



ST. JOHN-INCARNATION
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MESSENGER

(End of) October | November 2021



13 Blake Avenue
Lynbrook, NY 11563

Upcoming

EVENTS

OCTOBER:

Saturday 10/30	Drive-by Food Donation Drop off at the front door of the church	9:00am – 10:00am
Sunday 10/31:	Worship service in person & on Zoom REFORMATION SUNDAY - WEAR RED	8:15am & 9:30am

NOVEMBER:

Wednesday 11/3: 7:30pm	Confirmation class Vespers service in person & on Zoom	7:00pm
Sunday 11/7: Daylight Savings Time ends	Worship service in person & on Zoom All Saints Day The Giving Tree begins today!	8:15am & 9:30am
Tuesday 11/9:	Evangelism meeting Church council meeting	6:30pm 7:30pm
Sunday 11/14:	Worship service in person & on Zoom WELCA MOCK BABY SHOWER	8:15am & 9:30am
Sunday 11/21:	Worship service in person & on Zoom Stewardship Commitment Sunday Sunday School	8:15am & 9:30am 9:30am
Sunday 11/28:	Worship service in person & on Zoom First Sunday of Advent	8:15am & 9:30am



DECEMBER:

Thurs. 12/2, 12/9, 12/16	Advent Holden Evening Prayer	7:30pm
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All 9:30am services will be held in-person AND remotely via ZOOM (8:15am will be 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.

A Message from Pastor Alex:



*“The bright summer had passed away,
and gorgeous autumn was flinging its rainbow-tints of beauty on hill and dale.”*

~ Cornelia L. Tuthill

There is so much that I love about fall. I love the cooler temperatures and breathing in that crisp autumn air. I love how the leaves change from green to various shades of yellow, red, orange, and purple in all their splendor and how they glisten on a bright sunny day when the sky is clear and perfectly blue. I love getting together with my family and friends for Thanksgiving, not to mention everything else that comes with that special holiday from the parade and dog show to the food and football! And speaking of dogs, I also love and enjoy blessing our pets every fall, which is always a *treat* for me even if it isn't for all of them. I love taking part in our annual Harvest Festival here at SJILC. Hopefully, come next October we'll be able to enjoy some brats and baked goods again! And then, of course, as I mentioned above, there's football. Whether it's rooting for my favorite college team, Penn State, on Saturdays or my beloved Eagles on Sundays (or even playing in “turkey bowls” around Thanksgiving when I'm thankful just to avoid injury!), football and fall go together for me like peanut butter and jelly.

Now I wish I could say that I love *everything* about fall, and given all the gushing I've done so far, it probably appears that way! The truth is, however, there's one big thing that I actually *loathe* about this season and that's the **darkness**. With the days getting shorter and the nights growing longer, it's easy to feel a bit discouraged around this time of year. Sure, gaining that extra hour of sleep on that first Sunday in November is pretty sweet, but it's definitely not worth the three long months that follow when the sun goes down before dinner. The lack of sunlight can be challenging for many of us, especially once it gets cold and we're forced to stay inside for the most part. In fact, I remember days in high school during winter when I barely saw any sunlight at all except through some windows! I'd stay after school for a game, practice, or meeting, and by the time I was done and leaving the building, it was already dark again. Ugh.

No, it's not easy living in darkness. I can't even imagine being somewhere like Barrow, Alaska where there's no sunlight for two months straight during winter! And yet, regardless of the weather or season, we've all had those days (and nights) when the mind is restless, the heart is troubled, and it feels like we're stuck in the shadows. Fear, worry, doubt, grief, guilt and despair only add to the darkness. I know I've wandered through some dark valleys in my life and ministry, and I've had the immense privilege of accompanying many of you through some of your darkest and most trying moments too. My faith is always tested, to be sure, and the struggle is very real. I feel like the Psalmist in Psalm 22: “O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but I find no rest.”

How do I endure? What carries me through? I take it to the Lord in prayer and remember God's unfailing promises. I remember the reassuring words of the very next psalm, Psalm 23, that even though we often find ourselves walking in the shadow of darkness and death, we don't need to be afraid, for the Lord is always with us. He loves us, cares for us, and gives us the gift of his peace – a peace that nothing can destroy, not even death!

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.” (Isaiah 9:2) As we approach Advent and these longest nights of the year, we look and listen for the one who says, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12) Yes, with every fall and winter comes another spring. The sun will rise again just like the Son who is risen indeed! For as John's gospel also reminds us, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” (John 1:5)

Until then, we give thanks for the gift of light that illuminates our world and for God's word that illumines our lives in every season: “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105) Indeed, we trust that the light of Christ is not only with us but *within* us too, and we are called to let that light shine whenever and wherever it's needed.

I love that we get to be that light for others and I'm so grateful for those times when you have been that light for me. Sharing God's love with those who find themselves in darkness is really what we're all about here at SJILC: feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, providing shelter to the homeless, praying for the sick and suffering, supporting one another through our grief and struggles, and so much more. As I often say in worship, “**we are blessed to be a blessing.**” We give because we have received so much. This will be our theme for this year's Commitment Sunday, which will take place on Sunday, November 21. I hope you'll be able to join us that morning as together we will commit ourselves once again to the mission we share here at St. John–Incarnation Lutheran Church.

To quote a verse from the hymn, “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”,
*I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.*

Peace +

Pastor Alex

SERVER SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 2021

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTE	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
3	9:30	Kaitlyn Gavin	Anne Sheppard	Tad Sheppard	Judy Posimato & Carol Clemente
10	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Katie Forte	Katie Forte	Suzanna Thomas & Chris Thomas
17	9:30	Kaylee Palmer	Dotty Criscuolo	Dotty Criscuolo	Doug & Kristina Palmer
24	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Janet Pescatore	Janet Pescatore	Bob Reckhart & Sean Reckhart
31	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Chris Shelton	Alexandra Dunn & Victoria Dunn
Reformation Sunday	Torch Bearers	Christopher Palmer	Sam Barry		

NOVEMBER 2021

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTE	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
7	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Dorothy Richetti	Dorothy Richetti	Heidi Scalza & Cora Sarver
14	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Susan Masciello	Susan Masciello	Bob Reckhart & Sean Rouse
21 Christ the King	9:30	Kaitlyn Gavin	Dan Gonzalez	Dan Gonzalez	Anne Sheppard & Judy Posimato
28	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Chris Shelton	Alexandra Dunn & Victoria Dunn

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) – 516-872-2063

Andrea Sommella (Ushers, Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch / Gospel bearers) – 516-599-0778

We are praying for....

Larry Lipitz	Arlene	Karissa Heap
Anthony Posimato	Sandy	Orlando Castrence
Donna Valenti	Bill	Tad Sheppard
Stephen Suppa	Joe	Harold Walker
Eleanor Haslett	Joanne	Bernadette Harten
Scott Masciello	Ryan	Ed Moglia
Sherry Powell	Grace	Mary Rebando
The Carver Family	Sue	Baby Sosnik
John Michael	Faith	Ann B.
Vivian Monaco	Carmel Wright	Ginger Freise
Neil B.	Joshua Emswiler	Arlene Lockwood
Colton Youdelman	Rosalind Mireku	Victoria Murillo
Amie Hanna	Charles	Jacque Maidel
Baby Jack Francis	Bill Gibbs	Dante Castrence
Joseph Mihalich	Hank Lenz	Mortensen Family
Family of Todd Keene	Pat McCutchen	Thomas Odom
Robert Konzelmann	Melanie Beuriner	Pamela
Family of Todd Keene	MaryBeth	Lenny
Family of Chuck Weiser		

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 / 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.



A donation have been made
to the
Barbara Semmig
Scholarship Fund in memory
of

Christel Hild

by

**The Women of
WELCA**



A donation has been
made to the
St. John-Incarnation
Lutheran Church Fund
in honor of

Bruce Feltkamp's
birthday given by
his Godmother
Grace West



Donations have been made to
the

St. John-Incarnation
Memorial Fund in memory of

Christel Hild

by

Carol Clemente
Dorothy Criscuolo
Andrew & Alexandra Dunn
Pauline Feltkamp
Kim Gagnon
Verne Kelley
Allison Koehler
Jon & Laura Legnon
Susan & Vinny Masciello
Nan Moser & Family
Joan Pirrone
Janet Powell
The Richetti Family
Blanche & Chris Shelton

To My SJILC family,

*I'm so grateful for the concern you have
shown during my illness and recovery.*

*Thank you so much for get well cards,
and flowers and especially the prayers!*

Thank you so very much!

Love, Andrea



Each Sunday we have flowers on the Altar with the exception of the season of Lent. Traditionally, these have been given in memory of a loved one(s) or in honor of the life of someone still living.

Each Sunday's bulletin will note the designation of that morning's flowers. Following the end of the morning service, the flowers will be given to someone who is homebound or ill or you may pick them up.

We have many dates available in November and December.

Just add your information to the Flower Request sign-up sheet in the narthex or you may call or email the church office

Your support of this ministry will be very much appreciated.



St John - Incarnation Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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ABOUT

A Church Loving God & People

St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church is a community of faith located in Lynbrook that seeks to love God and our neighbor through worship, service, outreach, and fellowship. We were established in February 2018 through the merger of two congregations with over 175 of ministry combined: the Lutheran Church of the Incarnation in Cedarhurst and St. John's Lutheran Church in Lynbrook. Please have a look around to find out more about us - and consider yourself invited to worship and all of our activities!

SJILC HAS A NEW WEBSITE!
Check it out at
www.stjohnincarnation.org

School Supplies for the New LIFE Center

SJILC assembled a total of 40 elementary school packages!

We delivered them along with 15 backpacks, a bunch of lunchboxes, and an additional 4 large boxes of assorted school supplies to the New LIFE Center.

Thank you to all who donated!



Thanks to Vinny and Susan Masciello for donating the **Red Crepe Myrtle tree and rose bushes** to replace the old tree at the corner of SJILC's front yard!



DAY OF SERVICE

God's Work. Our Hands.

SJIC Day of Service project this year was to collect and assemble **Personal Care Kits** for the **Lutheran World Relief**. The Thrivent Action Team provided us with \$250 toward our project so we have over 50 of each item to pack and mail. Thank you all for your donations and your time to make this such a successful event! Evangelism Committee





WELCOME TO ST. JOHN-INCARNATIONS NEW MEMBERS

The Bahadur Family and the Bohringer Family



Blessing of the Pets





THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOOD DRIVE



Dear Members in Christ,

The Evangelism Committee is hosting a Food Drive NOW **and it will continue through October 31st**. This drive is being sponsored and supported by Thrivent Financial. Our goal will be to collect **500 items of food** (or more!) by October 31st. If we collect 500 items, then Thrivent will give an additional \$500.00 to our selected recipient, The INN, in Hempstead, NY. The INN is an organization close to my heart. I have personally known Jean Kelly and Rob Kammerer, the founders, for years. They feed the hungry and offer shelter to the homeless on Long Island.

With Thanksgiving approaching soon, the items we are looking to collect are as follows:

Frozen Turkeys, Canned Hams, Canned Yams, Cranberry Sauce, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables (Corn, Peas, String Beans), Canned Soup, Canned Gravy, Boxed Macaroni & Cheese, Boxed/Packages Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, etc. NO GLASS ITEMS PLEASE! Once all of the items are collected, we'll be dropping them off at the Mary Brennan INN no later than November 12th.

Please start leaving your items in the narthex by the benches. As the donations come in, I'll let everyone know how we're doing as we approach our goal of 500.

Thank you for your generosity! Let us strive to see the best in each other and treat others the way Christ would command...with love and compassion.

God bless you all!

Kim Carlstrom

TREE OF LIGHT

THE ART OF SONG

A VOICE RECITAL OF ROMANTIC ART SONGS
BY SCHUBERT, SCHUMANN AND R. STRAUSS

Featuring:
Nina Berman, soprano Oliver Markson, piano



WELCA



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2021

After Church in the KNOTTY PINE ROOM



ITEMS MOST NEEDED NOW

Infant socks



Onesies - Especially long sleeved white

Stretchies - Especially cotton knit- not flannel

Sleepers

Sacks

Receiving Blankets

Infant Towels



Outfits 0-24 months plus 2T

Infant toys (small) rattles

Cloth Books

Stuffed toys (Small Infant)

Long Pants solid Colors 0-3 through 2T

Diapers size Newborn, 4, 5,6



THE GIVING TREE

BRINGING THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS
TO FAMILIES IN NEED

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, St. John's has delivered some wonderful Christmas gifts to families who may have had no gifts at all. We will soon be setting up our Giving Tree once again, and we are hoping to deliver more of God's love this Christmas season. **There are two ways that you can participate in donating for the Giving Tree this holiday season.**

(1) The traditional Giving Tree with gift tags will be set up in the narthex by November. 7th. As done in the past, you may select the tag(s) you would like and sign the accompanying sheet with your name and the information requested.

(2) For those who are more comfortable donating gifts from home, we will have a selection of gift tags that you can choose from. If you are interested in donating this way, send an email or call by phone as outlined below, indicating how many gifts you would like to donate. You may request a specific age range, gift type (clothes/toys/etc), and/or a price range. **On a first response basis, you will be assigned gifts that match your requests as best as possible based on what is still available.** Please respond early for best selection. Once we receive your request and confirm the gifts you want to donate, a virtual tag with gift information will be emailed (or texted or mailed if you prefer) to you with instructions.

- By email: LoriF60@aol.com or stjohncarnation@gmail.com no later than Sunday, November 28th.
- By phone: at St. John's 516-599-0778 or Lori Fernez 516-596-1538.

All donations need to be returned no later than Sunday, December 5th. Gifts can be returned, unwrapped, in any of the following ways:

- Drop off in the assigned box in the narthex before or after church service, or anytime convenient (by calling ahead).
- Drop off in the outside drop off box at St. John-Incarnation, near the outside entrance to the Knotty Pine Room.
- Call the phone numbers as listed above for pick up of your gifts.

It is essential to begin and end this project early in order to get the gifts to their recipients in time for the holidays. Your generosity will bring joy to someone in need this holiday season and will reinforce the true meaning of Christmas.

Thank you for your support! - Lori Fernez



The Holidays are coming! Gift cards make perfect gifts! And you help SJILC!

TURN SHOPPING INTO EARNING



Experience the right way to fundraise

Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's never been easier to create opportunities for what matters most to you. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

Easily raise \$1,000 or more every year



You buy a gift card

You get the full value.



The brand gives back

No extra money comes out of your pocket.



Our organization earns

Impacting what matters most to you.

Shop 750+ top brands

Getting your morning coffee. Doing DIY projects around the house. Ordering takeout. Conveniently raise money by doing everyday things.



Get started by downloading the [RaiseRight app](#) on your phone or go to [ShopWithScrip.com](#) on your computer.

"It's super convenient. All I need to go shopping is my phone—I don't even need credit cards or my purse. I'm going to pay for these things anyway, I love being able to use gift cards so we get something in return."

Jen H., earns for hockey

Our enrollment code is **13FLFD8683371. Please use this code when you first enroll and do not share on social media. Contact Janet Pescatore at 516-581-1221 or mrsp061601@gmail.com with any questions.*

Join us for
worship
in person
or on ZOOM!

Sundays at 9:30am



Online:

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

Meeting ID: 516 599 0778

1-646-558-8656 US (NY)

Meeting ID: 516 599 0778 #

No attendee code. Just press #

Ways You Can Give to SJILC

PAYPAL:

Log-in to your PayPal account. If you do not have PayPal, you can sign-up for free at <https://www.paypal.com/us/webapps/mpp/account-selection> Once you're logged in, choose the "send" option to send money and type in our church email address: stjohnincarnation@gmail.com.

After you have entered the amount you would like to give, please select the "Sending to a friend" option to send your donation for free. **This is very important! Otherwise, PayPal will charge you a small transaction fee!**

Confirm payment and you're done!

MAIL:

You can also send your offering to church through the mail or by dropping it in our white mailbox on the side door of the church by the Knotty Pine Room.

Please make checks payable to **St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church** and address to:

St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church, 13 Blake Avenue Lynbrook, NY 11563

THANK YOU for supporting our ministry during this difficult time! God's blessings to you and your loved ones!