

# PRELUDE

From the Executive Director Reverend Dyanne Pina

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Long Island Council of Churches unites diverse Christians to work together to improve living conditions on Long Island and to promote inter-faith understanding and cooperation.

### Administrative Office

40 Washington Street  
Hempstead, NY 11550  
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Fax (516) 565-0291  
E-mail:  
[LICC@optonline.net](mailto:LICC@optonline.net)

### Riverhead Office

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(631) 727-2210  
Fax(631) 727-2239  
E-mail:  
[LICC RIVERHEAD@optonline.net](mailto:LICC RIVERHEAD@optonline.net)

### Freeport Emergency

Food Pantry  
46 Pine Street  
Freeport, NY 11520  
(516) 868-4989  
Fax(516) 868-4991  
E-Mail:  
[LICC FREEPORT@optonline.net](mailto:LICC FREEPORT@optonline.net)

## UNDERSTANDING THE NEED TO ENGAGE

*Ecumenicalism is another way of saying Christian Unity. Last week the World Council of Churches orchestrated the week of prayer for Christian Unity asking prayers for unity and reconciliation amongst the 2.2 billion Christians worldwide. So often we look at all of our differences instead of focusing on what we as Christians have in common. Understanding the need to engage is how we develop closer relationships between Protestant and Catholic, between United Methodist and Baptist, between Presbyterian and Apostolic...and so on. Gordon-Gonwell Theological Seminary, reports that there are 45,000 denominations! We must understand the need to engage and become involved with each other and break down the walls that separate us Christians between denomination and denomination, and between pew and pew.*

*Many congregations and parishes are doing a magnificent job of integrating their pews and events, building an environment for meaningful engagement. However, Sunday is still the most segregated day of the week. Look at your pews and see where the different groups, races and cultures sit. Watch how different groups socialize. Do we truly know or understand one another? Is there sincere engagement? We Christians have to figure out how to engage each other beyond the casual passing of the peace and coffee*

*hour. We have to break down the barriers that are separating us. The barriers of language, of skin color, and of economic status keep us separated. How can we Christians sincerely go into the world to advocate against bigotry and hatred when we may be severely struggling with the same issues within our congregations and parishes?*

*2 Corinthians 5:14-20 teaches us that God reconciled us to him through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, and as Christ's ambassadors we are committed to this message of reconciliation....because Christ's love compels us! As hard as it is, we must be honest with ourselves as Christ's ambassadors and take a real look at what we look like as ambassadors. If we are to stand up against the ills of society which threaten immigration, refugees and Muslims, which punish sanctuary cities, and which undermine voting rights of blacks and Latinos, then we are compelled to stand up with a Christian integrity and without any hint of hypocrisy. Reconciliation is not an option for Christians if we are compelled by the love of Christ. Understanding the need to engage brings us closer, creates harmony, oneness and real unity in real love.*

*Grace & Peace*

## SERVING OUR *Neighbors*...

### An Appeal from the Executive Director

*Serving our Neighbors* involves ecumenical and inter-faith engagement. The LICC's Holy Vocation is to work in harmonious relationships to help improve the living conditions for Long Islanders. Interfaith dialogue and interfaith engagement is how we sustain this part of the LICC mission. Currently the LICC, the INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network) and the Islamic Community are dialoguing to identify groups/churches that have

an Islamic community participating in interfaith clergy meetings; to help interfaith clergy groups create more comprehensive agendas for community meeting engagements; to explore where access points are for basic needs of food and shelter.

If you a part of an interfaith clergy group that does not have an Islamic representative and seeks to introduce an Islamic Representa-

tive from the nearest mosque, or if you wish to start an interfaith clergy group, please contact me directly via email at:

[liccrev@optonline.net](mailto:liccrev@optonline.net)

or call 516-565-0290.

#### LICC Pantry Locations and Hours

Monday - Friday  
9:30 AM to 3:30 PM  
Closed between  
12:00 PM to 1:00 PM.

#### Hempstead Food Pantry

40 Washington Street  
Hempstead, N.Y. 11550  
516-565-0290

#### Freeport Food Pantry

(Temporary Location)

46 Pine Street

Freeport, New York 11520  
516-868-4989

#### Riverhead Food Pantry

220 Roanoke Avenue Suite #3  
Riverhead, New York 11901  
631-727-2210

#### Riverhead Pantry Help Needed

The Riverhead Pantry needs help one day a week, 3-4 hours to assist between the hours 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM, Monday to Friday. We need assistance with general office duties, receiving our *Neighbors* and sorting and shelving donations. If you are able to volunteer, Please call Olga Cortes, the Pantry & Community Resources Manager at 631-727-2210 or email:

[LICCRiverhead@optonline.net](mailto:LICCRiverhead@optonline.net)

#### Drivers Needed

Drivers with vehicles are needed to pick up donations and deliver to our emergency food pantries in Hempstead, Freeport, and Riverhead locations. Please contact Wally Merna at the Freeport Pantry, Yolanda Murray at the Hempstead Pantry, or Olga Cortes at the Riverhead Pantry to be added to our drivers list.

#### Newsletter Mentions from our Communities

The Long Island Council of Churches would like to thank **The First Presbyterian Church of Freeport, Merrick United Methodist Church, Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church, and Riverhead United Methodist Church** for graciously appealing to there communities in their newsletters for outreach to help our food pantries in serving our *Neighbors* in need. Please help support the LICC through your Newsletters.

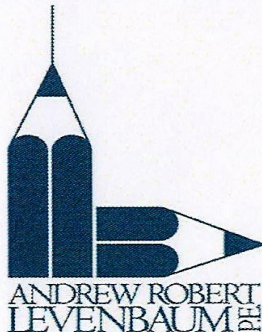
#### LICC Pantries in need of Toiletry Items

The LICC Pantries are in need of toiletry items for our *Neighbors* in need. We are looking for the following donations: shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, personal care items, razors, incontinence support diapers, baby diapers, and toilet tissue.

## SPOT LIGHTS



The LICC is profoundly grateful to the **Nassau County Bar Association WE CARE FUND Advisory Committee** for its generous grant of \$20,000 to support our Nassau County Emergency Food and Family Support Programs. From left to right: Mark C. Gann - Co-Chair Nassau County Bar Association WE CARE FUND, Reverend Dyanne Pina - LICC Executive Director, and Sarika Kapoor - Co-Chair Nassau County Bar Association WE CARE FUND.



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424 New York Avenue • Huntington, NY 11743-3438*

# 2016 Christmas Holiday Season

The LICC would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their generous donations of items for our 2016 Christmas holiday season to support our Nassau and Suffolk County Family Support Programs:

**Bellmore Presbyterian Church**

**Bethany Congregational Church**

**Community Church of East Williston**

**Community Presbyterian Church, Merrick**

**D.C. Electric, Inc.**

**United Methodist Women Hempstead UMC**

**Islamic Center of Long Island**

**Long Island University Brookville Campus**



**Islamic Center of Long Island** donates 50 blankets for our *Neighbors* in need. From left to right: Odessa Haynes - LICC Pantry Clerk, Yolanda Murray, LICC Pantry and Community Resources Manager, Habeeb Ahmed - Islamic Center of Long Island.

**Middle Island Presbyterian Church**

**Mount Sinai Congregational Church**

**Old Steeple Church UCC**

**Our Lady of Peace Parish Social Ministry**

**PSEG Riverhead**

**Saint Aiden's Church**

**Saint Mark's Episcopal Church**

**Saint William the Abbott**

**Secret Santa**

**Schwing Electric Supply Corp.**

**Sloan Kettering Memorial Hospital**

**Trinity Episcopal Church**

**Tyre Lodge #91 Riverhead**

**Joe Arcuri**

**Helene Denecke**

**Shanye Hudson**



## *Our appreciation and thanks to...*

**Emergency Food Pantry &  
Family Support Programs**

**Garden City  
Community Church  
\$3,500**

**First United  
Methodist Church  
\$2,000**

**Presbyterian Community  
Church of Massapequa  
\$1000**

**First Presbyterian Church of  
Baldwin General Missions  
\$750**

**Community Reformed  
Church at Manhasset  
\$500**

**First Presbyterian  
Church of Northport  
\$500**

**United Methodist  
Women, Massapequa  
\$50**

**Union United  
Methodist Church  
\$366**

**Wantagh Memorial  
Congregational Church  
\$350**

**Rockfish Custom  
Builders, Inc.  
\$150**

**Where Most Needed**

**Temple of Israel  
of Riverhead  
\$7,000**

**The Society of the  
Saint Vincent de Paul  
\$1,150**

**First Church of Christ  
\$1,500**

**Congregational Church  
of Manhasset  
\$1,284**

**First Church Congregation  
in Southold  
\$1,000**

**Grace United  
Methodist Church  
\$1,000**

**The Parkway  
Community Church  
\$1,000**

**Community Church of East  
Williston World Service  
\$760**

**United Way of Long Island  
\$585**

**United Methodist Church,  
Bellmore  
\$65**

**Cornell Cooperative Extension  
of Suffolk County  
\$50**

**Mount Sinai Congregational  
Church  
\$565**

**Setauket Presbyterian  
Church  
\$500**

**United Methodist Church,  
Floral Park  
\$500**

**Bellport United  
Methodist Church  
\$300**

**Saint James United  
Methodist Church  
\$240**

**United Methodist  
Women of Babylon  
\$150**

**Community Church  
of Syosset  
\$100**

**First United  
Methodist Church  
\$100**

**Interfaith Institute at Islamic  
Centre of Long Island  
\$100**

**Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship at Stonybrook  
\$100**

**United Methodist Women,  
Port Washington  
\$100**

## PRELUDE

The newsletter of the  
Long Island Council of  
Churches

## Editors

Rev. Dyanne Pina

Anthony Achong

Hank Boerner

Items for publication  
may be emailed to:  
[licc@optonline.net](mailto:licc@optonline.net)

Two months advance  
notice for events  
requiring registration.

## *...continued thanks to...*

*... the following individuals for their gifts to support our ministry to our Neighbors in need:*

Joseph G. Arcuri

Daniel & Karen  
Baumbach

Carol J.S. Bradford

Richard & Lynn Cardozo

Mary R. Dewar

Sandra J. Eldred

Rev. John Fendt

William T. Ferris III

Robert J. Festa

Robert Mitchell Gibbons

Mary Jane Gould

Carol Henck

Gladys J. Hermann

Cynthia Lynn Holden

Marian Hubbard

Sherry Huber

Lynn Iredell

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William Keller, PhD

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David Sinclair

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Judith von Urban

Uriel Wech

Joan Wright

Dorothy Zondag

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