



# Immanuel Messenger

## Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88<sup>th</sup> Street ❖ New York, NY 10128

Eighty-eighth Street and Lexington Avenue, Manhattan

[www.immanuelnyc.org](http://www.immanuelnyc.org)

The Rev. Gregory P. Fryer, Pastor  
Email: [gp Fryer@gmail.com](mailto:gp Fryer@gmail.com)

(212) 289-8128, church phone  
(212) 828-3665, church fax

-----  
December 2009  
-----

*A Word from the Pastor*

## A Christmas Pageant

11 a.m. December 13, 2009, the Third Sunday of Advent



With Ann Siemer planning to attend too!

It is an extraordinary thing for us here at Immanuel to speak of Christmas during Advent. But, mercy, so many of our families travel at Christmas time that we are seldom together for the Christmas story. This year, we are changing that. Our liturgy for the Third Sunday of Advent will include the Advent traditional lessons and hymns, but the sermon slot will be filled with a good, old-fashioned Christmas pageant with the children of our church, including Christmas carols.

Our teens and children's choir will present the Nativity story in word and song. We will have angels and shepherds galore, wise people, and the Holy Family. In addition, our littlest children will present the gifts during the offering.

Please plan to attend, if you can, and bring friends. Our member Ann Siemer, who recently moved to the Plattduetsche Home on Long Island, is planning to attend too. She says that she is counting down the days, counting down the hours.

In Christ,

*Gregory Fryer*

Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

---

## Fraternité Notre Dame Toy Collection

Once again this year the Sisters of the Fraternité Notre Dame will be hosting a Christmas party for needy children. This year the party will be on Saturday, December 19. They are asking for donations of new toys. If you can give a toy, please wrap it and mark it as to the age of the child and whether it is for a boy or girl. (Please no guns or violent toys.) The Sisters will also accept toiletries or

clothing as they distribute gifts to the hospitalized and homeless as well. No need to wrap these. You may leave your gifts in the narthex on Sunday mornings, or bring them to the church office during the week. The last day for bringing gifts is Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, as the Sisters will pick them up from the church office on Monday morning, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Sunday School Mitten Tree

The Sunday School will have a mitten tree once again this year. Please give the mittens you bring to one of our Sunday School teachers. The mittens will be given

to the Fraternité Notre Dame who will distribute them to needy children. The mitten tree will be put up during the Hanging of the Greens on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Christmas Poinsettias and Music Fund

The church is decorated at Christmas with a lighted tree and poinsettias. Members and friends may wish to place one or more poinsettia plants in the church to honor the memory of departed loved ones or simply as a gift to the glory of God in

the incarnate Christ. A gift of \$15.00 for each plant as well as gifts toward the Christmas Music Fund will be received by Lara Simone Bhasin and Ester Ramos after church the Sundays of December 6<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Christmas Caroling at Lenox Hill Hospital

Friday, December 11, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

On Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, let's meet in the lobby of Lenox Hill Hospital (100 East 77<sup>th</sup> Street) at 7 p.m. for our annual Christmas caroling and fellowship gathering. After caroling there, we are invited to the church parsonage (108 East

82<sup>nd</sup> Street, Apt. 7C) for some refreshments, fellowship, and sitting around the fireplace. Alas, we are not supposed to bring children into the hospital, but otherwise, everyone is welcome!

## Hanging of the Greens

2-5 p.m. Saturday, December 19, 2009

It's not too early to mark your calendars for that important and gratifying work session we call "Hanging of the Greens." Advent is the time in the church year for preparing our hearts for the joy of Christ's

first coming among us at Christmas. We will decorate the sanctuary for Christmas on Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, to be followed by our popular St. Nicholas Party.

## Looking ahead: St. Nicholas Party

5 - 9 p.m. Saturday, December 19, 2009, after the Hanging of the Greens

**O**ur annual St. Nicholas Party is becoming a very popular event for us here at Immanuel. Swing with David Buddin at this year's party featuring David on piano, Al Quirong on tenor sax, Gaku Takanashi on bass, Ray Roberts on drums and vocalist Vi Quirong. The band will play from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

followed by a Christmas carol sing-a-long, and supper with hams and pot-luck side dishes and desserts. We are going to need some work crews, including setup, kitchen, and cleanup afterwards. More details next month, but please look forward to this with joy.

# Join our Christmas Eve Choir!

Anyone who would like to sing with the Choir but can't commit to Sunday mornings is invited to join us for Christmas Eve. You would need to come

to rehearsals on December 17<sup>th</sup> and December 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. If you are interested, please see Music Director Gwendolyn Toth.

---

## THE CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve

6:30 p.m., Thursday, December 24, 2009  
with Pre-Service Music at 6:00 p.m.

Perhaps out-of-town friends and relatives can join you for Christmas Eve this year. They could still make it home at a fairly reasonable hour. We are anticipating Immanuel's traditional glories of music and Choir.

### Christmas Morning

11 a.m., Friday, December 25, 2009

### Name of Jesus

11 a.m., Friday, January 1, 2010