



ST. JOHN-INCARNATION
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MESSENGER
FEBRUARY 2021



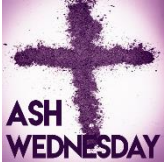
13 Blake Avenue
Lynbrook, NY 11563

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Sunday worship services and Thursday night Vespers Prayer services will be held 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.

***All events will be held via Zoom.**

February EVENTS

Sun. 2/7	Worship on Zoom Souper Bowl of Caring food drive	9:30am 10:30am-12:00pm
Tues. 2/9	Evangelism Meeting via Zoom Church council meeting via Zoom	6:30pm 7:30pm
Wed. 2/10	Confirmation Class	7:00pm
Thurs. 2/11	Virtual Vespers via Zoom	6:30pm
Sun. 2/14	Worship on Zoom Souper Bowl of Caring food drive	9:30am 10:30am-12:00pm
Wed. 2/17	Ash Wednesday Service via Zoom No Confirmation class	7:30pm
		
Sun. 2/21	Worship on Zoom Lent 1	9:30am
Wed. 2/24	Confirmation Class	7:00pm
Thurs. 2/25	Bread, Bowl & Bible Fellowship meal via Zoom Lenten midweek service via Zoom (Additional BBB dates: March 4, 11, 18, 25)	6:30pm 7:30pm
Sun. 2/28	Worship on Zoom Lent 2 Sunday School on Zoom	9:30am 11:30am



Looking Ahead...To March

Thurs. 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25	Bread, Bowl & Bible Fellowship meal via Zoom Lenten Holden Prayer service via Zoom	6:30pm 7:30pm
Tues. 3/9	Evangelism Meeting via Zoom Church council meeting via Zoom	6:30pm 7:30pm
Sat. 3/20	Virtual Bingo	TBD
Sun. 3/28	Palm/Passion Sunday	9:30am



This year's **Bread, Bowl and Bible** will continue to be held on Thursday evenings during Lent.

However, dinner and the prayer service will be via **ZOOM!** We will gather on zoom at 6:30pm, to have a little fellowship while we are enjoying a meal (maybe soup and bread) prior to the Holden Evening Prayer service at 7:30pm.

February 25th

March 4th

March 11th

March 18th

March 25th

PASTOR'S 2020 REPORT

My first report seven years ago highlighted some of my “firsts” as an ordained pastor, from my first time consecrating the bread and wine at the Lord’s Table to my first baptism, which coincidentally occurred during my first week at St. John’s! Needless to say I learned a whole lot during that first year, and while there may have been a few surprises here and there, it never felt like anything I couldn’t handle or was unprepared for. I was confident in my call, and for the most part I knew what to expect. For the most part ☺

Fast forward to 2020 – another year full of firsts, albeit mostly unforeseen and unimaginable ones! The COVID-19 pandemic that began in early March forced us to make quick changes and try new things. Some of these firsts ended up being incredible blessings for us; others, however, felt like anything but – our first Easter and Christmas Eve apart, canceling beloved traditions like Vacation Bible School, the WELCA summer barbeque and our Harvest Festival, and worshiping without a choir, just to name a few. We faced some overwhelming challenges and there were plenty of times when I wondered how we would navigate all the uncertainty. I worried more about what we *wouldn’t* be able to do instead of focusing on what God *could* (and ultimately did) accomplish through this amazing congregation.

Yes, we may have been separated for large parts of 2020, but COVID-19 did not stop us from being **church together**. The Spirit moved us to faithfully adapt and by the grace of God, we did! No, it wasn’t easy and we all had to make some personal sacrifices along the way for the safety and well-being of everyone in our congregation. However, the love of Christ carried us through and we came out of 2020 stronger than when we started it. God is good all the time and all the time God is good!

I want to thank Joe Bahadur who provided us with his Webex account and hosted all our virtual services for those first few months. Without his help, we probably would have missed more than just that one Sunday in March. I certainly didn’t know how to livestream anything, much less an entire worship service from our sanctuary, but Joe stepped up and thanks to him we were able to have our first remote service on March 22, 2020. We quickly added video to our services with the purchase of a webcam and started doing “Virtual Vespers” on Thursday nights. A big thank you to Richard Dietrich, Dan Gonzalez and Bruce Feltkamp who assisted me in getting the sanctuary wired for internet access. I could not have done that without their knowledge and help! We eventually purchased better webcams (wide angle, 1080p, etc.) and added a second camera view from the balcony. Special computer speakers were also purchased so that those gathered in the sanctuary could hear anyone worshipping via Zoom.

We resumed in-person gatherings over the summer with a few outdoor services on our front lawn before finally reopening our church building in August. We followed all the local and state guidelines with wearing masks, social distancing (taping off pews), and using “contactless” measures like digital bulletins and self-serve communion cups. We also purchased the necessary safety equipment like thermometers, hand sanitizing stations, additional masks etc.

With the building primarily vacant and nobody coming in during the week, there were some extra duties that I took on in 2020 including lawn care, snow removal, updating our church sign, watering indoor plants, and even changing the light bulbs in the illuminated cross. I helped out at the New LIFE Center on some Thursday mornings, especially when they desperately needed volunteers. I also assisted Gabrielle Barry with virtual Sunday School classes, and I want to thank her for being the awesome teacher that she truly is! Gabrielle does a wonderful job with our Sunday School children and we are very blessed to have her at SJILC.

Another first in 2020 was the Thanksgiving piano concert performed by our church organist, Judy Markson, and her husband, Oliver Markson. The concert was absolutely marvelous, and having Judy play the piano made our Sunday morning worship services that much better. We hope to have more concerts from Judy and Oliver and possibly some other musicians in the future.

Many thanks to our fantastic church secretary, Andrea Sommella, who went above and beyond sending out emails, bulletins, messengers, making phone calls, and so forth. She is such a gift to our congregation in more ways than we can count. Thank you also to our council members for their leadership through this difficult time. The council had to make some really tough decisions and words cannot express how grateful I am for their input and support.

2020 not only reminded us of what is most important in our lives, but also the true meaning of church. Even though we couldn't be physically together for half the year, we continued to worship together, pray for one another, and share the love of God with our neighbor in need. We put our trust in God and in each other. To quote a song I learned in Sunday School: "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!"

Pastoral Record – 2020

Baptisms: 1 – Valentina Cimino

First Communion: 2 – Skyla Berkowitz, Gabriella Bohringer

Confirmed: 1 – Lauren Henshaw

Marriages: 2 – Matthew Barbaro & Danielle Vultaggio, Ken Jackson & Kathleen O'Mara

Funerals: 2 – Kathleen Diaz, Lawrence Rienecker

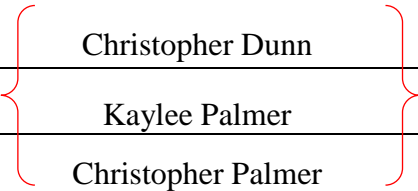
Peace +

Pastor Alex

FEBRUARY 2021

DATE	TIME	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR
7	9:30	Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo
14	9:30	Kim Carlstrom	Chris Shelton
17 Ash Wed	7:30pm	Andrew Dunn	Anna Lenz
21	9:30	Hank Lenz	Claire Lenz
28	9:30	Janet Pescatore	Janet Pescatore

MARCH 2021

DATE	TIME	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR
7	9:30	Susan Masciello	Susan Masciello
14	9:30	Dan Gonzalez	Dan Gonzalez
21	9:30	Hank Lenz	Claire Lenz
28	9:30	Dorothy Criscuolo	Chris Shelton
PALM SUN.	Acolyte	 Christopher Dunn Kaylee Palmer Christopher Palmer	These are tentative
	Torch Bearer		as we are not sure if worship
	Gospel Bearer		will be in person

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.

✝ There will be no service at 8:15am.

✝ Services will held ONLY on Zoom

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	Mike T.
Sherry Powell	Grace	Mary Rebando
The Carver Family	Sue	Don Roth
John Michael	Faith	Bob T.
Vivian Monaco	Carmel Wright	Ginger Freise
Neil B.	Joshua Emswiler	Janet Habermann
Colton Youdelman	Christel Hild	Our Homebound
Amie Hanna	Charles	Our Military
Joanne Naumowicz	Ann B.	Healthcare workers
Baby Jack Francis	Ed Moglia	First Responders
Bill Gibbs	Verne Kelley	Those we pray for
Family & Friends of Ben Lynch	Anne Sheppard	silently or aloud
Family & Friends of Ron Conroy		

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. 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.

EASTER FLOWERS FOR SJILC

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, use Paypal or drop it off in the church mailbox.

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 for SJILC

In Memory of _____

OR

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

Envelope # _____

CHURCH



COUNCIL

Introducing the 2021 Congregational Council of St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church!

Chris Shelton - President
Richard Dietrich - Vice President
Kim Carlstrom - Secretary
Bruce Feltkamp - Treasurer



Alois Essex
Katie Forte
Dan Gonzalez
Claire Lenz
Susan Masciello
Bob Reckhart
Jeanette Richetti
Anne Sheppard



Many thanks to these leaders of our congregation!

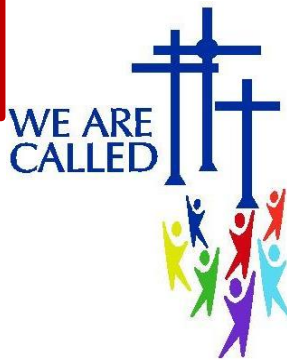
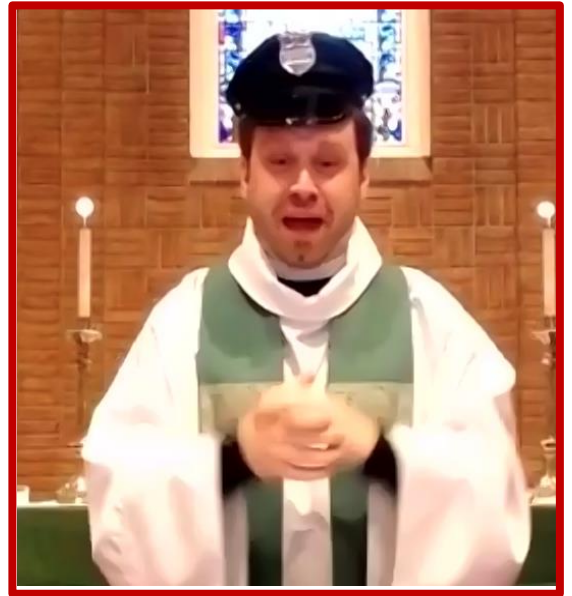


new members class

WANT TO JOIN OUR CHURCH FAMILY?

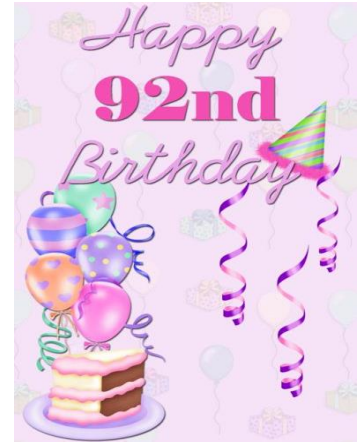
If you or someone you know is interested in becoming
a member of St. John-Incarnation,
please contact the office at 516-599-0778 or
email us at stjohnincarnation@gmail.com

THE MANY HATS OF PASTOR ALEX



PAULA WILLIAM'S BIRTHDAY PARADE

92
WHOLE YEARS
OF BEING
AWESOME



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Spread the Warmth Annual Coat Drive

We are continuing throughout winter, to collect coats and jackets for the **United Veterans Beacon House's Annual Coat Drive.**

Please drop off new or gently used coats in the marked boxes by the coat racks in the narthex.
Your donation will help bring the warmth of God's love to someone this winter.

Thank you!



MADELAINE CHOCOLATE CANDY SALE

2 OZ SEMI-SOLID MILK CHOCOLATE BUNNY
\$4 EACH

DARK OR MILK CHOCOLATE FOIL WRAPPED EGGS
DARK OR MILK CHOCOLATE FOIL WRAPPED BUNNIES
\$7 PER 1/2 LB

3/4 OZ MILK CHOCOLATE CARAMEL FILLED EGGS
3/4 OZ MILK CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER FILLED EGGS
\$1 EACH

Janet Pescatore will be in the narthex of church tomorrow between 10:30am and 12 noon to sell candy.

If you cannot make it to church, you can call or email the church office and we will place the order for you.

You can send a check or pay through Paypal.

Your orders will be delivered to your home.

ST. JOHN-INCARNATION FLOWER FUNDRAISER

*Evangelism is raising funds
for future events.*

Beautify your home and garden with lovely flowers and *contribute to our great cause!*

We are now taking orders for Spring. **Orders will be taken until April 15.**

All orders will be delivered in time for fall planting. All bulbs are 100% satisfaction guaranteed.

To order online, go to <http://SJILC.fpfundraising.com>. Click on the Facebook button to share on your page! We receive 50% of the profit from our sales.

Please contact Janet Pescatore at 516-581-1221 if you have any questions.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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 #

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!