



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

DECEMBER 2021



13 Blake Avenue
Lynbrook, NY 11563



DECEMBER:

Tuesday 12/14:	Evangelism meeting Church council meeting	6:30pm 7:30pm
Wednesday 12/15:	Confirmation class	7:00pm
Thursday 12/16	Holden Advent prayer in person & on Zoom	7:30pm
Sunday 12/19:	Worship in person & on Zoom (no 8:15am service) CHRISTMAS PAGEANT	9:30am
Thursday 12/24:	CHRISTMAS EVE Worship in person & on Zoom	7:30pm
Saturday 12/25:	CHRISTMAS DAY (NO Worship service)	
Sunday 12/26:	Worship in person & on Zoom (no 8:15am service) <i>Lessons & Carols</i>	9:30am

JANUARY:

Thurs. 1/6	Epiphany Vespers Service	7:30pm
Tues. 1/11	Evangelism meeting Church council meeting	6:30pm 7:30pm
Sun. 1/30	Annual Congregational meeting	10:45am

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:

“Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!” – Ps. 27:4

As we prepare for another Christmas and the celebration of Christ’s birth, we find ourselves again in this familiar time of waiting. We all know what it feels like to wait... and wait... and wait some more! How long must we keep waiting!? Sometimes it can feel like forever!

We do *a lot* of waiting too if you really think about it! We wait in lines at the grocery store and the post office. We wait on the phone (“please hold for the next available agent”) while listening to the same song over and over again. I know some of you have waited many hours in the emergency room, which probably tested your patience, and speaking of patience not patients, we even have designated waiting rooms, whether it’s at the hospital, the doctor’s office, the dentist, the veterinarian, or the DMV. We wait for the light to turn green, the traffic to clear up, the school bus or train to arrive, and our flight to board and depart. Sometimes we even have to wait to use the bathroom!

Now for the most part, situations like these are merely an inconvenience, and while it may be a little annoying that we have to wait, like it or not, we know it’s still necessary. After all, you can’t just jump to the front of the line, right? If everyone did that, nobody would be helped! And besides, now that we have things like Netflix, EZ-Pass, Amazon and online banking, just to name a few, our “wait time” in many respects has never been better!

That being said, waiting can also be a real burden, especially when it’s prolonged and filled with uncertainty. The longer we wait, the more likely we are to worry: why aren’t they home yet or answering their phone? What will the test results show? Will I (or my loved one) ever get better? These are the moments when our faith is really challenged, and it’s even harder and more frustrating when there doesn’t seem to be any end in sight. For almost two years now we’ve been waiting for this pandemic to end, and with new variants and positive cases rising again, unfortunately it appears that we’re going to have one more winter of covid-related discontent ahead of us. At least this year we’ll be able to gather in-person for our Christmas Eve worship, which obviously was not the case 12 months ago.

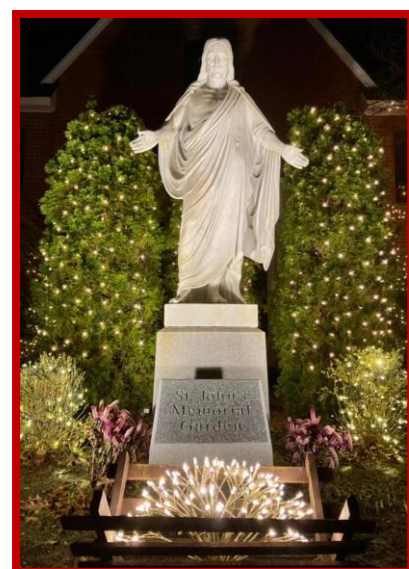
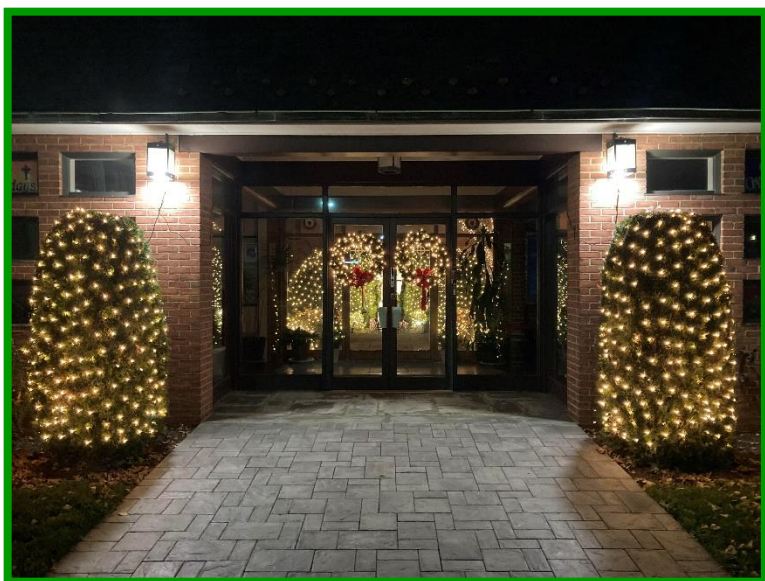
Yes, my dear friends, not all waiting is bad. Sometimes waiting can be good and even exciting, and the anticipation that we feel reminds us that whatever (or whoever) we’re waiting for will certainly be worth the wait – birthdays, holidays, weekends, vacations, family reunions and getting together with friends, your wedding day, your favorite team playing in the big game, the kids coming home from college, your spouse or significant other returning from a trip, and, of course, the birth of a child. Being able to finally see and hold my precious nephew Shepherd for the first time after all that waiting was a special moment that I’ll never forget.

So as we wait and watch for the Lord in this Advent season, let us remember the words of the Psalmist who also writes, “I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope.” (Ps. 130). Yes, our hope rests in the birth of a child who is God’s love incarnate – the word made flesh who was born to us, lived among us, and died for us and for our salvation, even while we were still sinners! Our hope also rests in the promise of the resurrection knowing that there will, indeed, come a day when crying and pain and death will be no more. This is the good news of great joy for all people, and we can hold onto this hope because our God is always faithful. As we sing in the words of the hymn, “Canticle of the Turning”: “My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.”

May God bring you and your loved ones a blessed and hope-filled Christmas. And remember, Christ, the light of the world, is on the way!

Pastor Alex

Come and see our Memorial Garden adorned in Christmas lights! It's a beautiful sight to behold!



SERVER SCHEDULE

JANUARY 2022

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTE	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
2	9:30	Kaitlyn Gavin	Anne Sheppard	Tad Sheppard	Judy Posimato & Carol Clemente
9	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Katie Forte	Katie Forte	Suzanna Thomas & Chris Thomas
16	9:30	Kaylee Palmer	Dotty Criscuolo	Dotty Criscuolo	Doug & Kristina Palmer
23	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Janet Pescatore	Janet Pescatore	Bob Reckhart & Sean Reckhart
30	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Andrew Dunn	Chris Shelton	Alexandra Dunn & Victoria Dunn

FEBRUARY 2022

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTE	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTORS	USHERS
6	9:30	Victoria Ramirez	Dorothy Criscuolo	Dorothy Criscuolo	Heidi Scalza & Cora Sarver
13	9:30	Tyler Rouse	Dan Gonzalez	Dan Gonzalez	Bob Reckhart & Sean Rouse
20	9:30	Kaitlyn Gavin	Susan Masciello	Susan Masciello	Anne Sheppard & Judy Posimato
27 Transfiguration	9:30	Christopher Dunn	Katie Forte	Katie Forte	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 IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH OUR WORSHIP SERVICES.

If you would like to help out as assisting minister, lector, ushers please contact the office.

Our younger members can volunteer to help as lectors, acolytes, torch bearers, gospel bearers and ushers.

We are praying for....

Larry Lipitz
Anthony Posimato
Donna Valenti
Stephen Suppa
Eleanor Haslett
Scott Masciello
Sherry Powell
The Carver Family
John Michael
Vivian Monaco
Neil B.
Colton Youdelman
Amie Hanna
Baby Jack Francis
Castrence
Joseph Mihalich

Arlene
Sandy
Bill
Joe
Joanne
Ryan
Grace
Sue
Faith
Carmel Wright
Joshua Emswiler
Rosalind Mireku
Charles
Bill Gibbs

Hank Lenz

Karissa Heap
Orlando Castrence
Tad Sheppard
Harold Walker
Bernadette Harten
Ed Moglia
Mary Rebando
Baby Sosnik
Ann B.
Vito Richetti
Arlene Lockwood
Victoria Murillo
Jacquie Maidel
Dante

The Forbes Family

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
/stiohncarnation@gmail.com. Please write how long you would like the name to remain on



Donations have been made
to the
St. John-Incarnation
Memorial Fund in memory
of
Christel Hild
by
Janet Powell
Bob Reckhart
Warner, Gina & Evelyn
Thumm



A donation has been made
to the
St. John-Incarnation
Memorial Fund in memory
of
Don Roth
by
Bob Reckhart



**Verne Kelley
The Marco Family
Margaret Plows
Tom & Wendy Wolber**

Thank You

St. Johns, My NY Church Family,
The card with so many of
my friends notes... How much
Love from all of you.. I
Count my blessings.

And from Pastor Alex also?
I'm sorry I Left. I miss all
of you & be sure.... I'd be
with you Sunday if I could.

Sending smiles and good wishes

thank you for the
memories
and
Prayers
and
Love.

Jan Arena



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
New York Metro

Keeping families close®

November 2, 2021

St John's Incarnation WELCA Lutheran Church
13 Blake Avenue
Lynbrook, NY 11563

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your generous donation of \$25.00 in support of Ronald McDonald House Charities New York Metro. We are proud that St John's WELCA finds our organization deserving of your support.

Warm Regards,

Matthew Campo
Chief Executive Officer

A special thank you to Kaylee Palmer who made
this awesome rain barrel for
SJILC'S VEGETABLE GARDEN!
Great work, Kaylee!



Thrivent Food Drive for the INN

SJILC collected over 500 food items and Thrivent gave the INN \$500 as a matching gift.

Thank you to Kim Carlstrom for organizing this event!



ELCA GOOD GIFTS

SJILC is well on the way to reaching our goal of purchasing a FAMILY FARM and a few other community-related items (FRUIT-TREE FARM, a COMMUNITY VEGETABLE GARDEN and hopefully, A FISH FARM) We have already raised \$930, which covers the FAMILY FARM (\$715) and a FRUIT-TREE FARM (\$150).



THE GIVING TREE

BRINGING THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS
TO FAMILIES IN NEED

This year, St. John-Incarnation took on more individuals, families and gifts than ever before – and working together, we managed to supply Christmas gifts for 12 families in need this holiday season.

We managed to donate 92 gifts for those families – all returned, wrapped and delivered on time!

Thank you all for your incredible generosity and Christmas spirit! A special thank you goes to Andrea, our church secretary, who was helpful in so many ways. And also to Pastor Alex, for delivering the gifts for three of the families. Merry Christmas to all!

Lori Fernez



STOCKINGS PROJECT

For THE NEW LIFE CENTER

Filled by our Sunday School students and youth group.
SJILC filled 60 Christmas stockings for the New LIFE Center!



CHOCOLATE HOUSES



REFORMATION SUNDAY 2021





Christmas Eve Poinsettias



If you would like to have a Poinsettia(s) on the altar during the Christmas season in memory or in honor of a loved one, please complete the Poinsettia Flower envelope and drop it in the offering plate or mail it.

You can also call the office @ 516-599-0778

This is a free will offering.



MADELAINE

CHOCOLATE SALE



Sponsored by the Evangelism Committee

Purchase your Christmas candy here at SJILC and help support our ministry for future events.

Sale will be in the narthex before and after each service

4 1/2" Foil wrapped semi solid Santas	\$4.00
1/4 lb Milk Chocolate mini ornament balls	\$4.00
1/4 lb Milk Chocolate mini presents	\$4.00
1/4 lb Dark Chocolate Stars	\$4.00
1/2 lb Milk Chocolate covered raisins	\$6.00
1/2 lb Premium Bridge Mix	\$8.00

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

TURN SHOPPING INTO EARNING



EARN
\$1,000+
per year

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.



amazon



STARBUCKS®



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

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!