

Immanuel Messenger

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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88th Street and Lexington Avenue, Manhattan

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December 2022

A Word from Pastor Gregory Fryer

Christmas!

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church, We are in Advent now, with its godly words of hope for us. And soon it will be Christmas! This is a good time of year. The Christmas tree workers have set up alongside our church, on the Lexington Avenue sidewalk. Each year they give us a big Christmas tree for our church nave. We decorate that tree and hang the greens and our great red ribbons on Hanging of the Greens on Saturday December 17 this year. We are planning our annual St. Nicholas Party for later that evening, December 17. We are gathering our gifts for Seafarers and Fraternité Notre Dame, and for the mitten tree. These are all good traditions, lifting our hearts and benefiting people in our congregation and in our neighborhood. Organist and Choirmaster Zachary Schurman is preparing for Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning, as are Pastor Carol, Vicar Lara Bhasin, and me. These are happy December preparations.

Please join us here at Immanuel as often as you can as we await and celebrate the Christ Child.

In His Name,

Gregory Fryer

Pastor Gregory Fryer

Fraternité Notre Dame Toy Collection

Bring to church before December 10

The Sisters of the Fraternité Notre Dame will again be hosting a Christmas party for needy children. 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.) You may leave your gifts in the narthex on Sunday mornings, or bring them to the church office during the week. The Sisters plan to pick up the gifts on December 10 this year.

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 or leave them in the mitten tree box. 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 Saturday, December 17th.

Our Recent Christmas Bazaar

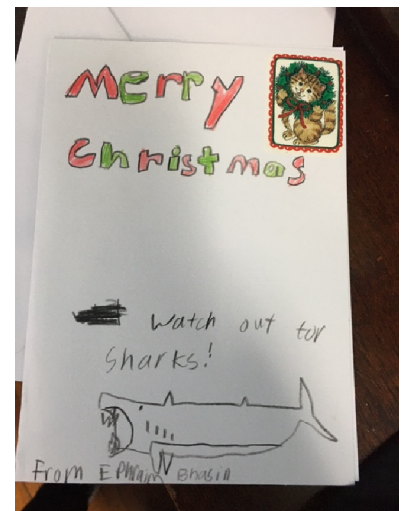
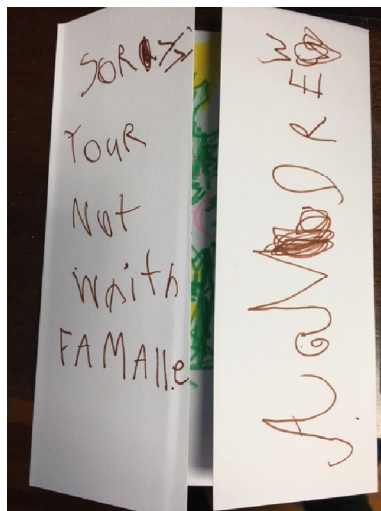
Saturday, December 3, 2022

Many thanks to our workers for our recent, excellent Christmas Bazaar: Karen Bazik, Zachary Chance, Barbara Chomko, Jean Fischer, Carol and Gregory Fryer, Jean Grenning, Jazo Ichikawa, Hans Kibler, Louise Hansen de Laverde, Kathy Jolowicz, Louisa Laverde-Araujo, Priscilla O'Carroll, Lore Schlager, Elly Spangenberg, Maria Van Der Merwe, and Thomas Wicks.

Seafarers “Christmas-At-Sea” Satchels Money Donations

A note from Sunday School teachers Barbara Chomko and Karen Bazik

We would like to thank the congregation for their generous donations. We were able to fill 24 satchels. Our Sunday School children created lovely cards which were placed inside the satchels to bring cheer to the crews.



You may make a donation and have Seafarers purchase the items for you. Typically, a completely filled satchel costs about \$35.

Make your check out to “Seafarers International House” with footnote “Christmas-at-Sea”:

Seafarers International House
123 East 15th Street
New York, NY 10003

Special Voters’ Assembly

Sunday, December 11, 2022

12:45 p.m. Coffee Hour, in the Undercroft

The main purpose of this Special Voters’ Assembly is to consider our 2023 budget proposal. Our Estimates of Giving have been tallied and have helped prepare this budget proposal.

After worship, let’s head down to the undercroft for Coffee Hour, but then the Voters can head back up to the nave for the Voters’ Assembly, starting at 12:45 p.m.

If you would like to become an official member of the Voters’ Assembly, please mention your desire to Pastors Carol or Gregory Fryer, who will present your name to the Assembly. Our Constitution gives this rule:

The Voters’ Assembly shall consist only of such members who have reached the age of eighteen, who are diligent in worship, regularly partake of the Lord’s Supper and live a life in conformity with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Hanging of the Greens

Saturday afternoon, December 17, 2 to 5 p.m.

We have no set work crew for this important and gratifying work session we call “Hanging of the Greens.” We wait with eagerness for you to appear, if you can. “Many hands make light work.” Plus, it is fun to clean and decorate the church, to listen to the Christmas music as we work, to enjoy the sights and smells of the Christmas trees, and to see things come together for the great festival. Welcome, everyone. After decorating the church, we enjoy our popular St. Nicholas Party.

St. Nicholas Party

Saturday evening, December 17 —5:30 to 9 p.m.

Our annual St. Nicholas Party is a beloved event for us here at Immanuel. We'll have live music with the popular Gerry Holland on piano. The music will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by a Christmas carol sing-a-long, and supper with hams and pot-luck side dishes and desserts. (See Karen or Barbara to sign up for a dish you can bring.) We will also need some work crews, including setup, kitchen, and cleanup afterwards.

Looking Ahead

- ✦ Saturday evening, December 24: Christmas Eve, 6:30 p.m., Pastor Gregory Fryer, preaching
- ✦ Sunday morning, December 25: Christmas Morning, 11 a.m., Vicar Lara Bhasin, preaching
- ✦ Sunday morning, January 1, 2023: First Sunday of Christmas and Name of Jesus, Pastor Gregory Fryer preaching
- ✦ Sunday, January 8: Epiphany and Baptism of Our Lord, Pastor Carol Fryer preaching

In Our Prayers

- ✦ FAIRLY RECENT PRAYER REQUESTS: Sally Gaudons, Kathy Jolowicz, Rita Juhasz (sister of our member Irene Juhasz), John Gaines (brother-in-law of Pastors Fryer), Aveliza Castro (friend of Karel Horky Fernandez), Lisa Albers
- ✦ RECENTLY DIEDErnest Lund (5/14/1949 - 11/24/2022)
Bereaved Florence Lund (wife) and their four children
Marlene Lund (sister)
- ✦ RECENTLY DIEDCharles Schramm, Jr. (3/9/1938 – 11/17/2022)
Bereaved Alison Schramm (daughter), William Schramm (son)
Charles was former Music Director of this congregation
- ✦ RECENTLY DIED Zoila Martinez (11/24/1953-11/8/2022)
BereavedDiana Montes de Oca, daughter

(End)