



## LOOKING AHEAD

### July

4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day  
(office closed)

### September

3<sup>rd</sup> Labor Day (office closed)  
6<sup>th</sup> Council/Trustee/Board  
Meetings  
9<sup>th</sup> Rally Day  
12<sup>th</sup> AARP  
14<sup>th</sup> NARFE  
26<sup>th</sup> Tall Cedars



Immanuel Union Church

693 Jewett Avenue  
Staten Island, NY 10314  
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# July/August Birthdays



## July

6	Katherine Buchanan
9	Jessica Brower
10	Amanda Iken
11	Gary Brower, Jr.
13	Barbara Reiman Conca
14	Jack Brown
	Tara Michie-Palermo
15	Bernhard Iken
20	Timothy Jon McAuliffe
22	Edward Jerlin
25	Craig Roby
26	Jeffrey Rogers
30	Elizabeth Iken
31	Betty Reiman

## August

3	Judith Morris
4	Scott Reiman
6	Patricia Brower
8	Gregory Neis
12	Bernard Brannigan
19	Michael Coyne
21	Michael Coffey
21	Peter Matthius
27	William Bowe
28	Barbara Matthius

# Coffee Hour



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## July

1 <sup>st</sup>	Trustees
8 <sup>th</sup>	Church Board
15 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday Evening Bible Study
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Adult Fellowship
29 <sup>th</sup>	Volunteers

## August

5 <sup>th</sup>	Trustees
12 <sup>th</sup>	Church Board
19 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday Evening Bible Study
26 <sup>th</sup>	Adult Fellowship

## From the Pastor's Desk

To All Who Unashamedly Love:

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, we Americans, celebrate our declaration of independence from the tyranny of Great Britain over 200 years ago. It took another 11 years of bloody fighting and the death of tens of thousands before the British accepted the fact that we had become *"a collection of free and independent states"*.

Since it was seen as an experiment in freedom, Congress struggled for years to hold this newly forged nation together under the Articles of Confederation. Eventually they came up with our original Constitution, which was ratified on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 1788. Several wars and the loss of hundreds of thousands of lives have been the cost of preserving that freedom since then. The vast majority of those deaths, around 600,000, occurred during our Civil War; an internal struggle pitting *"brother against brother"*.

Sadly for many, our Independence Day celebrations have become just another day where good food, fireworks, and community or family gatherings are but an end in themselves. I watched a man on the street interview on this past Tuesday where a college graduate was asked why we celebrate the Fourth of July and I was not surprised when he responded, *"Um that's the day Columbus came to America"*.

There is little knowledge or remembrance of the great sacrifices made by the men and women who risked everything they had to gain their freedom from a tyrannical government that unjustly ruled the land from far across the ocean. Few today can name the heroes who designed and enacted our then unique form of government, led our rag-tag army and state militias, or negotiated the eventual peace.

Many countries since then have likewise gained their independence from colonial powers, many in the 1960's; only to fall into civil wars, anarchy, and eventual dictatorships. Even the French Revolution, which occurred just a few years after our struggle for freedom ended, devolved into widespread bloodshed and anarchy. Some citizens of those countries have openly expressed a desire for the return of the colonial powers, if only to restore order and peace.

Thirty-three years ago I declared my intention to marry Leslie and in doing so we forged a new union of interdependence. Unlike the British of old, she accepted the terms of my declaration immediately. In December of 1985 we publicly ratified our union during a wedding ceremony. Since that day we established a new and improved household which is based upon our common adherence of the Christian Constitution, the Holy Bible.

That is what has melded us together through joyful times, through difficult times, through sad times and through desperate times. No matter what situation we find ourselves we could return to the Word of God and know that:

## From the Pastor's Desk (con't)

***"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*** (Isaiah 41:10)

***When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."*** (Isaiah 43:2)

***"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea." o, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:37-38)***

In the same way that we as Americans are melded as *"one people under God"*, by our constitution, as Christians our Constitution is meant to meld as one people who hold it as, *"our only rule for faith and practice"*.

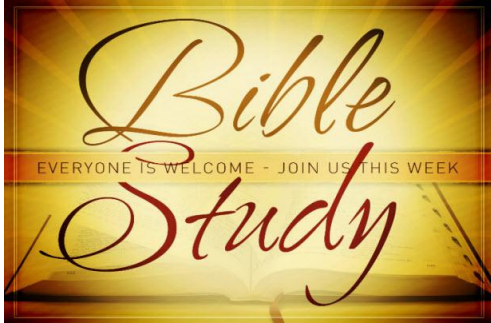
We are first and foremost citizens of His everlasting kingdom. Most of us were born as citizens of these United States, based on our parents' citizenship, or that fact we were born on American soil. Others were naturalized after much study and preparation, and several years.

Each citizen of God's eternal kingdom is one because He chose us; He gave us the second birth through the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit. Not only are we citizens, we are His family! ***He has empowered us to become children of God through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ.*** God's kingdom is eternal, but our place in it was bought with a great price. It wasn't the death of hundreds of thousands that won and preserved our freedom. It was the death of One, God's only Son, who gave Himself up for us over 2000 years ago. No one has since had to die to preserve God's kingdom; it is unshakable. In Christ we are blessed with dependence on the will, power, grace, mercy, and love of a Sovereign, God Almighty, who the ***Blessed Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Who, According to his great mercy, has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.***

May our Heavenly Father wake us up so that we may truly understand the wonder of the great salvation we possess!

Have A Great Summer and See you in September,  
***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. It will resume after Rally Day

July 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	2	3	4 Independence Day (office closed)	5	6	7
8 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	30	31		28	29	30

# August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	27	28	29	30	31	

# 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. 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 September Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. 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.

