



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)

January

- 1st New Year's Day
- 2nd Lord's Supper
- 6th Epiphany
Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 17th MLK, Jr. Day

February

- 3rd Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 13th Annual Congregational Meeting
Via Zoom
- 21st Presidents' 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

New Year's Greetings to All!

As we embark upon a New Year, once again we find that we are still dealing with this Pandemic in America. However, as you know, the entire world is going through the same.

I don't know about you, but perhaps there was a sense of hope last year at this time that as we closed out 2020, this would all be behind us within a few months. We were looking forward with certainty that we would be returning to permanent in person worship, but that's not the case, despite everyone's best efforts of wearing masks, boosting the vaccine whose promise was to be the cure it in just two doses, as well as the seemingly arbitrary mandates in each state. We find ourselves beginning 2022, after a short season of in person worship, returning to at home worship until further notice.

While we can only do what our own strength permits, I want to remind you today that God is still on the Throne- regardless of where we have been or where we are going!

I'd like to reiterate last Sunday's text of 2 Corinthians 2:14, ***"But thanks be to God, who in Christ ALWAYS leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere."***

While we cannot possibly know what awaits us in 2022, we know WHO holds the future! We are not even gifted enough to know what tomorrow will bring to us, but we as the "us", need to rest assured that God ALWAYS does!

When I reflect on how much God loves me for Jesus' sake, it puts my mind at ease about His plans for tomorrow. Again, I'd like to refer you back to Romans 12:1-2, ***I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect***

2022 will unfold exactly as God has planned it. Not one thing will happen that isn't ***"according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will"***. Ephesians 1:11 There are many times when I can't possibly understand His ways, but those are the times when we need to trust Him more! **God through the prophet Isaiah clearly states in 55:8, *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD."***

Pastor's Letter (2)

Moving forward into this New Year, I want to encourage you to live your life to the glory of God. We can live in confidence and not timidity! We can live our lives in boldness and assurance because God is on the Throne!

There's a beautiful song written by Bill Gaither that we usually sing on Easter Sunday entitled Because He Lives, I'd like for you to think about the lyrics especially as we enter 2022:

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.
Because He lives, all fear is gone.
Because I know, yes I know, He holds the future.
This life is worth the living, just because He lives!

Keep God first in this New Year, and you will be amazed at the things God will do in you, through you, and for you!

Your Servant for Jesus Sake,

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.

The Sunday School series is suspended for the time being. The Tuesday evening Bible Study will be held via zoom at 6:30.

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

From the Church Council

The Council met at the end of December to discuss the current Covid situation. Due to the severe spread that's occurring, it was decided to stop meeting in person, meet only on Zoom weekly through the end of February. At the March 3rd Council meeting we will re-evaluate the situation, and if safe set a date to return to in person services as soon as possible. If the situation is still severe, we will continue online and re-evaluate in April. Although having Church online isn't as wonderful as being in person, we don't want to put anyone at risk. We will return to in-person services as soon as possible.

The Council also considered the proposal of the Church plant (Zion Church) who is looking to use the gym for their worship. The Council is composing a list of discussion questions, and then we will meet with them via Zoom and discuss.

Lastly, we postponed the February book sale but have kept the end of March craft/vendor sale on the calendar. God-willing by then things will be more "normal" and we can resume Church calendar activities.

Near & Far

"You never really leave the place you love. You take part of it with you and leave part of you there."
Unknown

This space is for all members, whether local, retired or relocated, to share updates on themselves, their families, important happenings in their lives. It's what keeps us all connected. This is your page. If you would like to give us an update email it to the church at iuc1@verizon.net.

Milestones



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
1/12	Jeffrey Forbes Smith	1/23	Fred Buser
		1/25	Melissa Iken
			Helen Jerlin

Focus On Our Family

A monthly highlight of an IUC member will appear in this section. If you are interested in sharing your family with us please send your info to the church at iuc1@verizon.net.

Sonja F. Coyne

I joined Immanuel Union Church in 1967 as a transfer from Ocean Parkway Methodist Church in Brooklyn. As a teenager I had attended South Reform Church on 4th Avenue in Brooklyn where I was confirmed.

Along with my husband of 62 years, William Coyne, we have raised four children (Karen, Stephen, Michael and Ronald). All were confirmed at Immanuel Union Church. We are blessed with seven grandchildren and recently a new great-grand daughter.

Family time is very important to me and I look forward to our annual ski reunion in New Hampshire and never miss an opportunity to take a group photo. (There are now 18 in the family portrait).

In 1998 I retired from the J.C. Penney Company having worked at the Forest Avenue and Staten Island Mall locations as Personnel Supervisor.

I have served on the Church Board and/or the Board of Trustees for the past 14 years and have been involved with several church functions and committees. Among these are the following:.

Taught Sunday school and Vacation Bible School; Planned and edited "The Immanuel Union Church Friends and Family Recipe Book", and Chairs the Music and Worship Committee and The Nominating Committee. Every year I have participated in the Church's fair setting up and managing the greeting card table

Immanuel Union continues to be a very important part of my Spiritual life. I especially look forward to Pastor Baldini's, meaningful and well-prepared sermons on Sunday each week.

Announcements

- Coffee Hour is held virtually after the Sunday Service.
- To order Altar Flowers to honor or memorialize your loved ones please call the Church Office.
- Offering envelopes for 2022 are available, please contact the Church Office if you are interested.
- 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 February Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, January 21st. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at iuc1@verizon.net.

Annual Congregational Meeting



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, February 13th via Zoom, the 2022 Budget will be approved at this time as well. This is an extremely important meeting, we need 20 members for a quorum so please plan on attending.

Anyone who needs to submit information to go into the Annual Report, please do so as soon as possible.

Boiler Fund

\$50,000 Goal

\$21,324 raised!!

We hope that this note finds Immanuel Union's church family, friends and loved ones healthy, safe and well.

Whether you worship with us in-person or via Zoom, or simply enjoy Immanuel's daily bell chimes and events, you are no doubt aware of the toll that the COVID pandemic has taken on many businesses, organizations and institutions. Sadly, Immanuel Union has also been negatively impacted.

While we have all experienced many shops, restaurants, and businesses closing, Immanuel is committed to staying the course as we find our way back from the pandemic into a more promising future.

Due to the loss of income from our annual Church Fair, craft and vendor shows, and donations from the many groups, organizations, and gatherings, our coffers are in dire need of support to replace the boiler in our aged heating system, and to make much-needed repairs to our historic stained glass, and roof easements.

Whether you are an active member, live at a distance and are now part of our extended church family, or are a neighborhood friend of the Church, we're sure that you have fond memories of time spent at Immanuel. As an update, we are pleased to announce that late last year, Immanuel Union Church was recognized as an historic sacred site in the United States, and is now listed on the National Historic Registry. It is our goal to continue to provide the meaningful spiritual guidance and activities to our church members, extended members, and the broader Westerleigh community into perpetuity.

We have initiated an appeal to raise \$50,000 to replace our heating system, and any extra raised for stained glass repair and roof easements. We hope you will consider contributing to this worthy undertaking.

Your contribution is gratefully appreciated and is tax deductible.

We can't thank everyone who donated enough for their generosity.

January 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 New Year's Day
2 Church Service via zoom 10:00 The Lord's Supper	3	4 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	5	6 Epiphany Council/Board/ Trustee Meetings	7	8
9 Church Service via zoom 10:00	10	11 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	12	13	14	15
16 Church Service via zoom 10:00	17 MLK, Jr. Day	18 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	19	20	21	22
23 Church Service via zoom 10:00	24	25 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	26	27	28	29
30 Church Service via zoom 10:00	31					

God is Everywhere and so is IUC

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

Christmas Poinsettia Donation List

Donor

Patricia Brower

Sonja & Bill Coyne

Anne Holland

Barbara Matthius
& Family

Nancy Myers

Jack Ritchie

Eugene & Roseann
Sorensen

Gladys Thompson
& Family

John Valjalo

In Memory Of:

Frederick C. Brower

Loved Ones

Our Parents

Loved Ones

Douglas Matthius, son
Parents & Grandparents

Constance Colucci

Elizabeth & Stuart Myers

Frances and Ruth Richie

Mary & Eugene Sorensen, parents

Bob Little, friend

Minnie & Tellef Uldal

Robert t. Thompson

Loved Ones

Prayer List



Praise-

- ✝ Sarah (Baldini) Comis- home and miraculously recovering.

New-

- ✝ Dorothy - surgery on eye tomorrow 1/3. Protection for Ray.
- ✝ Everyone with Covid
- ✝ Terry Mackintosh passed away. Prayers for the family
- ✝ Emma - mom who was pregnant got Covid and ended up hospitalized. She's been on the vent 3x. They delivered her baby and she has another child at home. She's being transferred to Mayo this weekend and she's being put on ECMO which only has a 30% survival rate. Pray for healing and for her family at home.
- ✝ Molly- delivered a baby while sick with Covid and now is in serious condition in the hospital. Her Husband Junior also has Covid and can't be around the baby or with her. Pray for their 3 other children
- ✝ Emma- pastors wife at International Christian Church, in ICU with Covid and blood clot in leg, not doing well and may need to be intubated on a ventilator.
- ✝ Ron- in hospital with Covid. Not doing well
- ✝ Simon in hospital with Covid. Put on a ventilator and waiting transfer to another hospital.

Continued-

- ✝ all the people getting Covid-
- ✝ Ryan- Genes great nephew 6 is + covid
- ✝ Saviel- 1.5 year old who is having stomach surgery on 1/3
- ✝ Anne Holland's friend Dr Kim who has myasthenia Gravis and difficult days.
- ✝ Adrienne- fell and is at Eger. She's not sure she will go home this time.
- ✝ DonnaMaries mom is home. Pray for safety.
- ✝ Sonja & Bills friend Bill- diagnosed with cancer. Pray for healing.
- ✝ Jon- who had botulism now able to speak, Pray for wife Nessa & 4 mo old daughter.
- ✝ MaryAnn- fell and broke her hip and had a stroke.
- ✝ Perla- lockdown in the Philippines.
- ✝ Teddy - Eugene's coworker has Covid with his wife Patty. Very weak at home.
- ✝ Ted Beck - Genes former coworker in Florida still recovering
- ✝ Rosemary- Genes sister doing well. Waiting on clearance to drive.
- ✝ Lyn- pray for a new job and peace during the process of searching
- ✝ John's friend Phil-still on the transplant list, low priority. On meds to keep his heart going.
- ✝ Naomi's son Stephen- emotionally- pray for the new counselor he has.
- ✝ Naomi's daughters family to get into their house very soon.
- ✝ Don- pray for the his health and eye treatment. He's having trouble reading.
- ✝ Anne's mom- battling kidney & leg cancer
- ✝ Those battling Covid-
- ✝ Long haulers with Covid symptoms
- ✝ Vaccine injured
- ✝ For our country (President, Vice President, Senators, Congressmen/women, judges)
- ✝ For our police, firefighters & military
- ✝ For Cities around the country - for peace to rule
- ✝ Leaders of our country, states, town-