



THE Lamplighter



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

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LOOKING AHEAD

February

- 2nd Scout Sunday
- 6th Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 8th Blue & Gold Dinner
- 9th Congregational Meeting
- 12th AARP
- 17th Presidents' Day

March

- 5th Ash Wednesday
- 6th Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 12th AARP
- 22nd Spring Vendor Fair
Boy Scout Radio Bingo



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

Greetings To All Who Live To Love,

February is the month of romantic love. It's the month where many people, fully convinced that he or she is "the one," finally take the next step in their relationship by entering into the engagement process.

Romantic love reminds me of a conversation between two friends. Paul asked his friend John how his relationship with his girlfriend was going. John explained that it was over. Paul said *"You told me it was love at first sight when you first started going out with Pat."* With that John replied, *"I took another look."*

Relationships that have a foundation based upon romantic love is like building a house upon a foundation where Jell-O is used in place of the concrete, it lacks any real substance. What I mean is that many of us have had relationships where we have used the words or heard the words, *"I will love you till the end of time"* only to find, after *"taking another look"*, that time came to an end a whole lot sooner than expected.

Jesus has built His Church on the most concrete expression of love. In John 15:9-14 we read about this expression of concrete love: ***"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. MY COMMAND IS THIS: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command."***

Jesus, in this passage reveals to us the highest expression of love ***"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."*** The highest expression of love we could have for another would be laying down our life for someone else, just as Jesus did for those He loved. Those of us who have tasted His sacrificial love, should desire to love others sacrificially as well. Jesus loved us, and He loved us enough to die for us. We may never have to die for someone, but we can practice sacrificial love in many other ways: listening, helping, encouraging, giving. This type of love goes way beyond showing mere feelings of love. Some people will be difficult to love, but still we are commanded to act lovingly toward our fellow believers. Jesus goes on to say that when we become living expressions of His love, we are His friends, the very ones He gave His life for. Look, we don't always feel like spiritual successes. More times than not we feel the opposite.

Charles Swindoll once wrote: "Do you ever feel like a frog? Frogs feel slow and low, ugly and putty, drooped and pooped. I know. One told me. The frog feeling comes when you want to be bright, but you are dumb. When you want to share, but you are selfish. When you want to be thankful, but you are filled with resentment. When you want to be great, but you are small. When you want to care, but you are indifferent. Yes, at one time or another each of us found himself on a lily pad, floating down the great river of life, frightened and disgusted, but too frightened to budge."

Pastor's Letter (con't)

We all know how the fairy tale goes: Once upon a time there was a frog, except he was not really a frog. He was a prince. He only looked and felt like a frog. The wicked witch had cast a spell on him, and only the kiss of a beautiful maiden could save him. (As if a cute girl would ever kiss a frog!) So, there he sat, an un-kissed prince in frog form. But miracles do happen, and one day a beautiful maiden gave him a great big smack! Crash! Boom! Zap! Suddenly he was a handsome prince. And of course they lived happily ever after.

What is the task of the church? Kissing frogs, of course, and allowing ourselves to be kissed! We are to make one another princes and princesses for Christ!

I believe that many of us in the church have never reached our full potential because no one has ever encouraged us. Many of us would reach unimaginable heights if only someone would say, *"You know, you could really become something."*

No one has prayed for them, befriended them, or affirmed them. We are called to do just that. We are called to promote the well-being of one another.

This month, the month of love let us all begin something new. Let us envision one another as precious valentines from God.

God's Blessings on You All!

Pastor Charlie

Sunday Worship & Bible Studies



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)

+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

Milestones



Birthdays

2/1	Zachary Iken	2/12	Brian Henningsen
2/3	Danny Orlando		Jennifer Iken Walsh
	Ned Rogers	2/16	Janet Maule
2/9	Laney Dahl	2/22	Angie Sorrentino
2/10	Gregg Jacobson		
2/11	Mary Coffey		

New Members

Welcome **Ida Lopez**

Announcements

- To order Altar Flowers to honor or memorialize your loved ones please call the Church Office.
- Offering envelopes for 2025 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 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 March Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, February 21st. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at iuc1@verizon.net.

Council Update

When Covid interrupted our lives, the Church hasn't had committee's delegated. Nancy Wagner-Wetzel suggested this month we reinstate them. Below are the committees and what members are on them. We need 4 people from the Congregation to join the:

Christian Outreach Committee

House & Personnel committee

Nominating & Membership Committee

Worship Committee

If you are a member and haven't ever served on a committee and want to get more involved - we need you! If you are a member and have served in years past, but are not serving currently- we need you as well!

Please pray and consider serving on one of these committees and speak with Pastor Charlie, he will get you plugged in where you feel God is leading you.

Christian Outreach- Donnamarie Fulco, Nancy Wagner-Wetzel

House/Personnel - Dan Kish, Nancy Myers

Nominating & Membership Committee- Nancy Myers, Eugene Sorensen

Pastoral Relations Committee-Roland Tanjutco, John Valjalo, Nancy Wagner-Wetzel,

Worship Committee- Nancy Myers, Nancy Wagner-Wetzel

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 9th. This is an extremely important meeting, so please plan on attending.

February 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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2 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00 Scout Sunday	3	4 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	5	6 Council Trustee/Board Meetings	7	8 Blue & Gold Dinner
9 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00 Congregational Meeting	10	11 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	12 AARP	13	14	15
16 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	17 Presidents'. Day	18 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	19	20	21	22
23 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	24	25 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	26	27	28	

Mark Your Calendars

Vendor Fair

We will be hosting a Vendor Fair on Saturday, March 22nd from 9 AM to 3 PM. Come out to shop and support our church. Call the church office at 718 448-1584 if you would like to rent a table.

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

Sunday Prayer List

Praise

- ✝ Phil- Dorothy's son in law, had eye surgery and has gotten his sight back.

New

- ✝ Diane Pillarella - fell on ice and fractured her elbow. Surgery on Wednesday (2/12), pray as she recovers.
- ✝ Warren- Ann Haakonsen's brother- physical encouragement but more so spiritual healing. I'm Cl... rehab center.
- ✝ Gerd- Lyn's friend- was in car accident- in ICU. Multiple broken bones and major injuries. Had o... his arm and wrist and one on his spine.
- ✝ Ed's cousin Ronnie's wife Marie fell over her dog and needs pins put in her wrist.



Continued-

- ✝ Michael- Dorothy's son having medical problems.
- ✝ Colucci family in the loss of Sam.
- ✝ Dorothy & the Coffey family in the loss of James.
- ✝ Matthius family in the loss of Barbara
- ✝ Ronnie Nestle- someone at the organ concert who requested prayer.
- ✝ Donnamarie's daughter- Christina had a procedure and for her recovery
- ✝ Roland- his health.
- ✝ Mauro- Roland's friend in ICU with heart problems. Pray that he has opportunities to talk about Jesus.
- ✝ Theresa- Leslie's friend in Florida is home. Pray that she recovers quickly.
- ✝ Tom- cancer is growing again. Pray for the treatment change and that his body can tolerate it.
- ✝ Eric- Roland's best friend- has only 1 kidney and now it's not working. It's only working at 25%
- ✝ Anne Holland- having severe side pain. Doctor thinks it's muscular but she's needing to rest for it. Pray she recovers quickly.
- ✝ Danielle- Ann Haakonsen's niece had gallbladder surgery, and is on the mend. Pray for full healing.
- ✝ Tara- Lyn's daughter has a pinched nerve in her back - pray that physical therapy helps her pain.
- ✝ Jennifer & Omar- pray that God reveals to them the "what's next"?
- ✝ Ed- continue to draw close to Jesus and not be a coward.
- ✝ Rosalie- in cancer treatment and has been so sick, and she fell and fractured her finger so she's in a cast and bruised.
- ✝ Donnamaries mom (Mary) put in palliative care. Cardiologist says it won't be long in her medical condition. Pray God opens her heart and doesn't allow her to suffer.
- ✝ Marilyn Pederson- cancer in her ankle.
- ✝ Jimmy- Dorothy's grandson. Living with her (and Michael) but needs an apartment.
- ✝ Czarina- we prayed for Czarinas 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- Katie Myers FIL- had surgery, is positive 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.
- ✝ Fred- Sonja & Bills friend in his recovery.
- ✝ RJ (lives in Taiwan). In a scooter accident, is recovering
- ✝ Liz Iken & Adrienne Lianna- at Eger. Pray for their health & spirit.
- ✝ 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.