



# Immanuel Messenger

## Immanuel Lutheran Church

122 East 88<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10128

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[www.immanuelnyc.org](http://www.immanuelnyc.org)

[www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC/](https://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC/)

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(212) 289-8128, church phone

May 2024

*A Word from Pastor Gregory Paul Fryer*

# Pentecost and Holy Trinity

**D**ear Members and Friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church,  
Two of my favorite Sundays lie ahead of this month: Pentecost Sunday on May 19 and Holy Trinity Sunday on May 26. Pastor Carol is preparing to preach on the high festival of Pentecost Sunday. Let me focus, then, on the following Sunday, Holy Trinity Sunday.

I bet preachers could do a Trinitarian analysis of many important subjects. For example, we could speak of the concern of all three Persons of the Holy Trinity for such subjects as marriage or patriotism or health. For this Trinity Sunday I mean to speak of stewardship. I believe that our tithes and offerings are a matter of serious interest to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. But the concern of the three Persons varies. I should think that God the Father thinks about our stewardship differently from God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Their thoughts are in harmony, yes, but they are distinct Persons with distinct concerns. So, on this upcoming Trinity Sunday I mean to give attention to the concerns of all three Persons about our stewardship. Count it as an early part of our annual autumn Stewardship Campaign.

We are worshiping in our church undercroft these days. That is no problem. We have done it before, and our people all work together to

conduct good liturgies. I mean to give an update on our church chancel next. For now, please know that we treasure you all and hope to see you in church.

In Christ,  
  
Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

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## An Update on Our Church Chancel

A Note from our Trustees  
Saturday, April 27, 2024

*[Note from Pastor Gregory Fryer: Many of you have already received this note from our Trustees. Because some plaster and wood fell in our church chancel, we are worshiping in the undercroft for now.]*

As many of you are already aware, some plaster and wood fell from the arch over the sanctuary to the floor near the altar more than a week ago. Last Sunday, out of an abundance of caution and for the safety of the members of our congregation, we moved our services online, with some people joining us in person in the Martin Luther room. Since then, our wonderful Sexton was able to arrange for engineers from two separate reputable engineering firms to inspect the ceiling area in the Sanctuary over the chancel, both of whom did it without charge. Both engineers concluded that the damage appears to be mostly superficial plaster damage, and the engineers believed it would be safe to worship in the undercroft this Sunday, and I am grateful for that.

We will be holding our Sunday service in the undercroft, but the Trustees wanted to make sure that you were made aware of the advice received from the engineers before we made this decision, so you can make an informed decision about joining us in the undercroft. Our Sexton and the Trustees continue to work to determine the next steps to address the condition in the sanctuary.

Jennifer Loughrey  
Chair, Immanuel's Board of Trustees

# Midweek Noon

12:15 p.m. Wednesdays

A simple, spoken service of Word and Sacrament  
In the Martin Luther Room

Two people mentioned to me that they would love to come to our Wednesday evening liturgy but are unable because of other responsibilities. So, I have been holding a noon liturgy for them — 12:15 p.m. I would be very glad to have more people join us. It is even simpler than the evening liturgy. I simply talk my sermon to those who attend, as if I were making a hospital visit. But it is a full Word and Sacrament service. It is good to receive the Blessed Sacrament in the middle of the week. So, be pleased to join us in the Martin Luther Room for the Midweek Noon Liturgy whenever you can.

gpf

# Voters' Assembly

1 p.m. Sunday, May 19, in the undercroft

Our regular springtime Voters' Assembly is held the third Sunday of May. This year, that is Sunday, May 19. I like holding Voters' Assemblies upstairs in the nave, to not disturb Coffee Hour down in the undercroft. But we are worshiping in the undercroft these days, till we sort out the plaster problem in the chancel, and so let's hold this Voters' Assembly in the undercroft too.

The springtime Voters' Assembly is a chance to see where we stand, having come through Lent and Holy Week and facing summertime. Welcome.

gpf

# Honoring Owen

## A Love Offering

Also, Sunday, May 19, in the undercroft

Our dear Sexton Assistant, Owen Kavanagh, will be finishing his work with us this May and moving to a new job in Brooklyn. Many of us are grateful to Owen for the good care he has given to our church. So, we mean to salute Owen during Coffee Hour on Sunday, May 19.

Also, we would like to give him a love offering. If you would like to be part of this, please send cash or a check made out to Owen to our church or give it to Barbara Chomko, Chair of our Deacons. We can collect it all and present it to him on that day.

If you would like to give Owen a gift via check, please make it out to him: "Owen Kavanagh," perhaps with footnote "gift."

If you would like to mail your gift to our church, here is the address:

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
122 East 88 Street  
New York, NY 10128

If you send cash, please indicate that it is for Owen. Thank you!

gpf

## Barbecue!

Sunday, June 2, during Coffee Hour

It's time for one of our popular courtyard barbecues. Let's aim for Sunday, June 2, rain or shine. (If it rains, we usually cook outdoors and bring it into the undercroft to enjoy.) If you could bring a side dish or dessert, please see Barbara Chomko or Karen Bazik.

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

A class led by Pastor Lara Bhasin

From time to time, during Coffee Hour in the Martin Luther Room

Next class: Sunday May 26. The topic will be  
“A Scriptural Look at the Role of Mary”

## Looking Ahead: Vacation Bible School

This summer’s Vacation Bible School is set for August 19-23. It is a beautiful program helping to shape children in the pattern of Jesus. It would be great if you could help us that week.

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

Once a month. Next class: 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 22  
In the Martin Luther Room and via Zoom

Please join Pastor Lara for the class discussion at 8 p.m. in the Martin Luther Room, or sign in via Zoom. There is no need to read ahead. We will read it together in class.

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/j/81940413904?pwd=PyJZ56im1YnRyRCVq3ur1OEDwCCR9Z.1>

# 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](mailto: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.

# 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

IN OUR PRAYERS IN RECENT TIMES: George Wong (friend of Jazo Ichikawa and family), Jazo Ichikawa, Jonathan Jenkins and Judy McKee (friends of Pastors Carol and Gregory Fryer), Dakota Chin (family to Priscilla O'Carroll), Wolfgang Hahn, Edna Szmodis, Carole Smith, Diane Kinley, Davida Goldman, Clifford Rose, Susan McIntosh (Richard McIntosh's sister), Timna Rosenheimer (friend of David Kiehl), Melodee Kelly (friend of Thomas Wicks), Celia Cabrera, Minfang Cheng (friend of Louisa Laverde), Stephen and Jean Fischer, Sister Angela (friend of Pastor Carol, David Kiehl, and Maria Barbera), LyAsia Beltre and her mother, Carol Dittbrenner, Ann Wareham, Carlos Opio, Sally Gaudons, 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 DIED .....Margret Ramcke (née Wolters), 9/19/1935 - 4/15/2024  
BEREAVED ..... Thomas Wicks and family (Margret is Thomas's aunt)

RECENTLY DIED ..... Dorothy Leung, 10/5/44 - 4/13/2024  
BEREAVED ..... Aunt to Priscilla O'Carroll,  
Great aunt to Kieran & Emma O'Carroll  
Beloved mother to Tracy Leung Cooper (son-in-law Paul) and  
Tara Leung Grealish (son-in-law David)

RECENTLY DIED ..... Margrith Marino, February 17, 1937 – April 8, 2024  
BEREAVED ..... John Marino, son, and family