

Immanuel Messenger

Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

Our 150th Anniversary. 1863-2013, and onwards!

Eighty-eighth Street and Lexington Avenue, Manhattan

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May 2013

A Word from the Pastor

Youth Sunday

May 5, 2013

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church,

Two more of our 150th Anniversary Celebrations are soon upon us. On May 5 we celebrate Youth Sunday, and the following Sunday, May 12, we enjoy the return of Rev. Patti Welch, who was our Vicar back in 1999 and then Assistant Pastor here from 2002-2003.

In my mind, there is a connection between these two celebrations. Pastor Welch joined with other dedicated and talented people in our congregation to help our youth and family ministry flourish.

It would be great if Patti could be with us on Youth Sunday. She cannot because of her worship responsibilities at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine. But if she could be here, I think she would be delighted by our Youth Sunday celebration. It would do her heart good, as it does our hearts good, to see the joy and energy of our parish children, their mutual affection, and their eagerness to contribute to the liturgy. They often sit together in the balcony on Sunday mornings, and their strong voices rather take over the

Lord's Prayer. It is a joy—a great joy to see and hear the children of our church.

They will lead us. We will be greeted in the narthex by little greeters. Little ones will collect the offerings, present them and the Eucharistic elements, read Holy Scripture, and sing children's hymns in response to the Bible readings. Young Bobby Franzese, who was confirmed two years ago, will be our preacher.

Special thanks go to Sunday School teachers Karen Bazik and Barbara Chomko and to Children's Choir Directors Tiffany Rosenquist de la Torre and James Miller for organizing and rehearsing with our children. When these dear people are involved, you know it will be good!

It will be great to see you in church. Your presence will encourage this next generation of church leaders. Bring friends if you can. God be with you always.

In Christ,

Gregory Fryer

Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

The Reverend Canon Patti Welch

Preaching and Presiding Sunday, May 12



Chaplain for The Cathedral School
Canon for Education at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine

A chief joy of our 150th Anniversary celebrations is inviting back former clergy who have served here at Immanuel.

Rev. Thomas Nelson Green was Interim Pastor of Immanuel from 1968-70 and then Assistant to the Pastor for a year alongside Pastor Raymond Schulze. Pastor Green has preached for us twice this year: Transfiguration Sunday, our initial anniversary celebration, and Good Friday.

Fr. Leonard Klein served as Associate Pastor of Immanuel from 1972-76, back in the days of Pastor Schulze. He is scheduled to be our preacher for Homecoming/Heritage Sunday this fall, September 29, 2013.

Alas, Rev. Dr. David Lotz doubts that he will be able to be with us this year. But if Pastor Lotz *were* with us this Sunday May 12, I think he too would be delighted to welcome back Pastor Patti Welch. I count those to be very good years. To me, we were rockin' and rollin' back in those good days when we had Pastor Lotz and Pastor Welch in our chancel here at Immanuel.

Pastor Patti Welch has gone on to a prestigious ministry. She is Chaplain for The Cathedral School connected with the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, and she is Canon for Education at the Cathedral.

In addition to these important ministries, Patti is also a cause for ecumenical pride for us Lutherans. She serves as a *Lutheran* in this important *Episcopalian* context—a possibility following from the “Called to Common Mission” ecumenical agreement of 1999.

I have asked Pastor Welch to both preach and preside that Sunday, May 12, and then to greet us during Coffee Hour.

So, let's have another of those enhanced Coffee Hours we have been enjoying this anniversary year. Anniversary Committee Chair Barbara Edwards will be available Sunday May 5 to sign people up for pot-luck the following Sunday, May 12.

I am very eager to see Pastor Welch again. This will be a joy for our congregation, so I hope you can make it.

Pastor Fryer

Pentecost Sunday



Sunday, May 19

The high festival of Pentecost celebrates the swooping down of the Holy Spirit on earth, and with that divine outpouring, the creation of the Church. Pentecost speaks of a holy ambition: a yearning, inspired by

the Holy Spirit, for good and holy lives. The appointed “Prayer of the Day” hints at this power to improve things on earth: “...open our hearts to the power of the Spirit. Kindle in us the fire of your love...”

Thank You, Everyone!

(From your ever-grateful Parish Secretary, Karen)

Thank you to all who helped collate and fold our Holy Week bulletins. We had a very ambitious and hard-working team! Warmest thanks to: Kenny Franzese, Eric Neubacher,

Ester Neubacher, Adrian Shin, Eleanor Watrous, Ruth Wendland and Irene Zimmer. You really are all my personal angels. Thank you so much.

Our Roof Project

John G. Waite Architects & Associates, Project Manager (<http://www.jgwaarchitects.com/>)

The ball is rolling!

Some notes from Pastor Fryer

After much research and interviewing and studying of documents, our Roof Committee was pleased to recommend John G. Waite Architects & Associates to our Board of Trustees. The Trustees approved the recommendation and signed the contract, and so our Project Manager is in place.

This is a big step. The Project Manager represents our church in relation to the contractors. Architect Nancy Rankin is already hard at work on the preliminary drawings that will help us sort out cost

estimates and the basic approach to replacing the roof of our church and steeple.

Next month’s Voters’ Assembly, June 23, will be fun because it will give us a chance to update the congregation on this big project.

Meanwhile, I am including a copy of a heartwarming letter from a former Vicar here at Immanuel—Rev. Guenther B. Schoepf. Pastor Schoepf is now eight-one years old, still serving as a parish pastor, up in Canada. He is directing some of his salary to our congregation, to help with our roof project. Here is his recent note about that:



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

PASTOR GUENTHER B. SCHOEPF
9155 - 79 AVE., EDMONTON, ALTA. T6C 0R9
466-5281 O. / 466-9271 H.

Edmonton, Ab. Canada
April 21, '13

To the friendly people of Immanuel,
It gives me great pleasure to send to you
this check of 200.- dollars US on behalf of
St. Paul's Lutheran in Edmonton. Since I came
out of retirement at 81 to serve this bilingual
congregation not for a salary etc. -- but only
for a small remuneration, the congregation
suggested they would donate to organisations
of my choice. That's where you come in, since
you are still raising funds for your renovations.
I served St. Paul's prior to my retirement
11 yrs. ago for 26 1/2 yrs. Now I am back since
last Christmas.

Please send a receipt to St. Paul's Lutheran
as indicated above. I would appreciate that.
Many best wishes to all of you, esp. to
Pastor Fryer. With joy I remember the year
I was vicar under Pastor R. Wilkenberg.
Gott befohlen. Pastor Emeritus Guenther Schoepf.

It was a joy for me to write to Pastor Schoepf and St. Paul's Lutheran Church to thank them for this gift and to be reminded of the unity of the Church. Though I have never met Rev. Schoepf, and perhaps few of

us have, still he counts us as brothers and sisters in the Lord and helps us in this way.

Very moving!

Pastor Fryer

Cabaret Evening, Saturday, June 1st

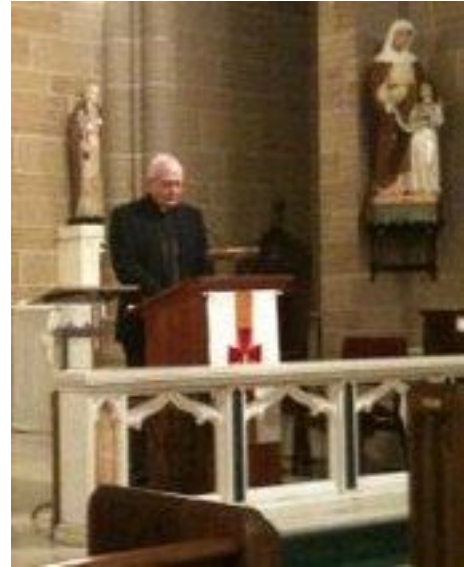
Hold the date! The choir will be sponsoring a Cabaret Evening with wonderful singing and a pasta dinner on Saturday, June 1. Watch for details soon.

Pilgrimage to St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Sunday April 21, 2013



Crucifer Eric Voss leads our pilgrimage



Rev. Msgr. Patrick McCahill

On a lovely spring Sunday, April 21, we enjoyed another of our 150th anniversary events: a pilgrimage to St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church. It's located at 211 East 83rd Street. It used to be *our* church! Our Immanuel ancestors built that lovely little church and rectory and worshiped there until 1912. Fr. Patrick McCahill along with one of his congregational leaders warmly greeted us, told us about St. Elizabeth of Hungary (who

grew up in the Wartburg Castle where Luther began translating the Bible, nearly three centuries later), and about their ministry to the deaf. Among many beautiful things there at St. Elizabeth, we admired their pendant lights suspended over their pews. They look like the gothic-style pendant lights we used to have here at Immanuel before our ceiling collapse back in 1969.

Block Party – Saturday, September 28

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

By popular demand we will be running our Block Party again this year, on Saturday, September 28th. So please put the date on your calendar, and let Kathy Jolowicz know if you will be able to volunteer at our tables. We will start collecting items at the end of

July, and through August and September. However, we cannot accept any adult clothing, only children's clothes, for the Kids Market. Otherwise everything would be accepted, such as household goods, and personal accessories, jewelry, books,

electronics, cds, toys, etc. Baked goods would be welcome too.

For further information contact Kathy at 212/249-0125 or by email at kaj133@aol.com.

During the month of July it would be best by email.

“Calling All Artists”

Art Exhibit during Block Party, September 28

You may remember that our own John Wilson held an art show in our undercroft the night of March 23rd. John has been inspired to work in wire, construction debris, and other “found” materials to create angels, biblical figures, and other works, both religious and secular.

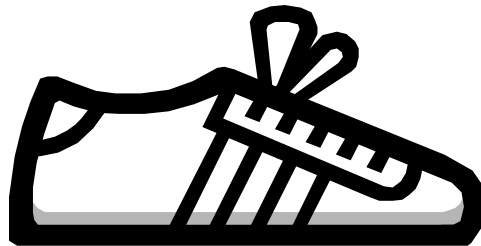
Well, the show was a great success, not to mention a great deal of fun for John and those in attendance. In fact, John intends on displaying more of his work during our block party, scheduled for Saturday, September 28th.

John is not the only artist in our congregation. So he is hoping the other artists of Immanuel will join him in displaying their work during the Block Party.

If you wish to display and sell your work during the block party, contact Karen Rombey in the church office as soon as possible.

Let us mention too, that if you would follow John Wilson’s good example, 50% of the proceeds of the sale of your work will go to Immanuel to help support our Roof Fund or our Sunday School.

A Push for Cooks “Meals on Heels”



A Saturday Lunch Program for Yorkville Neighborhood Residents

Our “Meals on Heels” program is in need of some more cooks. This need not be a heavy commitment. If you could prepare, say, five meals a month every other month, that would be a big help.

“Meals on Heels” is an all volunteer program. Both the cooks for the meals and those who deliver the meals to the elderly

serve freely. For a quarter of a century now our congregation has been serving the elderly through this weekend meal program. It is a program we can be proud of so, so please consider helping. You can contact Davida Goldman, who directs the program, at her work number or email: (212) 627-2288, davida@firstthings.com. Thanks!

Monday Morning Devotions at the Start of the Work Week

10 minutes, 8 a.m. on Monday Mornings, starting Monday, May 20



Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ dignified our labor by sharing our toil. Be with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land obedient to your will; help the unemployed, the underemployed, and the overworked; and to all of us, give pride in what we do and a just return for our labor. Lord, in your mercy... (LBW, from "Petitions, Intercessions, and Thanksgivings")

Our Immanuel doors will be open on Monday mornings, the good Lord willing, to welcome people on their way to work. I know they cannot linger long, but I hope that as time goes by, they will make stopping by our church at the start of the

work week to be a kind of holy habit of life. I plan to read a passage of scripture, preach a very short sermon about work, and end with a prayer for the work week.

Pastor Fryer

Vacation Bible School "Kingdom Rocks"

August 19 - 23, 2013

It's nearing the time for our VBS Kingdom Rocks where kids stand strong for God. Join our knights in training as they make exciting discoveries and strengthen their faith. Meet Bible times royalty during our Epic Adventures and Chadder's Royal Theater. Through Tournament Games, Imagination Station and Mighty Kingdom Crafts kids will experience God's love hands on. At Sing and Play Rock kids will proclaim his Holy name. Our VBS will be held during the week of August 19 - 23 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 pm. Our Kingdom Rocks VBS is open to all children aged 3 - 10. To register please call Karen Rombey in the church office (212) 289-8128.