



LOOKING AHEAD

**September
(Tentative Dates)**

- 3rd Council/Trustee/ Board Meetings Via Zoom
- 7th Labor Day
- 21st Fair Donations Collection

October

- 1st Council/Trustee/ Board Meetings Via Zoom
- 12th Columbus Day
- 17th Outdoor Book Sale
- 24th Book Sale Rain Date
- 31st Halloween



Immanuel Union Church

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

September Birthdays



3	Mary Jan Jacobson
4	Scott Franzreb
5	Dorothy Crimmins
16	Elsie Franzreb
17	Nancy Colucci Myers
18	Carol Buser
19	Laurie McAuliffe
21	Charles Baldini
23	John Myers
27	Leslie Baldini

Coffee Hour



Suspended

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From the Pastor's Desk

To All Whose Hope is In Jesus Alone,

A young boy was seriously burned in an accident and quickly whisked away in an ambulance to a renowned burn unit of a hospital. Death appeared to be in his future. Many gave up hope. The boy never seemed to respond to those around him.

A teacher was sent to his room with these instructions: "Talk to him about nouns and adverbs." The teacher rattled on, in accordance with the instructions, as if the boy could hear and respond. Yet he did respond. He improved quickly. He came back to life. In talking with the nurses, he explained, "I knew they wouldn't send in a teacher to waste her time talking to a boy who was going to die!" Yes—there is hope. Jesus is coming. Don't give up!

Hope involves having a positive perspective of the future. But this pandemic, as well as many other events, may be challenging the very fabric of your well-being and you may not appear hopeful. We continue to look to God in hope for an end to this world wide nightmare and we are becoming weary because it appears as though this pandemic may be a reality for our immediate (and possibly longer) future.

I am amazed that after six months this "pandemic" is an issue at all. I mean, normally the September Lamplighter is devoted to warmly welcoming everyone back to Worship after a summer respite. Not this year. I could see how many of us may feel as though the battle to continue in hope has taken its toll. That is why, over the past several weeks, I have devoted our messages around the many passages of Scripture that encourage us to hope in God. God's Word is there to renew hope for those who feel Helpless and are losing hope.

Whatever our specific needs may be, it is vital that we strive to instill hope in ourselves so that we can be a conduit of hope for those we come in contact with. May we continue to be mindful of the many ways that the God of all hope continues to care for us, so that we may seek for opportunities to share His care with others who are feeling helpless.

Another thing which we tend to take for granted in our daily life is God's magnificent love for us. God doesn't have to love us, yet He lavished a great love upon us through the sacrifice of His Son Jesus. He didn't have to send Jesus to the Cross as the only acceptable substitute of His righteous indignation, but He did anyway. He didn't have to create the many comforts we enjoy in this wonderful country, yet He did. His love for you and for me is so tremendous there is no way we can comprehend it. Every now and then Leslie and I challenge one another about who loves who more, but with God there is no question about it. His love is immeasurable, incalculable, and immutable.

The result of this love is that God finds us- whatever circumstance we may be experiencing and walks with us. God is no fair-weather friend. When times seem most desperate, He is the friend that sticks closer than a brother. He takes us as we are and loves in spite of us. It boggles the mind to know that He loves us despite our faults, our sins, and our imperfections. He takes us as we are and loves us anyway.

From the Pastor's Desk (con't)

Of course, because He loves us as we are, does not mean we shouldn't look to Jesus to make changes in our lives, for the better. Part of His love for us is to encourage us, and enable us to change and become more like Jesus. He loves us as we are, but He loves us too much to keep us that way. God the Holy Spirit is fashioning us to be His genuine heirs, and so we devote ourselves to Holiness. It's not meant to be a duty or an obligation, but a desire from within. On our own, we could never be acceptable or worthy, but because He loves us, because of the cross, we are now being sanctified and justified and made holy and righteous!

Paul in Titus 3:3-7 encourages the people of God by reminding them, *For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*

Therefore, let's not take His love for us for granted any longer. Let's not shrug it off as if it's our birthright, instead let's see it for the wonder it really is. John in his first epistle presented it as such a wonder, ***Behold what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.***

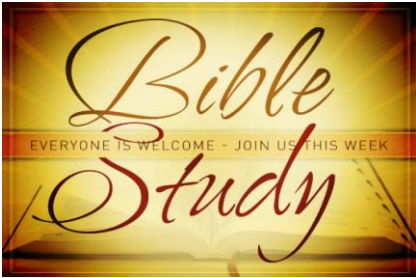
We should bask in this Grace. His Love is there for us, whenever and wherever we are. That is what grace is. We don't deserve it, we can't demand it, but it is given to us freely in Jesus. Nothing we can do makes us any more or any less acceptable to Him, His love is there no matter what! Walk in the realization that our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables Him to subject all things to Himself, will transform our lowly bodies to be like His glorious body.

Live in the hope of His great love for you, no matter what or how you may be feeling lately!

Your Servant For Jesus' Sake,

Pastor Charlie

Bible Studies



The Sunday School series is suspended for the time being.

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

See below to see how to connect to Bible Study or the Sunday Service.

Zoom Connection Instructions

(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

Covid 19 Update

Greetings to the congregation and friends of Immanuel Union Church,

The Church Council of Immanuel Union will meet on October 1st to discuss the Covid 19 Virus Pandemic and to discuss when we can possibly worship in person again.

Congregants may always reach the pastor by phone or virtual conference for individual concerns, spiritual and emotional care.

We miss everyone and are looking forward to when we may worship safely together.

Mark Your Calendars

Outdoor Book Sale

We will be hosting an outdoor book sale on Saturday, October 17th from 10 AM to 3 PM. Rain date is Saturday, October 24th.



Please come out to shop! Masks must be worn. There will be no food available at this event.

Congregational Meeting

The date will be determined. We will also be approving the 2020 Budget at this time.



Church Fair

Reserve the date November 14th for our Church-wide Fair!



Fair Donation Collections

If anyone has cleaned out items that are good to sell at the Church Fair, we will be at the church on Monday, September 21st from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm to gratefully accept donations, especially book donations. Item collection will be contactless. If this date does not work, there will be more donation dates available.

Please let your family and friends know that we are accepting donations. Thank you for your continued support.

The Fair Committee



**Now Accepting
Donations**

Church Fair

Our Annual Fair is approaching – **November 14th**. Our Church Fair, Immanuel’s largest and most important fund-raiser of the year, is steeped in rich tradition. It has been in existence for most of the Church’s history, almost 100 years! It has become a beacon in the community – a very popular and much anticipated event.

Won’t you come out and support this important fund-raising event and part of Immanuel’s culture?

Here’s how you can help:

- Volunteers are desperately needed to help “man” a table or provide relief throughout the day. It’s fun, it’s easy and the day begins with a special fellowship breakfast catered for the volunteers.
- Bake a cake, or whatever is your specialty. Contributions of all home-baked goods are welcome. Don’t have a favorite? See Barbara Matthius for her tried and true recipes that are show-stoppers each and every year.
- Make Clam Chowder – Immanuel is known for its home-made and home-cooked items, including its Clam Chowder which is a popular draw for the community. Call the church office 718 448-1584 for the recipe.
- Help out in the kitchen. Volunteers are needed in the morning and throughout the day to help prepare and serve – if you can’t donate your time, consider providing sandwich makings, or a dessert.
- Help set-up – we will be setting up for the Fair, the end of October – this includes putting tablecloths on all the tables and setting up the individual tables.

Come out and support the Church, share in the fun, festivities, and fellowship of the day!

In the event the Fair needs to be cancelled we will try to let everyone know as soon as possible.

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Council/Trustee/ Board Meetings Via Zoom	4	5
6 Church Service via zoom 10:00	7 Labor Day	8 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	9	10	11 Patriot Day	12
13 Church Service via zoom 10:00	14	15 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	16	17	18	19
20 Church Service via zoom 10:00	21 Fair Donation Collections	22 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	23	24	25	26
27 Church Service via zoom 10:00	28	29 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	30			

Church News



Reserve Altar Flowers now through the end of 2020. A flower chart is on the bulletin board at the back of the Church Hall. Sign up on a Sunday. The price is \$25. Please indicate whether or not

you are going to take your flowers or if they should go to a shut-in.

If you are not currently receiving offering envelopes and wish to be included, please contact the church office at 718-448-1584.

Information for the October Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, September 25th. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at iuc1@verizon.net. Thank you.

Need to talk? Want spiritual counsel? Have an emergency? If so, you can reach Pastor Charlie through the Church office from Monday through Thursday (8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) at 718-448-1584. If you have an urgent matter off-hours, call Charlie's cell phone: 718-290-3726. If there is no answer, leave a message and he will reply. He is usually off on Friday; however, if you have a need, he is always available- any time, day or night. Please don't hesitate to call him!

How you can help the Hungry and Homeless:

Help Re-stock Food Pantries: non-perishable boxed or canned food items are needed: canned meat, tuna, vegetables, and fruits, rice and instant potatoes, tomato sauce and pasta, macaroni and cheese, canned and instant soups, peanut butter and jellies, baby foods and disposable diapers. No glass jars, please. When you come to Church on Sundays, you can place donations in our Food Basket. Thank you all for sharing.

FYI – Richmond Senior Services has relocated to 729 Delafield Avenue, between Clove Road and Taylor Street.

Prayer List

Please keep the following:

Health Issues:

Baldini Family
Laney Dahl
Carina DeGiulio
Karen McCarthy
Jason Proceszyn
Jan Wiggin
Alan Yurich

Serving our Country:

Matthew Ciccone, USMC
Grand-nephew of Ann Holland

Shut-Ins:

Ethel Thomas

in your prayers!!!

If you would like to be on the Prayer List or would like to add someone, please call Gina in the Church Office at 718 448-1584.

