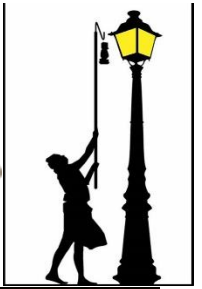




THE Lamplighter



"THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE
DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS
HAS NOT OVERCOME IT."
JOHN 1:5

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LOOKING AHEAD

January

- 1st New Years's Day
- 9th Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 6th Epiphany
- 8th AARP
- 20th MLK, Jr. Day
- 25th Pinewood Derby

February

- 2nd Scout Sunday
- 6th Council/Board/Trustee Meetings
- 8th Blue & Gold Dinner
- 9th Congregational Meeting
- 12th AARP
- 17th Presidents' Day



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 Everyone Hoping to Have a Happy New Year,

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." (Revelation 21:1-2,5)

Happy New Year! That's how we greet one another this time of the year. This is because we want to believe that 2025 brings with it the possibility for better things. We have hopes of being better people, better Christians, better at attending to the needs of our families and friends, better all the way around. Many of us will make resolutions about the improvements we plan to make in the new year. Most of us will celebrate another birthday in 2025. We will reach new stages in life, some great, some less than what we used to be, some just at the beginning of life.

Let's widen the view a bit. Our world will continue to be a dangerous place to live. War is not going to disappear. The fear of world terrorism will continue to be a daily reality, and new enemies always seem to arise in new and unfamiliar places. Physical ailments will continue to afflict us, financial challenges will continue to grow, family conflicts will always abound, and life will have its downs for all of us. So much for "Happy New Year", eh?

It is fantastic to know that above and beyond all the less-than-happy-stuff of the new year, God has plans for the ultimate renewal of the universe! So even though we must put up with the same old problems, God has already planned and constructed the most absolutely brand-new Heavenly life for us! This is a place with no death, no sorrow for any reason, no pain from any illness! For us who trust in Jesus Christ, there will be a Happy New Eternity! It's all possible because Jesus has destroyed the powers of evil, sin, death, hell, and the devil by His death & resurrection. We have a definite future with Jesus, we are full of reasons to be hopeful people, and that cannot be taken away from us! Hallelujah!

I guess it's going to be a Happy New Year after all!

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

1/1 Ruth Thompson	1/16 Rebekah Bossert Jo-Ellen Brannigan
1/3 Robbi Rosado	1/18 Caroline Michie
1/6 Bunny Matthius	1/20 Jamie Blissenbach
1/12 Jeffrey Forbes Smith	1/25 Melissa Iken Helen Jerlin

Announcements

- To order Altar Flowers to honor or memorialize your loved ones please call the Church Office.
- Offering envelopes for 2025 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 February Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, January 25th. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at iuc1@verizon.net.

Council Update

The Council would like to welcome back Nancy Wagner- Wetzel to the Board of Trustees. Nancy is a regular attender at Sunday Worship as well as Tuesday night Bible Study. She always has a smile and a servants heart.

Nancy started attending Immanuel Union Church when she and her family moved to Staten Island 34 years ago from Queens. She became a member a few years later and started her service to the church through teaching Sunday School. She became the Sunday School Coordinator. From there she joined the Church Board and was asked to transfer to the Trustees when there were vacant positions. She took the position of Financial Secretary at that time. When the Treasurer died, she also assumed that position.

She had served Immanuel for at least 17 consecutive years between the Board and Trustees, resigning in 2021. She has continued to maintain the records of Envelope donations.

Welcome back Nancy!

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 9th. This is an extremely important meeting, so please plan on attending. Anyone who needs to submit reports please do so by January 20th.

January 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	6 Epiphany	7 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	8 AARP	9 Council Trustee/Board Meetings	10	11
12 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	13	14 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	15	16	17	18
19 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	20 MLK Jr. Day	21 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	22	23	24	25 Pinewood Derrby Memorial James Coffey
26 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	27	28 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	29	30	31	

Christmas Poinsettia Donation List

Donor

Nancy & John Myers

In Honor Of:

Sam Colucci

Donor

Sonja & William Coyne

Dorothy Crimmins

In Memory Of:

Our Parents

Ray, Husband

Thomas, Son

Anne Holland

Husband Jack & Loved Ones

Nancy & John Myers

Elizabeth & Stuart Myers, Constance Colucci

Eugene & Roseann

Mary & Eugene Sorensen, Parents

Sorensen

Bob Little, Friend

Ernie Otten MacDonald, Friend

Beth Thompson

Gladys & Bob Thompson

Nancy Wagner-Wetzel

Howard & Lillian Wagner, Parents

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

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Sunday Prayer List

New

- ✚ Phil- Dorothy's son in law, losing his eyesight. Going to a specialist in the City to find answers- please pray for wisdom for the doctor.
- ✚ Michael- Dorothy's son having medical problems.
- ✚ Colucci family in the loss of Sam.
- ✚ Dorothy & the Coffey family in the loss of James.



Continued-

- ✚ Ronnie Nestle- someone at the organ concert who requested prayer.
- ✚ Donnamarie's daughter- Christina had a procedure and for her recovery
- ✚ Roland- his health.
- ✚ Mauro- Roland's friend in ICU with heart problems. Pray that he has opportunities to talk about Jesus.
- ✚ Theresa- Leslie's friend in Florida is home. Pray that she recovers quickly.
- ✚ Tom- cancer is growing again. Pray for the treatment change and that his body can tolerate it.
- ✚ Eric- Roland's best friend- has only 1 kidney and now it's not working. It's only working at 25%
- ✚ Anne Holland- having severe side pain. Doctor thinks it's muscular but she's needing to rest for it. Pray she recovers quickly.
- ✚ Danielle- Ann Haakonsen's niece had gallbladder surgery, and is on the mend. Pray for full healing.
- ✚ Tara- Lyn's daughter has a pinched nerve in her back - pray that physical therapy helps her pain.
- ✚ Jennifer & Omar- pray that God reveals to them the "what's next"?
- ✚ Ed- continue to draw close to Jesus and not be a coward.
- ✚ Rosalie- in cancer treatment and has been so sick, and she fell and fractured her finger so she's in a cast and bruised.
- ✚ Donnamaries mom (Mary) put in palliative care. Cardiologist says it won't be long in her medical condition. Pray God opens her heart and doesn't allow her to suffer.
- ✚ Marilyn Pederson- cancer in her ankle.
- ✚ Jimmy- Dorothy's grandson. Living with her (and Michael) but needs an apartment.
- ✚ Czarina- we prayed for Czarinas sister in law Caroline who carried a baby for Czarina & her husband Andrew. The baby Madison is now over a year old and Czarina had a stroke- her right arm is severely affected and she is unable to carry or care for Madison with that arm. Please pray for her healing!
- ✚ Caroline's (from above) Dad was just diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer
- ✚ Charlie Buchanan- Katie Myers FIL- had surgery, is positive for cancer.
- ✚ Sonja's cousins - Michael Johnson and Ron Mazzaeo both have cancer. Pray for them, their families and the doctors for wisdom in treatments.
- ✚ Don- Eugene's Cousin has stage 4 pancreatic cancer that has spread to his liver. Pray for the treatment, doctors and he and his family as they go through this.
- ✚ Fred- Sonja & Bills friend in his recovery.
- ✚ RJ (lives in Taiwan). In a scooter accident, is recovering
- ✚ Liz Iken & Adrienne Lianna- at Eger. Pray for their health & spirit.
- ✚ Barbara Matthius- health and strength, pray for Bunny, and the aides that care for them.
- ✚ Stephen- Naomi's son, pray he will continue his meds and will be emotionally stable.
- ✚ Rosemary- Genes sister, pray for complete recovery.
- ✚ Anne Haakonsen's mom- for health and strength.
- ✚ 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-