



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)

April

- 4th Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 10th AARP
- 20th Book Fair
- 22nd Earth Day

May

- 2nd Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 8th AARP
- 19th Pentecost Sunday
- 27th Memorial Day



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

Spring Greetings to All,

In 1998 Burger King published a full-page advertisement in *USA Today* announcing the introduction of a new item to their menu: a "Left-Handed Whopper" specially designed for the 32 million left-handed Americans. According to the advertisement, the new whopper included the same ingredients as the original Whopper (lettuce, tomato, hamburger patty, etc.), but all the condiments were rotated 180 degrees for the benefit of their left-handed customers. The following day Burger King issued a follow-up release revealing that although the Left-Handed Whopper was a hoax, thousands of customers had gone into restaurants to request the new sandwich. Simultaneously, according to the press release, "many others requested their own 'right-handed' version."

This story was of course the result of an elaborate April Fool's Day prank. All of us at one time or another in moments of gullible weakness have fallen victim to an April Fool's Day prank. Often it comes as a result of forgetting what date it is. We are told a story which we believe, only to hear the words "April Fools" yelled in a loud enthusiastic voice.

It is difficult to trace how April Fool's Day originated, but it seems to be connected with the date of the New Year under the Julian calendar.

Before the introduction of the Gregorian calendar by Pope Gregory I in 1582 AD, New Year's Day was on March 25th with celebrations which lasted for about eight days! These ended on April 1st, possibly at 12 noon. This may be why trick playing is supposed to cease at 12 noon on April 1st.

The custom appears to have originated in France, where people traditionally exchanged New Year gifts on April 1st. After the adoption of the new calendar, many people held on to the old traditions, in spite of ridicule by the more progressive members of society. They became the butts of jokes, which gradually extended to the whole community playing tricks on each other such as sending apprentices on useless errands.

Ordinarily when we apply the word fool to someone, we are saying that this person is somehow mentally deficient. When the word fool is used in the Scriptures, most of the time it speaks of someone who has a moral problem.

Pastor's Letter (con't)

For instance, in Ps 14:1 we read:

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.

This means that when someone devotes their life to doing that which is corrupt and vile, they are making a declaration that as far as they are concerned, "God does not exist" and therefore they are not living in a wise way, but rather in a life fit for a fool.

In 1 Corinthians 1:18 Paul is declaring the same thing when he speaks of the cross of Jesus Christ. Most people, when they hear of the preaching of the cross look at it as being dull, drab and moronic. They think that a man who was executed over 2000 years ago for the crime of insurrection in a city and culture that is completely foreign to them should have any impact in the way they live their life as a 21st Century person is at the least ridiculous.

Paul goes onto to say that one's reaction to the preaching of the cross of Jesus Christ diagnosis a person's spiritual condition. In another words a person's reaction to the proclamation of the cross of Jesus Christ reveals weather he or she is living according to the power of God for their salvation or living as a fool fit for destruction.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

We just commemorated another celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This I assure you was no prank. Therefore, use this time to contemplate and reflect as to whether you truly believe that what happened at Calvary was really the greatest event in the history of the world as well as the greatest event in the history of your life or just some April Fool's Day joke.

Remember the rest of the story. That is Jesus was crucified by man for insurrection, but three days later vindicated by God through resurrection.

Happy Spring Reflections!

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

13 th	Helen Latella
17 th	Sam Colucci
20 th	Bonnie Rogers
25 th	Cynthia Wambold
26 th	Samantha Myers
27 th	Christopher Maule

A very Happy 100th Birthday to Sam Colucci on April 17th!!

Pastor Confirmation Update

As Pastor of Immanuel Union Church, I would like to take this opportunity to let you all know that I have had the pleasure of teaching confirmation classes with 3 very special young ladies. Pat Brower's great-granddaughters and Donna & Victor Tecarr's granddaughters. You have seen their parents (who were Confirmed at IUC) Patty and Vicky and some of her family helping out at our many fairs. They all live in Long Island, so I thought it would be helpful for you to get to know a little about them since it's not common to do Zoom confirmation class! Pentecost Sunday (Confirmation Sunday) is May 19, and we will have a special service and a silver tea following the morning service, we invite you all to attend this wonderful celebration with these young ladies.

Let's Meet our Confirmands!

Hi! My name is **Marissa Howard**, daughter of Patricia and Thomas Howard, granddaughter of Victor and Donna Tecarr and great-granddaughter of Pat Brower. I am currently in twelfth grade at Lindenhurst High School. I enjoy school and being an active member of my community. Over the four years spent in high school, I have had the chance to join and be a part of many clubs. These include the National Art Honor Society (NAHS), National Honor Society (NHS), Key Club, Class Council and Bible Club. While in the NAHS I had the opportunity to be a member for one term, secretary for one term, and President for two terms. One of my favorite memories from the NAHS is laying wreaths with Wreaths Across America on the graves of fallen soldiers at the Long Island National Cemetery. I have been involved with Key Club since my freshman year and have been a member for three terms and President for one term. One of my favorite memories from Key Club has to be setting up and holding a movie night for Dominik, a child who had passed away in our community. We were able to gather local families together to celebrate his life and raise funds for his family. I look forward to coming back to my community during and after college, possibly as a permanent place of residence.

One of my main goals in life is to become a Speech-Language Pathologist. I will be attending Sacred Heart University in the Fall while studying Communication Disorders within a Speech-Language Pathology Dual-Degree Program. I am excited for what comes with college and to soak in all of the new opportunities. I hope to be a part of a philanthropic sorority and many clubs this upcoming fall semester. While in confirmation class I learned the traditional version of the Apostles Creed. Pastor Charlie has had a great influence on my understanding of what we have learned and has helped me to grasp new concepts. My love for the Lord has only grown stronger while attending these classes.

Hi, My name is **Elsie Guzman**. I am in 10th grade soon going into 11th grade. My parents are Vicki Tecarr and Luis Guzman. I have six siblings. I love them all, especially Gabby, she is my best friend. Some traits I would use to describe myself are very organized, respectful and a generous person. I always loved having God in my life. He gives me hope and inspiration. A goal I have is to be successful and to graduate high school then go off to college for criminal justice. Pastor Charlie has taught us a lot, but always makes sure we understand everything. I now feel closer to God than I was before the class.

Hello!! My name is **Gabriella Guzman**, my nickname is Gabby. My parents are Luis Guzman and Vicki Tecarr. I am graduating 8th grade. I enjoy doing track and select chorus, and I'm hoping to do them in High School as well. I'm so excited to experience the transition of going into a new school and have a new environment. I have a lot of goals in life, but one of my goals is to graduate High School and go to college and get a nursing degree. One thing I've learned in class is the Lord's Prayer. I would always go to church as a kid, but I feel like since I was a kid I didn't really understand it. Now that I'm older, I understand it more. I feel as if I'm closer to the Lord.

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 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 May Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, April 19th. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at iuc1@verizon.net.
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- The Boy Scouts will be holding a flag burning ceremony on June 11th. If you have any worn out flags please bring them to the church to be disposed of properly.

Easter Lily Donations

Donor

Nancy Myers

In Honor of

Sam Colucci

Donor

Dorothy Crimmins

In Memory of

Ray, Husband
Thomas, Son

Barbara Mathius

Douglas Matthius
Roy & Mildred Decker
My Grandparents

Nancy Myers

Elizabeth & Stuart Myers
Constance Colucci

Order Your Geraniums



The color of Pentecost is red. This year, we would like to have a profusion of red geraniums on the Altar to make Pentecost Sunday even more special. If you normally plant red geraniums in your garden, could you wait? The Worship & Music Committee would like to pick yours up at the nursery and put them on the altar for May 19th. You would then take your plants home

after the Service. It is your responsibility to take your plants home! The cost would be \$5 per plant. Please let the Church Office know if you might be willing to participate in the red geranium altar flow display this year. Mention how many you would like to order then submit payment for the cost. Order must be received by May 12th.

April 2024

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

Mark Your Calendars

Book Fair

We will be hosting a Book Fair on Saturday, April 20th from 9 AM to 3 PM. Come out to pick up some books and have a snack in our café.

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

Prayer List



Sunday Prayer List

- ✠ Michael - Dorothy's son was in the hospital, but didn't stay. Please pray for his health.
- ✠ Phil- Dorothy's SIL prayers for his health
- ✠ Dorothy- in the middle of trying to take care of her sons and just needs our prayers for strength.
- ✠ Haley- Lyn's daughter is job searching and very discouraged.
- ✠ Cindy- Naomi's daughter had hernia surgery, now has continued pain. Can't work. Pray for healing
- ✠ Bobby - has diabetes and has lots of physical problems
- ✠ Ed- his father died, pray for comfort for the family.
- ✠ Baby Gus- born with a heart defect which declined rapidly making a need for a new heart. Had a transplant and the new heart didn't beat for many days, now he's having multiple complications from all the heart issues, was transferred from a Children's hospital to Vanderbilt. Pray for his parents Mark & Amanda, this is their first baby.
- ✠ Paton- was a normal functioning boy, now is bedridden with pain. Pray for the doctors to figure out what's going on with him and for the family.

Continued-

- ✠ Lita- Roland's friend and her husband went to the Philippines where she had a stroke and is now bedridden and they can't get back to the US.
- ✠ Jake Hyland- fire victim we prayed for that lost his son & unborn baby is having terrible nerve burning- his pain hasn't been this bad since the fire.
- ✠ 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!
- ✠ Felicity- a 10 year old in Texas had brain surgery and is now blind. She's returned to school with accommodations 3 hrs a day.
- ✠ 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.
- ✠ James- Dorothy's son for his health.
- ✠ Sandra- James' girlfriend- in rehab after being hospitalized
- ✠ Fred- Sonja & Bills friend in his recovery.
- ✠ RJ (lives in Taiwan). In a scooter accident, is recovering
- ✠ Susan - Dan & Sheri's neighbor had a bunch of mini strokes, for recovery and her husband who is her caregiver.
- ✠ Anne Holland - dealing with sciatica. Pray for wisdom for her doctor so her pain will go away.
- ✠ Liz Iken & Adrienne Lianna- at Eger. Pray for their health & spirit
- ✠ Mary (DonnaMarie's mom) at Sunrise. Pray for her health.
- ✠ Don Landau- moved to Maryland to be near his brother Carl in assisted living. Pray for his adjustment and health
- ✠ Sam Colucci & Barbara Matthus- health and strength, pray for Nancy & Bunny, and the aides that care for them.
- ✠ Joey- recovering from a motorcycle accident last year.
- ✠ Robert and Cathy- Diane's neighbors lost their son, pray for comfort
- ✠ Stephen- Naomi's son, pray he will continue his meds and will be emotionally stable.
- ✠ Nancy Myers niece Heather who has breast cancer. Pray for treatment
- ✠ Rosemary- Genes sister, pray for complete recovery.
- ✠ Anne Haakonsen's mom- for health and strength. And her Aunt Marty having anxiety issues. Donna, Anne's friend has ovarian cancer
- ✠ Howard- Pray for the last 3 months of this assignment- for his safety & endurance.
- ✠ 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-