



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)
November

- 1st AARP
- 2nd Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 11th Church Fair
- 17th Boy Scout Family Bingo
- 19th Thanksgiving Sunday
- 23rd Thanksgiving
- 30th Pack Night

December

- 3rd 1st Sunday of Advent
- 7th Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 9th Craft & Flea Market
- 21st Pack Night
- 24th Christmas Eve Service
- 25th Christmas Day
- 31st New Year's Eve



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 Those Who have Much to be Thankful For,

The epistle to the Hebrews is an encouraging letter that continually offers strength and comfort by demonstrating how Jesus is better than all of the symbols found in the OT. He then nears his conclusion by exhorting us in chapter 12, Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire" (Vs 28-29).

"Let us be thankful". This is the time of year which is meant to realign our focus away from whatever circumstances we may be experiencing and onto the faithfulness of God.

I mean with the uncertain conditions of world affairs, as well as the struggling economy and add to that our various health problems, it is far more natural to focus upon what not to be thankful for.

In 1 Thess. 5:18 Paul exhorts us with these words, **"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."** If you are anything like me, there may be moments when you question whether you are living according to His perfect will. But for many of us, we would never consider that God's perfect will for us is found in the simple exercise of **giving thanks**. Perhaps the reason why is because being thankful is not an easy exercise.

I believe by now, many of us realize that our relationship with God is one in which He stretches His children to maturity. For those who don't have the "ideal life", it is easier to dwell upon the negatives than it is to focus upon the daily blessings we receive. So, in our grumbling we show contempt towards God for these blessings. When we grumble, we are no different than the children of Israel who never made it to the promised land.

Listen to the way the Psalmist writes about the events. In Psalm 106:21-25 we read, ***They forgot the God who saved them, who had done great things in Egypt, miracles in the land of Ham and awesome deeds by the Red Sea. So he said he would destroy them--had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him to keep his wrath from destroying them. Then they despised the pleasant land; they did not believe his promise. They grumbled in their tents and did not obey the LORD.***

Pastor's Letter (con't)

Imagine that **"they forgot the God who saved them"**. That is what do when we neglect to give Him thanks for the abundance of blessings He showers over us continually. I looked up the word **"thanks"** in the Bible and found that the people of God are exhorted or commanded to give thanks to God eighty-one times. This means we have much to be thankful for.

For example, I am thankful to God for who He is, I am thankful for what he has done in my life in the past, and for what He has planned for my future. I thank Him for allowing me to be used in the life of others. I thank Him for what He reveals about Himself through His Holy Word. I thank Him for my family and the many friends He has brought into my life over the years, and I am thankful for you.

It truly is a joy to live life with a thankful heart, and it is truly joyful to be around others who have thankful hearts despite of the hardships of life. It is important to model such gratitude toward God before our family, friends, and neighbors. In this season of thanksgiving, I encourage us all to devote each day of November thanking God for His many blessings, even naming them one by one. I'm certain you will find them to be innumerable. As the old hymn says, *"For life and health and all that's good we give Thee thanks, O Lord."*

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

Milestones



Birthdays

11/4	Bridget Elizabeth Bowe	11/20	David Crawford
11/5	Emily Morrison		Eugene W. Sorensen
11/7	Ellen Rabin	11/22	William N. Coyne
11/8	Benjamin Baldini		Meghan Jane Bowe
11/9	Neil Andrew Michie	11/23	Emily Elizabeth Brannigan
11/10	Sarah Baldini Comis		Lisa Wetzel
	Caroline Crawford		
11/13	John Reiman		

From the Planning Committee

The Planning Committee held an Antique and Jewelry Fundraising Event with Locati, LLC in mid-October. Although a dreary, stormy day, our Hall was buzzing with excitement and enthusiasm as participants learned about their various artifacts. It turned out to be a “fun-raising” as many enjoyed the event, camaraderie of fellow collectors and the bountiful dessert table. Many requested a repeat!

Just around the corner...is our annual Fair. The Committee has been busy holding a community donation date, sorting and pricing items, and readying for our largest fundraiser of the year. Volunteers are needed to “make and bake”—clam chowder, baked goods, “man” a table, help out in the kitchen and set up, and pack up. If you are unable to assist, just Come out and enjoy the day—it always proves to be a fun, heartwarming event.

Fair schedule:

December 4	table set up—tablecloths
December 4-10	set-up
December 11	Fair—9-3PM

On the horizon...

Just a few weeks later is the holiday Craft and Vendor Fair held each December. Our vendors look forward to this Fair and tables sell fast! Mark your calendars for December 9th from 9am-3pm and come shop for holiday gifts and goodies, or just enjoy our kitchen which will be open for breakfast, lunch and dessert.

From the Church Council

The gym is “starting to look a lot like Christmas”, as our Church holiday fair setup is well underway. We still need volunteers to help with setup this week from 10 am- 2 pm. You can contact Nancy Myers if you can help, even at other hours of the day. We still need people to help on Saturday, for the day of the fair, as well as to make baked goods.

Thank you all for your help in making our annual fair a success!

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 2023 and 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 December Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, November 17th. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at iuc1@verizon.net.

Mark Your Calendars

- November 11th Church Fair
- December 9th Craft and Vendor Show
- ❖ Anyone who would like a table(s) for the Craft or Vendor show, please contact the Church Office at 718 448-1584.



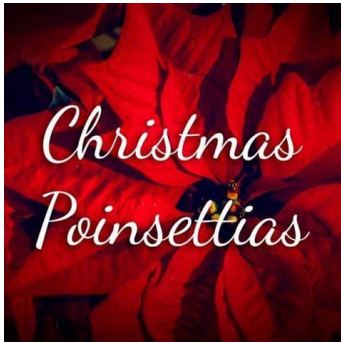
The Church Fair is scheduled for November 11th it's not too soon to start preparing. The Fair Committee accepts donations all year so anyone wishing to drop off household and/or handmade items ahead of time are welcome to do so! We are looking forward to holding this well-known event in the community and a key part of Immanuel's heritage. Attic treasure cleanouts and donations are being accepted, as are books. Also, if you have a particular talent for hand-crafted items, please consider donating an item to the Fair. Hand-sewn, knitted, and crochet items, woodworking, painting, photography, soap making are just a few ideas. Or, consider putting together a raffle basket—these are always big sellers! And, of course, if you can volunteer some time to help with the set-up and/or be a table host at the Fair, please come out and participate in the camaraderie that has become a hallmark of Immanuel's events!

Please see Nancy Myers or Bunny Matthius if you would like additional information.

Come join us in November!

We will continue to monitor and adhere to all pandemic regulations, guidelines, and safety measures, and make any adjustments necessary or required.

November 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 AARP	2 Council Trustee/Board Meetings	3	4
5 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00	6	7 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	8	9	10	11 Church Fair
12 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00	13	14 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	15	16	17 Boy Scout Family Bingo	18
19 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00 Thanksgiving Sunday	20	21 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service in person & via zoom 10:00	27	28 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	29	30 Cub Scout Pack Night		



Below you will find a form to use when ordering your Christmas Poinsettias for the Altar. Please include your check made payable to Immanuel Union Church with your order, and send it along to 693 Jewett Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10314, Attn: Poinsettias.

The list of names will be published in the January Lamplighter.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - \$15.00 PER PLANT

ENCLOSED IS \$ _____ FOR _____ PLANTS.

DONOR _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

OR IN HONOR OF _____

PLEASE INDICATE:

() My flowers may be given to shut-ins.

() I will pick up my flowers after the service.

The deadline for ordering Poinsettia Plants is December 3, 2023. Please send this form along with a check in the total amount of the order; or call the church office at 448-1584 to place your order.

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

Prayer List

Praise

- ✝ Nancy- moved to rehab and doing well. Pray for full recovery.

New

- ✝ Pastor Charlie had a blood clot block one of the small arteries in his eye and is having trouble seeing. Pray that his brain adjusts to the loss and the good eye clears and doesn't overcompensate for the bad eye.
- ✝ Dan Kish being treated for mini-stroke.



Continued-

- ✝ Situation in Israel & Palestine.
- ✝ Jacob (Dorothy's granddaughters friend) was riding a Citibike and got by an SUV and is in critical condition.
- ✝ Mari- our college friend had bypass surgery Monday.
- ✝ James Croteau- dying but for swift passing
- ✝ Michael & James- Dorothy's sons for their health
- ✝ James- Dorothy's grandson had a fire in his apartment and lost everything he owned and he's very discouraged. Pray for God's provision and for him to turn to Jesus in his troubles
- ✝ Fred- Sonja & Bills friend in his recovery.
- ✝ RJ (lives in Taiwan). In a scooter accident, is in a coma with four broken ribs
- ✝ Andrea- Sheri's former coworker- pray for her after she's had Covid, she's not doing well.
- ✝ Susan - Dan & Sheri's neighbor had a bunch of mini strokes, and her husband Dave is caring for her and is stressed by it all.
- ✝ Anne Holland - dealing with sciatica. Pray for wisdom for her doctor so her pain will go away.
- ✝ Marlene- Pastor & Leslie's friend is 91 recovered from Covid but it has taken a physical toll on her.
- ✝ Anna (a 35 year old friend of Dorothy's daughter Mary), has breast cancer, her baby girl was born healthy and prayers as she has a mastectomy and treatment.
- ✝ Liz Iken- she's now been admitted permanently at Eger. Pray for Liz, Jen & Mark and the rest of the family
- ✝ Jan Wiggins & Mary (DonnaMarie's mom) are at Sunrise. Jan is having more confusion.
- ✝ Adrienne at Eger- pray for her health and spirit.
- ✝ 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.
- ✝ Lauren- Pastors cousins granddaughter- has leukemia but returned to school this month.
- ✝ Karen Kuhls grandson Joey- Pray for full healing for him and no left over physical setbacks after motorcycle accident last year.
- ✝ Andy, DonnaMarie's friend has returned to work with poly myalgia rheumatica.
- ✝ Robert and Cathy- Diane's neighbors lost their son, pray for comfort
- ✝ Stephen- Naomi's son, pray he will take his meds regularly and will be emotionally stable.
- ✝ Nancy Myers niece Heather who has breast cancer - has 3 children. Pray for treatment
- ✝ Rosemary- Genes sister, pray for complete recovery.
- ✝ Ted & Mark - Genes former coworkers- prayer for recovery & health
- ✝ Anne Haakonsen's mom- has pneumonia.
- ✝ And her Aunt Marty having anxiety issues. Donna, Anne's friend has ovarian cancer
- ✝ Howard- pray for full recovery after a car accident in Guyana and a back injury. Pray for his safety.
- ✝ Diane Pillarella - pray for a full recovery after a fall and complete healing of her foot & knee.
- ✝ 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-