



## LOOKING AHEAD

### March

#### (Tentative Dates)

- 4<sup>th</sup> Council/Trustee/ Board Meetings  
Via Zoom
- 14<sup>th</sup> Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 17<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Day
- 20<sup>th</sup> First Day of Spring
- 28<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday
- 31<sup>st</sup> Council/Trustee/ Board Meetings  
Via Zoom

### April

#### (Tentative Dates)

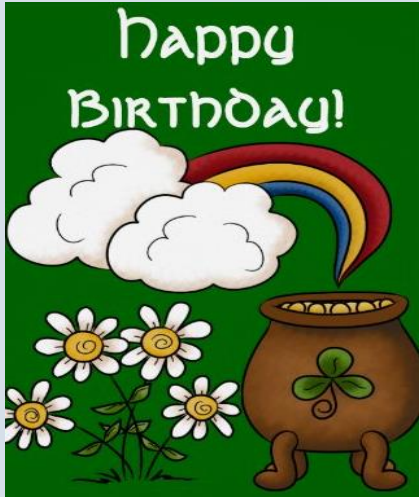
- 1<sup>st</sup> Maundy Thursday
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Good Friday
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Holy Saturday
- 4<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day



## Immanuel Union Church

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

# March Birthdays



1<sup>st</sup> Gary Brower  
Peter Brower  
Ray Crimmins  
5<sup>th</sup> Carl Landau  
6<sup>th</sup> Kris Reiman  
8<sup>th</sup> Sean McAuliffe  
10<sup>th</sup> Scott Michie  
12<sup>th</sup> Stephen Coyne  
Gregg Matthius  
Katharine Matthius

16<sup>th</sup> James Irons  
17<sup>th</sup> Judith Brower Henningsen  
18<sup>th</sup> Paul Blissenbach II  
20<sup>th</sup> Jill Jacobson Guerra  
21<sup>st</sup> Sonja F. Coyne  
Ashley Michie  
22<sup>nd</sup> Paul Blissenbach  
23<sup>rd</sup> Annemarie Miano  
24<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Orlando  
29<sup>th</sup> Heather Starlin

# Coffee Hour



## IN THIS ISSUE

- From the Pastor's Desk
- Calendar of Events
- Easter Events

**Coffee Hour is held virtually after the Zoom service.**

**Please stay online and join us for friendly fellowship.**

## From the Pastor's Desk

To All Who Seek For a Refuge from the Struggles of Life,

This month marks an anniversary of sorts. Normally, anniversaries are meant to be a marker of some joyful event, but not so with this anniversary. It was on March 1st of last year that Andrew Cuomo announced the first reported case of COVID-19 in New York State, a woman in her late 30s, apparently contracted the virus while traveling in Iran and was self-isolating at home, then by the next day coronavirus cases in the U.S. reached 100. Suddenly, without warning our nation was swept over by a wave of virus didn't even earn a name other than COVID-19.

By March 20th Governor Cuomo issued a state-wide order that all non-essential workers must stay at home, noting that the number of coronavirus cases in the state has gone from one case on March 1st to over 2,900. The very same day, Coronavirus cases in New York exceed 7000. Since March 1<sup>st</sup>, even though there is a decrease in the number of cases, the reported case in NYC stands at staggering 25,795 cases. Although, many of us are waiting for the messiah in a medicine vial to kick in and kick out any reminder of Covid-19, I believe it is essential that we continue to look to our true Messiah Jesus for hope and courage.

I'm reminded of a wonderful Scripture in Psalms 46:1-3 ***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, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.***

With all my heart, I believe we continue to serve a good God who has already been to "tomorrow" and knows "the rest of the story". While we continue to have great faith in God, we also must use our God-given wisdom during this time.

Some of us may be wondering what plans we have in returning Immanuel Union Church to where it was back in February 2020? I wish I could answer that question, but with cases still at such a staggering rate and our congregation among the "most vulnerable", the Council has decided for the safety of our congregation to continue a virtual presence until we are given the "all clear" signal from our Governor and Mayor. This means that we will continue to broadcast our services live via Zoom every Sunday morning at 10am with Tuesday evening Bible Study at 6:30. Please remember that if you are unable to attend on Sunday morning the services are available on our Facebook page, YouTube channel as well as our website.

Church Website: [www.immanuelunionchurch.org](http://www.immanuelunionchurch.org)

(With link to listen online which will take you to our YouTube Channel)

YouTube Channel: [Immanuel Union Church](#) with recent sermons you can listen to

While we should continue washing our hands to help protect us and one another physically, I believe we can wash our minds to keep our spiritual lives strong as well! Ephesians 5:25-26 – ***Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word. Therefore, I urge you to stay in God's Word!***

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

To help you to do just that I am including some encouraging words of Scriptures for you to meditate on:

Romans 8:38-39

***"And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love."***

Proverbs 3:25-26 – ***Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared"***

Luke 12:22-26 ***Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?"***

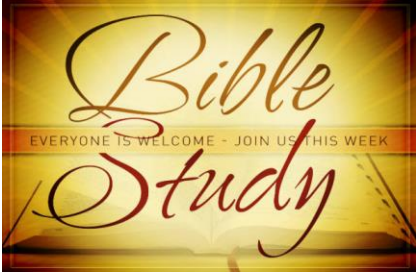
2 Tim. 1:7 – ***For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.***

For brevity sake here are the Scripture references of many others to meditate upon: Psalm 27:1; Psalm 55:22; Deuteronomy 31:6; Isaiah 41:13-14; Psalm 46:1; Psalm 118:6-7; Proverbs 29:25; Mark 4:39-40; Psalm 34:7; 1 Peter 3:14; Isaiah 41:10; 3; Psalm 56:3; Philippians 4:6-7; John 14:27; 2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 4:18; Psalm 94:19; Isaiah 43:1; Proverbs 12:25; Psalm 23:4; Joshua 1:9; Matthew 6:34; 1 Peter 5:6-7; Isaiah 35:4-14; Deuteronomy 3:22; Revelation 1:17; Mark 5:36; Zephaniah 3:17; Psalm 91:1-16

In closing, I would like you to pray in faith against this in Jesus' mighty and powerful Name! There is nothing quite so powerful as when we, as God's people, pray in the Name of Jesus. In Psalm 34:4 David wrote, ***"I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears."*** Pray for godly wisdom for those who lead us, personally I believe they are struggling for answers just as much as we are. That is why Paul encourages Timothy to do that same thing in his church. Paul in 1 Timothy 2:1-15 wrote, ***I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone-- for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men--the testimony given in its proper time.*** Pray against all those who would wish to profit from peril or confusion, especially those in the media who have a vested financial interest in pandering turmoil. Pray for such a spirit of unity that God will be glorified and people will have to acknowledge that we have seen a miracle! Like the victorious Elijah when the prophets of Baal were defeated and the people could only shout: 1 Kings 18:39b ... ***"The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!"*** I believe we can see not only Revival, but an influx of hungry and thirsty people seeking God and many for the very FIRST time!

Your Servant for Jesus' Sake,  
***Pastor Charlie***

# Bible Studies



The Sunday School series is suspended for the time being.

The Tuesday evening Bible Study will be held via zoom at 6:30.

See below to see how to connect to Bible Study or the Sunday Service.

# From the Church Council

Due to new cases of COVID in the 10314 area, in person church services are not set to resume yet. We will continue to meet on Zoom. We will continue to monitor the situation as we are anxious to resume in person worship as soon as it is safe.

We are considering beginning rentals of our facilities for parties and gatherings, using CDC guidelines as they are updated. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or would like more information.

We are seeking a member of the Congregation at Large to join the House Committee. Sam Colucci and Dan Kish are members, a third member from the CAL is needed. The House Committee is involved in decision making regarding the Church's property and supervision of maintenance of the Church, this includes the building and grounds.



The Church Fair has been postponed until the May. If anyone has cleaned out items that are good to sell at the Church Fair, we will be announcing dates to gratefully accept donations. Item collection will be contactless. Please call the church office for dates or to set up a drop off time.



# For Everyone's Safety

Let's look forward to  
Spring 2021



**Follow us on Facebook for details on all IUC events!**



## Easter Happenings

March 28<sup>th</sup>

Palm Sunday Service 10 AM via Zoom

April 1<sup>st</sup>

Maundy Thursday Service 7 PM via Zoom

April 4<sup>th</sup>

Easter Sunday Service 10 AM via Zoom

## Upper Room

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.

Thank you to Bonnie for serving our church community in this way.

## Offering Envelopes

If you would like to receive a box of envelopes for your donations and do not do so already, please call the church office at 718 448-1584 and we will put one aside for you. All donations are confidential, but by using envelopes your donation is logged and you will receive an annual statement for your records.



# March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	3	4 Council/Trustee/ Board Meetings Via Zoom	5	6
7 Church Service via zoom 10:00	8	9 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	10	11	12	13
14 Church Service via zoom 10:00	15	16 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20
21 Church Service via zoom 10:00	22	23 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	24	25	26	27
28 Church Service via zoom 10:00 <b>Palm Sunday</b>	29	30 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	31 Council/Trustee/ Board Meetings Via Zoom			



# Church News



Altar flower donations are suspended until the Church Service begins meeting in person.

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If you are not currently receiving offering envelopes and wish to be included, please contact the church office at 718-448-1584.

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Information for the April Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at iuc1@verizon.net. Thank you.

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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.

# Social Media

Please check out our Website as well as our Facebook Page. 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!

# Zoom Connection Instructions

(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

## Prayer List

Please keep the following:

### Health Issues:

Baldini Family  
Laney Dahl  
Carina DeGiulio  
Karen McCarthy  
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.



### *Winds of March*

*Winds of March, we welcome you,  
There is work for you to do.  
Work and play and blow all day,  
Blow the winter cold away.*

UNKNOWN

