



# ST. JOHN-INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

**DECEMBER 2019**



Sunday Worship – 8:15am and 9:30am  
Sunday School – 9:30am

## Calendar of Events:

Sun. Dec. 15	Worship services <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	8:15 & 9:30am
Mon. Dec. 16	Yoga class	7:00pm
Wed. Dec. 18	Confirmation class	12:00pm
Thurs. Dec. 19	Advent Holden service	7:00pm
Sun. Dec. 22	Worship services <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <b>NO 8:15am service</b> <b>Christmas Pageant and lunch</b> <b>Family Christmas Yoga event</b>	9:30am 9:30am 11:00am
Dec.24 – Jan.1	Office closed (in case of an emergency call Andrea @ 516 581 3453)	
Sun. Dec. 29	Lessons and Carols ( <b>NO 8:15am service</b> )	9:30am
Sun. Dec. 31	Star Wars movie event at the Bellmore Theatre	9:30am



## LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY:

Jan. 14	First council meeting for 2020	7:30pm
Jan. 17	All committee reports due to the office	
Jan. 26	Annual Congregational meeting	11:00am



## **CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS!**

Sign up in the narthex or email the church office at [stjohnincarnation@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnincarnation@gmail.com) to schedule your appointment.

Pictures are usually taken on Sundays after church or can be scheduled on weekdays during office hours.

**There is still some Christmas candy available to purchase. Janet Pescatore will be in the narthex after the 9:30am service this Sunday, 12/22.**

# A Message from the Pastor...

“There are no times like the old times – they shall never be forgot!  
There is no place like the old place – keep green the dear old spot!  
There are no friends like our old friends – may Heaven prolong their lives!”

~ Oliver Wendell Holmes

This time of year always makes me think of the old times – those cherished memories of Advent and Christmas from my youth that will never be forgotten: making Advent wreaths and Christmas ornaments at church, decorating the tree and setting up the train with tracks and buildings underneath, baking Christmas cookies with my parents and siblings while listening to Mannheim Steamroller and Trans-Siberian Orchestra, driving around the neighborhoods with my family looking for the best Christmas lights and displays, participating in the Sunday School Christmas pageants at church and the Lutheran Home at Topton, playing the role of Joseph in a live nativity float at the Reading Holiday Parade, waking up on Christmas morning and running down the stairs with joy and excitement, exchanging gifts and spending time with my cousins and relatives from out of town, and of course, going to church with my family on Christmas Eve.

Indeed, there are no times quite like those old times. Life was a lot simpler. The world felt smaller and much safer. My worries were few, if any at all.

And yet, as the saying goes, there’s also no time like the present! As much as I love to reminisce (it always reminds me of how truly fortunate I was to have the childhood *and church* that I did), my joy this Advent season comes not from thinking about the past and those good ol’ years, but rather the innumerable blessings in my life here and now. It’s the joy of having a loving family and keeping in touch with dear old friends. It’s the joy of being a part of this amazing congregation and the ministry we share. And it’s a joy that is rooted in knowing that God loves us more than we could ever grasp or understand. For God so loved this world that God willingly chose to become like us, live among us, and die for us. That is why we celebrate the birth of Christ, the one who is called Immanuel, which means, “God is with us.”

“The angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be the sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger’” (Lk. 2:10-12).

Joy to the world, indeed.

Peace +

*Pastor Alex*

# PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Larry Lipitz  
Anthony Posimato  
Donna Valenti  
Stephen Suppa  
Eleanor Haslett  
Scott Masciello  
Sherry Powell  
The Carver Family  
John Michael  
Vivian Monaco  
Larry Rienecker

Arlene  
Sandy  
Bill  
Joe  
Joanne  
Ryan  
Grace  
Sue  
Faith  
Joshua Emswiler  
Charles

Bernadette Harten  
Carmel Wright  
Karissa Heap  
Orlando Castrence  
Alisa Queen  
Tad Sheppard  
Harold Walker  
Bob T.  
Bill Gibbs  
Amie Hanna  
Mary Rebando

*We pray for each take-off and landing that Lt. Zachary Wilson will make in the coming years.  
Godspeed*

**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 or [stjohnincarnation@gmail.com](mailto: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. Feel free to repeat your request at any time; we can all use prayers.

## THE GIVING TREE THANK YOU



### BRINGING THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS TO FAMILIES IN NEED

Again this year, St. John-Incarnation has fulfilled gifts for all the families on our Giving Tree! As always, your generosity is a shining example of we are called to serve!

Thank you for your support! – Lori Fernéz



**The ELCA Good Gifts Advent Tree will be accepting donations for gifts through December 30<sup>th</sup>.** If you still want to donate the Advent Tree posted on the bulletin

Board in the Narthex has ornaments in all varied amounts for different items. Before or after either service on Sunday mornings you can go to the tree and select the ornament with the amount and type of giving (for example, honey bees for \$20) that you would like to donate. (If you do not see what you are looking for on the tree, please ask, as we do have extras.) Please give your donation (cash or check made out to Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) to Dotty Criscuolo or place it in the offering plate, there are envelopes for you to use.— Thank you for your generosity and have a blessed Christmas season!



# ANNUAL ADVENT WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP!

Sponsored by WELCA



# Christmas Luncheon



# Evangelism Event Personal Care Kits for Homeless Clients of the New LIFE Center



# SJILC HAS NEW PIANOS!

The trumpeters and musicians joined in unison to give praise and thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, the singers raised their voices in praise to the Lord and sang: "He is good; his love endures forever." - 2 Chronicles 5:13

We are beyond grateful to share that we have received two beautiful pianos - a baby grand for the sanctuary and an upright for the choir room. Our piano in the choir room was moved down to the Knotty Pine Room so that our Sunday School kids can make music to our Lord.

Many thanks to our current organist, Judy Markson, and our former organist, Judy Opatow, for these incredible gifts which will not only add to our worship experience, but also allow us to use our sanctuary for concerts, recitals, and much more!



St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church  
presents a special showing of:

## **STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER**



**LAST DAY TO BUY TICKETS**  
**December 22nd**

**December 31<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 AM**

**Bellmore Playhouse Theatre**

**\$12 per person**

**Includes small popcorn & small drink**

**Tickets MUST be purchased in advance.**

**\* No reserved seating**

Payments by Cash or Check made out to St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church  
See Gabrielle Barry or Andrea Sommella (secretary)

**St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church**  
**Roof Fund Appeal**  
***UPDATE***

The Stewardship and Finance committee is pleased to let you know the work on the roof above the old church which is above the knotty pine room, church office, council room and nursery is done.

Unfortunately, we have not reached our goal of \$20,000.00 which was needed to cover the cost of the roof. We are **\$1935.00 short of our goal** which doesn't even cover the extra expense incurred with the unforeseen water damage to the roof that had to be addressed. We are still collecting funds to cover the cost of the roof.

A big thank you to all who have so generously contributed to this appeal!

With the additional work that was needed to be done, it is our hope and prayer that more donations to this new roof will be made.

**Donations can be made in “Memory of” or in “Honor of” anyone you wish to be remembered or honored. Donations will be shared each month in our Messenger and displayed on our bulletin board in the Narthex.**

Enclosed is a form that may be used for your donations.

Please look for regular updates from our Finance Committee.

Thank you!

Joan Pirrone  
Stewardship and Finance Committee  
Financial Recording Secretary



**Check out the bulletin board across from the coat rack and see how our worker climbs the ladder to our goal!**



# Help Us Reach Our Goal!

## St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church Roof Fund

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

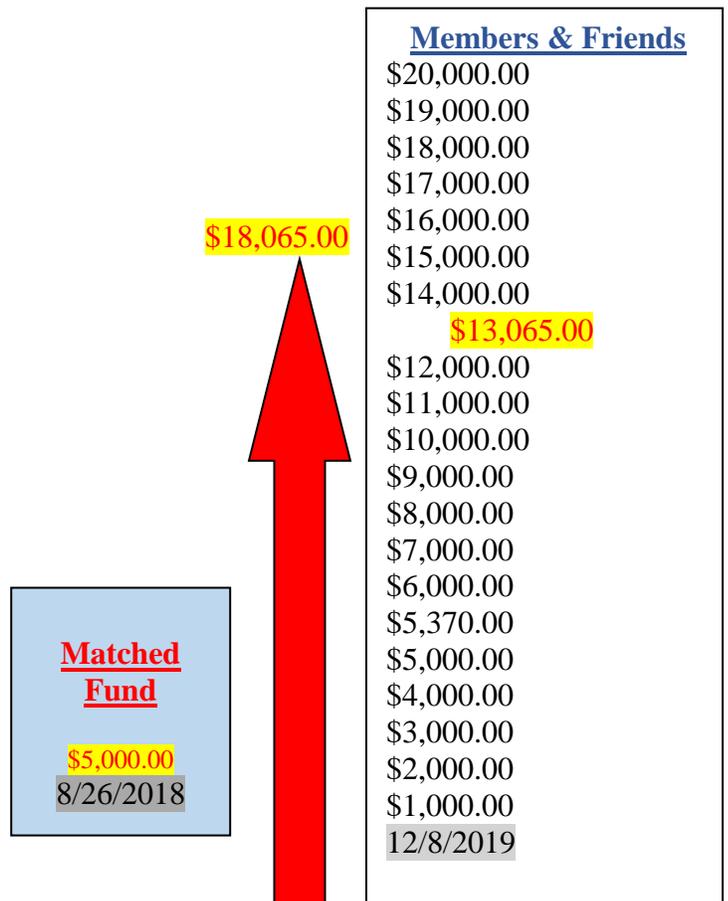
Please mail your contribution to:

St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church Roof Fund  
13 Blake Ave.  
Lynbrook, NY 11563

**Or, please drop it in the offering plate on Sunday.**

Thank you

**St. John-Incarnation  
Roof Appeal 2018-19  
With Matching Funds**



**We wish to acknowledge and thank all who have recently contributed to the  
Roof Fund of St. John-Incarnation Lutheran Church!**

**IN MEMORY OF...**

**BY:**

*Vincent Sommella*

*Carol Clemente, Sue & Vinnie Masciello,  
Joan & Tony Pirrone, The Richetti Family,  
Cora & Don Sarver, Anne & Tad Sheppard,  
Judy & Dave Opatow, Allison Koehler,  
Chris & Blanche Shelton, Dorothy Criscuolo,  
Charlene Comastri*

*A message from our church secretary:*

*I would like to thank everyone from St. John-Incarnation for your donations and heartfelt condolences on the passing of my father. I feel truly a part of the SJILC family. Thank you for thinking of me and my family during this difficult time.*

*Love, Andrea*



As we are updating the member directory for 2020 we want to be sure we have your correct contact information. If you would kindly help by filling out the following form and returning it to the church office it would make our task of updating your information easier. We appreciate your help.

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

Landline phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: Primary \_\_\_\_\_

Additional email address: \_\_\_\_\_