



# THE Lamplighter



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

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## LOOKING AHEAD

### November

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Churchwide Clean-up Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 9<sup>th</sup> Church Fair
- 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day
- 13<sup>th</sup> AARP
- 16<sup>th</sup> Boy Scout Night At the Races
- 28<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving
- 30<sup>th</sup> Memorial Service

### December

- 5<sup>th</sup> Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 6<sup>th</sup> Zion Christmas Outreach Concert
- 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Troop Christmas Tree Sale
- 7<sup>th</sup> Craft & Vendor Show
- 11<sup>th</sup> AARP
- 14<sup>th</sup> Christmas Organ Concert 6:00 pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve
- 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 Those Who have Much to be Thankful For,

The epistle to the Hebrews is an encouraging letter that continually offers strength and comfort by demonstrating how Jesus is better than all of the symbols found in the OT. He then nears his conclusion by exhorting us in chapter 12, Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire" (Vs 28-29).

"Let us be thankful". This is the time of year which is meant to realign our focus away from whatever circumstances we may be experiencing and onto the faithfulness of God.

I mean with the uncertain conditions of world affairs, as well as the struggling economy and add to that our various health problems, it is far more natural to focus upon what not to be thankful for.

In I Thess. 5:18 Paul exhorts us with these words, **"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."** If you are anything like me, there may be moments when you question whether you are living according to His perfect will. But for many of us, we would never consider that God's perfect will for us is found in the simple exercise of **giving thanks**. Perhaps the reason why is because being thankful is not an easy exercise.

I believe by now, many of us realize that our relationship with God is one in which He stretches His children to maturity. For those who don't have the "ideal life", it is easier to dwell upon the negatives than it is to focus upon the daily blessings we receive. So, in our grumbling we show contempt towards God for these blessings. When we grumble, we are no different than the children of Israel who never made it to the promised land.

Listen to the way the Psalmist writes about the events. In Psalm 106:21-25 we read, **They forgot the God who saved them, who had done great things in Egypt, miracles in the land of Ham and awesome deeds by the Red Sea. So he said he would destroy them-- had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him to keep his wrath from destroying them. Then they despised the pleasant land; they did not believe his promise. They grumbled in their tents and did not obey the LORD.**

Imagine that **"they forgot the God who saved them"**. That is what do when we neglect to give Him thanks for the abundance of blessings He showers over us continually. I looked up the word **"thanks"** in the Bible and found that the people of God are exhorted or commanded to give thanks to God eighty-one times. This means we have much to be thankful for.

## Pastor's Letter (con't)

For example, I am thankful to God for who He is, I am thankful for what he has done in my life in the past, and for what He has planned for my future. I thank Him for allowing me to be used in the life of others. I thank Him for what He reveals about Himself through His Holy Word. I thank Him for my family and the many friends He has brought into my life over the years, and I am thankful for you.

It truly is a joy to live life with a thankful heart, and it is truly joyful to be around others who have thankful hearts despite the hardships of life. It is important to model such gratitude toward God before our family, friends, and neighbors. In this season of thanksgiving, I encourage us all to devote each day of November thanking God for His many blessings, even naming them one by one. I'm certain you will find them to be innumerable. As the old hymn says, *"For life and health and all that's good we give Thee thanks, O Lord."*

Your Servant for Jesus' Sake,  
Pastor Charlie

## Sunday Worship & Bible Study

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

Sunday School begins at 9:00 AM.

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

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)  
+1 929 436 2866,,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



# Milestones



## Birthdays

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

# Announcements

- To order Altar Flowers to honor or memorialize your loved ones please call the Church Office.
- Offering envelopes for 2024 are available.
- 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.
- Information for the December Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at [iuc1@verizon.net](mailto:iuc1@verizon.net).



# Council Update

The Trustees are happy to report on the work that has been done around the Church. The parlor ceiling has been repaired and painted and Gina's office ceiling has also been scraped and painted. Half of the outside of the Church trim has been repaired (all rotting wood was replaced), scraped and painted (see pictures). We still have to have the trim surrounding the windows and doors painted, but we are waiting on information about redoing the doors before we proceed with the trim. It has come to our attention that there is plaster falling off the walls in the chapel, that will need to be repaired after the new year.

We also have been updating our beautiful organ in preparation for the Memorial Service on November 30th at 10 am, as well as the Christmas organ concert on December 14th at 6 pm. We invite you all to these events so you can enjoy the updates as well.







## To Our Congregation:

During and since the Covid pandemic, six of our members passed away and unfortunately, we were unable to honor them. These dedicated people include Jack Brown, Don Landau, Emily Morrison, Dolores Shotwell, Jan Wiggins and Betty Winsch. We now want to celebrate their lives and legacy in a special memorial service.

To honor, celebrate, and remember, we're having a "Celebration of Life" for these 6 members. This special service will be on Saturday, November 30th at 10 a.m. in the Church Sanctuary with a reception immediately following in the Church Hall. We invite you all to attend.

During the service, Pastor Baldini will ask guests to share special memories, so please come with any story or anecdote that you wish to tell. We also ask you to bring pictures or email photos to the church at [IUCI@verizon.net](mailto:IUCI@verizon.net). We will use them during the service and it will be greatly appreciated. Also, please RSVP via email or telephone and let us know if you are attending so we can plan the reception accordingly.

We understand that some many not be able to attend, so we will also livestream the service via zoom. Contact the church office and we will send you the link.

Betty, Jack, Don, Emily, Dolores and Jan were our personal as well as church friends. All of us at Immanuel deeply miss them. We look forward to seeing you on November 30<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate this special service of honor and remembrance. Please join us.

In Christ,

Pastor Baldini and Council of Immanuel Union Church  
Leslie Baldini  
Dan Kish  
Nancy Myers  
Eugene Sorensen  
John Valjalo

November 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Churchwide Clean-up
3 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	4	5 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	6	7 Council Trustee/Board Meetings	8	9 Church Fair
10 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	11 Veteran's Day	12 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	13 AARP	14	15	16 Boy Scout Night at the Races
17 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	18	19 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	20	21	22	23
24 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	25	26 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30 Memorial Service





Below you will find a form to use when ordering your Christmas Poinsettias for the Altar. Please include your check made payable to Immanuel Union Church with your order, and send it along to 693 Jewett Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10314, Attn: Poinsettias.

The list of names will be published in the January Lamplighter.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - \$15.00 PER PLANT**

ENCLOSED IS \$ \_\_\_\_\_ FOR \_\_\_\_\_ PLANTS.

DONOR \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

OR IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE INDICATE:**

(    ) My flowers may be given to shut-ins.

(    ) I will pick up my flowers after the service.

The deadline for ordering Poinsettia Plants is December 6, 2024. Please send this form along with a check in the total amount of the order; or call the church office at 448-1584 to place your order.

# Mark Your Calendars

- November 2<sup>nd</sup> Churchwide Clean-up Day
- November 9<sup>th</sup> Church Fair
- December 7<sup>th</sup> Craft and Vendor Show

❖ Anyone who would like a table(s) for the Craft or Vendor show, please contact the Church Office at 718 448-1584.

The Church Fair is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>! The Fair Committee accepts donations all year so anyone wishing to drop off household and/or handmade items ahead of time are welcome to do so! We are looking forward to holding this well-known event in the community and a key part of Immanuel's heritage. Attic treasure cleanouts and donations are being accepted, as are books. Also, if you have a particular talent for hand-crafted items, please consider donating an item to the Fair. Hand-sewn, knitted, and crochet items, woodworking, painting, photography, soap making are just a few ideas. Or, consider putting together a raffle basket—these are always big sellers! And, of course, if you can volunteer some time to help with the set-up and/or be a table host at the Fair, please come out and participate in the camaraderie that has become a hallmark of Immanuel's events!

## 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

# ORGAN CONCERT



# CHRISTMAS CAROL SING

**Immanuel Union Church**

**Saturday, Dec 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**

Concert Performed by  
**Trent Whisenant**

Director of Music & Organist  
at Trinity Lutheran Church  
Stapleton, Staten Island



**Featuring Immanuel's Magnificent Pipe Organ**

Immanuel Union Church | 693 Jewett Avenue | (718) 448-1584

## Sunday Prayer List

### Praise

- ✝ Pastor Charlie's cousin's granddaughter Lauren- the recent bone marrow biopsy reveals she is cancer free! Thank you for your prayers!

### Continued-

- ✝ Anne Holland- having severe side pain. Doctor thinks it's muscular but she's needing to rest for it. Pray she recovers quickly.
- ✝ Sonja's husband Bill is having a heart procedure on Friday November 8th. Pray for the doctors and for Bill.
- ✝ Danielle- Ann Haakonsen's niece had gallbladder surgery, pray for her as she recovers.
- ✝ Tara- Lyn's daughter has a pinched nerve in her back - pray God removes her pain so she can return to work
- ✝ Dan- for God to carry him through his grieving process in the loss of Sheri.
- ✝ Jennifer & Omar- pray that God reveals to them the "what's next"?
- ✝ James- Dorothy's son- in the hospital, barely talking, has an infection somewhere, but they don't know where it is. Pray that his heart will be changed and that God will heal him.
- ✝ Ed- boldness and clarity of thought when sharing his faith.
- ✝ Rosalie- in cancer treatment and has been so sick, and she fell and fractured her finger so she's in a cast and bruised.
- ✝ Mary- Donnamaries mom put in palliative care. Pray for peace
- ✝ Marilyn Pederson- cancer in her ankle.
- ✝ Dorothy- she fell and broke 2 bones in her wrist, which are not healing after many weeks.
- ✝ Jimmy- Dorothy's grandson. Living with her but needs an apartment.
- ✝ Czarina- we prayed for Czarina's sister in law Caroline who carried a baby for Czarina & her husband Andrew. The baby Madison is now over a year old and Czarina had a stroke- her right arm is severely affected and she is unable to carry or care for Madison with that arm. Please pray for her healing!
- ✝ Caroline's (from above) Dad was just diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer
- ✝ Charlie Buchanan- undergoing treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Sonja's cousins - Michael Johnson and Ron Mazzaeo both have cancer. Pray for them, their families and the doctors for wisdom in treatments.
- ✝ Don- Eugene's Cousin has stage 4 pancreatic cancer that has spread to his liver. Pray for the treatment, doctors and he and his family as they go through this.
- ✝ James & Michael- Dorothy's sons for their health.
- ✝ Fred- Sonja & Bill's friend in his recovery.
- ✝ RJ (lives in Taiwan). In a scooter accident, is recovering
- ✝ Liz Iken & Adrienne Lianna- at Eger. Pray for their health & spirits.
- ✝ Sam Colucci & Barbara Matthius- health and strength, pray for Nancy & Bunny, and the aides that care for them.
- ✝ Stephen- Naomi's son, pray he will continue his meds and will be emotionally stable.
- ✝ Rosemary- Genes sister, pray for complete recovery.
- ✝ Anne Haakonsen's mom- for health and strength.
- ✝ Howard- is back in the US. Pray that he gets settled and can re-adjust to life in the States
- ✝ Those battling Covid & Long haulers with Covid symptoms
- ✝ Vaccine injured
- ✝ For our country (President, Vice President, Senators, Congressmen/women, judges).
- ✝ For our police, firefighters and military
- ✝ Leaders of our State- Gov Hochul, Mayor Adams-

