



# THE Lamplighter



“THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE  
DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS  
HAS NOT OVERCOME IT.”  
JOHN 1:5



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## LOOKING AHEAD

(Tentative Dates)

### November

- 4<sup>th</sup> Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 7<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day
- 13<sup>th</sup> Church Fair
- 21<sup>st</sup> Thanksgiving Sunday  
Congregational Budget Meeting
- 25<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving
- 28<sup>th</sup> First Sunday of Advent

### December

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday Craft Fair
- 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Boy Scout Tree Sale
- 19<sup>th</sup> Christmas Service
- 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Service 11:00 PM
- 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day
- 31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve



## Immanuel Union Church

693 Jewett Avenue  
Staten Island, NY 10314  
718-448-1584

*The friendly church with a vision and a  
future.*

## Pastor's Letter

To All Who Belong to the Family of God,

This past Sunday Immanuel Union Church witnessed the Baptism of Ella Astra Buchanan as a non-communing member of our church. Unfortunately for all who attended in person, the church boiler for the Sanctuary wasn't working, and it was a cold 45<sup>o</sup>, so I had to cut some of my sermon, which was what I consider an important means of clarifying exactly what is taking place at the time of Baptism.

The Westminster Larger Catechism correctly defines baptism this way: *Baptism is a sacrament of the New Covenant, in which Christ has ordained the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, to be a sign and seal of being grafted into himself; of remission of sins by his blood and regeneration by his Spirit; and of adoption into his family and resurrection to everlasting life. By this the people baptized are solemnly admitted into the visible church and enter into an open and professed engagement to be wholly and only the Lord's.*

Therefore, baptism is not meant to be administered to people outside of the visible church, because they are still estranged from the covenant of promise until that time they profess their own faith in Jesus Christ alone. This new life is one that lives for Him, since He first loved us and gave Himself up for us. As we are grafted into His Body, we not only have a deep love for Him, but we love being like Him as we live in obedience to His will, since He is now our rightful King. Since we acknowledge Him as our Lord and Savior, we then do all within our God given ability to raise our Children honoring Him as their Lord and Savior as well.

So, Ella was received into our church on the basis of a faith professed by her mother Katie Buchanan, as well as her grandmother Nancy Myers. I explained the importance of building upon that baptism in living our lives in a way which is honoring to God and making Him the biggest priority in our lives.

This is the fulfillment of our Covenant keeping God to all who give Him Honor. We see this throughout the Scriptures. A good example of this is found in Exodus 34:6-7 God, Himself testified to His covenant people, *"The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."*

When we make a public declaration of faith before God and His people, it is important for us to do all within our power to fulfill it so that everything ultimately will go well with us and our children all the days of our life. It is important that we live soberly, always being thankful, as we consider the nature of our Baptism and the purposes for which Jesus established it. We should keep in mind the privileges and benefits which God provides, as He fulfills His side of the Covenant contract. This is revealed and sealed by Him, as we keep in mind our part of the Covenant which is declared by our solemn vows to fulfill it with God's help and enablement. Therefore, it is vital that we live humbly as we consider the corruption of our sinful nature and our propensity to stray from the one who loved us so much, that He gave His own Son as a sacrifice in order to bring us into this Covenantal relationship in the first place.

## Pastor's Letter (2)

We should do all that is earthly possible in fighting for faith, on our part as well as on the part of our children who we represent in this covenant. Keep in mind what the Lord our God has done for us, as we continually keep in mind that He has pardoned our sin and provides for us the countless blessings sealed to us in this sacrament.

He enables His faithful ones to live lives as more than conquerors, as we get our strength from the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, because it is He into whom we are baptized. As a result of His death and resurrection, our sinful nature has been put to death. We now through His grace have been made alive with Him, so we seek to live by faith a life He has set apart for righteous living.

After all, when we are baptized, we give up our old selves on behalf of Jesus, and we are grafted into the family of God who enables us to walk in brotherly love with one another since we are baptized by the same Spirit into the one body which is the Body of Jesus Christ.

So we welcome Ella Astra Buchanan into our Immanuel Union Church family and please pray with me that God will work in her life and bring her to full faith in Jesus in His time.

I will close with Psalm 71:18 which is an encouraging word for all of us who feel that we are too old to make a difference in the lives of our children or even grandchildren. *So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.*

Your Servant for Jesus Sake,

*Pastor Charlie*

# Sunday Worship & Bible Studies



Sunday Church Service is in person & via zoom at 10:00 AM. Check IUC's Facebook page for current topics. Like us on Facebook.

The Sunday School series is suspended for the time being.

The Tuesday evening Bible Study will be held via zoom at 6:30.

How to connect to Bible Study or the Sunday Service:

This link if you use for the computer)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8280501006>

Meeting ID: 828 050 1006

(One tap mobile from your smartphone)

+19294362866,,8280501006# US (New York)

Dial by your location from landline

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York) Then enter the Meeting ID: 828 050 1006

# From the Church Council

The Council met last week and basically focused on upcoming events. The Church Holiday Fair, of course, was first and foremost. We are praying, and asking you to pray with us, for a successful outcome this year, even in the midst of the continuing Pandemic, and that people will see our love for Jesus and for them and be drawn to IUC. We will not have a lunchroom as we have in the past, because we don't want to check vaccination cards; but we still will have one of our favorite tables for homemade baked goods and chowder. We also will have many great raffle baskets with many goodies that are always a favorite- thanks to DonnaMarie for her creativity and willingness to take on that job. We also have household treasures, jewelry and handbags, plants, Christmas decorations, books, tools and toys. There truly is something for everyone! For those of you who live on Staten Island, we would love to see you on the 13<sup>th</sup> and for those who have volunteered to help with setup, to work the fair or assist with clean up- thank you so much! If you have ANY availability to help, please do- basically set up hours are Tuesday-Friday 8-5 and 7-9 p.m., you can always call Gina to confirm someone will be there when you want to volunteer! We are grateful to Bunny Matthius for the hours of organization she has spent in preparing the "goods" for the fair, and to her and Nancy Myers who are spearheading and leading the fair endeavor. We are so thankful to God for their efforts and ministry to IUC.

The Council also discussed our continuing fundraising campaign, and our ultimate goal of raising \$50,000.00. As of this writing, God has provided and blessed the Church with about \$19,000, of which \$11,000 is still needed for the boiler repair. During the flooding a couple of months ago, our gym floor was also damaged, and tiles have been cracking as well as coming up. Our gym is used weekly and is a source of income for our Church, so our sexton John has been working diligently to put them back where they belong, but ultimately, that too will need to be redone. John has also worked to put back down the bathroom floor in the ladies room which also came up as a result of the flooding. Having a beautiful and old historic sacred site is such a blessing, but currently it is a source of needed updating and repairs. The boiler, of course, remains a priority (see Pastor's letter about the temperature on Sunday in the Sanctuary), but there is a long list of needed repairs that are looming right behind the boiler repair. If you haven't donated to our Boiler/Repair Fund, would you consider it? Every dollar counts and no dollar donated is too small!

Thanks so much for your love and involvement in Immanuel Union Church- we appreciate it!

# Near & Far

*"You never really leave the place you love. You take part of it with you and leave part of you there."*  
Unknown

This space is for all members, whether local, retired or relocated, to share updates on themselves, their families, important happenings in their lives. It's what keeps us all connected. This is your page. If you would like to give us an update email it to the church at [iuc1@verizon.net](mailto:iuc1@verizon.net).

# Milestones



## Birthdays

- |       |                        |       |                           |
|-------|------------------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 11/4  | Bridget Elizabeth Bowe | 11/20 | Eugene W. Sorensen        |
| 11/5  | Emily Morrison         | 11/22 | William N. Coyne          |
| 11/7  | Ellen Rabin            |       | Meghan Jane Bowe          |
| 11/8  | Benjamin Baldini       | 11/23 | Emily Elizabeth Brannigan |
| 11/9  | Neil Andrew Michie     |       | Lisa Wetzel               |
| 11/10 | Sarah Baldini Comis    |       |                           |
|       | Caroline Crawford      |       |                           |
| 11/13 | John Reiman            |       |                           |
| 11/20 | David Crawford         |       |                           |

# Focus On Our Family

*A monthly highlight of an IUC member will appear in this section. If you are interested in sharing your family with us please send your info to the church at [iuc1@verizon.net](mailto:iuc1@verizon.net).*

## **Barbara Matthius**

I was first introduced to Immanuel Union Church when my family relocated to Fiske Avenue. That was 1935. I attended Sunday School, and, was later married at Immanuel. Today, I am the longest living member of the Church, and its unofficial “historian”!

Immanuel has always been an important part of my spiritual life, as well as providing an opportunity for social activity and community service.

As a youth, I was a member of the basketball team. At 18-years old, Pastor Link appointed me a nursery caretaker. Later, as an adult, I took an active role in the church, bringing energy, enthusiasm and new ideas for the Church to thrive and prosper.

In my “younger years”, I was a member of The Third Ring---a group of women who socialized and supported the Church’s many functions, including plays and musicals put on by our members. Sadly, over time this group disbanded. As the Couples Club transitioned to Adult Fellowship, I became actively involved in that group.

I served as both member, and Chairperson of the Church Board, as well as, Board of Trustees. During this time, I introduced supporting disadvantaged families in Appalachia by conducting a drive to send Christmas gifts to children, initiated a “backpack drive” to provide backpacks with much needed school supplies, instituted “dinner theaters”—both making and serving dinner at Church before heading to the latest Wagner College theater production, introduced the tradition of the Christ Candle following a trip to Austria’s St. Stephen’s Cathedral in Vienna, served as Chairperson of the Fair, introducing and making festive decorations which are still in use today, introduced the “\$500 super raffle”, made bread for the Thanksgiving altar each year, made homemade pickles and jams as part of “Country Store” display at the Fair, and became actively involved in the baked goods table at the Fair, eventually assuming managing the table for many years with my homemade cakes and breads. As a member of the Staten Island Garden Club, I planted flowers around our sign to attract passersby.

At 95, my relationship with Immanuel has been a long and gratifying one filled with many fond memories and wonderful friendships.



# Announcements

- Coffee Hour is held virtually after the Sunday Service.
- To order Altar Flowers to honor or memorialize your loved ones please call the Church Office.
- Offering envelopes are available, please contact the Church Office if you are interested.
- Bonnie Rogers will be mailing the Upper Room daily devotional booklets to those who are interested. If you would like to receive a copy, please call the church office.
- Electronic tithing is now available. Please visit the church's website at [immanuelunion.org](http://immanuelunion.org) and click on the donate now button. You can send your donation through PayPal or use your debit/credit card. You can also donate using Venmo our user name is ImmanuelUnion-Church.
- **Canned Food Collection**  
On Thanksgiving Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup> we will be collecting canned food to be donated. Please contribute if you are able to do so.
- Information for the December Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at [iuc1@verizon.net](mailto:iuc1@verizon.net). Any feedback on the new format is appreciated. Thank you.



# Mark Your Calendar

- November 13<sup>th</sup> Church Fair
- December 4<sup>th</sup> Craft and Vendor Show

Pending Covid Regulations

*We will continue to monitor and adhere to all pandemic regulations, guidelines, and safety measures, and make any adjustments necessary or required.*



## Hear ye, hear ye, come to the Fair!

It's hard to believe that our annual Church Fair is just around the corner!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am-3pm** to come out and enjoy Immanuel Union's long-time legacy event.

Our Church Fair has been part of our history for over 100 years! While it may have looked very different back then, it has retained much of the same character and flavor from days long ago which continues to draw family, friends and the community back each and every year. From home-made clam chowder and baked goods, to hand-crafted items and attic treasures, the Fair has wide appeal. In addition to being a link with our past, it provides continuity to our future. It is also our biggest fund-raiser of the year, raising much needed funds to support our church and facility. Won't you come out and participate in this wonderful part of our history?

It is said that "many hands make light work" and this is certainly true of "fair week"! Any contribution, large or small is much appreciated, and supports the Church's overall success.

**Here is how you can be part of this worthwhile event:**

- ❖ Make clam chowder. See Nancy Myers for recipe and containers, or call the church office. These containers of home-made soup are one of the Fair's trademarks and sell out every year!
- ❖ Do you have a specialty that you bake? From cookies to cakes, pies to pastries, our Fair-goers clamor for home-made baked goods!
- ❖ Do you have a talent for knitting, sewing, crocheting, wood-working, photography? Consider donating an item or two! While hand-crafted items were formerly the main-stay of the Fair years ago, these items are still in great demand!
- ❖ Do you have a "green thumb"? Our plant table needs plants. Don't grow them? Consider donating Christmas cactus or other plants and garden items. Our plant table is always a key attraction. See or contact Bonnie Rogers for more information.
- ❖ Cleaning out? Consider donating any household items, books, collectibles, toys, handbags and jewelry, etc. Our attic treasures has expanded over the years and is now one of the Fair's main attractions.
- ❖ Help set-up—volunteers are needed to help set-up and break-down—specifically, putting tablecloths on tables, putting out items, and packing up any unsold items.
- ❖ Assist the day of the Fair by being a table host—our Fair has expanded and table hosts are greatly needed. Chairs are provided at each table and being a table host entails being present the day of the Fair to assist with sales. Hosts are needed to "man the tables" and sell raffles.
- ❖ Help us advertise! Tell family, friends, neighbors, and, if you engage in social media, post the Fair on FaceBook, etc. and consider boosting. Help us get the word out!
- ❖ Lastly, come out and enjoy—both the hustle and bustle of Fair-week set-up and the day of the Fair! It is a day of fellowship, camaraderie and seeing new and familiar faces, all while supporting the perpetuity of Immanuel.

Enjoy!

**Fair schedule:**

- ❖ Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>—Table Set-up by Scouts
- ❖ November 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>—Table set-up
- ❖ **November 13<sup>th</sup>-FAIR DAY!**

**For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Bunny Matthius or Nancy Myers via phone or text:**

**Bunny---(973)214-6048**

**Nancy---(917)693-5295**

Looking forward to seeing everyone and to a very successful and joyous day---

Bunny Matthius and Nancy Myers, Co-Chairs



- ❖ Anyone who would like a table(s) for the December 4<sup>th</sup> Craft or Vendor show, please contact Bunny Matthius (973) 214-6048 via call or text.

## Congregational Budget Meeting

**There will be a Congregational Budget Meeting on Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup> following the 10:00 a.m. Service. The purpose of this meeting is to approve the 2022 Budget. This is an extremely important meeting, so please plan on attending.**

# Boiler Fund

**\$50,000 Goal**

**\$17,620 raised!!**

We hope that this note finds Immanuel Union's church family, friends and loved ones healthy, safe and well.

Whether you worship with us in-person or via Zoom, or simply enjoy Immanuel's daily bell chimes and events, you are no doubt aware of the toll that the COVID pandemic has taken on many businesses, organizations and institutions. Sadly, Immanuel Union has also been negatively impacted.

While we have all experienced many shops, restaurants, and businesses closing, Immanuel is committed to staying the course as we find our way back from the pandemic into a more promising future.

Due to the loss of income from our annual Church Fair, craft and vendor shows, and donations from the many groups, organizations, and gatherings, our coffers are in dire need of support to replace the boiler in our aged heating system, and to make much-needed repairs to our historic stained glass, and roof easements.

Whether you are an active member, live at a distance and are now part of our extended church family, or are a neighborhood friend of the Church, we're sure that you have fond memories of time spent at Immanuel. As an update, we are pleased to announce that late last year, Immanuel Union Church was recognized as an historic sacred site in the United States, and is now listed on the National Historic Registry. It is our goal to continue to provide the meaningful spiritual guidance and activities to our church members, extended members, and the broader Westerleigh community into perpetuity.

We have initiated an appeal to raise \$50,000 to replace our heating system, and any extra raised for stained glass repair and roof easements. We hope you will consider contributing to this worthy undertaking.

**Your contribution is gratefully appreciated and is tax deductible.**

**We can't thank everyone who donated enough for their generosity.**



November 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Council/Board/ Trustee Meetings	5	6
7 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00 <b>The Lord's Supper</b>	8	9 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	10	11 <b>Veteran's Day</b>	12	13 <b>Church Fair</b>
14 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00	15	16 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	17	18	19	20
21 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00 <b>Congregational Budget Meeting Thanksgiving Sunday</b>	22	23 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	24	25 <b>Thanksgiving</b>	26	27
28 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00 <b>First Sunday of Advent</b>	29	30 Bible Study via zoom 6:30				

# Thanksgiving Sunday



Sunday, November 21st will be our Thanksgiving Service. Please bring in canned or non-perishable goods to be donated to area food banks.

With so many more families this year needing food, as well as spiritual hope, let us strive to be good stewards and help those who are less fortunate than we are. Thank you.

# God is Everywhere and so is IUC

## Zoom & Social Media Instructions

Please check out our Website as well as our Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. We ask that you share the information, especially to your Facebook friends, by Liking and Reposting on Facebook. This is a great way to publicize our worship services, Bible Study and any special events coming up. We can all make a difference!

(This link if you use for the computer)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8280501006>

Meeting ID: 828 050 1006

(One tap mobile from your smartphone)

+19294362866,,8280501006# US (New York)

Dial by your location from landline

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York) Then enter the Meeting ID: 828 050 1006





Boy Scout Troop #2  
Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale  
Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM  
Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM  
In the Church Parking Lot  
Please Support Our Troop!

I take all the gifts that You have given  
And I stake my claim like they're my own  
Will You help me when I forget to remember  
The good I've got is Yours alone  
Oh cause I don't wanna tell some arrogant story  
Or let myself believe I'm You  
I don't wanna be a thief who's stealing Your glory  
Will You help remind me of what is true?  
The only hope I've got  
It's You, You.  
It's You, You.  
Or do I think I have anything to offer  
When You have overcome the world?  
Couldn't take Your place,  
Cause You're the Author of the greatest love this world  
has known.  
Oh I don't wanna tell some arrogant story  
Or let myself believe I'm You  
I don't wanna be a thief who's stealing Your glory  
Will You help remind me of what is true?  
The only hope I've got  
It's You, You.  
It's You, You.  
Well it's only by Your grace  
That I heard You whisper my name,  
I don't have the power to save, to change a heart,  
So won't You come and change my heart  
Cause I don't wanna tell some arrogant story  
Or let myself believe I'm You  
I don't wanna be a thief who's stealing Your glory  
Will You help remind me of what is true?  
The only hope I've got  
Ya the only hope I've got  
Well it's You, You.  
It's You, You.  
Ya it's You"

- Elle Holcomb



# Prayer List



- † Adrienne- fell and is at Eger.
- † Dorothy- broke 4 ribs. Pray for pain relief and quick healing.
- † Pearl- Naomi's mom- pray for her salvation and her health, she's 101.
- † DonnaMarie's mom fell- broke leg, is in a brace and in rehab.
- † Ann's coworkers mom fell & broke her wrist
- † Maureen- John's friend- passed away last week- pray for comfort for the family.
- † Faye- at home recovering from Covid. Pray for husband Don who has it now.
- † Sonja & Bills friend Bill- was just diagnosed with cancer. Pray for healing.
- † Nehemiah- 3 year old was intubated from a GI bleed & cold, struggling with breathing and may not make it.
- † Mike McQuillin- fell off his roof while sweeping pine needles, ended up in the hospital 8 broken ribs, 2 cracked vertebrae and a punctured lung which collapsed
- † Jon- moved from ICU after getting botulism to a respiratory hospital in LA. Can't wean him from trach because his diaphragm is still paralyzed. Doing PT 5 days a week. Starting to get use of larger muscles. Pray for wife Nessa & 12 week old daughter, their 2 year wedding anniversary is this week.
- † 17 American missionaries kidnapped in Haiti.
- † MaryAnn- Anne & Sonja's friend fell and broke her hip and had a stroke.
- † Nancy - struggling with her daughter Liz. Liz needs prayer to get her life together.
- † Tony - 9 year old in Uganda is 30 lbs, severely malnourished which caused blindness. Praise that he got the funds and is seeing a nutritionist and gaining weight. Pray for him and many other orphans who lost parents from AIDS.
- † Patti- house fire and her mom who is sick. Patti & her son are living in a hotel.
- † Perla- in severe lockdown in the Phillipines
- † Vivian in Golden Gate Rehab to help her walk after hip surgery
- † Pray for a couple who while camping lost their baby.
- † 20 Marines and navy corpsman who were injured in bombing in Afghanistan
- † Chanel- homeless due to explosion across the street
- † Baby Knox- Had another seizure- stopped breathing for 2 minutes, then restarted breathing. Life flighted from TN to Shands in Florida.
- † Ted Beck- has blood cancer, in Tampa for 3 months, going daily for treatment
- † Christians in house Churches in Afghanistan- Tliban are going door to door- they ask for prayer to stand strong on Jesus
- † Rosemary- Genes sister continuing to improve. Has a wound on her foot that isn't healing well. Back in PT- needs strength.
- † Lyn- pray for a new job and peace during the process of searching
- † Julie (Diane's friend) & husband Joe- had a seizure Monday and now on hospice.
- † Arooj- little girl from Pakistan. Has gangrene spreading on foot.
- † Lorna- Anne daughter- relief from health problems
- † John's friend Phil-still on the transplant list, low priority. On meds to keep his heart going.
- † Steven - Naomi's son. Worsening emotionally- pray for the new counselor he has.
- † Don- pray for the his health and eye treatment. He's having trouble reading.
- † Allyson- Karen's daughter having treatment for cancer, passed out in the middle of the night and they found her unconscious.
- † Little Charlie- Tumor spread to spine and causing extreme pain. Had high doses of chemo last week and now will try to wean him from IV pain meds. Pray for him and the family.
- † Baby Ella- with Pastor and family. Pray for CPS case.
- † Jake & Jaime Hylan- fire victims, lost 2 of their children. Now working on becoming surrogate parents. Pray for funds.
- † Those battling Covid-
- † Long haulers with Covid symptoms
- † Vaccine injured
- † Families who have lost loved ones from Covid or other reasons- comfort & peace for them all
- † People currently still at home - who misses family, friends and Church family.
- † The unemployed and those struggling terribly- business owners. Restaurant owners who continue to struggle
- † For our country (President, Vice President, Senators, Congressmen/women, judges)
- † For our police, firefighters & military
- † For Cities around the country - for peace to rule
- † Leaders of our country, states, town-