



Immanuel Messenger

Immanuel Lutheran Church
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April 2023

A Word from Pastor Gregory Fryer

Holy Week

THROUGH THY CROSS AND PASSION O LORD + DELIVER US

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Recently a small group of us met to review the Holy Week services. Those services are soon upon us. Organist and Choirmaster Zachary Schurman and I had been living with these liturgies for two months in advance. That is part of the joy of planning the liturgies. Before we even enter Lent, our hearts are racing ahead to Holy Week, picturing each service, working on the hymns and sacred music, and most moving of all, picturing our Lord and Savior Jesus as he moves through this most holy of weeks.

So, our little group met recently to make final decisions for this year's Holy Week. Our planning group consisted of Organist and Music Director Zac Schurman, Pastor Carol Fryer, Vicar Lara Bhasin, Congregation President David Kiehl, and me. We gathered around the conference table in the Martin Luther Room, with piles of current drafts of worship folders before us and our red pens to mark updates. It is careful work that needs to be done. Many details need to be tended to. It is background work we try to do well so that when you come to church, you can worship with quiet and undistracted minds.

But underlying the practical work of our worship committee is our sense of awe and gratitude for the *events* of Holy Week. These are the events that have changed the world. They have changed the world for the better!

Here are our Holy Week services:

- ✦ Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday, 11 a.m., April 2, I preach
- ✦ Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m. April 6, Pastor Carol preaches
- ✦ Good Friday, 7 p.m. April 7, Vicar Lara preaches
- ✦ Easter Vigil, 7 p.m. April 8, I preach a patristic sermon
- ✦ Easter Sunday, 11 a.m., April 9, I preach

Please attend as many of these good services as you can. God bless you all.

In Christ,

Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

Thursday Evening Bible Study

6:30 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room and via Zoom

We have begun our study of the Acts of the Apostles. Please join us for this moving story of the Holy Spirit at work establishing the early church.

Here is the Zoom sign-in information:

Topic: Thursday Evening Bible Study

Time: Mar 2, 2023 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. through April 13 (except for April 6, which is Maundy Thursday).

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84149443101?pwd=K296OHRnM3k4TjkyNGhiT0Q5cFFMdz09>

Meeting ID: 841 4944 3101

Passcode: 692464

Or you can phone in using the same Meeting ID and Passcode: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kb02ickKkg>

Professor Charles Marsh

Author of *Strange Glory: A Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*
A fun note from Pastor Gregory Fryer



Back in February, after a Sunday liturgy, our member Susan Gottridge noticed a father and daughter gathered around our Bonhoeffer banner. They turned out to be University of Virginia Professor Charles Marsh and his daughter. When Susan found out who they were, she fetched some of us for this photo. I read Professor Marsh's biography of Bonhoeffer back around 2015 when it first came out. It was a joy and honor to meet this very kind man and his daughter. He is Commonwealth Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia and director of the Project on Lived Theology <https://www.livedtheology.org/whoweare/>.

Easter Vigil Potluck

Holy Saturday, April 8, 2023, even before the liturgy

One of our great Holy Week traditions is our Easter Vigil Potluck down in the undercroft. This potluck supper follows the magnificent Easter Vigil upstairs, in a church that is candlelit for much of the liturgy. You can sign up for this potluck with Karen Bazik or Barbara Chomko.

Karen and Barbara invite you down to the undercroft for a snack even before the liturgy. This sounds like a good idea to me. The Easter Vigil is a long, complex, and moving service. It would be good to have some nourishment for it.

GPF

Success for Vicar Lara Bhasin!

She is now approved for ordination to the Holy Ministry of Word and Sacrament. Congratulations, Lara! This is good news for Christ's Church on earth, in my firm opinion.

GPF

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023

There will be an Easter Egg hunt in the courtyard (weather permitting) after the service on Easter. Children should bring their basket.

Sunday School's Lenten Project

Food Drive for the New York Common Pantry

As they have done in the past, our Sunday School children are leading a Lenten food drive for the New York Common Pantry. Members of the congregation can give their donations to either Karen Bazik or Barbara Chomko during Holy Week. Also, there is a box for donations in our church narthex.

On the next page, we have a flyer from the New York Common Pantry about "most wanted items":



MOST WANTED ITEMS

Donate shelf-stable items for our Pantry Programs

CANNED OR DRY BEANS

15oz or 1lb plant-based protein



CANNED FRUIT/VEGETABLES

Vegetables - Low-sodium or no salt
Fruit - In its own juice



CANNED FISH OR CHICKEN

Packed in water



GRAINS

Brown or white rice, pasta, barley, quinoa



PEANUT BUTTER

Natural with only peanuts and oils in ingredient list



SHELF-STABLE MILK

Low-fat milk, almond, nut or oat milk



HOT/COLD CEREAL

Sugar-free oats, corn flakes, farina or grits



LOW-SODIUM, LOW-SUGAR, HIGH-FIBER AND WHOLE GRAIN ITEMS PREFERRED

For more information about food donations email foodrescue@nycommonpantry.org

To schedule a donation drop off, visit nycommonpantry.org/food-rescue

New York Common Pantry | 8 East 109th Street, New York, NY 10029

Bonhoeffer Class

8 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Vicar Lara Bhasin is leading our class on Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship*. For our next session, the week after Easter Sunday, let's read Chapters 21-26.

Here is the sign-in information:

Bonhoeffer class: April 12, 2023 8:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84350002637?pwd=aTBxcUl0MTZKZXQ3Vk9iZGZEQ05Bdz09>

Meeting ID: 843 5000 2637

Passcode: 271718

Or you can phone in using the same Meeting ID and Passcode: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kbGX75u3e1>

Vacation Bible School

Looking ahead, please save the dates August 21-25 for this summer's Vacation Bible School.

In Our Prayers

FAIRLY NEW TO THE PRAYER LIST: Clifford Rose, Irene Juhasz, Jeff Rudat, Jackson Greenberg (friend of Hans Kibler), Sam Grenning, Elida Burgos (sister of Luz Ortiz), Alma von Graffenried (requested by David Kiehl)

(End)