

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OSMAN

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC

Reverend Daniel Fienen

January 2014

Be kind to one another,
tenderhearted, forgiving one
another, as God in Christ forgave
you. ~ Ephesians 4:32

From Pastor McPike's Desk...

THANK YOU! The marvelous generosity of the people at Osman continues to be such a blessing! Thank you for all the cards and gifts given at Christmastime. Your kindness is truly wondrous. The gifts and expressions of appreciation written in the cards were all very much appreciated. God's blessings to you all as we move together into 2014.

Pastor McPike

Called to Her Eternal Home

Leona Ruth Albin, 94, passed away at the Gibson City Area Hospital Annex on Thursday, December 19th. Her visitation and funeral were at Zion Lutheran Church in Imperial, Nebraska. Leona served many ways in our congregation. She was a Sunday School teacher and a youth leader. She was our last charter member of our LWML where she served in various offices and also as zone president. She was also a member of the Ladies Aid. May our beautiful Savior grant comfort and hope to all those who mourn.

Church Council Minutes

December 3, 2013

(Abridged Edition)

8 members, plus Pastor McPike, attended the monthly council meeting held on December 3, in the fellowship hall.

Secretary's minutes were read and approved. Treasurer Bob Zimmerman reported the cash balance being \$85,146.35. This did not include the Thanksgiving service offering which will be reflected in the January report. Report was approved. The Mahomet Schools program for needy children will be the recipient of our December mission giving. For January we will give \$450 from our needy fund and

\$150 of our monthly mission money for a total of \$600 to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Gifford who organized the projects for the Gifford tornado victims.

Nikki Gallier reported that the children's program practices has begun. She also informed us that the high school Bible class on Sunday mornings has resumed with Joy Johnson as teacher. She has about 4-5 students each week.

John Gercken, trustee, reported that all of the lights in the sanctuary have been changed to CFL bulbs. Steve Warsaw verified that he would get the Christmas tree for the church this week.

The storage shed clean up was reported on. The building of the new shelf for the television in the hall is in progress.

The letter of resignation from Rick and Jill Hardesty for the youth group directors was read. Nikki and Rob Gallier are willing to take this position over starting in 2014.

The 2014 proposed budget was discussed. It will be available in the January newsletter and is also available on the back elders pew for all members to view before the quarterly voters meeting.

The time line for the tuck pointing job on the church was discussed. Dick Johnson gave the quote of \$300 for installing the fascia boards and wrapping them. The council approved this bid. The council agreed to bring before the voters the quote from Alternative Enterprises for \$1250 for the drainage of the water away from the building and the quote from Dalton Seamless Guttering for \$800 for the gutters at the quarterly voters meeting.

The next council meeting will be January 7. The next quarterly voters meeting will be Sunday, January 12.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Hendricks

Thank You

A huge thank-you goes out to Nikki Gallier, Sunday School Superintendent, and all the children who presented the wonderful Christmas Eve program here at Immanuel Osman. It was a delightful program that lit up the altar with candlelight and reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas. The singing of the hymns and the lighting of the candles allowed everyone to be a part of this meaningful Christmas celebration!

Thank You

To the Members of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman,

On behalf of the school social workers of Mahomet-Seymour CUSD#3, I would like to gratefully thank you for your generous donation of your December mission money (\$150) to the account we use to support families in need. Your unexpected contribution to this fund will make a difference for our children and families.

May you have a safe, peaceful holiday season!

Sincerely,
Nancy Cosner
School Social Worker

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who has given Christmas cards, gifts, and goodies to me and my family. It looked like Santa had visited again when we put everything under our tree! We really appreciate everything.

Alicia Haggin and Family

Poinsettias

Thanks to the following members who donated poinsettias for the Advent season: Kris and Shaun Zimmerman, Joy and Skinner Johnson, Barb and John Gercken, Shirley and Butch Sprau, Connie and Don Warsaw, Brenda and Mike Hendricks, Beth and Neil Bidner, Debbie and John Lammle, Annette and Jeff Warsaw, Marge Morrissey, Jeri Bidner, Kim and Marvin Clemmons, Kim and Bill Schuh, Dorothy and Gene Welborn, Moneta and Bill McCleary, Esther and Larry Lutz, and Jill and Rick Hardesty.

Potluck January 12th

Please bring 2 or more dishes to share at the upcoming potluck following the Voters Meeting on January 12th. (Since meat is not provided, be sure to consider bringing meat dishes.) Don't forget to bring table service as well. Drinks will be provided.

Council Meeting

The monthly council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 7, at 7PM in the fellowship hall.

Quarterly Voters Meeting

The quarterly voters meeting will be held on Sunday, January 12, after the regular worship service. If you are a member that is 18 years old, please sign the Constitution and become part of the voting assembly. Election of council officers will take place at this meeting. A potluck will follow in the church hall.

Church Council Officers Needed!

There are several positions available on the council board which will be elected at the January quarterly voters meeting. Please sign the sheet on the back bulletin board if you are interested in serving a term on the council. We would like to have more than one person for each position so there is really an election. We have at least one name for each position EXCEPT chairman and head usher. The head usher job is open to anyone. It does not have to be a youth as in the past. Please consider using your God given talents to serve your church.

Dearest members of Osman Congregation,

Please note the blanks on the ballot.

I understand not wanting to volunteer for an unknown job or responsibility.

I was one of those people, and after I was in the Secretary position a couple of years ago, I found that volunteering as a member of church council is a good way to learn how the church works.

When I was approached about chairman, I had the same thoughts of doing a job I knew little about. I found you do not do the job alone.

There is a wealth of knowledge in our congregation of people who have done the job before you. Some jobs take more time than others. Some are just making the church work or keep working. Others are making the services work like a well oiled machine.

Please take your talent or expertise and use it in the church. Some of us use it every Sunday; some of us do it in the background at other times.

It takes all of us doing small parts to keep our church functioning and healthy.

Rick Hardesty, Chairman
Osman Lutheran Church

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Proposed Candidates for 2014

CHURCH OFFICERS

CHURCH OFFICE	NAME	
Chairman	_____	☐
	_____	☐
	_____	☐
	_____	☐

2 – Elders	Neal Bidner	☐
	Steve Martin	☐
	_____	☐
	_____	☐

ASS'T. SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPT.	Annett Warsaw	☐
	_____	☐
	_____	☐
	_____	☐

ASST. FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Susan Martin	☐
	_____	☐
	_____	☐
	_____	☐

1 -- TRUSTEE	Jeff Warsaw	☐
	_____	☐
	_____	☐
	_____	☐
.....		
1-Head Usher	_____	☐
	_____	☐

Thrivent News

Thrivent Choice Dollars! This month our congregation received \$661 in choice dollars. This is one way that you can determine how Thrivent uses its charitable outreach grant dollars. Thank you to William Amdor, Jeri Bidner, Allen Grussing, Wilma Grussing, Steve Martin, David McPike, Sharon McPike, and Agnes Watson. If you are a Thrivent member, please check to see if you have any Choice dollars to contribute. You can do so by calling 1-800-847-4836. When prompted, say "Thrivent Choice" and when next prompted say "Choice Dollars". Your deadline to donate your 2013 Choice Dollars is March 1st. The Thrivent Choice Double Direction Church campaign also resulted in a \$487 deposit for our church. Thank you to all of our members that participated in that first time opportunity.

2014 Bulletin Board Sign-Ups

New sign-ups are on the bulletin board for the coming year's participation in providing flowers for the altar, providing the eternal flame candle, visiting shut-ins, serving on Altar Guild, and being hostesses for Fellowship Club. (There are funds available for those serving as hosts and hostesses at the quarterly Fellowship events.) Thanks in advance for all those who help make our church such a special place to share our Christian love!

Thank You

Thank you to a special group of musical people here at Immanuel Osman. A variety of selections during the holiday season made every service a special celebration of God's abundant blessings. Thanks to our choir, Alicia and Nick Haggin, Pastor McPike, Teresa Wilson and her sister, and Sara McPike for both instrumental and vocal selections. We DO enjoy the sounds and sights of Christmas here at Immanuel Osman!

Christmas Caroling

An energetic group of carolers, led by Alicia and Nick Haggin, met on December 8th to sing to several of our shut-ins and spread the Christmas cheer. Small poinsettias and trays of cookies were given to the members, followed by the singing of carols and the Christmas story read by Pastor McPike. At the end of the evening, the group went to Monical's in Gibson for pizza and fellowship. The smiling faces of those we visited left the carolers with a warm feeling of appreciation wherever they went.



Quilting

The ladies of the congregation are ready to start another year making quilts for Lutheran World Relief. The January quilting dates are THURSDAY, January 9, and Saturday, January 11th at 8 AM and quitting at noon in the fellowship hall. No quilting talent is needed to help tie these beautiful quilts that will be used in many ways by people across the globe.

Advent and Christmas Thank Yous

The holiday season is always a busy time. It takes many people doing many jobs to truly get everything organized during the Christmas season. We would like to thank the following:

Pastor McPike and Pastor Fienan for conducting our worship services during Advent and Christmas

Nikki Gallier, Beth Bidner, Annette Warsaw, and the Sunday School teachers for organizing the Christmas Eve Children's Program

The Sunday School children who performed in the program

The High School Class who did various jobs for the program

Steve Warsaw for purchasing and setting up the Christmas tree

All of the members who decorated the church and hall

The members who donated a poinsettias

The altar guild for organizing the poinsettias and all of the altar preparations

The members who donated money for the treat bags

Connie and Donnie Warsaw for purchasing all of the treat bag goodies and the members who helped assemble the bags

Alecia and Nick Haggin and all of the members who caroled to the shut ins

The choir who sang several times during Advent and Christmas

Sara McPike for providing special music on several instruments

Alecia and Nick Haggin, Pastor McPike, Sara McPike, Theresa VanWakeman-Wilson, and Theresa's sister who provided special music for the Christmas Eve Service.

We would like to thank ALL of the members of our congregation for sharing of their blessings, time, and talents during this Christmas season.

Gifford Tornado Relief

Earlier in December, several of our members spent a few hours volunteering at Gifford by doing various jobs, but there is still a need for help for the residents. The local television stations broadcasted this week that there is still a need for canned food and personal items (shampoo, deodorant, soap, etc.) for their food bank. The items may be taken to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Gifford.

LWML News

The LWML met on December 12th for their regular meeting. We opened by singing "Go Tell it on the Mountain" and the LWML pledge. Barb Whitehouse-Gercken had the devotion and Shirley Sprau had the topic. Fourteen members answered roll call and the minutes from the September meeting were read. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$1,192.58. A letter was read from Vicar Jonathan and Debbie Lammle reported that she had sent a large box of goodies to him. We will reimburse her for postage.

Wilma Grussing gave a report on the Fall Rally and Debbie Lammle reported on the Fall Retreat. Everyone was thanked for their help with the LWML Sunday. We collected \$94.87 in the large MITE box that was left out the month of October. Terri Hooker reported that she took 84 quilts and 5 blankets to Gibson City for the LWR drive. We will be hosting the Spring Rally with Loda and Thomasboro this year. It was also decided to start quilting on January 9th and 11th. Future dates will be chosen and posted in the bulletin and newsletter each month.

It was decided to have a soup supper before the Ash Wednesday service on March 5th. Debbie Martin, Debbie Lammle and Diana Zimmerman volunteered to serve on the committee. The officers for 2014-2015 are President - Brenda Hendricks, Christian Growth - Barb Whitehouse-Gercken, Secretary - Barb Gaines, Treasurer - Debbie Lammle, Seminary Correspondant - Debbie Lammle, Mission Coordinator - Terri Hooker.

Debbie Martin suggested that we do the baby bottle project again this year. A motion was made and passed. We then revealed who our secret pal was for 2013 and drew new secret pals for 2014. Debbie Martin and Shirley Sprau served delicious refreshments.

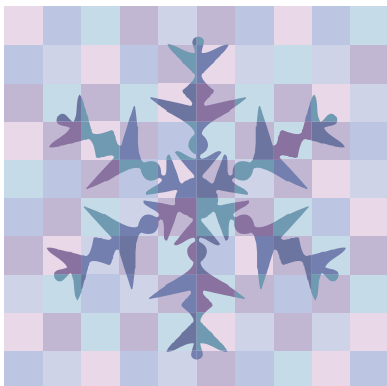
Statistics

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Adult Class</u>
11/24	77	15	8
11/27	34	-	-
12/01	74	16	7
12/04	34	-	-
12/08	75	9	10
12/15	57	6	17
12/22	76	9	14
12/24	120	-	-
12/29	73	3	15

January Altar Guild

Debbie Lammle

Welcome to
Winter



January Birthdays

Alma Hassebrock.....01-03
 Phyllis Burnett.....01-05
 Harry Henriksen.....01-06
 Cindy Masko.....01-07
 Brad Lutz.....01-10
 Rebecca Gercken.....01-14
 Anne Amdor.....01-18
 Hannah Duncan.....01-19
 Megan Bidner.....01-21
 Bryce Martin.....01-23
 Mackenzie Homann.....01-26
 Matthew Burgess.....01-27



January Anniversaries

Christie and Leonard Delaney.....01-07-1995



Elder Schedule

Marvin	Feb	June	Oct
Roy	March	July	Nov
Bill	April	August	Dec
Jim	May	Sept	Jan