THE Lamplighter



LOOKING AHEAD

April

2nd Maundy Thursday
3rd Good Friday
5th Easter Sunday
8th AARP
9th Board/Trustee/ Council Meetings
22nd Earth Day

May

7th Board/Trustee/ Council Meetings
13th AARP
14th Ascension Day
24th Pentecost
31st Trinity Sunday

Immanuel Union Church

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Staten Island, NY 10314
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The friendly church with a vision and a future.

Pastor's Letter

To All Who Have Been United to Him by His Resurrection,

If someone were to ask you, what do you believe to be the most important event in human history, what would your first answer be? Would it be the splitting of the atom? Would it be man stepping out onto the moon? Perhaps the tearing down of the iron curtain? Perhaps even the Pilgrims landing on Plymouth Rock? Would your first answer be the Resurrection of Jesus Christ? Probably not. Sometimes we think of the Resurrection more as an item of faith rather than an actual historical event. As a story rather than history. But if it was not an actual event, then our faith is not real. We might be hesitant to give such an answer, lest we be viewed as some religious zealot. Perhaps we want to avoid the controversy that such an answer might launch. But unlike many other historical events that come to mind, the resurrection of Jesus the Christ still has relevance over daily existence.

Most people do not realize that the theme of Resurrection is one of three resurrections that affect genuine believers in Jesus Christ:
1- The first is the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ. His body that was beaten, crucified, and finally placed lifeless in a tomb is the same body that God raised from the dead on the third day.

2- The second resurrection is the one we experience when we come to faith in Jesus Christ. Paul wrote that ***God "made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus."*** Eph. 2:5b,6. It's this resurrection that transformed Saul into the Apostle Paul.

This is what it means to be born again.
Paul was one of the most erudite men of his day. He was a member of the highly regarded sect of the Pharisees, a Roman citizen and a man who had no equal regarding his zeal as an effective persecutor of the Church of Jesus Christ.

When we get to Chapter 9 in our sermon series on Acts, we will see that while Paul was on his way to Damascus, he was interrupted by Jesus with a heavenly flash of light and this question, ***"Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"*** Not long after his arrival in Damascus, this persecutor of the Church was now its greatest defender.

Pastor's Letter (con't)

This same Saul became Paul, the one who so confidently defended the fact that Jesus was the legitimate risen Messiah. Later in Paul's ministry, he would write that, ***"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve."*** I Cor. 15:3-5.

The atoning death and subsequent resurrection of Jesus is the fact deemed by Paul as being ***"of first importance"*** because in it, Paul himself had been transformed into a new creation.
3- The third resurrection is the one to come. In the Apostle's Creed, we affirm that we believe in *"…the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."* Do you just say that by rote or do you really believe that one day your body will rise again?
In the Heidelberg Catechism, the 45th question asks how does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

The answer is a summary of what is written above:
"First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he won for us by his death.
Second, by his power we are already resurrected to a new life. And third, Christ's resurrection is a guarantee of our glorious resurrection."
It is because of God's gracious hand that Paul was changed, and it is because of God's gracious hand that you and I can be changed and brought into a new life. Therefore, born again believers take delight in the historical truth of the Resurrection. He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

To everyone else I offer you the same words that Jesus spoke to Nicodemus in John 3:3: Jesus answered him, ***"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he/she cannot see the kingdom of God."***

May God bless those who are partakers of His great mercy and know the living hope of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Your Servant for His Sake,
Pastor Charlie

Join Us Online!!



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.

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!

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

13th	Helen Latella
20th	Bonnie Rogers
25th	Cynthia Wambold
26th	Samantha Myers

Announcements

- To order Altar Flowers to honor or memorialize your loved ones please call the Church Office.
- Offering envelopes for 2026 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 May Lamplighter should be submitted no later than Friday, April 24th. Information can be e-mailed to the church office at iuc1@verizon.net.

Mark Your Calendars

➢ June 13th Garage Sale

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2 **Maundy Thursday**	3 **Good Friday**	4
5 **Easter** Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	**6**	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	21 Bible Study via zoom 6:30	**22**	23	24	25
26 Sunday School 9:00 Church Service via zoom 10:00	27	**28** Bible Study via zoom 6:30	**29**	**30**		

Easter Lily Donation List

Donor	In Memory Of:
Sonja & William Coyne	Our Parents
Anne Holland	Jack Holland, Beloved Husband & Loved Ones
Nancy & John Myers	Sam Colucci
	Elizabeth Myers
Eugene & Roseann Sorensen	Mary & Eugene Sorensen, Parents
	Donald Sorensen, Cousin
	Evvie Otten MacDonald, Friend
	Betty Reiman, Friend
	Robert Little, Friend
	Janet Rubich, Friend
Krystian & Elsie	Wioleta

Prayer List



New:

- ✞ Anne's cousins flying back to California
- ✞ Joe the Butcher- now in Clove Lakes but his knee burst and he can't walk
- ✞ Mel- had a stroke.

Old:

- ✞ Teddy- Eugene's friend has a rare aggressive form skin cancer
- ✞ Alexandra- still needs a job. Pray God provides
- ✞ Ed- in a spiritual battle. Pray for him.
- ✞ Ann's mom- protection while the nursing home is on lockdown for illness.
- ✞ Dorothy- continue to pray for her and her family
- ✞ Theresa & Tiffany- situation
- ✞ Our families - continue to pray for our children
- ✞ Eds friend Gene who had heart surgery has an infection in his leg where they took veins from. Pray for his salvation.
- ✞ Ed's brother- John- has an auto-immune disease. Open sores on face & arms.
- ✞ Alex- needs a job. Was laid off with no notice.
- ✞ Eds niece (Joelle) will be talking with Ed. Her mom (Lisa) has alienated herself from her.
- ✞ Catherine- has cancer
- ✞ That we will share the Gospel boldly in every opportunity we have.
- ✞ Ann's Aunt Martha- for her anxiety.
- ✞ Ann's cousin Doris- fainted and fell. Waiting on tests and to have surgery.
- ✞ Ginny- Sonja's friend healing from broken hip.
- ✞ Soon- visited Immanuel- pray that God opens his heart to the Gospel
- ✞ Lillian- has shingles, pray for relief
- ✞ Stephen- Naomi's son pray for stability of his mental health.
- ✞ Roland's friend- Mauro is suffering from depression.
- ✞ Gerd- after the accident is doing great! Pray for complete healing.
- ✞ Baby Hazel- has neuroblastoma. Pray for her family- and doctors as far as treatment. At MSK and had major surgery- pray for her recovery.
- ✞ Jennifer & Omar- pray that God reveals to them the "what's next".
- ✞ Marilyn Pederson- cancer in her ankle.
- ✞ Jimmy- Dorothy's grandson. Living with her (and Michael) but needs an apartment.
- ✞ Sonja's cousins - Michael Johnson and Ron Mazzaeo both have cancer. Pray for them, their families and the doctors for wisdom in treatments.
- ✞ Fred- Sonja & Bills friend in his recovery.
- ✞ RJ (lives in Taiwan). In a scooter accident, is recovering
- ✞ Liz Iken- at Eger. Pray for her health