



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)

December

January

- 1st New Year's Day
- 4th Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 10th AARP
- 15th MLK, Jr. Day
- 21st Congregational Meeting
- 25th Pack Night
- 27th Pinewood Derby
- 28th Scout Sunday

February

- 1st Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 2nd Boy Scouts Radio Bingo
- 10th Boy Scouts Movie Night
- 14th Ash Wednesday
- AARP
- 19th 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

To All Hoping for a Happy New Year,

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."(Revelation 21:1-2,5)

Happy New Year! That's how we greet one another this time of the year. We believe that the New Year brings possibilities for better times. We have hopes of being better people, better Christians, better at attending to the needs of our families and friends, better all the way around. Many of us will make resolutions about the improvements we plan to make in the new year. Most of us will celebrate another birthday in '24. We will reach new stages in life, some great, some less than what we used to be, some just at the beginning of life.

Let's widen the view a bit. Our world will continue to be a dangerous place to live. War is not going to disappear. The fear of world terrorism will continue to be a daily reality, and new enemies always seem to arise in new and unfamiliar places. Physical ailments will continue to afflict us, financial challenges will continue to grow, family conflicts will always abound, and life will have its downs for all of us. So much for "New Year" eh?

It is fantastic to know that above and beyond all the less-than-happy-stuff of the new year, God has plans for the ultimate renewal of the universe! So even though we must put up with the same old problems, God has already planned and constructed the most absolutely brand new Heavenly life for us! This is a place with no death, no sorrow for any reason, no pain from any illness! For us who trust in Jesus Christ, there will be a Happy New Eternity! It's all possible because Jesus has destroyed the powers of evil, sin, death, hell, and the devil by His death & resurrection. We have a definite future with Jesus, we are full of reasons to be hopeful people, and that cannot be taken away from us! Hallelujah!

I guess it will be a Happy New Year after all!

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.

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

From the SI Council of Churches, everyone is invited to attend:

Unity is defined as "the state or fact of being united or combined into one, as of the parts of a whole." I Corinthians 12:12 states, "I2 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ."

On Thursday, January 18, 2024, we will gather to pray for Unity in the Body of Christ. Join us and believers all around the world as we pray for Christian Unity.

A poster with a warm, golden-hour background. At the top, it reads "You shall love the Lord your God ...and your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27). Below this, it says "Thursday, January 18, 2024" and "Hymn Sing - 6:30 PM". In the center, two children are walking away from the viewer towards a large, white, 3D cross. The child on the left is wearing an orange shirt and the child on the right is wearing a pink shirt. At the bottom, it says "Olivet Presbyterian Church" and "97 Myrtle Ave, Staten Island, NY 10310". Below that, it says "Keynote Speaker: Fr. Arthur Mastrolia".

**"You shall love the Lord your God
...and your neighbor as yourself"** (Luke 10:27)

Thursday, January 18, 2024
Hymn Sing - 6:30 PM

Olivet Presbyterian Church
97 Myrtle Ave, Staten Island, NY 10310

Keynote Speaker:
Fr. Arthur Mastrolia

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

From the Church Council

The Council invites and encourages all members to attend the Congregational meeting on January 21st after the morning Worship service at 10. Immediately following the meeting we will have a Church potluck in the hall. We invite members and non-members to stay for dinner and for fellowship. A sign-up sheet will be at the deacons station on Sunday. Pastor will provide the meat: sides, dessert & beverages will be needed.

Also, please note that we will be having Sunday School and Worship services ON ZOOM ONLY from February 4th through March 3rd. In person and online services will resume on March 10th. Bible Study and Confirmation class will continue on Zoom weekly.

The Church Board
The Board of Trustees
Pastor Charles Baldini

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 February Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, January 25th. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at iuc1@verizon.net.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 21st. This is an extremely important meeting, so please plan on attending. There will be a potluck luncheon following the meeting.

Christmas Poinsettia Donation List

Donor

*Sonja & William Coyne
Dorothy Crimmins*

*Anne Holland
Nancy & John Myers
Eugene & Roseann
Sorensen*

In Memory Of:

*Our Parents
Ray, Husband
Thomas, Son
Beloved husband Jack & Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Mary & Eugene Sorensen, Parents
Bob Little, Friend
Ernie Otten MacDonald, Friend*

January 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Council Trustee/Board Meetings	5	6 Epiphany
7 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00	8	9 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	10 AARP	11	12	13
14 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00	15 MLK, Jr. Day	16 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	17	18 Day of Unity	19	20
21 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00 Congregational Meeting	22	23 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	24	25 Cub Scout Pack Night	26 Scouts set-up for Pinewood Derby	27 Scouts Pinewood Derby
28 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00 Scout Sunday	29	30	31			

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)

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Prayer List



New

- ✝ Lexi- a 19 year old in Florida. Is on a vent after having pneumonia & sepsis. She may have to be put on ECMO and her heart isn't doing well. Also pray for her mom Kelly.
- ✝ Rory DeCristoforo 7 year old died in the fire on SI. Pray for the family.
- ✝ Sonja's cousins - Michael Johnson and Ron Mazzaeo both have cancer. Pray for them, their families and the doctors for wisdom in treatments

Continued-

- ✝ Stephanie who works at Hilton Gardens asked Charlie to have us pray for her-
- ✝ 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.
- ✝ Dan Kish- home and for his recovery. Strength for Sheri
- ✝ Dorothy- having pain after a fall. Pray for healing.
- ✝ Michael & James- Dorothy's sons as they adjust without Dorothy's care.
- ✝ Sandra- James' girlfriend- in rehab but not doing well.
- ✝ 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.
- ✝ Anna (a 35 year old friend of Dorothy's daughter Mary), has breast cancer and is under treatment and a new mom.
- ✝ Liz Iken- now permanently at Eger. Pray for her health & spirit
- ✝ Adrienne at Eger- pray for her health and spirit.
- ✝ Jan Wiggins & Mary (DonnaMarie's mom) are at Sunrise. Jan is having more confusion.
- ✝ Don Landau- moved to Maryland to be near his brother Carl in assisted living. Pray for his adjustment and health
- ✝ Sam Colucci & Barbara Matthius- 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. Pray for him as he didn't get the Post Office job.
- ✝ Nancy Myers niece Heather who has breast cancer - has 3 children. 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 his safety (he was robbed while at a store) for the rest of his time in Ghana. Praise that he got the next assignment that he wanted which will be a remote position starting in July 2024.
- ✝ 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-