



## LOOKING AHEAD

### October

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 6<sup>th</sup> Neighbors In Need/WCS
- 9<sup>th</sup> AARP
- 14<sup>th</sup> Columbus Day (office closed)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Men's Retreat
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Tall Cedars
- 25<sup>th</sup> Pack Night
- 27<sup>th</sup> Congregational Budget Meeting

### November

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 7<sup>th</sup> Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 9<sup>th</sup> Church Fair
- 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day (office closed)
- 13<sup>th</sup> AARP
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Pack Night
- 24<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Sunday
- 27<sup>th</sup> Tall Cedars
- 28<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving & Day After
- 29<sup>th</sup> (Office closed)



## Immanuel Union Church

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

# October Birthdays



- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Jane Colucci Neis | 24 <sup>th</sup> James Matthius   |
| Christopher Latella               | 25 <sup>th</sup> Liam Walsh       |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Gladys Thompson  | 30 <sup>th</sup> Jessica McCarthy |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Donald Landau    |                                   |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> Erica Maule      |                                   |

# Coffee Hour



## IN THIS ISSUE

- From the Pastor's Desk
- Calendar of Events
- Neighbors In Need
- Budget Meeting
- Church Fair

## October

- 6<sup>th</sup> Trustees
- 13<sup>th</sup> Church Board
- 20<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Evening Bible Study
- 27<sup>th</sup> Adult Fellowship

## November

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Trustees
- 10<sup>th</sup> Church Board
- 17<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Evening Bible Study
- 24<sup>th</sup> Adult Fellowship

## From the Pastor's Desk

To All Who Long For Heaven,

A pastor was on his deathbed in a coma when he suddenly opened his eyes and said to his daughter, *"I see heaven."* She said, *"Tell me about it."* To which he replied, *"All I can tell you is my sermons never did it justice. I saw your mother. I saw Jesus. It was all so beautiful."*

A pastor who had been faithful preaching God's word all of his life couldn't describe heaven with any human accuracy. This means as hard as I try my any attempt I may peruse in projecting a glimpse of heaven fall far short in describing its true grandeur.

In our travels, Leslie and I have had many opportunities to stand in awe of God's creation. But as magnificent as these are, these are nothing compared to what awaits us on the other side. I remember hearing a preacher speaking about Jesus' words in John 14:2, 3 ***where He said: In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.***

The preacher went on to say If this earth really took six days to create and an accurate year of Jesus' ascension is 33AD this means He's been preparing heaven for 1,983 years. Therefore, living in this world is like living in a garbage can in comparison.

Yes, *God is able* to do more than we can ask or think! What a wonderful promise to think about as we begin a new day, a new week, a new month, or a new year. The fact that God is able to do anything and everything should give us hope for the future. We need to constantly remind ourselves that His power is *not* limited.

"According to His power" is an enormous statement. Think about that. What do we know happened according to His power? The world was brought into existence. said, "Let there be light," and appeared. He created the heavens. Adam and Eve became flesh and blood. Christ rose from the dead!

So we ask—we pray and ask again, knowing that God ***"is able to carry out His purpose and do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think."*** That includes healing the most horrible pain and trauma that we can imagine. No amount of pain—emotional, mental, physical, or spiritual—is too difficult for our Most High God to heal. He is more than able to heal our broken hearts!

So I urge you to keep your eyes off of your problems and disappointments and focus them heavenward for a time is coming when the King of the Universe and all who follow Him will appear. What a sight that will be! It will be greater than we can hope or imagine. So don't miss out. The ticket for getting there comes in trusting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

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

Paul in 1 Thessalonians 4 exhorts us to live by this hope. Beginning with vs 13 *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.*

So in spirit of these words I exhort you with the words of Paul in 2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Your Earthly Ambassador Proclaiming a Heavenly Message of Life Eternal through Jesus,  
*Pastor Charlie*



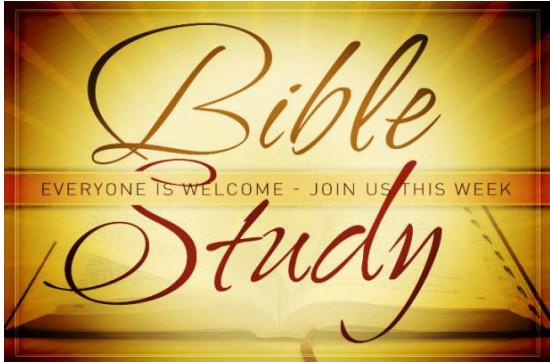
### Attention All Men!!

Pastor Baldini is inviting you to a retreat Upstate New York in the beautiful Catskill Mountains from October 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme will be Pleasing God. Pastor will provide all the food and cooking. He asks you to bring bedding and your Bible. We will carpool together.

For more information or to sign up see Pastor Baldini.



# 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.

# Congregational Budget Meeting

**There will be a Congregational Budget Meeting on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> following the 10:00 a.m. Service. The purpose of this meeting is to approve the 2020 Budget. This is an extremely important meeting, so please plan on attending. We will conclude with a potluck luncheon.**



# Church Fair

Our Annual Fair is quickly approaching – **November 9<sup>th</sup>**. Our Church Fair, Immanuel's largest and most important fund-raiser of the year, is steeped in rich tradition. It has been in existence for most of the Church's history, almost 100 years! It has become a beacon in the community – a very popular and much anticipated event.

Won't you come out and support this important fund-raising event and part of Immanuel's culture?

Here's how you can help:

- Volunteers are desperately needed to help “man” a table or provide relief throughout the day. It's fun, it's easy and the day begins with a special fellowship breakfast catered for the volunteers.
- Bake a cake, or whatever is your specialty. Contributions of all home-baked goods are welcome. Don't have a favorite? See Barbara Matthius for her tried and true recipes that are show-stoppers each and every year.
- Make Clam Chowder – Immanuel is known for its home-made and home-cooked items, including its Clam Chowder which is a popular draw for the community. Call the church office 718 448-1584 for the recipe.
- Help out in the kitchen. Volunteers are needed in the morning and throughout the day to help prepare and serve – if you can't donate your time, consider providing sandwich makings, or a dessert.
- Help set-up – we will be setting up for the Fair, the end of October – this includes putting tablecloths on all the tables and setting up the individual tables.

Come out and support the Church, share in the fun, festivities, and fellowship of the day!

# Mark Your Calendars

## Congregational Budget Meeting

Held October 27<sup>th</sup> immediately following the Church Service to approve the 2020 Budget. This is an extremely important meeting, so please plan on attending. We will conclude with a potluck luncheon.



## Church Fair

Reserve the date November 9<sup>th</sup> for our Church-wide Fair!



## Holiday Arts & Craft Flea Market

The Holiday Arts & Craft Flea Market will be held on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you would like to reserve a table, contact Sam Colucci, 718 619-1284 or the Church Office, at 718 448-1584. There will be more information shortly.



# October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	2	1 Bible Study 6:30	2 Council/Board/ Trustee Meetings	3	4	5
6 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00 <b>Neighbors In Need/WCS</b>	7	8 Bible Study 6:30	9 AARP	10	11	12
13 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	14 Columbus Day (office closed)	15 Bible Study 6:30	16	17	18	19
20 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00	21	22	23 Tall Cedars	24	25 Pack Night	26
27 Adult Sunday School 9 AM Church Service 10:00 <b>Congregational Budget Meeting</b>	28	29	30	31 		



# September 14<sup>th</sup> Craft Fair

THANK YOU to everyone who baked, donated food to sell, made sandwiches, moved tables, cleaned up, cooked and donated their time, food and money. It was a successful day, both financially and spiritually.

Our Angels that day (in no particular order): Sam Colucci, Nancy Myers, Dan Kish, Sonja Coyne, Ann Holland, Don Laudau, Emily Morrison, Bonnie Rogers, Bunny Matthius, Denise Miller, Mel Pedersen, Adrienne Liana, Karen McCarthy, Georgiana Johnson and Pastor Charlie.

Thank you all for your efforts and the work you do with smiles on your faces and joy in your hearts. Our church is truly blessed.

**Nancy Wagner-Wetzel**

# Neighbors In Need

*For the Love of Children*

We will be holding an ingathering of offerings for the United Church of Christ Neighbors in Need program. Neighbors in Need is the UCC's annual offering to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the US, including the Council for American Indian Ministries, justice and advocacy efforts, and direct service projects funded by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries.

Neighbors in Need helps make A Just World for All possible. For this to happen, they need our support.

The ingathering of Offerings will be held Sunday, October 6, which is also World Wide Communion Sunday. If you will not be in church on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, you can put your donation in the mail. Please mark your check or the envelope c/o Neighbors in Need. Please be generous with your efforts.

Thank you!

Nancy Wagner-Wetzel

Katie Buchanan

Christian Outreach Committee

# Love of Children

## Our Faith, Our Voice, Our Vote

***“Don’t burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don’t quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.” - Romans 12:12 MSG***

In 2018, the Neighbors in Need special mission offering and grant pool committee examined the ways in which it could spotlight, the UCC identity and missional initiative: 3 Great Loves campaign, **LOVE OF NEIGHBOR**. Emmaus United Church of Christ, in Vienna, Virginia, applied and received a \$3,500 NIN grant to aid them to work for justice within their community. They partnered with **VOICE** (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement) in hopes of a securing the outcome they desired.

Photos supplied by Emmaus UCC



Emmaus UCC/VOICE public gathering

Emmaus UCC senior pastor, Rev. Kristen McBrayer shares, “In 2018 we set out to listen to our neighbors. We learned that the greatest concerns in our schools this year are student support for mental health counselors as well as the retention of ‘good teachers’. From these listening sessions and meetings with key leaders, we set forth an agenda to increase the funding for mental health counselors so that students have a 250:1 ratio. This ratio is the minimum needed to provide basic support for our students. Retaining our best teachers is key to the success of our school system. Increasing teacher pay is essential to this goal.”

Additionally, Rev. McBrayer reports, “In October, 1,300 people from our VOICE institutions met with Virginia’s Governor and Attorney General to ask for their support on our agenda. Among those present were more than 600 students, parents, and teachers concerned about our schools. The Governor continues to work with VOICE on funding for mental health and good teacher pay and we believe the ground work we did in 2018 has set the stage for some big wins for our students in the 2019 budget cycle and general assembly.”

As people of faith, we are encouraged to advocate for all those who are marginalized by institutional systems as well as individuals. Being able to use one’s voice, even at the ballot box, is a key to fulfilling that biblical missional mandate. We are proud to have been a partner with Emmaus UCC as they embarked to make a difference in their community to aid their neighbors in need.

*Please join us in supporting the*

**2019 Neighbors In Need Special Mission Offering. THANK YOU!**

Two-thirds of your donations to NIN support advocacy programming and grants.

One-third of your generous gifts directly support CAIM. [www.ucc.org/nin](http://www.ucc.org/nin).

*For more information about this event contact:*

**Emmaus UCC: <https://emmausucc.org/> or VOICE: <http://www.voice-iaf.org/>**

*To learn about the UCC’s positions on Disabilities and Mental Health contact:*

**Rev. Sarah Lund, Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice,**

**(216) 736-3230, [lunds@ucc.org](mailto:lunds@ucc.org)**



# Church News



Reserve Altar Flowers now through the end of 2019. 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 November Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, October 18<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  
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.**

