord carries us from death to life and we rise once again as Easter people. To God be the glory!

Yours in Christ +

Pastor Alex

We are praying for ...

Donna Valenti
Stephen Suppa
Eleanor Haslett
Scott Masciello
Sherry Powell
The Carver Family
Colton Youdelman
Sue
Faith
Carmel Wright
Bill Gibbs
Tad Sheppard
Ed Renne
Anita Wilder
Jeff & Jackie Martins
Family of Mary Ellen Calogero

Bernadette Harten
Mary Rebando
Ed Moglia
Joseph Mihalich
The Forbes Family
Shirley Plows
Edith
Vito Richetti
Bud Ellis
Marina
May
Salvatore
Kelsey Wallace
Benjamin Lomot

Lisa
Charles
Edith
Rocco
Jacquie Maidel
Brad Pantall
Barbara Monteleone
Victoria Murillo
Steve Lombardi
Anthony Posimato
Hank Lenz
Anita Marco
Bradley Shelton
Rainer Kracher
Family of Phyllis Gleeson
Family of William Sarver

to request prayers for yourself or someone else, please write the name(s) on the prayer request poster 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.

*Donations have been made to the Memorial Fund
in memory of*



Scott Grim
by

Chris & Blanche Shelton



*Donations have been made to the Memorial Fund
in memory of*



Paul Hild
by

Chris & Blanche Shelton





to **Janet Pescatore** for providing homemade communion bread for our Sunday services in Lent.

to those who have made donations to our **God's Speed Capital Improvement Appeal**, which will be used to upgrade our wireless internet, sound system, video equipment for Zoom, security cameras and more!

to **Joey Bahadur, Richard Dietrich, Bruce Feltkamp, Danny Gonzalez, Chris Palmer** and **Doug Palmer** who helped with removing old internet cables that we set up at the start of the pandemic, fixing connectivity issues, and offering input on the purchase of new equipment. Pastor Alex also wants to thank his dad, **Kevin Kennedy**, for his help and research in resolving the audio issues that we experienced on Zoom.

to **Oliver Markson** for supplying as our organist.

to **Bruce Feltkamp** and **Carrie Feltkamp** for working on our new Clover payment processing service that we hope to launch soon!

to **Susan Masciello** and the Evangelism committee for leading our outreach and fellowship efforts.

FROM OUR COLLEGE KIDS...

Hello!

I wanted to thank the church and the congregation for the college care package! It's the perfect boost to help me finish out my last semester. I am so grateful for all the support I've received from St. John-Incarnation over the years. Thank you so much!

- Ashley Gavin



To St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church,

I just want to thank the church for the college care package sent to me. The supplies, snacks, goodies, and the handwritten note are all very greatly appreciated. I am beyond grateful for the church and the church community's support through all my personal and academic endeavors.

Sincerely,

Kaitlyn Gavin



Hi Pastor Alex,

I just wanted to thank you and the congregation for sending me that generous care package. It was so sweet and such a nice reminder of home. Again, thank you so much.

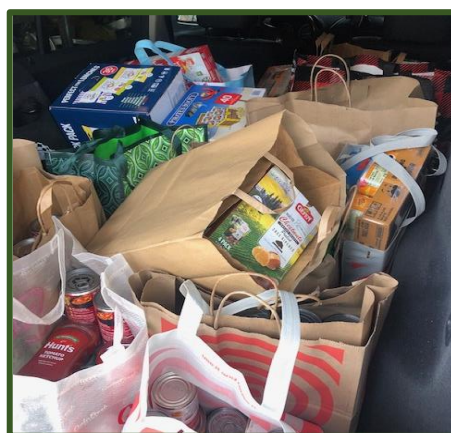
Sincerely, Emma Lenz

Assembling care packages
for our college students.
A total of 11 packages
were sent out for the
spring semester!

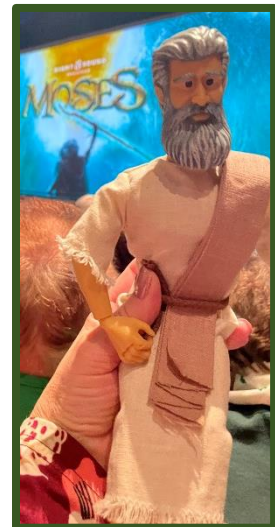


SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

ST. JOHN-INCARNATION DELIVERED
266 LBS OF FOOD
FOR SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY!!!!



ST. JOHN-INCARNATION GOES TO LANCASTER, PA TO SEE **MOSES!**



SJILC GOES BOWLING!



PERSONAL CARE PACKAGES FOR *The New LIFE Center*



ASH WEDNESDAY



“BREAD, BOWL & BIBLE”



A special THANK YOU to the following people who provided soup, bread, beverages and dessert: Gabby Barry, Kim Carlstrom, Raquel Clark, Carol Clemente, Dotty Criscuolo, Bruce & Karen Feltkamp, Anita Marco, Susan Masciello, Janet Pescatore, Judy Posimato, Dot Richetti, Jeanette Richetti, Cora Sarver and Anne Sheppard!

Annual WELCA Baby Shower

Come join us for a coffee hour and fellowship on
Sunday, April 16, after the 9:30am service.

All donations will be given to the Layette program
at The New LIFE Center.

Diane Kelly from the New LIFE Center will be joining us and talking
about both the layette and food ministries.

The following is a list of all the baby items that are needed.

Please bring your donations to church by Sunday, April 16.

Thank you!

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)

HELP BEAUTIFY ST. JOHN-INCARNATION AT EASTER TIME!

If you would like to place Easter Flowers on the altar during the Easter season in memory or in honor of a loved one, please complete the form below. You can mail it or drop it in the offering basket with your free will donation. After the holiday season, the flowers will be given to our homebound members and others in need. **THIS IS A FREE WILL OFFERING.**

✂=====

EASTER FLOWERS DONATION



In Memory of _____

OR

In Honor of _____



Given by _____

Envelope _____

Join us for worship
in person
or on ZOOM!

Sundays at
8:15am — in person only
9:30am — in person & on Zoom



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 #

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ ...

In the past couple of weeks when the church has had some internet issues it awakened me to how much I've taken for granted the gift of Zoom is to me and so many others.

I started joining with the family at SJILC on the first or second week that the church was broadcasting. I recall we were using a different platform, other than Zoom, at the time.

I entered the congregation thinking I'd watch it once and see what Jeanette was always speaking so highly of. Once was all it took. When I think back at how bare bones the communication was, and that Pastor was preaching to an empty church (that had to be incredibly difficult), I just shake my head in amazement at what God can do, and does do, with our little if we offer it up to Him.

Pastor and the council could have opted to do what so many countless other churches did in this country during that time of crisis---nothing. That didn't happen. The people I have come to love like family, though I am 2,000 miles away, put their heads together and figured out a way to have church!

My first wonderful memory was hearing Paula's wonderful, welcoming voice. She had no visual contact but she still made everyone that signed on feel so very welcome. OH! Was I ever homesick for NY hearing that dear lady!

Don and I became fast friends. He sent me pictures from every imaginable position in the church so I'd feel like I was there. Oh, the fantastic conversations we had getting to know each other. And not just Don and I but everyone in the church. We'd chat before church and during special times Pastor would set aside to keep us all together as we all prayed and waited out the pandemic. We had wonderful discussions during Bible studies with Pastor. (I especially loved those!) The Evangelism committee went above and beyond coming up with activities that could be done virtually so not only myself but others who were homebound and unable to attend could feel part of the family. Bingo!!!!!! was a lot of fun.

I could just go on and on about the value, the feeling of being "home" and at the place God intended for me to be to worship.

I've been involved with churches for many decades. None were Lutheran. This was all new to me. I studied hard and learned quickly. I knew this was where God wanted me to be. I didn't even dare to dream that someday I could be an actual member. But. Prayers, not dreams, really do come true.

You may be surprised at how many people attend online for one reason or another. I know Jacqui is also a new and faithful participant too. The potential this has is enormous. Do you know that more than 7,000 Christian churches in the US close every year? That's heartbreaking. God not only called an extraordinary man to the pulpit of SJILC but He also called an extraordinary family to meet together there. Yes.

We are small by some standards, but though thousands sort after Jesus, it was but twelve He used the most to be the core that has grown over 2,000 years to reach our ears today. Little is much when God is in it.

All that to say that when those moments came recently when I couldn't see or hear from the church I remembered what a huge part of my life SJILC is to me. I know God spoke to me to trust Him to provide all I'd need to do my part to upgrade the internet system for the church. I believe that what the enemy intended for evil---the internet problems----God is using for good. A wake-up call, if you will.

Thank you all for caring for and about me and everyone that walks through the doors or signs on. And thank you for accepting me as one of your own. You can't begin to understand what that means to me. I've never seen a church give so much in time, treasure and talent as SJILC. I've visited, assisted at or belonged to churches three times the size of ours and never have I experienced the level of genuine Christian love, sacrifice and caring as I have at SJILC.

Thank you all for simply being exactly who you are 365 days a year ... and not just Sunday's. I am truly blessed to be "home".

Blessings to you all,
Verne Kelley

