



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

**JUNE / JULY 2021**



**13 Blake Avenue  
Lynbrook, NY 11563**

# Coming Events

All Sunday worship services and Thursday night Evening Prayer services will be held in-person AND remotely via ZOOM 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.

## JUNE

## JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>27</b> 5th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30AM Brunch/BBQ Sponsored by WELCA	28	29	<b>30</b> VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING 7:15PM IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM	<b>1</b> Evening Prayer Service 7:30PM	2	3
<b>4</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:30AM	5	6	7	<b>8</b> Evening Prayer Service 7:30PM	9	10
<b>11</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:30AM	12	<b>13</b> EVANGELISM MEETING 6:30PM  COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM	14	<b>15</b> Evening Prayer Service 7:30PM	16	17
<b>18</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9:30AM  Pinto baptism	19	20	21	<b>22</b> Evening Prayer Service 7:30PM	23	24
<b>25</b> 9th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30AM	26	27	28	<b>29</b> Evening Prayer Service 7:30PM	30	31

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ALEX

As I write this message, my favorite basketball team the Philadelphia 76ers are finishing up a very competitive playoff series with the Atlanta Hawks, the winner of which could end up playing the Brooklyn Nets in the Eastern Conference Finals of the NBA playoffs. That is, of course, if the Nets are able to overcome all of their injuries and defeat the Milwaukee Bucks who are an immensely talented team in their own right. Only time will tell!

Meanwhile, Long Island's beloved hockey team, the New York Islanders, are facing off against the Tampa Bay Lightning in the semifinals of the NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs – the same team that eliminated the Isles from the postseason last year. The Lightning are a formidable opponent, to be sure, especially given the recent history between these two teams, but if the Isles can pull it off and beat the Lightning, they will have a chance to play for their first Stanley Cup since 1983 (which, coincidentally, was the very same year that my 76ers last won an NBA championship!)

Now I wasn't alive in 1983 and there may be some Islanders fans reading this who weren't either! But even if you were, that's still almost *40 years ago*, and as scripture reminds us when it comes to the number 40, whether it be days or years, we know there is going to be a great deal of waiting, testing, and hardship!

So needless to say, it's an exciting time for our sports teams, and since the Flyers aren't involved this year on the hockey side, I'm definitely rooting for the Islanders! I would love to see both the Sixers and Islanders win their respective championships because, bragging rights aside, I know how much joy (and relief!) it would bring to all the people young and old who have supported them throughout the season. When the Phillies won the World Series back in 2008 and the Eagles finally won the Super Bowl in 2018, I was fortunate enough to attend both parades in Philadelphia, and the pure elation that I witnessed was something I'll never forget. People cheering from windows and throwing out confetti. Complete strangers hugging and high-fiving one another. Teary-eyed fathers with their little ones sitting on their shoulders. Everyone was there for the same reason, and for those couple of hours we all put our differences aside and simply enjoyed the moment together.

But here's the thing: unfortunately, the parade and celebration come to an end. Yes, championships are wonderful when your team is the one hoisting that trophy, and I don't think anyone will disagree that winning is more fun than losing, but eventually another season begins and it's time to start again! So as much as you might want to keep basking in the glow of that victory, the reality is that everyone else has moved on and are ready to play.

And that's the best case scenario! Don't get me wrong, winning it all is an incredible experience and as a fan you'll always be able to reminisce and rewatch those special moments, but it doesn't last forever and it certainly isn't easy either! There's only one champion at the end of every season and unless you have a player like Michael Jordan or Tom Brady, in all likelihood your team will end up losing that last game or not making the playoffs and you'll be left feeling disappointed. It's very frustrating when you devote all that time and energy rooting on your favorite team only for them to let you down in the end. It's even more infuriating when that loss is due to injuries, bad coaching, questionable calls and/or a lack of effort, and you know that your team should have won! You may even feel some anger and hatred toward the other team depending on *who* it is and *how* they won the game.

Philly fans are quite notorious for this. We don't handle losing very well and whenever it happens no one is spared from our wrath. As Bob Uecker once famously said: "You know what they do when the game's rained out? They go to the airport and boo bad landings."

This leads to another problem. You'll notice that I included myself with Philadelphia sports fans by using the word "we". I'm well aware of the fact that *my* teams aren't the same as *your* teams, and while you and I can respectfully disagree about who's better or best, we know that ultimately it's all in good fun. Unfortunately, however, some fans take things a little too far, and this "us vs. them" or "us against the world" mentality leads to bigger issues.

Now I'm not saying that team sports are bad; not at all! I absolutely loved playing little league baseball and basketball when I was growing up and those experiences taught me the value of teamwork, practice, and good sportsmanship. I also loved having my family there to cheer me on and going to my siblings' games to do the same for them! No, the issue I'm referring to here is when sports move into the realm of idolatry. Feeling compelled to pick sides and defend their team at all costs, it's not surprising that hostility arises among fans and even entire cities! Should we be shocked when people take pleasure in seeing another team lose and their best players fail? (I know I've been guilty of this, especially when it comes to my Eagles!) But that's what happens when it's all about winning and nothing else matters. You lose sight of what's really important.

We also see this, at times, in the life of the church. As Christians, we know where our true allegiance lies. Indeed, our very name reveals the one in whom we trust and follow! And yet, sometimes we have this tendency to wave our Lutheran pom-poms a bit too much. We root for our building, our theology, our traditions, and our playbook. We struggle with welcoming "new players" who don't exactly fit the mold of our team... but then again, is the team really *ours* to begin with?

We don't need to compete with our Christian sisters and brothers of other denominations or even people of different faiths, for that matter! For we are all children of God and that, my friends, makes us teammates, not opponents. Jesus calls us to love freely and fully as we care for one another and serve those in need, and we are able to do this through his power at work in us! So "thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:57), a victory that uplifts us and sustains us until our journey is complete and that never-ending parade begins. As we sang at our Mighty Fortress VBS a few years back, "In Jesus, the victory's won! Share the news with everyone! The sacrifice of God's own Son – King of all salvation!" May we remain united always in the victory of his love.

Peace and Blessings +

*Pastor Alex*



## **WE NEED WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Please consider participating in our Sunday worship service  
as an assisting minister, lector or usher.

Those who are on Zoom can volunteer as lectors and read from home.

College and High School students are also welcome to participate.

Our younger members are can serve as acolytes, crucifers,  
gospel bearers or torch bearers.

Pastor Alex is more than happy to train all those who wish to serve.

## **SERVER SCHEDULE**

### **JUNE 2021**

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTE	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR	USHERS
<b>27</b>	<b>9:30</b>	Victoria Ramirez	Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	Suzanna Thomas & Cora Sarver

### **JULY 2021**

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTE	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
<b>4</b>	<b>9:30</b>	Kaitlyn Gavin	Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	Judy Posimato & Joan Pirrone
<b>11</b>	<b>9:30</b>	Christopher Palmer	Claire Lenz	Hank Lenz	Doug & Kristina Palmer
<b>18</b>	<b>9:30</b>	Sam Barry	Kim Carlstrom	Kim Carlstrom	Cora Sarver & Heidi Scalza
<b>25</b>	<b>9:30</b>	Victoria Ramirez	Andrew Dunn	Chris Shelton	Suzanna & Chris Thomas

# AUGUST 2021

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTE	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
<b>1</b>	9:30	Kaylee Palmer	Susan Masciello	Susan Masciello	Doug & Kristina Palmer
<b>8</b>	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Janet Pescatore	Janet Pescatore	Bob Reckhart & Sean Rouse
<b>15</b>	9:30	Sam Barry	Dan Gonzalez	Dan Gonzalez	Gabrielle Barry & Joan Pirrone
<b>22</b>	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Dan Gonzalez	Chris Shelton	Suzanna Thomas & Cora Sarver
<b>29</b>	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	Carol Clemente & Alexandra Dunn

# SEPTEMBER 2021

DATE	TIMES	ACOLYTES	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
<b>5</b>	9:30	Christopher Palmer	Katie Forte	Katie Forte	Cora Sarver & Judy Posimato
<b>12</b>	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	Bob Reckhart & Sean Rouse
<b>19</b>	9:30	Sam Barry	Andrew Dunn	Anna Lenz	Dorothy Criscuolo & Carol Clemente
<b>26</b>	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Dorothy Richetti	Chris Shelton	Alexandra & 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: 872-2063; Andrea: Ushers, Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch bearers and Gospel bearers- Church Office: 599-0778

✠ There is currently no service at 8:15am.





JOIN US ON SUNDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> AFTER THE 9:30AM SERVICE  
IN THE CHURCH YARD FOR OUR ANNUAL SUMMER BRUNCH & BARBECUE!  
PLEASE SIGN-UP ON THE SHEET IN THE NARTHEX  
OR CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE TO RSVP



**Hello all!** I was out at the **New Life Center** yesterday and the food shelves are unusually empty. Last week they had two rooms in the back with extra supplies and both are empty. **Please consider bringing in some items this Sunday or next or any day of the week.** The green bin is in driveway and I will be sure to empty it occasionally so there is space for your items. The two main suppliers have lessened their donations and churches seem to be busy with other things so donations have not been coming in. In addition, they have more families in need. **As always** I know my prayers will be answered by your help and generosity.

**Thank you!**

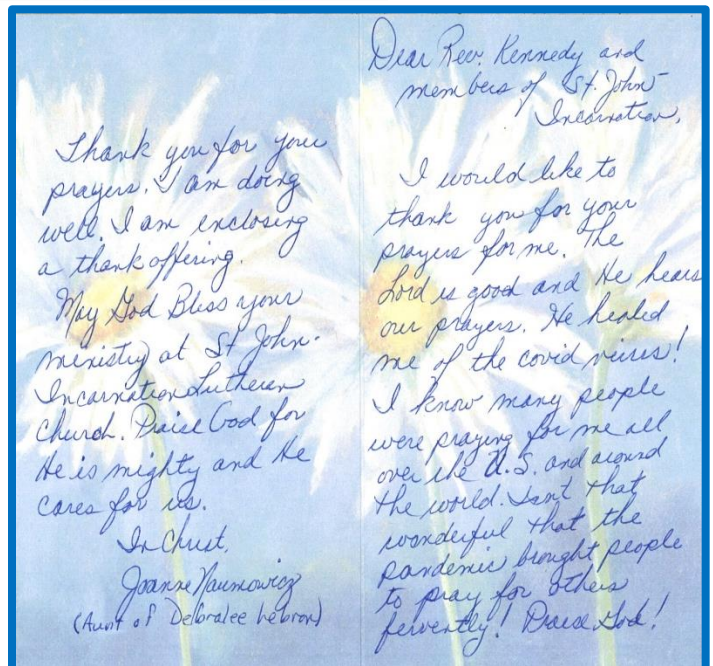
**Susan and the Evangelism Committee**



To **Bruce Feltkamp** for donating  
a new mower to the church.

To **Charlene Comastri** for putting together the  
beautiful floral arrangement that's hanging below  
the Christ window in the sanctuary.

The New **LIFE Center** sent us a  
**THANK YOU**  
for our donation of  
**81lbs** of food  
for the months of  
**April and May!**





## *In Our Prayers*

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	Christel Hild	Rosalind Mireku
Amie Hanna	Charles	Jacque Maidel
Baby Jack Francis	Bill Gibbs	Victoria Murillo
Dina Boebel	Alex Boebel	Teri DeAngelis
Family of Peter Krokondelas	Family of Bryan Blomquist	
Family of John DeStefano	Victoria Murillo	

**If you would like to request prayers** for yourself or someone else, please call or email the office at 599-0778 or [stjohnincarnation@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnincarnation@gmail.com). Please spell the name(s) and indicate 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*

*St. John-Incarnation  
Memorial Fund in memory  
of*

*John DeStefano*

*by*

*Carol Clemente  
Dorothy Criscuolo  
Allison Koehler  
Joan Pirrone  
The Richetti Family*





Congratulations to  
**Christopher Dunn, Kaitlyn Gavin & Victoria Ramirez**  
on being awarded the 2021 Barbra Semmig Memorial Scholarship



## SJILC VEGETABLE GARDEN!



Our vegetable garden has been planted and God is already promoting growth as we look forward to another bountiful harvest later this summer! This year's garden includes a variety of **tomato plants** (Big Boy, Early Girl, Beefsteak, Viva Italia, Grape and Cherry Sweet 100), **sweet peppers** (Italian and banana), **hot peppers** (jalapeño and Cayenne), **cucumbers**, **lettuce**, **broccoli**, **pole beans**, **corn**, **herbs** (basil, parsley, lemon balm and mint), **watermelon** and **pumpkin**... that is, of course, assuming that the squirrels don't get to the pumpkins as they've done before!

We will send out announcements once the vegetables are ready to be picked and eaten. Please feel free to visit our garden (located behind the parsonage) and take whatever you like for yourself or someone in need of fresh vegetables! Pastor Alex will also have vegetables and herbs available on Sunday mornings that you can grab on your way out the door after worship.



*"The kiss of the sun for pardon, the song of the birds for mirth,  
one is nearer God's heart in a garden than anywhere else on earth."*

~ Dorothy Frances Gurney ~





# *Tree of Life Concert Series*

## *"Say it with Music"*



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*

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**\*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](mailto:mrsp061601@gmail.com) with any questions.**



Join us for  
worship  
in person  
or 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 #*

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## 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](mailto: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!

All aboard for  
fun at VBS!

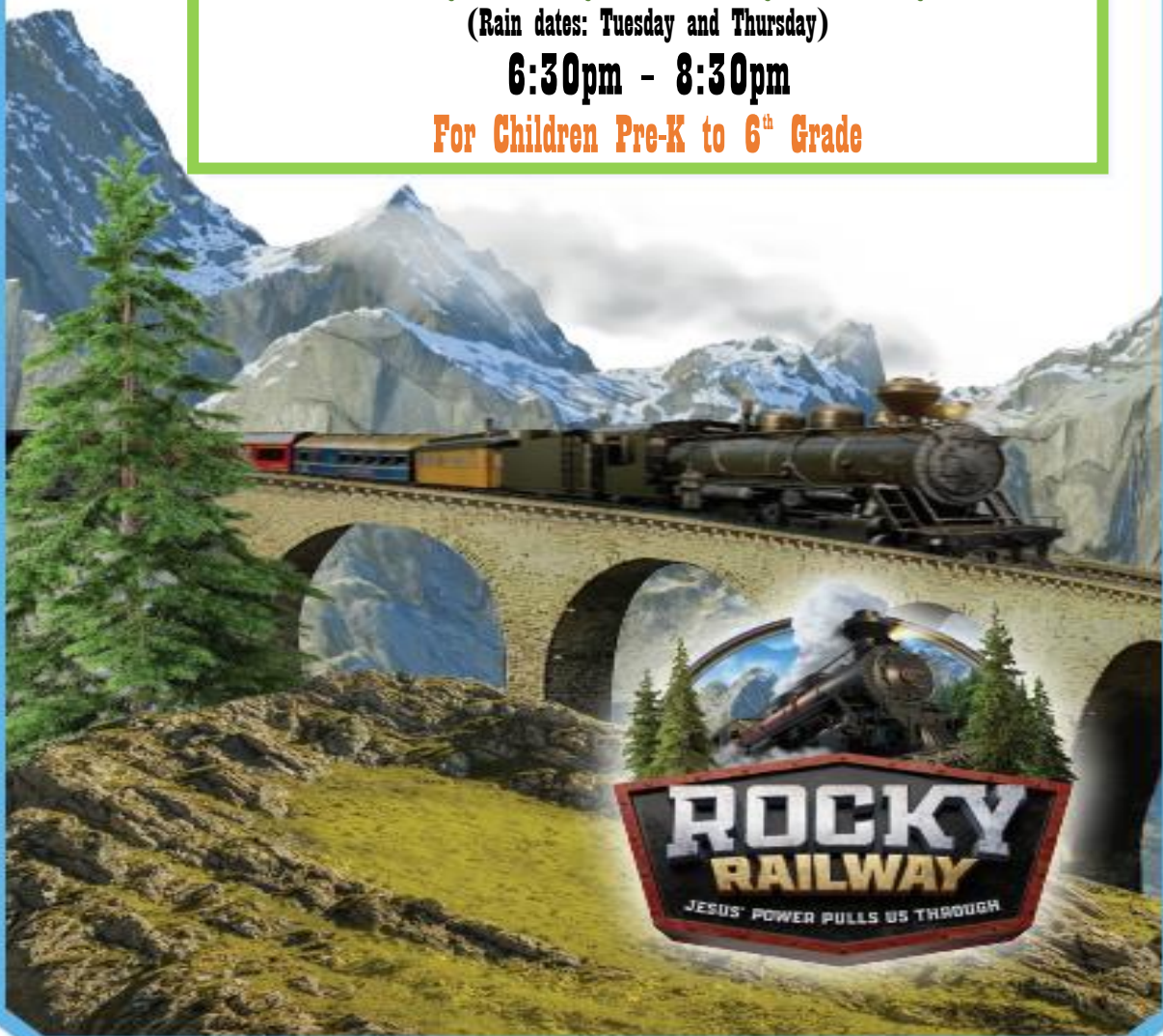
**August 8<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday, Monday, Wednesday & Friday**

(Rain dates: Tuesday and Thursday)

**6:30pm - 8:30pm**

**For Children Pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**



**ROCKY RAILWAY VBS MEETING**

on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm in the Knotty Pine Room and on Zoom  
for all those who would like to volunteer  
and help with this summer's vacation bible school program!



# REGISTRATION FORM

(One per child)



Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Last school grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

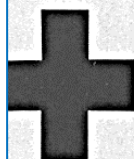
Home telephone: ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/caregiver's cellphone: ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Home email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home church: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies, medical conditions, or special needs: \_\_\_\_\_



In case of emergency, contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_



Anything else you would like us to know about your child:

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**Medical Release:** I give my permission for the VBS staff to administer basic first aid to my child (named above) in the event of an injury. I understand that the VBS staff will contact emergency services in the event of a significant injury and all expenses for such emergency services will be paid by me.

**Photo Release:** I hereby grant the above named church permission to copyright and use photographs/videos taken at VBS of the minor designated above in any manner or form for any purpose lawful at any time. I waive any right that I may have to inspect or approve the finished product or written copy, that may be used in conjunction therewith, or the use to which it may be applied.

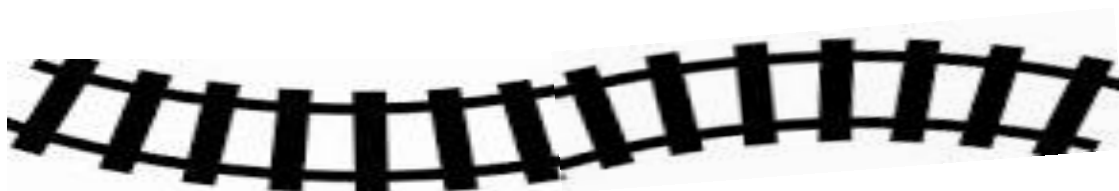
**Permission to Attend:** I give permission for my child (named above) to attend the Vacation Bible School (VBS) listed above. I understand that the information I give for this registration will only be used by the VBS hosting church, and that all registration information will be removed from the hosting site by December 31 of this year.

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Parent / Guardian Signature

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Date





**All aboard!**



**Pastor Alex invites all  
children, youth, and volunteers  
to join us for  
Rocky Railway VBS!**



# We need Rocky Railway resources!

Item Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

Artificial Christmas trees (**without** lights preferred)

Wooden Barrels of any size

Vintage luggage

Sponge balls and/or sponges

Large plastic buckets

Velcro strips

Any other train or railroad-related props and décor

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

LENDING    OR    DONATING  
(please circle one)

**Please attach this form to the item and deliver  
it to the designated boxes in the narthex.**

**by Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Thank you!**