



Immanuel Messenger

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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March 2014

A Word from the Pastor

Midweek Lent Series

“The Fruit of the Spirit”

Galatians 5:13-26

It is a good old-fashioned Christian discipline to try to worship more often during the holy season of Lent. Please count our 6:30 p.m. Wednesday liturgies among your Lent opportunities.

Our main text for this year’s midweek Lent services will be Galatians 5:13-26, where Saint Paul speaks of freedom:

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. (Galatians 5:13, NRSV)

Remarkable phrase there: “slaves to one another.” Strange freedom! It involves slavery!

The apostle also casts his theme about freedom in terms of life in the Spirit: “Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.” (Galatians 5:16, NRSV)

This call to live in the Spirit leads to Saint Paul’s famous list of the “fruit of the Spirit”:

... the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. (Galatians 5:22-23, NRSV)

We do not have enough Lent Wednesdays to do all of these fruits of the Spirit, but we can do many of them. Let's focus on the first five. Here, then, is this year's midweek Lent schedule:

DATE	TOPIC
March 12	Love
March 19. Sermon by The Rev. Jonathan Linman, Ph.D., Assistant to the Bishop for Formation for the Metropolitan New York Synod, ELCA.	Joy
March 26	Peace
April 2	Patience
April 9	Kindness

The liturgies are at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Welcome!

In Christ,



Pastor Gregory P. Fryer

Children's Choir to sing on Transfiguration Sunday

Our Children's Choir will lift their voices during our 11 a.m. Liturgy on Transfiguration Sunday, March 2nd.

They will sing three songs, first at our Prelude, then in place of the Psalm, and finally the Offertory Anthem.

Camp Mason Representative

To speak during Coffee Hour on March 9th

By Priscilla O'Carroll

Camp Mason is a YMCA camp that we happily discovered a couple of years ago. It is located in northern New Jersey, right near the Delaware Water Gap (about a 1.5 hour drive). Kieran and Emma spend part of their summers there, and both have had amazing experiences. The staff, activities and facilities are everything you'd hope for in a camp (and the food is pretty good!). It is a time for the kids to unwind after

the school year, to be around nature and be unplugged from all electronics. They have made lots of friends with whom they are looking forward to catching up with again this summer. Campers here practice the four tenets – caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. What we enjoy about Camp Mason is that our whole family can take part – there are family camp sessions, as well as volunteer and alumni weekends. We

are glad to be able to host Camp Mason | New Yorkers to the Gap!
at Immanuel and hopefully bring more

“Second Sunday” Evening Worship

Sunday, March 2nd, Transfiguration Sunday
Vespers, 5 p.m.

Sunday, March 9th, First Sunday in Lent
Lectio Divina, 4 p.m., Vespers, 5 p.m.
Led by Rev. Kelly-Ray Meritt

Festival Vespers for the Transfiguration of our Lord will be offered Sunday, March 2nd, at 5:00 p.m. The Transfiguration, anciently celebrated on August 6th, but more recently on the Sunday before the beginning of Lent, is traditionally the “titular feast” (or name day) for congregations named with any of the titles of our Lord, such as Christ, Redeemer, Messiah, or Immanuel. As Pastor Fryer mentioned last Sunday, this will be the first day of Immanuel Lutheran Church’s second 150 years.

The ceremony of “burying the Alleluia” will be observed at the end of the service: To remind ourselves that we do not sing the triumphant Alleluia during the season of Lent, a banner bearing the word will be hidden in the

baptismal font until the vigil of Easter. (The evangelist Luke is especially clear in proclaiming the Transfiguration, that Moses and Elijah appear to discuss with our Lord “the Exodus he was to accomplish in Jerusalem.” Read also the third chapter of Paul’s letter to the Colossians to understand the connection between our Baptism and Jesus’ death and burial, and how we, too, are transformed in his resurrection.)

The First Sunday in Lent, March 9th, we resume the regular “Second Sunday” schedule with Lectio Divina (a form of group spiritual practice) at 4:00 p.m. and Sunday Vespers at 5:00 p.m. You are welcome to participate in all these events.

Shrove Tuesday

Tuesday, March 4, 2014, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 4th, is Shrove Tuesday, and Immanuel will hold its annual Pancake and Sausage Supper for fun and fellowship. We like to direct receipts from this annual supper to our Sunday School, especially Vacation Bible School.

Swing with David Buddin on the piano, Gaku Takanashi on bass, Al Quirong on tenor sax and vocalist Vi

Quirong. The music will start at 6:00 p.m. and go until 7:00 p.m. The doors of the church hall will be open from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Please use the Lexington Avenue entrance. The price for the meal is \$5 for adults and \$2 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.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 5th, 2014 – Liturgies at 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.



We will have two liturgies again this year – one at 12:15 p.m. and one at 6:30 p.m. Each of these liturgies has its own blessing. The noontime service is a spoken liturgy and is nice because of the presence of neighborhood people who slip away during their lunch hours for our brief liturgy. The evening liturgy is the main traditional parish liturgy with Choir.

The Immanuel Choir is planning special music for our Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday March 5th, at 6:30 pm. The choir will sing William Byrd's complete *Mass for Four Voices*, one of the most famous Renaissance polyphonic mass settings, for this service in the place of our regular congregational mass setting. Byrd's exquisite a cappella mass will provide a serene and meditative aspect to our service, highlighting the beginning of our penitential season of Lent.

Special Voters' Assembly

Our Roof and Steeple Project
After the liturgy, Sunday, March 16

The much anticipated time has come: There will be a special Voters' Assembly after church on Sunday, March 16 to authorize our church to enter into a contract to replace the roofing on our church and steeple and to make needed repairs to the masonry of the building. The bid documents for our project were prepared by our project manager, John G. Waite Associates, Architects, and distributed to recommended contractors. The bids we received back are in line with what

our cost estimator had predicted. The Roof Committee will review the information with us and recommend that we enter into a contract. With the contract in hand, the contractor will be able to start the process to make required filings and obtain needed permits. Once that process is completed, construction should quickly begin. So, please put this on your calendar as this is an important and long-awaited meeting.

Vespers at Corpus Christi Church

529 West 121st Street, just east of Broadway
4 p.m. Sunday, March 16, with sermon by Pastor Gregory Fryer

Fr. Daniel O'Reilly, Pastor of Corpus Christi Church, has invited me to preach for this Lent Vespers liturgy. I count it a high honor to preach at any church, but especially at this important church. This is the church where the great spiritual writer Thomas Merton was instructed in the faith of the church and baptized while a graduate student at Columbia University in 1938. Later in life, Merton recalled Corpus Christi with affection:

The words, songs, ceremonies, signs, movements of worship are all designed to open the mind and heart of the participant to this experience of oneness in Christ. One reason why I am a Catholic, a monk and a priest today is that I first went to Mass, and kept going to Mass, in a Church where these things were realized. . . . There was nothing new or revolutionary about it; only that everything was well done, not out of aestheticism or rubrical obsessiveness, but out of love for God and His truth. It would certainly be ingratitude in me if I did not remember the atmosphere of joy, light, and at least relative openness and spontaneity that filled Corpus Christi at solemn High Mass.

Fr. O'Reilly's theme for this year's Lenten Vespers series is "The Psalms as the Poetry of God." I'd be glad if you could join us then.

Pastor Fryer

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Concert

Sunday, March 23rd – 4:00 p.m. here at Immanuel

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College is an educational institution that has been committed to making a positive difference in people's lives every day for 100 years! With campuses in 4 Mississippi counties, we serve over 10,000 students. It is one of the Top 100 associate degree-producing community colleges in the nation. The music departments of the Perkinston, Jefferson Davis, and Jackson County campuses will be joining together to

form a mass choir of 75 voices who will travel to New York in March of 2014 for an educational and performing tour, directed by Dr. Jonathan Kilgore, Dr. Debora Atkinson, and Daniel Vernon.

Our repertoire consists of traditional choral music as well as American folk songs, religious music, and African-American Spirituals.

Sean Berg

Monteverdi to Mielczewski

ARTEK to Perform at St. Ignatius of Antioch Church
Friday, March 28th, at 8 p.m.

ARTEK will be performing sacred music from 17th century Italy and Germany together with an early baroque wind ensemble from France at St. Ignatius of Antioch Church (West End Avenue and 87th Street) at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, March 28th. Over 20 performers in fabulous music by composers such as Monteverdi,

Rosenmüller, Mielczewski (Polish) and more. This is our biggest ARTEK concert of the year - don't miss it! Reduced price tickets are available from Parish Secretary Karen Rombey. Tickets are \$10 off the regular price which are \$50 for preferred seats, \$40 (\$30) for center/balcony seats and \$30 (\$15) for rear seats.

Christianity in Art

Saturday, May 3, 2014 – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Last March, our own John Wilson prepared a showing of the art he has been inspired to create, partially as a result of his in-depth analysis of the Book of Job. Using wood, barbed wire, clothing hangers and other found objects, John has sculpted crucifixions, angels, and other figures both sacred and secular.

Now, on the night of Saturday, May 3, 2014, John will once more display over a dozen of his works in the undercroft of Immanuel Lutheran Church. This year, John is joined by Immanuel member Clifford Rose, the creator of our John the Baptist banner. Clifford will display some of his paintings, and Roberta Albrecht, a

former member who currently lives in Wisconsin, has contributed some of her drawings and greeting cards.

Beginning at 7:00 p.m., there will be a wine and cheese reception, and the works will be for sale with a portion of the proceeds of the sale to be donated to the church.

For those unable to attend Saturday night, John has agreed to leave his work on display on Sunday, May 4th, through the end of Coffee Hour.

If there are any other artists in our congregation who wish to participate in the show, please contact Parish Secretary Karen Rombey in the church office (212) 289-8128.