



LOOKING AHEAD

January

- 1st New Year's Day (office closed)
- 4th Council/Trustee/Board Meetings
- 6th Epiphany
- 10th AARP
- 12th NARFE
- 15th MLK, Jr. Day (office closed)
- 24th Tall Cedars
- 28th Congregational Meeting & Potluck

February

- 1st Council/Trustee/Board Meetings
- 9th NARFE
- 10th Barn Dance/Big Band
- 11th Scout Sunday
- 14th Ash Wednesday/AARP
- 19th President's Day
- 28th Tall Cedars



Immanuel Union Church

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

January Birthdays



| | | | |
|------|----------------------|------|-------------------------|
| 1/1 | Jack Ritchie | 1/16 | Rebekah Bossert |
| | Ruth Thompson | | Jo-Ellen Brannigan |
| 1/3 | Robbi Rosado | 1/18 | Caroline Michie |
| 1/6 | Bunny Matthius | 1/20 | Jamie Joyce Blissenbach |
| 1/8 | Madeline Foti | 1/23 | Fred Buser |
| 1/12 | Jeffrey Forbes Smith | 1/25 | Melissa Iken |
| | | | Helen Jerlin |

Coffee Hour



IN THIS ISSUE

- From the Pastor's Desk
- Calendar of Events
- Congregational Meeting
- Poinsettia Donation List

January

- 7th Trustees
- 14th Church Board
- 21st Tuesday Evening Bible Study
- 28th Adult Fellowship

February

- 4th Trustees
- 11th Scout Sunday
- 18th Church Board
- 25th Adult Fellowship

From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings in The Name of the Lord Jesus Christ,

It's a new year. It's another opportunity to look back as well as ahead. That's what January is all about. It's a Two-Faced Month! What I mean is January is named after the mythological Roman god Janus, who had two faces--one to look into the past and one to look into the future.

As for your own reflection as mirrored by the successes and failures over the past 12 months, I'll leave that matter open to you.

Openness is essentially the willingness to grow with a strong aversion for living in a rut. Openness stands enthusiastically on the mountain's precipice scanning the horizon for new prospects. When scanning out the New Year we are seeking for God's best in 2018.

A man once bought a new radio, brought it home, placed it on the refrigerator, plugged it in, turned it to 650 AM WSM, Nashville (the home of the Grand Ole Opry) and then pulled all the knobs off! He had already tuned in all he ever wanted or expected to hear.

Many of us habitually, year after year, allow our lives to be "rutted" in the same way. Rather than enthusiastically standing on the precipice of the New Year we fear change find comfort abiding in the valleys where everything is familiar and safe. Without giving any thought we yield to the tyranny of the inevitable, "what has been will always continue to be."

The results are evident in the staleness of our marriages and relationships; the ineffectiveness of job performance; and the lack of growth of our churches.

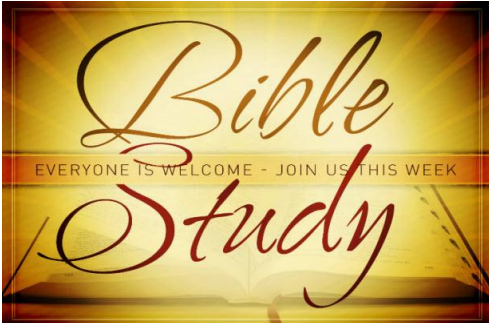
This year I exhort you to stay open to newness, stay open to the things that God may want to do differently in 2018.

Look back and see what life in the valley of 2017 has produced. If it has not profited and in may have even consumed then reject bringing it along in 2018.

Each New Year has the potential of being God blessed if you are willing to trust Him by yielding yourself to those things that are clearly directed in His Word. My encouragement to you is that you be open to God for new and wondrous things in 2018.

Your Servant For His Sake,
Pastor Charlie

Bible Studies



The Sunday School series going through the Old Testament will be held on Sundays, at 9:00 AM in the workroom.

The Tuesday evening Bible Study is held in the workroom at 6:30 PM.

Congregational Meeting



There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 28th following the 10:00 a.m. Service. This will be followed by a Potluck Luncheon. Reports for the Annual Report should be submitted by

January 7th as the Annual Report will be distributed a week early to give to the Congregation an opportunity to study the Report for January 28th.

January 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|-------------------|---|-------------|--|
| | 1 New Year's Day (office closed) | 2 Bible Study 6:30 PM Westerleigh Improvement Society | 3 | 4 Council/Board & Trustee Meetings | 5 | 6 Epiphany Derby Workshop |
| 7 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00 | 8 | 9 Bible Study 6:30 PM | 10 AARP | 11 | 12 NARFE | 13 |
| 14 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00 | 15 MLK, Jr. Day (office closed) | 16 Bible Study 6:30 PM | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00 | 22 | 23 Bible Study 6:30 PM | 24 Tall Cedars | 25 | 26 | 27 Pinwood Derby |
| 28 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00 Congregational Meeting & Potluck | 29 | 30 Bible Study 6:30 PM | 31 | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Poinsettia Donation List

Donor

Sam Colucci

Dorothy & Ray Crimmins

Donor

Sam Colucci

Sonja & William Coyne

Helen Hanlon

Anne Holland

Lee Kramer

Helen Latella

Matthius Family

Emily Morrison

Nancy & John Myers

Pitchersky Family

Jack Ritchie

Eugene Sorensen

John Valjalo

Nancy & Fred Wetzel

Betty Winsch

In Honor Of:

My Daughters

Our Grandchildren

In Memory Of:

Constance Colucci

Our Parents

Hanlon Family

Loved Ones

Charlie Kramer, Audrey Mullin

Gary Caprario, Nephew

*Douglas Matthius, Peggy Wilkerson, Schlude
& Decker Families*

Robert Morrison, Husband, Emily

Nan & Thomas Wilkinson, Parents

Madeline & James Morrison, In-laws

Constance Colucci

Elizabeth Stuart Myers

Loved Ones

Ruth & Frances Ritchie

Mary & Eugene Sorensen,

Evvie Otten MacDonald,

Bob Little

Loved Ones

Loved Ones

My Loved Ones

Church News



Reserve Altar Flowers now through the end of 2018. A flower chart is on the bulletin board at the back of the Church Hall. Sign up on a Sunday, or contact Ann Haakonsen (718 494-1549) or John Valjalo (718 730-5731). 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 February Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, January 19th. 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
Lydia Lorenzo
Karen McCarthy
Vicky Morris
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.

