

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OSMAN

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



*Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC,
Vicar Aaron Fenker*

May 2011



May you always be overwhelmed by the
Grace of God rather than by the cares of
life.

Church Council Minutes

The following items were discussed at the Church Council Meeting held on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. Pastor McPike opened the meeting with a bible verse from John, Chapter 9 and prayer. The meeting was held one week earlier due to the date of the Quarterly Voter's Meeting being before the next Church Council Meeting.

Members in attendance: Lee Whitehouse, Mike Hendricks, Aaron Warsaw, Shane Zimmerman, Kim Clemmons, Jill Hardesty, Larry Lutz, Vicar Aaron Fenker, and Pastor Jeff McPike.

Secretary Jill Hardesty read the minutes from the March Council Meeting. A motion was made by Mike Hendricks to accept the minutes as read. Second by Kim Clemmons. Motion carried.

Treasurer Mike Hendricks gave the Treasurer's Report with a balance of \$59,693.53 as of March 31, 2011. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Shane Zimmerman. Second by Aaron Warsaw. Motion carried.

Treasurer Mike Hendricks discussed the following topics:

- Mike Hendricks made a motion to make a donation of \$450.00 a quarterly contribution to be made to the Lutheran World Relief and Human Care, to be used for the Japan response effort. Second by Kim Clemmons. Motion carried.
- Mike Hendricks also has been checking into the cost of an accountant or an accounting firm to handle the payroll for the church with the costs being from \$80 to \$100 per month. More discussions will be held and brought to the congregation for decisions in the near future. This would possibly begin in January 2012.
- He also mentioned he has checked into a direct deposit system for donations to the church

and/or weekly giving options with Thrivent. They offer a free service to Lutheran congregations. Mike will be talking to them in the very near future to possibly begin the program in July 2011.

- Also stated, he has secured a credit card for Pastoral use from the First-Mid Bank in Mansfield with a \$12,000 credit limit.
- Mike has an appointment with the Church Extension Fund to possibly move funds there for a higher rate of return on the money. This fund helps to fund church's expansions, etc., throughout the nation. The funds would not be guaranteed by the FDIC, like a bank. More will be discussed at the Quarterly Voter's Meeting in April.
- The Thrivent group at Osman would like to donate \$150.00 to the McLean County Habitat for Humanity. The funds now come directly to the church, so that group needs to come to the Council for the money to be approved and distributed. A motion to okay and move the funds to the McLean County Habitat for Humanity was made by Shane Zimmerman. Second by Jill Hardesty. Motion carried. Mike Hendricks will advise the Thrivent group of the decision.
- The offering plates and communion chalice has been received back from being replated. Thank you to Larry Lutz for coordinating this effort and for saving the church 25% of the cost, from Spritz Jewelers in Champaign.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor McPike indicated that there is a shortage of calls from the Fort Wayne Seminary. The Placement Service in Fort Wayne is May 2, 2011 and May 3, 2011. Our former Vicar, Steve Mazzaferro, will graduate from the Seminary and be placed during this service and our congregation will find out if we get another vicar for next year.

“Divine Drama Adult Sunday School” is going well. Thank you to Don Warsaw for being Pastor’s worker bee in the setup and takedown of the audiovisual equipment.

Confirmation questioning of Courtney Delaney will be held on Sunday, April 10, 2011 with one topic being Baptism. She will then be confirmed on Sunday, April 17, 2011 with her first communion on Maundy Thursday during Holy Week.

Pastor asked if Sara McPike, his daughter, would be allowed to play a guitar on Good Friday during the evening service. He wanted no favoritism to any of his family shown, but the Council overwhelmingly accepted his offer to her talents to our congregation.

Vicar’s Report:

Vicar Aaron reported that he attended the Pastor’s Conference held in Bloomington on March 21, 2011 and March 22, 2011.

Vicar has been visiting shut-ins with home and nursing home visits.

The choir will be singing on Easter morning.

He also attended the LWML District Meeting in Peoria on Saturday, April 2, 2011 with the LWML group from Osman.

Elder’s Report:

Shane Zimmerman needs to speak to a Trustee about purchasing a “programmable thermostat” for the church. This will make the Elder’s job easier to have the thermostat set for a specific time to turn on the heat and/or air conditioning and at a specific temperature. He’ll report on this next month at the meeting.

Sunday School Superintendent’s Report:

Kim Clemmons reported that on Palm Sunday the children would be singing and laying down palms as they walk into the church. The Sunday School classes will continue to hold one class in the Hall and will also be doing that for the summer months as well, due to the smaller attendance.

Trustee’s Report:

In the Trustee’s Report, a meeting was held after church on April 2, 2011. Darwin Warsaw said he would not be at the next Council Meeting and wanted to point out that the florescent lights along the sides of the church have been flickering. The Trustees have gotten prices for bulbs only (\$36.00 for 2 = \$720.00) and then total new fixtures that include the ballast. Those lighting assemblies were installed in the church in 1952 ... 59 years ago. With new lighting regulations coming in 2012, we will not be able to purchase bulbs for the fixtures after that time. A suggestion was to completely replace the fixtures for \$55.00 each. A total of twenty fixtures will need to be replaced with the newer lights. This would make the total cost of replacement \$750.00. Mike Hendricks made a motion

to bring this cost before the congregation at the next Quarterly Voter’s Meeting. Second by Aaron Warsaw. Motion carried.

Chairman Lee Whitehouse and Don Warsaw have spoken to Nick Drinkwater about the tiling project that is waiting to be done for the Fellowship Hall. They felt that Nick’s business could be another option to get that job finished. They will obtain a bid from Nick and report to the congregation for, hopefully, summer work to be completed.

Old Business Report:

An option was brought to the Council for outside neighboring communities to be offered our Fellowship Hall for visitations and funerals from Elvin Belangee, Calvert-Belangee Funeral Home in Bellflower. The church would not be available unless prior planning with Pastor McPike and Council members approved. Possible zoning issues and insurance issues were discussed but it was felt that there would not be a conflict. The front door in the Fellowship Hall would need to be widened to accommodate caskets arriving into the Hall and going out of the Hall. Other details will be decided at a later date.

Chairman Lee Whitehouse announced that we had received two letters to reserve the Fellowship Hall and church. One letter is for April 17, 2011 from the Leonard Delaney family for the use of the Hall for Courtney’s Confirmation and Graduation party after church from 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. The other letter was from the Debbie Martin family, asking for the use of the church and Fellowship Hall for her son, Bryce Martin’s wedding. The dates are May 17, 2012 for the wedding rehearsal and May 18, 2012 for the wedding. Dates were approved by the Church Council.

Folding of palms into crosses for Palm Sunday will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the Annex.

The Quarterly Voter’s Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 10, 2011. The Confirmand Reception for Courtney Delaney will be held directly after the church service that day. Approximately 20-30 minutes later, the Quarterly Voter’s Meeting will begin back in the church.

Discussed in the Quarterly Voter’s Meeting will be the slight changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the church which takes two votes to make the changes as requested and the Extension Funds.

Jill Hardesty read a thank you letter from the LCMS World Relief and Human Care for our first quarter donation to their cause from President Matthew Harrison.

New Business Report:

Larry Lutz commented that the Rantoul Press charges \$5.00/week for a small ad to be placed in the church section of the Rantoul paper. He will also get

with the Gibson City Courier to inquire about some advertising in that area for a small fee. He'll respond to the Council with prices at a later date.

The next Church Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Shane Zimmerman. Second by Aaron Warsaw. Motion carried with adjournment at 8:30 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted, Jill Hardesty, Council Secretary

Quarterly Voter's Meeting

The April Quarterly Voter's Meeting held on Sunday, April 10, 2011, was called to order by Chairman Lee Whitehouse with Pastor McPike opening the meeting with a bible verse from Ezekiel 47 and prayer. There were 40 voting members present.

Chairman Whitehouse asked if anyone needed to sign the church Constitution. Mrs. Kim Schuh came forward as a new member and signed the constitution.

Secretary Jill Hardesty read the minutes from the January Voter's Meeting. No additions or corrections were noted. John Gercken made a motion to approve the January minutes. Second by Jeff Warsaw. Motion carried.

Treasurer Mike Hendricks gave an overview of the quarterly Treasurer's Report to the congregation with a balance, as of March 31, 2011 of \$59,693.53. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Don Warsaw. Second by Darwin Warsaw. Motion carried.

The Pastor's Report was given by Pastor McPike. The Placement Service for the new Vicars and Pastors coming out of either of the seminary classes, St. Louis or Fort Wayne, will be held the first week of May 2011. This is when we will be notified if we get another vicar for the 2011-2012 year.

- Pastor thanked the Altar Guild for their hard work during the past quarter with all the new paraments changes. New banner and paraments for Easter is on order and should be received to use them this Easter.
- The Altar Guild will also be putting Germaniums in the front of the church for Pentecost, which is the second Sunday of June (June 12, 2011). They will be asking for donations to purchase them from the congregation.
- The offering plates have been replated and returned to the church for our use.

In Old Business, Chairman Whitehouse mentioned that the tiling project for the Fellowship Hall has been resurrected and could happen in 2011. Don Warsaw and Chairman Whitehouse are working on a bid with a local contractor to get the project completed.

- Chairman Whitehouse then asked Pastor McPike to speak about the Constitution and Bylaws proposed rule changes for a unified ballot to get one candidate for each church office for the slate of officers. This can also include names at a later time, before the vote, to keep us in compliance with our own constitution. Darwin Warsaw made a motion to approve the amended changes to the Bylaws and Constitution. Second by Larry Lutz. Motion carried. This must be voted on at two successive voter's meetings with the same outcome. This will be brought up again at the July Quarterly Voter's Meeting.
- Treasurer Mike Hendricks stated that the proposed movements of payroll from the church Treasurer options are viable; however, he would like to begin the process at a new year, perhaps beginning in January 2012. This would cost the church from \$1,000 to \$1,200 per year. The decision will be tabled for now, for a later time.
- Also, Treasurer Mike Hendricks has checked into the movement of surplus church funds to the St. Louis Church Extension Fund. The funds have 2.65% interest right now, which is higher than at a bank. However, they are not insured by the FDIC, as money in a bank would be. The funds would be available anytime we would need them. The Church Extension Fund uses the monies for funding of building churches and scholarships, among other things. The Herman Meyer CD we have is located at the Extension fund. The fund opened in 1902.
- Trustee Darwin Warsaw reported that the floor has been repaired in the Annex of the church.
- He also reported that a few of the lighting fixtures on the sides of the church are burnt out and needing replaced. A bid was submitted for each fixture, twenty in total; cost would be about \$775.00 total. The lights are obsolete (installed in 1952) and after 2012, light bulbs for the fixtures would not be able to be purchased any longer due to changes in federal regulations. Treasurer Mike Hendricks noted that there is money in the budget for this lighting expense. A motion was made by Don Warsaw, for the Trustees to proceed and correct the lighting issues, as noted. Second by Rick Hardesty. Motion carried.
- Trustee Darwin Warsaw also discussed the water problem in the Annex. The outside brick has mortar problems that would mean needing to extend the roof overhang from the current

location. Don Warsaw, Darwin Warsaw, and Dick Johnson have looked and discussed the project and have estimated the cost to be about \$1,000 for the materials.

- Discussion was held by John Gercken as to why rain gutters are not on the church overhang. After discussion the reasoning is that the way the roof was built, it would change the look of the current roof structure and gutters were not in the design of the original church. The feeling was that it would be very costly to modify the current overhang to install guttering. A motion was made by Gerald (Butch) Sprau to repair the overhang on the Annex side of the church. Second by Steve Warsaw. Motion carried.
- Chairman Whitehouse spoke about adding wider doors to the North side of the Fellowship Hall. This item has two separate issues. One, due to the heavy traffic of the last benefit that was held in the Hall, the traffic area was discussed as being a possible solution to that area. Also, another issue has risen for the church congregation to consider. Elvin Belangee, Funeral Director for Calvert-Belangee Funeral Homes, has approached the Council that since the Bellflower Funeral Home was demolished, he would like to have another option for his families in the area of a place to have a visitation of their loved ones. He felt the Osman Fellowship Hall would be a good option for him to offer as a place in the community. Right now, the North door on the Fellowship Hall is 34" and it was felt that a 70" door would be adequate for a casket to be passed through and to alleviate a crowd during a gathering. The caskets are 32" now. The bodies would not be left overnight in the Fellowship Hall; they will be taken back to the Farmer City funeral home. Discussion of church doors and the feasibility of offering the Fellowship Hall, being a neighborly option, along with good stewardship to the community. The congregation was asked to supply any input to Church Council members on their views. At the next Quarterly Voter's Meeting in July, more guidelines and prices of doors will be given for the congregation to vote on.
- John Gercken would like to see a sign for the Northeast rock parking lot of the church property, when additional parking is needed. The sign could possibly say, "Additional Church Parking." Discussion followed and is being taken under advisement by the Council.

- Treasurer Mike Hendricks noted that the quarterly charitable donations, voted on by the Church Council, will be totaling \$450.00 and will be sent to the Lutheran World Relief and Human Care for the Japanese Earthquake efforts.

The next Quarterly Voter's Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 10, 2011.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Barb Whitehouse-Gercken. Second by Jeff Warsaw. Motion carried with adjournment at 11:55 a.m. with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted, Jill Hardesty

Congratulations to Newest Member!

Congratulations to the newest confirmed member of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman: Courtney Delaney!

Congratulations Graduates!

Michael Brooks, son of Shane and Cindy Zimmerman, will graduate from Blue Ridge High School. He plans to attend Parkland College.

Daniel Schuh, son of Dr. and Mrs. Bill Schuh, will graduate from Mahomet High School. He plans to attend the University of Illinois.

Courtney Delaney will graduate from Fisher Junior High School.

May God bless your future endeavors!

Special Voter's Meeting

A Special Voter's Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 1, 2011 immediately following the worship service for the purpose of deciding what direction the congregation will take in the future. Options are calling a pastor or continuing the vacancy.

Please continue to keep Pastor McPike and Immanuel in your prayers as this process continues.

Gifts from the Heart Arch Book Special

LWML members can purchase Arch books for just \$2.00 each. These items are part of the "ingathering items" needed for the National LWML Convention this June. For every book purchased online at Debbie.bochenek@cph.org, Concordia will donate an additional Arch book. This special offer is only valid until June 1, 2011. For more information, see the flyer on the back bulletin board in the church.

Ladies Aid Meeting

The Ladies Aid will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 in the Fellowship Hall. Agnes Martinie is the hostess and will give the devotion. Joanne Nelson will give the topic. All ladies are welcome to attend!

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex.

Fellowship Club

Everyone is invited to attend the Fellowship Club to be held on Saturday, June 4, 2011 for our first Osman Quilt Show.

During this event adults are encouraged to bring their favorite quilts which will be displayed in the church. Everyone will have the opportunity to vote on their three favorite quilts with small prizes awarded.

A movie will be available for children to watch in the Hall. Snacks and drinks will be served. Birthdays in April, May, and June will be recognized.

Mark your calendars, bring a guest, and make plans to enjoy this evening of fun!

Thrivent News

The Soup Supper Benefit that was held in March for Andy Heckman is finalized. The total collected was \$8,665.00; Thrivent matched that with \$2,000.00 which makes the grand total \$10,665.00. Andy and his family will be using the money to help with ongoing medical expenses and possibly a heart and kidney transplant in the future. Thanks to everyone who demonstrated how we should love one another in our surrounding communities.

Funding for Habitat for Humanity. McLean County Thrivent Financial is partnering with Bloomington Extreme Football to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity. Make plans now to join us for the final game of the season on Friday, June 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the US Cellular Coliseum in Bloomington. Tickets are \$15.00 each and include game admission, food voucher (hot dog, drink, and popcorn), and a \$3.00 donation to Habitat for Humanity which will benefit the local Thrivent Builds House in Bloomington. You may obtain tickets from the Bloomington Thrivent Office at 2101 Eastland Drive or from Connie Warsaw or Brenda Hendricks.

Discounted Ticket Price to Six Flags. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans invites you, your family, and your friends to participate in a special discounted ticket offer to Six Flags in St. Louis for only \$24.99. Enjoy over 100 rides, shows, and attractions including Hurricane Harbor Water Park. Purchase tickets only from May 1 to June 30 and use tickets any time from June 1 to August 31. Tickets can only be purchased online at www.sixflags.com using the promotional code "Thrive." Price does not include tax, parking, or handling fees. Children two and under are free.

Thank you to our Thrivent members who helped with the Confirmation reception for Courtney Delaney

and the Easter Egg Hunt for our youngsters during the month of April. Both events were financed with Thrivent funds.

Thrivent Choice Dollars continue to be deposited in our treasury. This is an opportunity which allows our Thrivent members to direct charitable dollars to thousands of Lutheran nonprofit organizations and congregations enrolled in the program. This month our congregation has received "Choice Dollars" from John Gercken, Greg McCleary, Butch and Shirley Sprau, Gene Welborn, Connie and Donnie Warsaw, Brenda Hendricks, and Marge Morrissey. We thank these members for their gifts.

LWML News

Thank You. A special thanks to all those who donated items for the military care packages sent to Jeff Walker, Cody Sloat, and Toby Johnson. We appreciate the **great response** of the members at Immanuel and the giving spirit that is always present whenever there is a special need! Thanks again!

Tying Quilts. Anyone interested in tying quilts are invited to join the LWML on Wednesday, June 1, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a sack lunch and stay for the Ladies Aid Meeting at 1:30 p.m. that same day.

Date Change. The next LWML Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The topic leader is Marsha Warsaw; Terri Hooker and Brenda Hendricks will be hostesses.

Pentecost is one of the prominent feasts in the Christian liturgical year commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples of Christ after the Resurrection. Pentecost is celebrated fifty days after Easter Sunday and falls on the tenth day after Ascension Thursday.

In order to celebrate this special church festival, we will be displaying red geraniums on the altar. Anyone wanting to donate a red geranium for Pentecost, please watch the upcoming bulletins for the cost of the flowers and dates to sign up.

Biennial LWML Convention. There are eight members of Immanuel that will be traveling to Peoria in June for the 34th Biennial LWML Convention. Marsha Warsaw, Connie Warsaw, Debbie Lammle, Terri Hooker, Brenda Hendricks, Wilma Grussing, Barb Gaines, and Julia Camp are anticipating a unique and spiritual experience while celebrating "Being with Jesus-Living on the Edge."

But don't feel you have to register for this event in order to commune with thousands of other Christians in the faith. On Thursday, June 23, 2011 at 6:45 p.m., the communion worship service is open to anyone without prior registration. It is free of charge to the public and everyone is invited.

Church Website

You can view the Church Website at <http://OsmanLutheran.org>. Weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters are listed as well as other information about our church.

Email Addresses for Pastor/Vicar

The email addresses for Pastor McPike and Vicar Fenker are: pastor@osmanlutheran.org and vicar@osmanlutheran.org.

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
03-27	82	14	11
04-03	68	9	13
04-10	77	12	15
04-17	93	11	14
04-24	108	No Sunday School	---

Lent Worship Services

Date	Worship	Lent Service	Donations
03-09	70	Ash Wednesday	\$728.00
03-16	49		\$374.70
03-23	51		\$320.40
03-30	37		\$202.00
04-06	40		\$335.00
04-13	42		\$373.00
04-21	64	Maundy Thursday	\$672.50
04-22	43	Good Friday	\$660.00

Elder-on-Duty

Rob Gallier	Mar	Aug	Dec
Butch Sprau	Apr	July	Oct
Aaron Warsaw	May	Sept	Jan 2012
Shane Zimmerman	Feb	June	Nov

Altar Guild

MayKathy Brendel and Debbie Martin

Lay Readers

05-01Vicar Aaron Fenker
05-08Larry Camp
05-15Vicar Aaron Fenker
05-22Kim Clemmons
05-29Marvin Clemmons

May Mowing List

05-07John Gercken and Ken Whitehouse
05-14Steve Martin
05-21Jerry and Bryan Edwards
05-28Myron and Eric Zimmerman

May Birthdays

Doug Majercin05-01
Cheyenne Zimmerman05-04

Martha Warsaw	05-08
Elizabeth Barrack	05-10
Wade Warsaw	05-12
Alvin Hinrichs	05-15
Moneta McCleary	05-19
Mike Warsaw	05-19
Steve Brandt	05-20
Barb Gercken	05-21
Jesse Johnson	05-21
Darwin Warsaw	05-22
Benjamin Brandt	05-28
Jeff Bryan	05-29
Brooke Clemmons	05-29
Loretta Brandt	05-30

May Anniversaries

Susan and Steve Martin	05-09
Karen and David Brown	05-22
Becki and Brant Hendricks	05-26
Amanda and Chuck Amdor	05-30

Courage is contagious. When a brave man takes a stand, the spines of others are often stiffened."

Billy Graham



Family



Light a Candle

Light a candle for those we mourn.

Into a new life they will be born.

Do not look for them at the gravesite.

They are somewhere else radiating their beautiful light.

They have gone to a new world where there is no darkness, no pain.

Their light and essence will always remain.

Light a candle for those who have left this mortal place.

They are free to travel through time and space.

When we think of them, they are near.

When we sit in a beautiful garden. Their voices we hear.

When we listen to a divine symphony,

We close our eyes, their faces we see.

Light a candle for they have not really gone.

With each flickering flame, in your hearts they will always belong.

Mother's Day Sunday, May 8, 2011



Memorial Day Monday, May 30, 2011



"Bravery is the capacity to perform properly even when scared half to death."

Omar Bradley