

Immanuel Messenger

Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

East 88th Street and Lexington Avenue, Manhattan

www.immanuelnyc.org

www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC/

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November 2023

A Word from Pastor Gregory Paul Fryer

Regrets

Dear Members and Friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Months ago I jotted down my theme for this recent Reformation Sunday: “If only the saints can fight for the good, then nothing will be done, because I bet we all have regrets.” As it turned out, I set aside that theme and instead preached on Martin Luther as a consecrated man. Still, I go on thinking about that theme. One pastoral lesson to be learned from Luther’s doctrine of justification by faith is that even those of us with regrets can hand those regrets over to Jesus, pick up again, and in the end prove useful to our God.

Back in 1995, at Mickey Mantle’s funeral, country-music star Roy Clark picked up his classical guitar and sang “Yesterday, When I Was Young.” He sang at the request of Mantle. Here are a few verses from that song:

I ran so fast that time and youth at last ran out
I never stopped to think what life was all about
And every conversation I can now recall
Concerned itself with me and nothing else at all

Yesterday the moon was blue
And every crazy day brought something new to do
I used my magic age as if it were a wand
And never saw the waste and emptiness beyond

The game of love I played with arrogance and pride
And every flame I lit too quickly, quickly died
The friends I made all seemed somehow to drift away
And only I am left on stage to end the play

There are so many songs in me that won't be sung
I feel the bitter taste of tears upon my tongue
The time has come for me to pay for
Yesterday, when I was young

Regrets? Yes, I have a few. When I am old, sitting in my rocking chair and thinking back on my ministry, I will probably recall wrong decisions I made and good things I failed to do. So, it might be with each of us. But today is a new day, and Jesus wants us to use this new day well. With him, there is forgiveness of sins and renewal of life. Let us dive in, then, trying to help ourselves, our loved ones, and our church, Immanuel Lutheran Church.

In Christ,

Gregory Fryer

Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

The Bible: The Big Picture – A Class for All Ages

A Note from Pastor Lara Bhasin

Every other Sunday during Coffee Hour in the Martin Luther Room
(Except when we have other church meetings)

Next class: All Saints Sunday, November 5

We have begun our year-long tour through the Bible. This is a class designed to give us a big picture view of the Scriptures, its main themes, key ideas, and most important stories. Each class will feature one book or set of writings from the Bible, with many visuals, maps, timelines and other aides to help us get a sense of the whole. We will also learn about how the Bible was translated and the canon of Scripture was formed. Each class will feature a PowerPoint presentation with lots of pictures of Biblical art, artifacts, and other charts and diagrams.

This class is designed for all ages, from middle school to adult. I hope it will be a chance for every participant to share what they know, learn something new, and forge new friendships across generations. Each class will be a complete unit on a new topic, so please join whenever you can.

Looking Ahead: Lessons and Carols



DIRKSEN | *Welcome All Wonders*
BACH | *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*
MANZ | *E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*
C.H. JOHNSON | *Lo, How a Rose/ The Rose*
CARTER | *Mary Had a Baby*
LAURIDSEN | *O Magnum Mysterium*
RACHMANINOFF | *Ave Maria*
RUTTER | *What Sweeter Music*
CH. GOUNOD | *Ring Out, Wild Bells*
FRASER | *This Christmastide*
HANDEL | *Hallelujah Chorus*

The Baldwin Festival Chorus

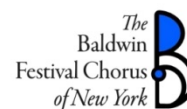
R. Douglas Sheldon, *conductor*
Steven W. Ryan & Jon Tyillian, *accompanists*

Saturday, December 16, 2023

Immanuel Lutheran Church

5:00 PM

Immanuel Lutheran Church
122 East 88th Street
New York, NY 10128
A suggested donation will be accepted at the door.



Immanuel Book Club: *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis

Once a month. Next class: 8 p.m. Wednesday, November 15
In the Martin Luther Room and via Zoom

Pastor Lara leads us in discussing C. S. Lewis's spiritual masterpiece on the tricks of the devil. In *The Screwtape Letters*, Lewis imagines what advice a senior devil would give a junior devil about how to do his job. This short book is funny, theologically insightful, and psychologically profound, and it's guaranteed to spark great conversation. Please join Pastor Lara for the

class discussion on the third Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room, or sign in via Zoom.

Here is the Zoom information:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81940413904?pwd=PyJZ56im1YnRyRCVq3ur1OEDwCCR9Z.1>

Meeting ID: 819 4041 3904

Passcode: 535156

Dial by your location using the same Meeting ID and Passcode: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/ksIWK1VBj>

Midweek Evening Liturgy

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Evenings

God willing, a simple, spoken liturgy of Holy Communion is available every Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m., and we hope that you will often avail yourself of this quiet time of worship in the middle of the week.

The sermons for these midweek services follow *Lectio continua* — that is, we preach our way straight on through a book of Bible. For this year, that book is Matthew.

Immanuel webmaster Sean Curnyn has created a link on our church's website for the Wednesday Evening sermons. You can find recent sermons on Matthew at this location: <https://www.immanuelnyc.org/midweek-sermons-matthew>

Thursday Evening Bible Study

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

Let's meet in the Martin Luther Room or via Zoom for our study of the Acts of the Apostles. Here is the sign-in information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83159910572?pwd=WTNnV2R0U0RFTEsvUThCQVIOMULiQT09>

Meeting ID: 831 5991 0572

Passcode: 827550

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

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kdjsfvzjDj>

Coffee Hours

If you can host Coffee Hour or contribute a dish to Coffee Hour, that would be great! It would be most welcome. Please let Kathy Jolowicz know: kaj133@aol.com. Letting Kathy know will help with our planning. Also, the Board of Deacons would greatly appreciate donations of soda, iced tea or juice. We have coffee and tea, but some people (and the kids!) like to have cold beverages.

Our Immanuel Christmas Bazaar

Set up: 2-8 p.m. Friday, December 1
Bazaar, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturday, December 2

All donations can be brought to church during the coffee hours, or to the Church office during the week, between 10 AM and 3PM. Call the church office to be sure someone will be there. 212/289-8128. We are sorry that, due to minimal space and manpower, we cannot accept adult clothing, but kids' clothes are happily accepted.

We will be offering a meal this year, so baked goods and dishes can be organized with Maria Vandemerwe mvdm2w@gmail.com.

Please mark your calendar. We need volunteers Friday and Saturday. Set up day will be Friday December 1, from 2 PM to 8PM. If you are free let Kathy Jolowicz know kaj133@aol.com



WE 'RE HAVING

A CHRISTMAS-

WEIHNACHTS BAZAAR!

Saturday December 2nd

FROM 10AM TO 5PM

What we could use:

**JEWELRY
PERSONAL ACCESSORIES
BOOKS,CDs, TAPES, AND RECORDS
CHILDREN'S TOYS
KITCHEN AND HOUSEWARES
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES
ELECTRONICS -**

WE NEED BOOKENDS FOR BK TBL

NO ADULT CLOTHING

BRIC-A-BRAC

SILVER, CHINA & CRYSTAL

HOME ACCESSORIES

SHOPPING BAGS

KID'S CLOTHES ONLY

**HOT FOOD AND BAKED GOODS FOR *THE IMMANUEL CAFÉ*
(CALL MARIA.646/863-2902 or mvdm2w@gmail.com)**

**DONATIONS MAY BE DELIVERED SUNDAY'S AFTER CHURCH OR AT THE CHURCH
OFFICE: 10 AM -3 PM Mon.-Fri 212/289-8128 ,(call first so someone is there.)
or FRIDAY DEC. 1 . FROM 2 TO 8 PM IN UNDERCROFT. No Adult clothing.**

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED ON FRIDAY FROM 2-8PM TO HELP SET UP, AND ON SAT
DEC.2ND FROM 9 AM*-TO 5 PM (*for breakfast, fine tuning, and personal shopping)
ALSO AT 5 PM TO HELP PACK UP.**

PLEASE, NO DONATIONS ON SAT. DEC. 2nd!

CALL: KATHY 212/249-0125 KAJ133@AOL.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Life-to-Life Discipleship

Looking Ahead

A Note from Pastor Lara Bhasin

Pastor Carol and Pastor Lara would like to invite you to join the *Life-to-Life Discipleship* experience. *Life-to-Life* is an NALC initiative designed to help Christians be more intentional in living out the Great Commission by focusing on oneness with God and with one another. We would meet as a small group for fourteen weeks for an hour at a time and work our way through the manual.

Both of us have been through the experience ourselves and found it rewarding. It gives participants a chance to strengthen faith and learn how our baptismal vocation applies to every aspect of life. I (Lara) enjoyed it because it is concrete and practical and helped me develop some lasting spiritual friendships.

If you are interested in participating, please let one of us know. Once we have a list of potential participants, we can work together to choose a start date and the best time and place to meet.

In Our Prayers

IN OUR PRAYERS IN RECENT TIMES: Sally Gaudons, Marilyn Schreiber (Richard's mother), Jean and Stephen Fischer, Luz Ortiz, Jonathan Lochrichio (nephew of Luz Ortiz) Jennifer Loughrey, Marcia Rudat (Jeff's mother), Richard Shuta (Jeff Rudat's uncle), Naomi Kinley (Jeff Rudat's friend), Karl Fritsch (Louise Laverde's brother-in-law), Alan Brook (Matt O'Donnell's father), Cayle Powell and Raymond Hernandez (Florida family members of Eric and Ester Neubacher), Tracy Leung (Priscilla's cousin), Robert Huckfeldt (David Kiehl's brother-in-law), Patricia Sanders, David Kiehl

RECENTLY DIEDAsta Kibler (age 96)
BereavedKaren Bazik, Kirsten and Hans (Asta is Karen's mother-in-law)

(End)