



St. John of the Incarnation MESSENGER May 2017

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Services

8:15 and 9:30 AM at St. John's

11:00 am at Incarnation

Sunday School – Grades K-6

9:30 AM at St. John's

A Message from Pastor Chang...

Metro NY Synod Assembly May 13, 2017 Prelude to the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

Panel: “Who are Lutherans Today?” Responses of the Rev. Mary Chang, panelist

1. How did you come into the Lutheran tradition?

In the 1950s, American Lutheran Brethren missionaries came to Taipei in northern Taiwan and started a church that my parents joined. Pastor Nyhus 聶和慈 baptized me when I was about 11 years old. Pastor Andal and his wife Norma taught us Sunday school.

Then I became part of mission work 60 miles south of Taipei, in Hsin-Chu. The Hsin Chu Victory (Lutheran) Church began when the Christian Alliance Church in Los Angeles sent a missionary named Helen Gilkerson to Hsin-Chu to build up a home-based ministry. My parents served in that new ministry. My father was a deacon, and later, an elder. Even my primary school headmistress 陳世慧 was part of my faith community. I also experienced being a Lutheran in ecumenical settings, when I attended Christian crusades and Youth for Christ events.

The group grew strong. After 40-50 years, this small group expanded to other parts of the country to build up mission churches. They also formed a seminary, which is today called the China Lutheran Seminary, where my father served as a general director. And it continues to reach out to new populations --- such as to “Asian Silicon Valley” in Taoyuan City (located about halfway between Taipei and Hsin Chu)! And this is a major mission field. The Asian Silicon Valley is a new Taiwanese government plan, starting in 2016, for economic transformation by improving economic structures. Meanwhile, the Lutheran mission will work with people there for spiritual transformation!

So, I have had a long history with the Lutheran Church! I graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hong Kong, and served in a Finnish Youth Center in Yuen Long, Hong Kong, as a youth worker and evangelist. I also volunteered as an organist at the Norwegian Seamen's Church in Hong Kong.

2. What are you most drawn to about Lutheranism?

- a) The Bible: the Word.
- b) Music!
- c) Cross-cultural evangelism from Lutheran Bible Institute and Theological Seminary impacted me in youth ministry and also my parents. Norwegian Danish, Finnish, and Swedish Lutherans passionately reached out to Chinese people. In my life journey with them, I experienced different liturgy and chanting but the same love of Christ to people who were different from them: such as in the southern part of Taiwan, or Hong Kong 台灣山區, 香港戒毒中途宿舍

My life was touched by a Norwegian church leader named Anna Martinson, for example. In the 1940s, she went from Minnesota to Henan, China, where she founded United Lutheran Mission, the mission of the Norwegian Church to Chinese people and that ministry is still going on today! Her son, Dr. Harold Martinson, was president of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hong Kong. And her grandson, Paul Martinson, was my teacher for New Testament Greek at Luther Seminary in Minnesota!

I am also thankful for Pastor Luthard Eid, who came to Hong Kong with his wife in 1955. They were missionaries of the Augustana Lutheran Church whose work built up the seminary, Bible institute education, and evangelism to the villagers. Their grandson is now teaching at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota. The tradition lives on!

d) School education, youth ministry, and child & youth centers

3) What do you believe is a significant shortcoming of the Lutheran tradition?

First: In today's digital world, you hear a lot about "links." These links connect you to more information, to other people, to more understanding and interpretation of what is new to you. People today need links to faith too! Otherwise they will not understand the meaning of the faith for their lives. Is the Lutheran tradition passionate today about sharing the Word to the world? We need to use common language with people outside the church, to bring out what our faith means.

We need people like the musician Felix Mendelssohn, who passionately interpreted J.S. Bach's work to the world, with new insights. He made Bach's St. Matthew's Passion come alive. In a similar way, can our variations in ministry carry our faith heritage into new generations of listeners? Our church needs this kind of positive energy to show the world about our heritage in the new counterpoint. To have people know the Lord Jesus Christ!

Second: we need to train our pastor's not only in high theological knowledge but hands-on learning as mission developers, to reach ordinary people as Jesus and His disciples did to integrate with people's lives.

4) What would you like Lutheranism to be in today's world?

I would like to see Lutheranism become broader with recognition to color, creed and gender. For example, to make more room to accept people like me into ministry. I am the only Asian woman of color in the ELCA serving a White congregation. Will the church listen to people like me to advocate, for example, for education in the church at large?

I would like our mission reporting to be more accessible to people's interests. Does a leader want to join the mission as a team member in the field? Or to be sent off as a qualified teacher, or serve in another field? Trusting in God's Word and the Holy Spirit's high calling, people will feel moved and called our church's revival.

I pray that we invite young people to "Come and See," to feast in the joy of mission, whether here or in another land.



Calendar of Events for May 2017

Wednesday, May 3	Confirmation class	7:30 pm
Thursday, May 4	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Sunday, May 7	Worship at St. John's Youth Sunday at St. John's (Confirmation students will serve in worship) Sunday School Worship at Incarnation WELCA sponsored Spaghetti luncheon	8:15 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 11:30 am
Tuesday, May 9	Evangelism meeting Council meeting	6:30 pm 7:30 pm
Wednesday, May 10	Confirmation class	7:30 pm
May 11th – 14th MNYS Annual Assembly in Tarrytown		
Thursday, May 11	NO Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Sunday, May 14	Worship at St. John's Sunday School Worship at Incarnation	8:15 & 9:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am
Wednesday, May 17	Confirmation class	7:30 pm
Thursday, May 18	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Sunday, May 21	Worship at St. John's Moving UP day for Sunday School Sunday School BBQ after worship NO Worship at Incarnation (Incarnation coming to St. John's)	8:15 & 9:30 am 9:30 am
Wednesday, May 24	Confirmation class	7:30 pm
Thursday, May 25	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm
Sunday, May 28	Worship at St. John's Worship at Incarnation	8:15 & 9:30 am 11:00 am
Wednesday, May 31	LAST Confirmation class	7:30 pm

LOOKING FORWARD TO JUNE

Sunday, June 4	Pentecost Sunday Worship at St. John's Confirmation Worship service Worship at Incarnation	8:15 am 9:30 am 11:00 am
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WE NEED YOUR HELP:

Assisting Ministers, Lectors, Acolytes and Crucifers are needed at St. John's. It is a wonderful way to serve during service. It is a small commitment of 1-2 Sundays every three months. Anyone who has made his or her First Communion is eligible. If you are interested **please** contact the church office.

SERVER SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2017

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
5/7	8:15					
Youth Sunday	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Victoria Ramirez	Kaitlyn Gavin	Grace Mata, Kevin Hanson Jr., Tyler Rouse	Christopher Dunn & Dylan Lipitz
5/14	8:15					
Mother's Day	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Tyler Rouse	Claire Lenz	Claire Lenz	Dan Gonzalez & Richard Dietrich
5/21	8:15					
	9:30	Victoria Dunn	Christopher Dunn	Hank Lenz	Hank Lenz	Carol Clemente & Susan Masciello
5/28	8:15					
	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Victoria Ramirez	Claire Lenz	Claire Lenz	Doug & Kristina Palmer

SERVER SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2017

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	CRUCIFER	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
6/4	8:15					
Pentecost	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Tyler Rouse	Kim Carlstrom	Kim Carlstrom	Debby & Bill Lindman
Confirmation	Torch Bearer	Elizabeth Hanson	Parker Sloan			
	Gospel Bearer	Kaylee Palmer				
6/11	8:15					
Holy Trinity	9:30	Parker Sloan	Parker Sloan	Hank Lenz	Hank Lenz	Lori Fernez & Janet Powell
6/18	8:15					
Father's Day	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Christopher Dunn	Katharine Forte	Anna Lenz	Dorothy Criscuolo & Carol Clemente
6/25	8:15					
	9:30	Victoria Dunn	Victoria Dunn	Dan Gonzalez	Christopher Shelton	Tyler Rouse & Robert Reckhart

If you cannot serve on a day you are scheduled, please find a replacement and notify the church office and the appropriate coordinator: Pauline Feltkamp: Ushers 599-2273; Claire Lenz: Assisting Ministers & Lectors – 872- 2063; Church Office: Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch bearers & Gospel bearers- 599- 0778



P Prayers lease

Larry Lipitz
 George Verity
 Stephanie Moser
 Anthony Posimato
 Donna Valenti
 Dorothy Hafner
 Elaine Smith
 Joann D'Ambrosio
 Stephen Suppa
 Jean Weber
 Eleanor Haslett
 Scott Masciello
 Rachel Jeremie
 Doreen Tietjen
 Inga Chiramonte

Bob Robon
 Al Davis
 Sister Irene
 Ernest Weber
 Sherry Powell
 Carver Family
 John Michael
 Doris Oelschlager
 Vivian Monaco
 Frank Zirilli
 Larry Rienecker
 Arlene
 Sandy
 Fleury Family
 Fannie

Joanne
 Ryan
 Grace
 Sue
 Faith
 Elfride Lynn
 Herb Lynn
 Milly Magnusson
 Baby Katherine
 Aidan Schaefer
 Marina
 Joseph Giordano
 Vito Richetti
 Irene Hopkins
 Bill

If you would like to request prayers for yourself or someone else, please write the name(s) on a prayer request card in church or call or email the office at 599-0778 or Adellelynbrook@aol.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.

Delia Bracke
Family of Romeo Davic
Family of Donna Liffman

Bernadette Heister
Adellelynbrook@aol.com
Emmanuel F. Clinco

Joe
Famessa
Maria Dineen

*We thank the following people for helping to beautify
 St. John's this Easter by donating flowers!*



In Memory of:

Ruth Wakuluk & Christina Wakuluk Kimberly, Kristina & Stephanie Carlstrom

In Honor of:

Grandpa Bill Wakuluk His Loving Grandchildren

*We thank the following people for making a donation to the
 St. John's Memorial Fund
 in*

*Loving Memory of Bob and Irma Kaempf
given by Bob, Diane, Brian, Chris, Joanne and Noah*

Paul Simchock called to thank the congregation for making sure he stays current with the St. John's news by sending him the bulletin each week and The Messenger each month. He asks God to bless you all.

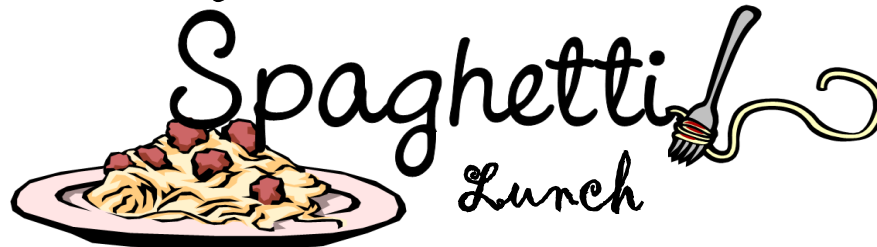
Lutheran Social Services of NY thanks St. John's for their very generous contribution of \$25.00, \$250.00 and \$100.00 in gift cards and 166 lbs. of food for their Easter basket collection!

BARBARA SEMMIG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS!

High school seniors who have been active participants in the St. John's community as well as their local community and who plan to attend college are eligible to Receive a scholarship. Please write us a letter or email outlining your service as well as your future plans. Letters or emails must be submitted no later than May 31st to the Scholarship Committee.



Join us on May 7th at 11:30 am for a



Hosted by WELCA

There are only three Sunday School classes remaining:

May 7, May 14 and May 21.

Please join us as we prepare for
Moving Up Day on May 21st.

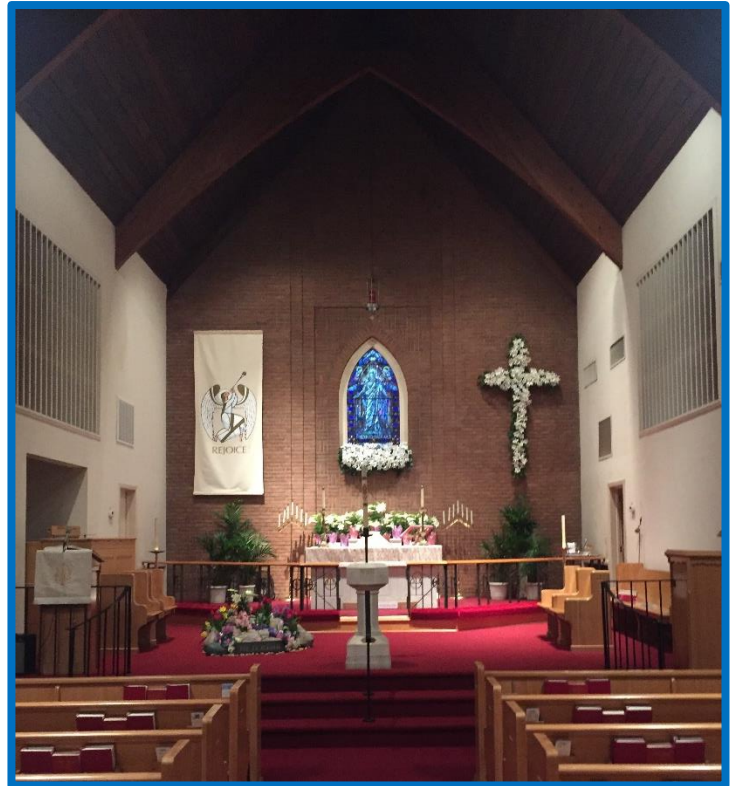
The Sunday School children will also be working
on a special project for May 21st.

We hope that all the students will participate!

We will also be having a **Sunday School family barbecue** after worship on
May 21st for the Sunday school families in the church backyard.

Add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex
or email/call the church to tell us you are joining in the Sunday School celebration!

Easter Sunday at St. John's





WHERE IN THE WORLD IS MARTIN LUTHER?

As part of our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, beginning now through Oct. 29th, we would like you to take a “Here I Stand” Martin Luther standee from the narthex with you on your travels. Snap a group photo or take a selfie with Martin Luther at school, at work, while shopping, vacationing, etc. Then email your pictures to stjohnslynbrook@aol.com. Make sure to include a brief description as to where the photo was taken, as well as who is in the photo. Your photos will be shared on St. John’s Facebook page. You can also print out your photo and pin it to the bulletin board in the narthex beginning Sunday, June 4th.

So let the journey begin and start sharing!

**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!**



**MIGHTY FORTRESS
VBS**

August 21 – 27, 2017