

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OSMAN

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC,

Vicar Aaron Fenker

July 2011



There is nothing wrong with America that the faith, love of freedom, intelligence, and energy of her citizens cannot cure. Dwight D. Eisenhower

Election, Constitution, Voters, and Other Stuff ...

By Pastor McPike

In April, the Immanuel Voters' Assembly voted on two important documents. The first document was the Constitution. According to that document, making changes to it require a two-thirds majority of members present at the meeting. The changes were presented and accepted at the April meeting of the Voters' Assembly. The actual vote will be taken in July, where a two-thirds majority is required to change each document.

The proposed constitution and by-laws presented to the April meeting can be found at <http://www.OsmanLutheran.org/council> by clicking on the link for "Proposed Constitution and By-Laws."

Most of the changes to both documents are "housekeeping" changes, updating language, and removing references to outdated extra-synodical alliances. The greatest change is to the process of nominations for office. The proposed changes center around the concept of "unified ballot." The basic idea behind this is simple: Present a slate of officers with one person for each vacancy. According to Rev. Don Abdon, who suggested the idea in parish leadership seminars some years back, this affords the Nominating Committee the opportunity to put together a slate of people who can best work together. This makes a good deal of sense. The United States recognized this back in its earliest days when electing a president and vice president. In the earliest US elections, the president was chosen as the candidate with the most votes, and the runner-up to that candidate became the vice president. Thus, our country was led by our second president, John Adams, and his vice president was the candidate who had the second-highest number of votes, Thomas Jefferson. The trouble with that arrangement was that Mr. Jefferson's political views/philosophy were quite opposite those of Mr. Adams.

It is possible to understand this approach as allowing one particular philosophy or "popular group" to "run the show" - by loading the slate of officers with a group that will simply "take over." Of course, when dealing with groups of sinners, anything is possible! However, the "checks and balances" in this system are that there are several opportunities for alternate candidates to be placed on the ballot. The publication of this slate of officers well in advance of the Annual Voters' Meeting where the election will be held gives opportunity for discussion and even suggestion to the Church Council for alternatives before the actual election. In other words, nominations can also be presented to a Council member for consideration by the Council to be placed on the slate of officers prior to the Voters' Meeting.

Since we are looking at finalizing a slate of officers by the end of November instead of waiting just prior to the annual meeting in January, it is important to start thinking about future leadership of the congregation now. It is already July. By November, the list will need to be compiled and the slate finalized by the Nominating Committee and Church Council so that it can be published in the December Newsletter.

How is God calling you to serve His church?

What Do You Believe?

By Vicar Aaron Fenker

In the name of Jesus. Amen. Has anyone ever asked you, "What do you believe?" If that's happened to you, how did you respond? If it hasn't, and someone were to ask you, how would you respond? St. Peter commends us to "always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15). Not only that, but Jesus says, "Whoever confesses to Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. Whoever denies me before me, I will deny him before my Father who is in heaven" (St. Matthew 10:32-33).

So, how would you respond? I'm sure one of the first things that pops into your head would be to say, "I believe in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior." This confesses a lot to your neighbor who has asked you, but is there more that can be said? What does this mean to your hearer; how will it be heard or understood? Is this all we believe? This is why we have the creed!

The word creed comes from the Latin credo which means "I believe," and a creed is simply a confession of what one believes. Creeds are scattered throughout the pages of Holy Scripture. There's the Shema from Deuteronomy 6:4, "Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God is one LORD!" (Shema means "Hear!") Peter has his great confession, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (St. Matthew 16:16). Nathanael has his, "You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" (St. John 1:4). Even Thomas has his, "My Lord and my God!" (St. John 20:28). Paul even has one! "I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve" (1 Corinthians 15:3-5). The church in her wisdom has continued to formulate creeds so that she may continue to confess before men that which our Lord has declared and done "according to the Scriptures."

How many of us have ever thought of the Creeds this way? We say them every single Sunday. The Church has three, maybe four Creeds: the Apostle's, the Nicene, the Athanasian, and Luther even considered the Te Deum from Matins to be a creed. Most likely we just say them on Sunday morning and just forget them. "They're just something we say on Sunday's during the service because that's what we do. It's what we've always done." But Luther commended the Apostle's Creed to be used within one's own home. The "head of the household" should teach it to his household (LSB 322). This Creed along with the Lord's Prayer is to be prayed both when you get up in the morning and when you go to bed in the evening (LSB 327). We are called not only to confess Jesus Christ, but also our Triune God who has redeemed us, redeemed us by sending (Father), by being sent (Son), and by proceeding and gathering (Holy Spirit).

Why one of the Creeds? There are many in this world who say they believe what we do, but only on the surface. There are those who claim to be Christian, but deny the Trinity; and there are those who are not Christian who claim the Scriptures but deny Jesus as God and the Trinity. And these people may say that they agree with the confession of "Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior," but when they come face to face with the Scriptural Confessions of either the

Apostle's, Nicene, and even the Athanasian, they would balk and bristle. We must always be clear in our confession, and our words may falter and be lacking. So why not use words that are right and prepared beforehand? If we don't know what to pray, pray the Lord's Prayer. In the same way, if we don't know what to confess, confess a creed.

We truly believe that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior. He saved us by His precious death and burial. We are justified by His glorious resurrection. But we also believe that He is "Light of Light. Very God of very God." More than that, we also believe in such things as the "Resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." The creeds make sure we don't leave anything out. The Creeds remind even us of what we believe. Yet, "for freedom Christ has set us free" (Galatians 5:1), and when someone asks you what you believe, you are free to say, "I believe in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior," but why not take one of the Creeds out for a spin? We put them through their paces on Sunday, test drive them daily, and can take them out for a spin when asked. Or do we only believe these things on Sunday morning? No, we believe these things every day! Jesus saves us even from our lack of confession. He forgives us for "if we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself" (2 Timothy 2:13). But more than that, what we believe is true. And we believe in "the forgiveness of sins" and even "one Baptism for the remission of sins." In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Church Council Minutes

The following items were discussed at the Church Council Meeting held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. Pastor McPike opened the meeting with a reading and prayer from Acts 2.

Members in attendance: Lee Whitehouse, Larry Lutz, Aaron Warsaw, Darwin Warsaw, Mike Hendricks, Shane Zimmerman, Annette Warsaw, Vicar Aaron Fenker, and Pastor Jeff McPike.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Shane Zimmerman. Second by Annette Warsaw. Motion carried with small noted changes.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Mike Hendricks gave the Treasurer's Report with a balance of \$62,136.25 as of May 31, 2011. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Darwin Warsaw. Second by Annette Warsaw. Motion carried.

Treasurer Hendricks also discussed the following:

- We will receive a \$25.00 credit for our electric bill. (Represented at the Eastern Illini Electrical Coop Annual Meeting.)

- The Illini FS bill is good for 2010-2011. We are working on a credit of \$387.00 on 2009-2010.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor reminded the Council about the vote on the constitution at the July 10, 2011 Quarterly Voters Meeting.

Pastor reminded the Council to start the officer's slate.

He also stated that Vicar's evaluation is ongoing.

Pastor Bell has not responded to our offer at this time to help Pastor McPike.

Pastor Schmidt will help on the last Sunday in July.

Pastor Ahler's health is improving.

Pastor Jansen passed away this week.

Vicar Fenker will be at UNI – Lutheran on June 19, 2011.

Pastor McPike will be at UNI – Lutheran on June 26, 2011.

Communion was moved last week because of Pentecost.

A discussion of increasing of taking communion was discussed.

Elder's Report:

Shane Zimmerman asked about the temperature setting for buildings. Discussion followed.

Sunday School Superintendent's Report:

Assistant Sunday School Superintendent Annette Warsaw reported on planning of VBS. Vicar will help in many ways. We are hoping to have 13-16 youth attend. Annette is looking into a release form for the students.

Darwin Warsaw moved that we pay the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Broadlands \$75.00 for the part of the program that we borrowed. The motion was seconded by Aaron Warsaw. Motion passed.

Trustee's Report:

Darwin Warsaw reported that he repaired some brick and concrete work.

The decks are being waterproofed at this time.

A discussion on widening the North door to the Fellowship Hall continued. A committee will be formed at the next Quarterly Voter's Meeting.

Old Business:

We will give Jeri Bidner her plaque and award for being named the "CID Outstanding Volunteer Sunday School Teacher."

We will have a potluck for Vicar Fenker on July 10, 2011. The Council will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, and drinks. Members are asked to bring dishes to pass. Lee Whitehouse will help with drinks and Larry Lutz will purchase the supplies.

New Business:

Scott, Rebecca, Julianna Gercken asked for a peaceful transfer to St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Blue

Point at Altamont. The transfer was granted with deep regret. Many thanks were given to the Gercken's for their efforts in our congregation.

Susan Martin requested the use of the Fellowship Hall on June 19, 2011 for Jeri's birthday. (In case of bad weather.)

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Darwin Warsaw. Second by Annette Warsaw. Motion carried with adjournment at 8:24 p.m. The meeting ended with a prayer read by Pastor McPike and the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Hendricks.

Fellowship Club

Pastor McPike, Vicar Fenker, ten members of Immanuel Osman, six children, and three guests attended the last Fellowship Club on June 4, 2011 in the church sanctuary. Thirty-two beautiful quilts were displayed during Immanuel Osman's first Quilt Show. Some of the unique quilts included one made by Marge Morrissey using her husband's ties; a crazy quilt made with embroidered names of members belonging to the Osman Methodist Church; and a schoolhouse quilt pieced together for Debbie Lammle by her grandmother, Verna Adams, and quilted by the members of Immanuel Osman.

Other amazing quilts included one made by Susan Martin's grandmother, Elizabeth Zimmerman; one by John Lammle's grandmother, Pauline Lutz Lammle; one by Wilma Grussing's grandmother, Molly Allen; and one by Wilma's mother, Emma Pritchard.

Other colorful quilts included a double wedding ring quilt belonging to Vivian and Lyle Sprau; a log cabin quilt pieced by Lois Christie; a cross-stitch quilt made by Marge Morrissey; a Drunkard's Path quilt made by Susan Martin; and a crazy quilt made by Marge Morrissey's great-grandmother.

The popular vote went to a quilt owned by Steve and Marsha Warsaw called the Mariner's Star, purchased at the Habitat for Humanity's quilt auction.

As the children watched a movie in the Annex, the adults learned the history of each quilt as they were held in front of the group. Everyone then moved to the Fellowship Hall where prizes were given out and Mike Hendricks, Susan Martin, Debbie Lammle, Courtney Delaney, and Jack Gallier were recognized as having birthdays in April, May, and June.

Refreshments of homemade ice cream, cake balls, cookies, and different varieties of popcorn from Shipshawana were served by the Lammle's and Gallier's.

A great time was had by all!



LWML News

The Generous Spirit of Immanuel Osman. Thanks again to the members at Immanuel Osman for their willingness to help those in need. In the last few months we have collected for boys serving in the military as well as two different drives for the National LWML "Ingathering." We sent boxes to Cody Slote, Geoff Walker, and Toby Johnson with approximately thirty items each from ten different members of the congregation. We assisted in helping the CID in meeting the goal of the National Activities Chairman by donating items or money so 300 each of fifteen different items could be given to needy children.

With care and compassion, the "Gifts from the Heart" collection was taken to the National Convention in Peoria this week by the members of our local LWML. Agencies in Peoria, as well as the Orphan Grain Train have been chosen to receive these gifts which include eleven bath towel kits, seven men's kits, and one woman's kit donated from our church. Each kit includes a bible verse which helps witness our Savior's love for those needing spiritual comfort and support.

All these examples of our concern for others does not go unnoticed. We appreciate the generous outpouring of love here, "For whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

Highlights from the LWML Meeting, June 16, 2011. The meeting of our LWML was called to order by President Debbie Lammle. The LWML Pledge was recited, followed by the singing of the LWML song accompanied by Shirley Sprau. Barb Whitehouse-Gercken gave devotions followed with the topic by Marsha Warsaw. Roll call and minutes were given by Barb Gaines and the Treasurer's Report by Diana Zimmerman. The group has a balance of \$644.10. Dues are increased to \$10.00 per member.

Mites were collected, followed by devotion and suggestions on helping bring awareness to mite giving to help reach our 2011-2013 mite goal.

Correspondence was read by our seminary student, Daniel Schuh, Janice Wendorf, President of LWML, and Shelly Moeller, District President. Cards were sent to several members of the congregation.

Thanks were given to:

- those saving Portals of Prayer and stamps;
- those helping with the Soup Supper before the Ash Wednesday worship service (\$416.00 was cleared after expenses);
- those giving to the Military Care Packages;
- those making Kleenex covers and donating Kleenex for the National LWML Convention;
- those attending the CID Convention and Spring Gathering;

- those giving notebooks, highlighters, toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, travel games, erasers, journals, coloring books, crayons, puzzle books, and chap stick for the National Ingathering; and
- those who helped quilt on June 1, 2011.

A handout was passed around showing all the donations from churches in the CID who contributed to the 2010 LWR Ingathering. A map was also posted on the bulletin board where all the quilts, school kits, health kits, sewing kits, layettes, and soap were distributed throughout the world.

New Business included passing around the new LWR Quilt and Kit Ministry Guide for 2011. The Home Ec teacher informed Brenda Hendricks that her class would be willing to make quilt tops for our LWML organization next year.

July 23, 2011 was decided as the best day to clean the church. All capable women are invited to assist in this yearly event.

The LWML and Ladies Aid will be sponsoring a bake sale during the July Fourth Celebration at Bellflower again this year. Please bring your baked items to the Bellflower Fire Station by 7:30 a.m. or take to Shirley Sprau's the evening before.

The group voted and agreed to take food to members of the congregation who have recently been hospitalized. The LWML members will be divided in groups of three and rotate taking food to those returning home from a stay in the hospital.

Thanks were given to Terri Hooker and Brenda Hendricks for the delicious refreshments.

The next LWML Meeting will be held on September 8, 2011 with Connie Warsaw giving the topic and Karen Bryan and Wilma Grussing providing refreshments.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer and the common table prayer. Those attending the National Convention were asked to stay for a brief meeting after refreshments were served.

July Dates to Remember:

LWML and Ladies Aid Bake Sale, July 4, 2011, 7:30 a.m., Bellflower and

Cleaning the church, July 23, 2011, 8:00 a.m.

HELP SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS. BRING A FRIEND TO SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH!!

CID Volunteer Teacher of the Year Award

Jeri Bidner from Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman was honored after the regular worship service on Sunday, June 19, 2011 with the presentation of the CID Volunteer Teacher of the Year Award. Mr. Glenn Goeres, a representative from the Central Illinois District, was present on Sunday, May 15, 2011 to

present this award, but Jeri was ill, so Pastor McPike presented it the second time.

The Central Illinois District is composed of approximately 155 congregations and missions and each is asked to nominate a candidate. Jeri is completing her 63rd year of service as a Sunday School teacher in our congregation. She celebrated her 90th birthday on the same weekend that she received this award.

Congratulate Jeri as she continues to be blessed with a bountiful life and continues to donate so much time and effort to the education of our little children!



Sun Rock – Kids Camp Vacation Bible School

Get ready to experience an outdoor adventure camp! VBS will kick off with a cookout on Sunday, June 26, 2011 at 5:00 with our evening session beginning at 5:45 and continuing to 7:30. The sessions will continue on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.

The children will learn about the disciple, Peter, and will learn what it means to be chosen by Jesus, protected by Jesus, saved by Jesus, forgiven by Jesus, and the power of living in Jesus. The campers will enjoy crafts, outdoor games, snacks, skits, and songs, as they experience how their lives can be transformed by God's great love.

They will share their experiences with the congregation on Sunday, July 10, 2011 during the regular worship service.

Ladies Aid/LWML July 4th Bake Sale

Ladies will prepare baked goodies to sell at the Bellflower Fourth of July celebration. Please have your goods at the Fire Station by 7:30 on Monday morning or take to Shirley Sprau's the night before.

Below is the "Schedule of Events" to be held at the Fourth of July celebration:

9:00 a.m. - Bake sale at the Fire Station.

- The Depot Museum will be open until 11:00.

9:00-11:00 - Library Open House.

10:00 a.m. - Parade begins.

11:00-1:00 - Lunch benefitting the Fire Department at ball field. Brats, hot dogs, and hamburgers.

11:30 a.m. - Begin selling raffle tickets at the ball diamond for the American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary (quilt).

12:00-1:00 - Register for the horseshoe/bags tournament at the ball field.

1:00 p.m. - Kid's games.

2:00 p.m. - Banana Bingo at the ball field pavilion.

5:00 p.m. - Dinner given by the Lion's Den Cafe.

6:30 p.m. - Announce winners of raffles.

7:00 p.m. - Music by the Bellflower Country Opry.

Dusk - Fireworks! Don't forget the free ice cream afterwards!!

Ladies Aid Meeting

The Ladies Aid will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 6, 2011 in the Fellowship Hall. Shirley Sprau will give the devotion. Brenda Hendricks is the hostess and will give the topic. All ladies are welcome to attend!

Farewell to Vicar Fenker!

Vicar Aaron Fenker moved to the small village of Mansfield on July 10, 2010. His feet barely hit the Illinois soil, when he immediately became involved as the vicar of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman.

Within two weeks of his arrival, he "soloed" as our worship leader as Pastor McPike was scheduled for a vacation. He then revealed his musical talent to us as he filled in as our organist for a few Sundays. In the midst of this, we initiated him into the world of Vacation Bible School where he took the stage as one of the main roles in our daily skits. He quickly became involved with University Lutheran in Champaign and preached at several other churches during vacancies.

He learned about the Osman members in good times and in sad times. He was a part of three funeral

services in quick succession. He was privileged to have one baptism, one wedding, and one confirmation service. He held a weekly bible class, sang in the choir, helped with two VBS programs, visited our sick members and shut-ins, and socialized with the youth group activities.

We pray for God's blessings upon Vicar Fenker as he returns to the Fort Wayne Seminary to continue his education. We will thank Vicar for his dedication to our congregation on his last Sunday, July 10, 2011, with a cookout and potluck after the regular worship service. The Church Council will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, and drinks and all members are asked to bring a dish to share.

Thrivent News

The Handicap Ramp Building project for Dorothy Miller is being planned for the third week of July. The materials have been purchased and some pre-building jobs will be done in the immediate future. This project is being financed with Thrivent funds but ALL church members are asked to volunteer.

Dick Johnson is graciously donating his expertise. The exact work dates have not been determined at this time but will be sometime between July 18 - 23, 2011. Please sign up on the back bulletin board and also give a phone number so that you can be reached when the work begins.

Baseball! McLean County Thrivent is selling tickets to the Corn Belters Baseball Game on Sunday, August 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$11.00 each with \$3.00 of that ticket price going to Habitat for Humanity. This donation helps with the expenses on the house being built in Bloomington. These are box seats behind home plate at the Corn Crib. If interested in a ticket, see Brenda Hendricks.

Brat Fest. McLean County Thrivent will be sponsoring the annual Brat Fest on Sunday, August 21, 2011 at the Tri Lakes Building in Bloomington. The serving will begin at 4:00 p.m. A freewill offering will be taken.

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex.

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
06-05	58	7	10
06-12	69	5	8
06-19	66	6	11
06-26	Statistics Unavailable		

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

JulyDebbie Martin and Susan Martin

Lay Readers

07-03Vicar Aaron Fenker
07-10Mike Hendricks
07-17Vicar Aaron Fenker
07-24Debbie Lammle
07-31Joy Johnson

July Birthdays

Leona Albin07-01
Ryan Lammle07-02
Jessica Poppe07-03
Joshua Poppe07-03
Jerry Edwards07-05
Mackenzie Delaney07-06
Weston Hasty07-06
Joanne Nelson07-06
Larry Lutz07-12
Wilma Grussing07-13
Daniel Schuh07-13
William Schroeder07-14
Ryan McPike07-15
Aaron Warsaw07-15
Bryan Warsaw07-15
Marvin Clemmons07-20
Carolyn Majercin07-20
Shane Zimmerman07-21
Steve Gaines07-24
Carol Martinie07-26
Jane Poppe07-27
Stefani Warsaw07-28
Roy Whitehouse07-30

July Anniversaries

C. J. and Ross Warsaw07-04
Marti and Steve Brandt07-06
Deb and Dick Johnson07-10
Marsha and Steve Warsaw07-16

Rebecca and Scott Gercken	07-21
Lisa and Wayne Miller	07-23
Nikki and Rob Gallier	07-24
Nicole and Jesse Johnson	07-28

July Mowing List

07-02	Bob and Shaun Zimmerman
07-09	Marvin Nelson and Darryl Redding
07-16	Myron and Randy Zimmerman
07-23	Jim Poppe
07-31	Shane Zimmerman



July 4th Independence Day

On this day in 1776, the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress, setting the 13 colonies on the road to freedom as a sovereign nation. As always, this most American of holidays will be marked by parades, fireworks, and backyard barbecues across the country.

God Bless America

Thank you to the men and women in the military who risk their lives so that we can live in the "land of the free!"

Today as before, our brave do fight
For a land they love, a flag so right

The pride of our country, yes they are
The strength of our nation, best by far

Just as our brave from each war gone by
They march for us proudly, flag held high

From all over this land they come to serve
They're taught by the best, this they deserve

When troops give their all, the world does see
Whether serving on land, in the air, or at sea

The pride from this country, march through war
With home drawn strength, held deep in their core

Our best are so awesome, their loved ones well know
May God guide their journey where they – for us – go

What these brave must have is support from their own
The love from their people, firm thankfulness shown

Our greatest achievement is that we're still free
Please take time and ponder who caused this to be

By Roger Robicheau

