



LOOKING AHEAD

January

- 1st New Year's Day
- 3rd Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 5th Pinewood Derby Workshop
- 6th Epiphany
- 9th AARP
- 21st MLK, Jr. Day (office closed)
- 23rd Tall Cedars
- 27th Annual Congregational Meeting

February

- 2nd Book Sale
- 5th Westerleigh Improvement Society
- 7th Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 10th Scout Sunday
- 13th AARP
- 18th Presidents' Day (office closed)
- 27th Tall Cedars



Immanuel Union Church

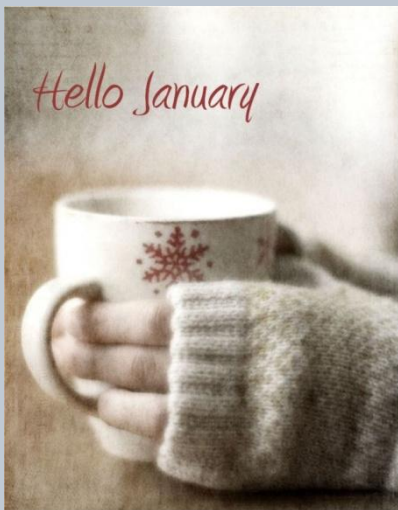
693 Jewett Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10314
718-448-1584

January Birthdays



1/1	Jack Ritchie Ruth Thompson	1/16	Rebekah Bossert 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



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January

- 6th Trustees
- 13th Church Board
- 20th Tuesday Evening Bible Study
- 27th Adult Fellowship

February

- 3rd Trustees
- 10th Scout Sunday
- 17th Tuesday Evening Bible Study
- 24th Adult Fellowship

From the Pastor's Desk

Happy New Year, 2019!

What is your New Year's resolution this year? We all make them. You know, this year I'm going to....

- Lose weight
- Drink less
- Smoke less
- Curse less
- Spend more time with my family
- Spend less

Every year, for most of us, we try to start off the New Year right. We may begin with a long laundry list of things that need changing in our life, but often we find out that the old adage holds true: *"Well begun is half done."* Before we know it, we begin blowing it!!! I would say if we are really honest with ourselves, many of us have held to the same resolutions every year for the last 10 years.

I want you to notice something here. The newness comes from God. The transformation power is His. I can sit here all day long and commit to turning into a bald eagle...but I'm powerless to make it happen. God on the other hand has the power to transform me into His likeness.... incredible!!! God is committed to our transformation. God wants nothing more than to see changes take place in our life, and He will do whatever it takes to make those changes happen.

The question is, are we ready for change? I believe that most of us are settling for a life of status quo. This is most evident in the way we perform as a church. This isn't only the state of Immanuel Union Church, but the state of the Church in America. I believe that God is calling us, the church, away from mediocrity. There are far too many churches today where a person can attend and be tepid. What scares me most is what Christ says to the tepid person in Rev. 3:14 *"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see."*

Jesus is telling the members of His Church, "You need to decide one way or the other. If you're cold, I can begin to melt that heart of ice. If you're on fire, I can fan the flames even hotter but if you settle for mediocrity, you make me sick!!!"

From the Pastor's Desk (con't)

Today I want to challenge all of us to begin praying about those things in our lives that hold greatest demand for resolution. We need true, God ushered, transformation of our souls, and we should settle for nothing less than a complete change of heart. Claim the reality of the promise of 2 Corinthians 5:17, *therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this*

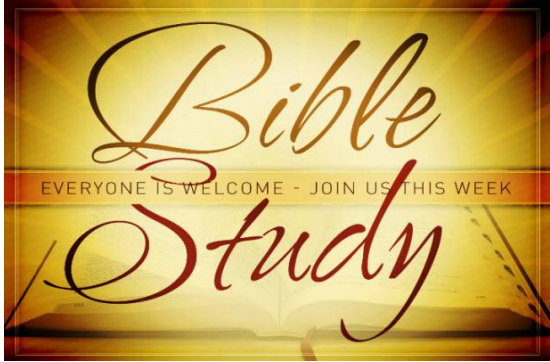
Will you let Jesus transform your life this year? He wants His best for you, His plan for your life. So how does it begin? First, there must be repentance. We need to confess our mediocrity and then change the course. Doing the same old thing will continue to produce the same results. Don't believe me? Wondering why the New Year's resolution of losing weight hasn't worked in the past? Things are different for a short time, but then the old self kicks in and you start eating like you did before New Year's, and then give up because of failure to keep your resolution. Do you see what I'm saying? More of the same produces the same results. You must implement a plan of action to change course. Start by inviting Jesus to be the Lord of your life, He is our ONLY hope for change!

What will happen? Complete and total transformation will take place in your life. You will be changed from the inside out. This will not be a temporary change, but it will result in change that lasts.

Looking Forward to a New Me this New Year, How's about you?

Pastor Charlie

Bible Studies



The Sunday School series discussing the concerns of those who attend 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.

Note From the Church Council

There is a significant need for more volunteers to serve on the Church Board and the Board of Trustees. The limited number of persons currently serving is a detriment to the proper and efficient running of our beloved church.

Mark Your Calendars

Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 27th 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 6th as the Annual Report will be distributed a week early to give to the Congregation an opportunity to study the Report for January 27th.



Book Sale

Book Sale



IUC will be hosting a book sale on Saturday, February 2nd from 9 am to 2 pm. Come by to browse through books and have a snack. Book donations can be brought to the church prior to the sale.

January 2019

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

Christmas Poinsettia Donation List

Donor

Nancy Myers

Donor

Sam Colucci

Helen Hanlon

Anne Kolland

SUC Church Council

Georgiana Johnson

Lee Kramer

Matthius Family

Matthius Family

Emily Morrison

Nancy Myers

Jack Ritchie

Eugene & Roseann
Sorensen

Nancy & Fred Wetzel

Betty Winsch

In Honor Of:

Sam Colucci

In Memory Of:

Constance Colucci

Loved Ones

Family & Friends

Ann Adams, Mother

Tom McCarthy

My late parents, My husband's late parents

Charles Kramer, Husband,

Audrey Mullin, Sister -in-law

Douglas Matthius, son,

Roy & Mildred Decker, Parents & Grandparents

Harry & Rhene Decker, Grandparents

Martin & Katherrine Schleede, Grandparents

Robert Morrison, Husband,

Emily Nan & Thomas Wilkinson, Parents

Madeline & James Morrison, In-laws

Constance Colucci

Elizabeth Stuart Myers

Ruth & Frances Ritchie

Mary & Eugene Sorensen,

Errie MacDonald, Bob Little

Loved Ones

Doris Montesano, Dear Cousin

Church News



Reserve Altar Flowers now through the end of 2019. 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 February Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, January 18th. 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.

