

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OSMAN

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC,
Vacancy Pastor
Vicar Aaron Fenker

August 2010



*For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
the Lord will give grace and glory; no
good thing will He withhold from those
who walk uprightly. Psalm 84:11*

Dearest Members of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman,

Grace, mercy, and peace be multiplied to you from God, the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ!

I would again like to extend my most heartfelt thanksgiving for the welcome which you gave to me upon my arrival here to Immanuel. It is such a delight to see a congregation which loves the Lord Jesus dearly, and extends that love to others. The Lord has truly blessed you, and I pray that he will continue to do so. I give thanks that you do not keep these blessings to yourselves, but have freely given also to me from your generosity. I thank God for this continually.

To all those who helped prepare my residence for my arrival, I also extend a sincere "thank you!" Your hard work helped make my move all the easier. To all those who supplied food from your bounty I am also exceedingly grateful. To all those who supplied furnishings for my home I extend my heartfelt appreciation. And especially to all of you, I thank the Lord that he has placed me here amongst so many warm hearts and smiling, friendly faces.

I pray that the Lord will continue to bless you throughout this year, and would ask you to pray for me also. The Lord has richly blessed me through you, and I hope and pray that he too will bless you through me.

May the Lord Jesus be with you all continually!

In Christ Jesus, our Life,

Vicar Fenker

Romans 1:16

Resignation of Organist

After serving our congregation for eleven years as organist, Scott Gercken offered his resignation at the Quarterly Voters Meeting on July 11, 2010. Scott has been blessed with a teaching job in the Altamont Community School District in Altamont, Illinois where he will be the Band Director for students from grade

five through high school and will be the Choral Director for the high school.

Scott started providing our music as a mere teenager under the direction and guidance of Patti Downey. He definitely has been blessed with a gift-the gift of creatively expressing in song the same message that our members express in words and prayers for each worship service. He has spent an endless amount of hours practicing his music to perform each week, as well as practicing with the choir to prepare them to add special music on certain occasions during the church year.

We thank you, Scott, for transforming your music into a gift that is very pleasing to the Lord and very meaningful to our congregation. Under your direction, our members at Immanuel, have been able to fulfill the words of Psalm 96:1, "O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day."

God's blessings to you and your family!

Church Council Minutes

The following items were discussed at the Church Council Meeting held on Tuesday, July 6, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.:

Members attending: Lee Whitehouse, Larry Lutz, Pastor McPike, Don Warsaw, Darwin Warsaw, and Mike Hendricks.

Reading of minutes from June 8, 2010 Council Meeting. Motion to accept by Darwin Warsaw. Second by Don Warsaw. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

June 30, 2010 balance: \$29,349.69. Motion to accept by Don Warsaw. Second by Larry Lutz. Motion passed.

A motion to give \$300.00 to Christ Lutheran (Normal) in memory of Phil Kaufman was made by Don Warsaw. Second by Larry Lutz. Motion passed.

A motion to drop last month's donation to Ghana Mission's was made by Darwin Warsaw. Second by Larry Lutz. Motion passed. We could not find a valid address for the funds.

Pastor's Report:

Services:

July 11, 2010 - Install Vicar Aaron Fenker

July 18, 25, 2010 - Pastor gone.

July 18, 2010 - Communion moved to July 11, 2010.

August 8, 2010 - Pastor gone.

August 29, 2010 - Pastor in Hoopeston.

September 26, 2010 - Pastor gone.

A discussion of the vicar program was conducted.

Elder's Report: Nothing to report.

Sunday School Superintendent's Report:

Vacation Bible School reminder.

Trustee's Report:

Darwin has ordered a part for the Eternal Flame.

Old Business:

Constitution: Pastor and Mike found the present Constitution to be in order. The missing article was replaced (name of the congregation), amendments were placed with their articles, and the mention of the Synodical Convention will be taken out.

It was suggested that the Historical and Working Constitutions be placed in the church office.

Vicar installation will be held on July 11, 2010. Don Warsaw will get the meat and bread. Brenda Hendricks and Connie Warsaw will prepare the drinks.

New Business:

Phone tree needs updated (copies handed out).

A discussion of changing church starting times to 9:00 a.m. for Sunday School and 10:00 a.m. for the church service was presented. The idea will be presented at the July 11, 2010 Quarterly Voters Meeting.

General Information:

The Church Council wishes to thank the fifteen members who helped on the cleanup at the Vicar's house on July 5, 2010.

Vicar Fenker will arrive in Mansfield on July 2, 2010.

Motion to adjourn by Don Warsaw (8:16 p.m.). Second by Larry Lutz. Motion passed.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Richard Hardesty, Council Secretary

Quarterly Voters Meeting

The following items were discussed at the Quarterly Voters Meeting held on Sunday, July 11, 2010 immediately following the worship service:

Chairman Lee Whitehouse called the meeting to order.

Pastor McPike gave the opening prayer.

Chairman Whitehouse asked if anyone needed to sign the constitution.

The minutes were read from the April 11, 2010 Quarterly Voters Meeting. Butch Sprau made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Second by Connie Warsaw. Motion passed.

The Treasurer Report was given with a June 30, 2010 balance of \$29,349.69. Darwin Warsaw made a motion to accept the Treasurer Report. Second by Brenda Hendricks. Motion passed.

Old Business. Chairman Whitehouse asked if pastor still needed help with the church website. Pastor replied, "Our new vicar has some experience with that and will be assisting him with that project."

Pastor also commented that the services are being recorded and CD's can be made for those who request them. The bulletin, newsletter, and sermons are available on the website.

New Business. Scott Gercken tendered his resignation, as of the end of July 2010, as Choir and Music Director for Immanuel at Osman due to taking a new job in Altamont, IL. A motion was made by Mike Hendricks to accept the resignation of Scott Gercken as Choir and Music Director for Immanuel at Osman. Second by John Lammle. Motion approved.

Chairman Whitehouse mentioned that at the Council Meeting it had been brought up for discussion about the idea of changing the Sunday School start time to 9:00 a.m. and worship service start time to 10:00 a.m. like it was years ago. He asked the voters to think about the suggested change and let the Church Council members know how you feel. We will bring it up again it at the next Voters Meeting.

Pastor said there is a contact area on the website for those who want to email the Chairman and voice your opinion.

The Third Quarterly Voters Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 10, 2010 (The first Sunday after the first Monday of the calendar month.).

Motion to adjourn by Barb Whitehouse Gercken. Second by Terri Hooker.

Adjourn with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by: Rick Hardesty, Council Secretary

LWML News

Quilting. Thank you to everyone who helped tie quilts on Wednesday, July 14, 2010 in the Fellowship Hall, especially to Debbie Martin and Linda Warsaw who did the stitching on their machines. Thirteen beautiful quilts will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. Watch the bulletin for the next day of quilting coming later this fall.

Thrivent News

Thrivent Choice Dollars! Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is donating funds to charitable institutions again. If you are a Thrivent member and own products that qualify for Choice Dollars, you might be receiving a letter in the mail in the next few weeks indicating that you have money to donate.

Our church is one of the options to donate your money to, as well as many other churches, the seminaries, and Camp Cilca. To direct your money, you need to call 1(800) 847-4838 and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted. If you have an ID number and password for the Thrivent Website, you can donate your money online. You have until March to direct your dollars.

Brat Fest! The annual McLean County Thrivent Brat Fest will be held on Sunday, August 22, 2010 from 4:00-6:30 p.m. at TriLakes Community Center in Bloomington. A freewill offering will be collected. If you are interested in helping serve the food on the 22nd, please contact Connie Warsaw or Brenda Hendricks. Each congregation in McLean County is being asked to provide volunteers. There will also be computers set up at this event to help explain the process of donating your Choice Dollars.

Vacation Bible School

VBS is here! Starting on Sunday, August 1, 2010 and continuing through Wednesday, August 4, 2010, the children age 3 through sixth grade are invited to learn how they can be bold "bee-lievers" in the Kingdom of God.

The Sunday session will begin with a cookout starting at 5:00 p.m. that all children, parents, teachers, and helpers are invited to. This will be followed by a session from 5:30-7:30 p.m.. The week will continue with sessions from 8:30-11:00 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

The children will visit "Planet Zoom" where they will be exposed to "amazing" Bible stories, skits, crafts, and some "bee-hive jiving" songs. The children will share some of their songs with the congregation on Sunday, August 8, 2010 during the worship service.

If you care to donate cookies for the "critters in the hive," please sign up on the back bulletin board.

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, August 3, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex.

Fellowship Luncheon

The Fellowship Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, August 4, 2010 at 12:00 noon at Jack's

Cafe in LeRoy, Illinois. All ladies are encouraged to attend!

Church Picnic

The "church picnic" will be held on Sunday, August 15, 2010 at the pavilion at the Bellflower Park. The worship service will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will be followed with a meal.

The meat and drinks will be provided by the Church Council. The members are asked to bring their own table service and a covered dish to share. Plan now to attend our once-a-year outdoor worship service!

Cleaning Fellowship Hall

Help "spruce up" the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, August 28, 2010. Bring your cleaning supplies at 8:00 a.m. and we will hopefully be done by noon.

Time Changes

The possibility of changing the time of our worship service has been brought to the attention of the Church Council. The proposed change is to start a half hour later which would change the Sunday school starting time to 9:00 a.m. and the church time to 10:00 a.m. (It was changed to the 8:30 and 9:30 starting times several years ago when Pastor Henry was helping at the mission in Mahomet.)

If you wish to express your opinion on this change, please see Lee Whitehouse, Chairman, or a Council member. IN THE FUTURE, the congregation will vote on it.

Visiting Shut-ins

All members of LWML, Ladies Aid, and those interested in visiting the shut-ins, please sign up on the bulletin board. (This is in addition to the visits by Pastor and Vicar.) Volunteers don't have to visit all four shut-ins in Colfax and Gibson City on the same day. You may choose the day to visit that best fits your schedules. A visit from a church member will truly brighten the long days of the shut-ins!

Bulletin/Recording of Worship Service for Shut-ins

If anyone is aware of shut ins or other people who are unable to physically make it to church every week, let Esther and/or Larry Lutz know so they are included in the "Prayer List," they will receive a copy of the bulletin, and they will be given a recording of the service if they would like.

Prayer Requests

If you have any prayer requests, please contact Pastor McPike or call and leave a message at the church. We will try to keep up with prayer requests, and don't want to leave anyone out, but we won't know about them unless you tell us! Also, hospitalizations will not automatically be included by pastor unless you give him specific permission (to satisfy federal privacy rules).

Electronic News List

An electronic news list was created to get information to Immanuel members and friends. Please send a note to OsmanNews@n9cqs.com and you will be signed up for the list. Please note, your email address will not be used for any other purpose than for this news list. If you have questions, please ask Pastor McPike.

Bulletin/Newsletter Deadlines

Bulletin Deadline. To have submissions included in Sunday's bulletin, please forward them to Karen Bryan by 12:00 noon on Thursday.

Newsletter Deadline. To have submissions included in the monthly newsletter, please forward them to Karen Bryan by 12:00 noon on the Wednesday before the last Sunday of the month.

Statistics

Date	Worship	Sunday School	Adult Class
06-27	89	11	13
07-04	56	4	18
07-11	76	1	13
07-18	69	11	10
07-25	Statistics Unavailable		

Elder-on-Duty

Rob Gallier	Apr	June	Nov
John Gercken	May	July	Oct
Dwight Hooker	Mar	Sept	Jan 2011
Shane Zimmerman	Feb	Aug	Dec

Altar Guild

AugustDebbie Martin

Lay Readers

08-01	Marsha Warsaw
08-08	Shane Zimmerman
08-15	Larry Camp
08-22	Kim Clemmons
08-29	Leonard Delaney

August Birthdays

Jerry Reifsteck	08-05
Ruth Bernett	08-06
Dorothy Welborn	08-06
Jamie Hendricks	08-07
Phyllis Hasty	08-08
Annette Warsaw	08-09
Carole Warsaw	08-09
Pam Christians	08-24
Butch Sprau	08-25
Ross Warsaw	08-26
Sarah Martin	08-28
Jill Hardesty	08-29
John Lammle	08-29
Kari Reifsteck	08-29
William Delaney	08-30

August Anniversaries

Kathy and Phil Brendel	08-02
Julia and Larry Camp	08-08
Carolyn and Doug Majercin	08-08
Cindy and Shane Zimmerman	08-08
Agnes and Carol Martinie	08-17
Tiffani and Brad Lutz	08-25
Diana and Bob Zimmerman	08-26



*Without GOD, our week would be:
Sinday, Mournday, Tearsday, Wasteday,
Thirstday, Fightday and Shatterday.
Remember seven days WITHOUT GOD makes
ONE WEAK!!*