



Immanuel Messenger

Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

88th Street and Lexington Avenue, Manhattan

www.immanuelnyc.org

www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC/

Rev. Gregory P. Fryer, Pastor gpfryer@gmail.com

Rev. Carol E. A. Fryer, Pastoral Associate... ceafryer@gmail.com

(212) 289-8128, church phone

February 2023

A Word from Pastor Gregory Fryer

Transfiguration Sunday

February 19, 2023

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church,
I have always loved Transfiguration Sunday. That glimpse into the true godly nature of Jesus Christ, even as he walks his way of the cross, is a stunning glimpse, full of glory for Him and encouragement for us.

But nowadays, I love Transfiguration Sunday even more because of its connection in my mind with Pastor Thomas Nelson Green, of blessed memory. Pastor Green preached for us on a major anniversary for our church: Transfiguration Sunday, 2013 — the 150th anniversary of our congregation. He called us a “house of transfiguration”:

Throughout the history of Immanuel Church, God has been present. Moreover, through all of those years God has been at the work of transfiguring and transforming the members of the congregation into holy children of God. This holy house is indeed a house of transfiguration.
(Rev. Dr. Thomas Nelson Green, Transfiguration Sunday, February 10, 2013)

And if the Lord is transfiguring *us* here at Immanuel, I think that will be a blessing for our city, to have transfigured people in our town.

So, I hope you will join me in being eager for our upcoming Transfiguration Sunday, this Sunday, February 19.

In His Name,

Pastor Gregory Fryer

Bonhoeffer's The Cost of Discipleship

Next class: 8 p.m. Wednesday, February 8
Chapters 11-17

Vicar Lara Bhasin's class on Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship* meets on the second Wednesday of the month. Our next class will be Wednesday, February 8. We are to read Chapters 11-17. We meet in-person in the Martin Luther Room and via Zoom. These are uplifting and instructive classes. You are welcome to join the class whenever you can. Here is the Zoom information:

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 843 5000 2637

Passcode: 271718

Or you may phone in using the above Meeting ID and Passcode. Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84350002637?pwd=aTBxcUl0MTZKZXQ3Vk9iZGZEQ05Bdz09>

gpf

Annual Winter Voters' Assembly

Sunday, February 12, 2023

12:45 p.m. Coffee Hour, upstairs in the Nave

Church Council has approved shifting our appointed winter Voters' Assembly from January 15 to a favorite time for us for this meeting: Super Bowl Sunday. So that will be Sunday, February 12.

This is the meeting at which we hear year-end reports and elect our leaders for the year, 2023.

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.

Our New Parish Secretary: Karen Katz-Shea

A note from Pastor Gregory Fryer



Parish Secretary Karen Katz-Shea has begun her work among us. As we were in good hands with Interim Parish Secretary Melissa Phillips, so we are in good hands with Karen.

Here is her parish email: parishimmanuelnyc@gmail.com. Our office hours are 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

I asked Karen to write a few sentences introducing herself to us:

I am a true New Yorker. Born in the Bronx, raised in Rego Park, Queens, and at 25 moved to Manhattan. I have lived on the Upper Eastside ever since. This area is so special to me. I have been very lucky to have made so many close friends and associations among

the residents. I look forward to serving this church and meeting its members.

My personal touch, Go Yankees.....

Welcome, Karen!

Shrove Tuesday Sausage & Pancake Supper

5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 21

Looking ahead, we plan our annual Pancake and Sausage Supper for fun and fellowship. The doors of the church hall will be open from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Please use the 1296 Lexington Avenue entrance (the red door next to CVS Pharmacy).

The price for the meal is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, or whatever you can afford. If you can't make it to the supper, contributions are certainly welcome! Please make your check out to Immanuel with a notation on the memo line that it is for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

Also, you can bring your old palm branches to the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper and give them to the Pastors. Pastors Carol and Gregory Fryer plan to burn the old palm branches later that evening to form the ashes for the following day's Ash Wednesday liturgies

Your Favorite Bible Stories

Midweek Lent 2023

A note from Pastor Gregory Fryer

This year we would like to repeat a popular Midweek Lent Series from the past: We invite you to tell us your favorite Bible stories, and we mean to preach on them, being especially mindful of Jesus and his way of the Cross. Both Old Testament and New Testament stories are welcome.

We have four requests so far:

- Jacob wrestling with the angel (birthright). (Genesis 32)
- The judgment of Solomon (two mothers, one baby) (1 Kings 3)
- "Jesus wept." (John 11)
- Our resurrected Jesus on the shore making breakfast for his disciples and asking Peter "Do you love me?" (John 21)

Please add your request too. Send me an email with your favorite Bible stories (gp Fryer@gmail.com) or leave a message on our church answer

machine: 212-289-8128. It would help me to organize the Midweek Lent Series if you would do this soon rather than later.

Thursday Evening Bible Study

A Note from Pastor Gregory Fryer

6:30 – 7:15 p.m. Thursdays, beginning March 2

In the Martin Luther Room and via Zoom

The Book of Acts

For many years now, we have enjoyed “*Monday* Evening Bible Study.” But nowadays let’s shift to “*Thursday* Evening Bible Study.” Same time: 6:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. Moving to Thursday evening should permit more continuity in our study. Monday is such a busy day, with Trustee meetings once a month, that things should be smoother on Thursday evenings.

Let’s begin in Lent, on the first Thursday of Lent. That will be March 2. Our classes will meet in the Martin Luther Room and via Zoom.

Here is the link; it should be good through April 13:

Topic: Thursday Evening Bible Study

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

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>

Over the past year, we finished our look at the letters of St. Paul. Now, let’s take a look at the book of Acts. In a way, St. Paul is the hero of that book. Acts starts off focusing on St. Peter and the early church, but shifts toward St. Paul as we go along.

Welcome, everyone!

Immanuel's Cantor: Olivia Ericsson

A Note from Pastor Gregory Fryer



I asked Olivia to write a few lines introducing herself to us. She and Choirmaster/Organist Zachary Schurman are doing a beautiful job leading our sacred music here at Immanuel. Please note Olivia's offer of voice lessons:

Hello everyone! My name is Olivia Ericsson and I am your cantor at Immanuel Lutheran Church. I am from Boston, Massachusetts, and have studied voice and opera for over 15 years at the New England Conservatory, Boston University, and the University of Michigan. I have performed on many notable stages around the world, including Symphony Hall, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and the Musikverein.

I am excited to offer virtual and in-person voice lessons to the congregation at Immanuel! These lessons are open to adults and children of all ages and levels. We can work on any genre of music, including musical theater, opera, jazz, and pop! As an opera singer, I understand the fundamentals of vocal production which can be applied to all forms of music. If you are interested or have any questions, please email me at oliviaer@umich.edu . Thank you!

This Summer's Vacation Bible School

A tentative date has been set for our VBS. We look forward to August 21 - 25 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. each day. The theme of our VBS is "Stellar: Shine Jesus Light." If you would like more information, you can talk with VBS Director Karen Bazik.

Online Giving to Immanuel

A Note from Pastor Gregory Fryer

Nowadays we have the option of giving online. Here is our QR code.



I find that if I simply point the camera on my iPhone to this code, a link comes up leading directly to our Immanuel online giving form. It is pretty easy.

In Our Prayers

- ✦ FAIRLY RECENT PRAYER REQUESTS: Barbara Chomko, Elida Burgos (sister of Luz Ortiz), Mark Chapman (friend of Pastors Carol and Gregory Fryer,) Alma von Graffenried (requested by David Kiehl)

- ✦ RECENTLY DIED.....David Ralph (died November 30, 2022)
Former Interim Music Director of our congregation,
before Dr. Gwendolyn Toth

(End)