



THE LAMPLIGHTER

MAY 2021

LOOKING AHEAD

May (Tentative Dates)

- 2nd In person Church Service begins
- 6th Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 9th Mother's Day
- 13th Ascension Thursday
- 15th Outdoor Book Sale
- 23rd Pentecost
- 31st Memorial Day

June (Tentative Dates)

- 3rd Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 20th Father's Day



Immanuel Union Church

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

May Birthdays



- | | | | |
|------|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| 5/1 | Jeffrey Brannigan | 5/17 | Diane Pillarella |
| | Timothy Neis | 5/21 | Jerilyn Franzreb-Smith |
| 5/4 | Dolores Shotwell | 5/24 | Muriel Van Cleaf |
| 5/11 | Michael Fichtl | 5/24 | Carina DeGiulio |
| 5/12 | Keith Herron | 5/27 | Erik Henningsen |
| | Ruth Michie | | George Michie |
| 5/16 | Meghan Jerlin | 5/28 | Nancy Wagner-Wetzel |
| | | 5/31 | Katherine Blitz |

Coffee Hour



IN THIS ISSUE

- From the Pastor's Desk
- Calendar of Events
- Book Sale

We cannot hold Coffee Hour at this time.

From the Pastor's Desk

Welcome Back to Live Worship!

That statement may seem a bit odd because, as you know, over the past year we've been worshipping every week online. Yet, there's something powerful and amazing about meeting together in person for worship! This is especially true since we haven't met together in person in the sanctuary since February of 2020.

This past year has been trying on all of us, to say the least. For those of us who may have entered the building of Immanuel Union Church in the midst of the pandemic you may've noticed an eerie calm.

I myself sorely miss the joyful praise of our worshipping congregation. I also miss the echoes of the various groups that traditionally use our facilities every week. I even find myself longing for the return of the boisterous Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts.

When something is taken away that we've grown accustomed to enjoying over the years like live worship, we begin to realize the tremendous blessings and privileges that we share at Immanuel Union Church! The Bible is quite clear of the value of meeting together: In Hebrews 10:25 we read, ***"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching"***.

As we move closer to the coming of the Lord, we should keep our focus on one of the main reasons Immanuel Union Church exists- to see more people brought into the Kingdom of Jesus. I believe it's also vital that we, as believers, meet together for worship and fellowship as we learn more about walking in the love of God.

Our world needs the message the church has to offer. Many years ago Andrae' Crouch wrote a beautiful song by the title "Jesus is the Answer" which is quite simple in lyrics. The message is as needed today as when he wrote the song.

JESUS IS THE ANSWER

Jesus is the Answer for the world today,
Above Him there's no other, Jesus is the Way,
Jesus is the Answer for the world today,
Above Him there's no other, Jesus is the Way!

I encourage you to be gracious as we gather together again. Let's not take the assembling of ourselves together for granted. We have no idea what tomorrow may bring, therefore today is the guarantee we only have.

From the Pastor's Desk (con't)

We are urged in Hebrews 13:13 to exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

We all have feelings concerning the "way things in the church should be," yet we all can be a people majoring on the majors. In other words, remember the essential thing is that we can draw closer to Christ than ever before. To be gracious means to refrain from being critical of others because their thought process maybe different than our own.

Some of us may not be ready to return to in-person worship at this time and that's fine! We are making it easy for you to stay connected with us by continuing to Zoom our live Sunday Worship services, or you can also join us through Zoom for Tuesday evening Bible Study. You can enjoy both from the comfort and safety of your own home. If you work or are unable to Zoom for Church on Sunday morning, you can even listen to the sermon on our Facebook page, or our YouTube channel. You can stay connected in multiple ways.

Now, I understand that as we meet many of us are longing to start hugging and shaking hands, yet we ask that you refrain from that for just a while more. That's especially difficult for the "huggers" in our midst! We will do our absolute best to make sure you will be able to worship in a safe and kind environment as we gather together in the presence of our God!

Thank you for giving the Immanuel Union Church Council a dose of extra grace during this awkward time. As we "figure out the new-normal" of being in person and live and also having people live with Zoom, we ask for your patience with us.

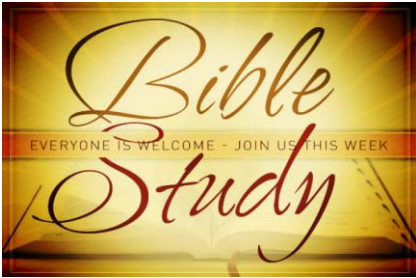
I am excited to see you in worship- either in person or online!

Welcome back and may God Bless you all!

Blessings in Christ,

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

In person church services begin on May 2nd. We will continue to meet on Zoom. We will continue to monitor the situation to make sure everyone is kept 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.

Mark Your Calendars

Church Fair

The Church Fair has been postponed until further notice. 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.



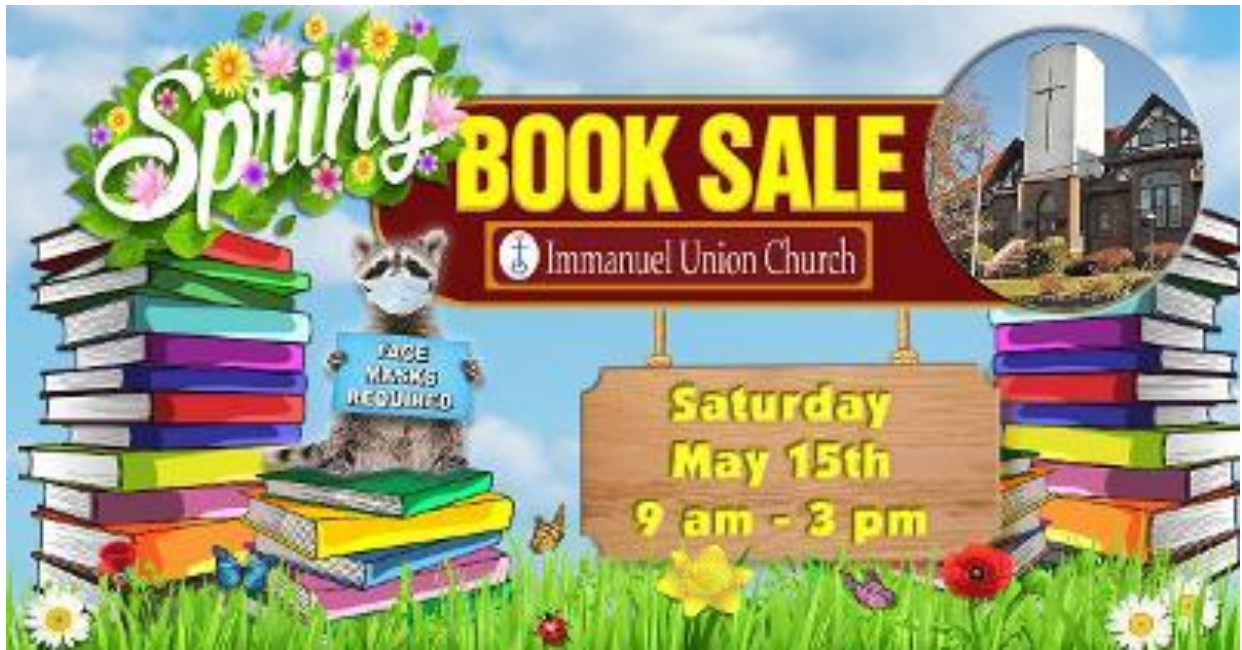
**For Everyone's
Safety**



Let's look forward to
Spring 2021



Follow us on Facebook for details on all IUC events!



We will be hosting an Outdoor Book Sale on Saturday, May 15th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please come out to shop! Masks must be worn! No food will be available at this event. Donations will be accepted, please call the Church Office to coordinate a time to drop off books.

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.



May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00	3	4 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	5	6	7	8
9 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00 Mother's Day	10	11 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	12	13 Ascension Day	14	15 Book Sale
16 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00	17	18 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	19	20	21	22
23 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00 Pentecost	24	25 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	26	27	28	29
30 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00	31 Memorial Day					

Church News



Please call the Church Office for information about purchasing Altar Flowers to honor or memorialize your loved ones. We are currently using virtual flowers.

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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 June Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, May 14th. 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.**

