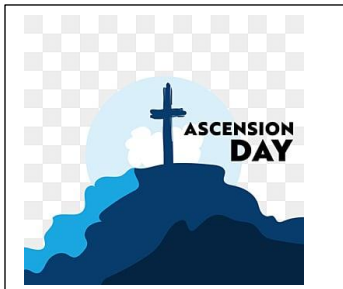


THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC

May 2022



From Pastor McPike's Desk...

Following is the first installment of a history of the formation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod on the occasion of the 175th Anniversary of the synod.

In late April 1847, a new church body was born as it held its official, constitutional convention at St. Paul Lutheran Church in downtown Chicago. The name of that church body was the *Deutsche Evangelische Lutherische Synode von. Missouri, Ohio, und andern Staaten* (literally, the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other States). Today we know it as our church body, the *Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*. This church of German immigrants to the United States is, this year, celebrating 175 years. In the next few months, this column will take a look at how this synod formed, why it is structured the way it is, and other aspects of the church body to which we at Osman belong.

Why did the Germans come to the United States?

This question needs to be answered in two parts. First, despite the name, key to the formation of the LCMS were two groups of German immigrants. Saxon Germans immigrated to St. Louis and Perry County, Missouri and Bavarian Germans came to east central lower Michigan. This month will look a bit at the reason the Saxon Germans left the vicinity of Dresden and came to America in 1839. A future article will delve into the immigration of Bavarians to east central lower Michigan in the 1830s.

The Prussian Union Church

In the early 1800s, Prussian King Friedrich Wilhelm III, himself a German Protestant, was married to Queen Louise, a Lutheran. Two official non-Catholic Christian churches had existed in Germany from the end of the Thirty-Years War in 1647. While there were numerous differences, one key difference is that the German Lutherans believed in the Real Presence of Christ in the Lord's Supper, while the German protestants believed that the Supper only *represented* or provided a reminder of the presence of Christ and what He did on Maundy Thursday through Easter. Leading up to 1800, there was growing sentiment in Germany to unite these two into one church. Friedrich Wilhelm III did that by marrying a Lutheran (Queen Louise), followed by laws that began to change the language of worship of both church bodies as well as their official books of teaching. This church became known in the early 1800s as the *Prussian Union Church*.

Something strange to Americans is how the government authorities in Germany controlled the teaching, official doctrinal positions, and practices of churches. This meant that pastors unwilling to use the new materials could be arrested, fined, and possibly even jailed. That put Lutherans wanting to stay loyal to Luther's teachings that had been followed since the mid-1500s in danger. The Union church officially changed the teaching about communion to allow for Christ's body and blood to NOT be considered actually present in the Lord's Supper. Pastors that continued to teach the contrary were arrested, fined, and jailed.

The Saxon Immigration

One such pastor to become rather infamous was Rev. Martin Stephan, pastor of St. John's Church, Dresden. Pastor Stephan was jailed several times for continuing to use older Lutheran materials, so much so that by 1825 an "association" was formed with the express intention of immigrating. Two possible destinations were considered, one being Australia, but the central part of the United States south of St. Louis was the winner. By the later 1830s, over 800 Saxons had joined the "association". Requirements for joining were basically the sale of everything except personal items and giving all the money to the association. Five other pastors besides Pastor Stephan became part of this movement, including two pastors named Walther - Rev. Otto Hermann Walther and his younger brother Carl (C.F.W.) Walther.

Five ships were hired at Bremerhaven, and the Immigrants made their way. Departure started in September 1838, with some ships leaving as late as November. Arrival was around and after Christmas in 1838. The route was to sail across the Atlantic to around the tip of Florida, then on to a destination of New Orleans. There, settlers transferred everything to a river steamer and started up the Mississippi for St. Louis. Of the five ships, the smallest (and last to leave), the *Amalia* failed to arrive. *Amalia* carried many goods including church bells, organs and other goods, but had the fewest passengers. She is somewhere at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, having never been found.

The goal of the Saxon-German colonists was to take a portion of the money in the common treasury of the association and use it to purchase a large tract of land... preferably nearly an entire county and establish colonies that were basically communal – with the pastors as the colony leaders as well as the leaders of the church. (Amana Colonies in Iowa were originally founded on a similar format). This they did in the spring of 1839, purchasing much of Perry County, Missouri, where several small colonies were founded, using names such as Wittenberg, Dresden, Altenburg, Frohna, and others familiar from their homeland. In these colonies, the Saxon immigrants sought to establish Colonies and Churches according to "true Lutheran teaching" in contrast with the way in which they felt Lutheran teaching was being corrupted in Germany by the Union church.

(To be continued in next month's newsletter with the title "Scandal and Chaos".)

Thank You

Thank you so much to Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman for your \$200 donation to our Feeding Our Kids – backpack program. Your donation allows me to continue to provide for students of Fisher Community Schools. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Tara Stafford
Feeding Our Kids Coordinator

Congratulations, Graduates!

Mitch Gallier, son of Nikki and Rob Gallier, will graduate from Mahomet High School. He will pursue his education at McKendree College in Lebanon, Illinois where he will also be a part of the football team.

Will DeLaney, son of Christie and Leonard Delaney, will graduate from Parkland College with an associate degree in ag business and will be transferring to Illinois State University to pursue a bachelor's degree in ag business.

Mackenzie DeLaney, daughter of Christie and Leonard Delaney, will graduate from the University of Illinois with a bachelor's degree in social work and will be pursuing her master's degree in social work next year.

May Lawn Mowers

The week of May 1 – May 7 – Butch Sprau
The week of May 8 – May 14 – Skinner Johnson
The week of May 15 – May 21 - Kent Whitehouse
The week of May 22 – May 28 – John Gercken
The week of May 29 – June 3 – Brenda Hendricks



The schedule this year lists the week that the volunteer needs to mow. It is recommended to mow on Thursday through Saturday of that week, so it looks nice for Sunday. If you have misplaced your schedule which was in the April newsletter, there is one on the back bulletin board. If you have any questions, contact trustee Lee Whitehouse.

Holy Week Services

Thank you to everyone who made the Holy Week worship services very meaningful. Thank you to Pastor McPike who designed each worship service as well as delivered sermons and homilies that made the Biblical Holy Week experiences very real. Thank you to Alicia Haggin, organist, who provided beautiful music and organized the special musical pieces. Thank you to the special vocal musicians who were Nick Haggin, Sara McPike, and Theresa VanWakeman Wilson. Thank you to Sara McPike who accompanied the hymns with her trumpet and recorder. Thank you to the altar guild volunteers that had many duties with changing altar paraments, folding palms, stripping the altar, decorating the added wooden cross, and organizing the altar flowers. By Easter morning the phrase “He is risen. He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!” definitely echoed throughout the church body.

Thank You

Thank you to all the members of Ladies Aid/LWML who made the soup, sandwiches, and desserts that were served at the soup supper on Maundy Thursday night before the worship service. Thank you to all the members who attended and enjoyed the fellowship after many months of not gathering for meals due to COVID restrictions. Thirty-four people attended and six take-outs were delivered to shut-in members. The freewill offering of \$1363 which was collected at the meal will help with mission projects in the upcoming year.

Illinois National Guard Soldier Springs Into

Quick Action to Save A Life

Staff Sergeant Nathan Hooker, of Homer Glen, Illinois, a military policeman with the 233rd Military Police Company, based in Springfield, is credited with saving the life of an elderly woman who collapsed at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, Illinois on July 21, 2021. Nathan is a cemetery representative at the national cemetery. Arguably the longest few minutes of his day, Nathan responded to a Code Red, a call of a person in distress, at the cemetery. "It was a typical day, we were getting ready for services at the cemetery", said Nathan, "and we had done a service for a veteran and transported his remains to the gravesite. I was driving back to the administration building when a field employee was flagged down by a family who was visiting a gravesite in one of the sections. The Code Red was signaled, and it indicated an elderly woman had collapsed near her vehicle, and wasn't breathing, definitely in need of medical services. I was not too far away so I raced over to the location. I quickly determined that she was not breathing, so I began administering CPR. She was not breathing after a minute and a half, so I removed her dentures. Soon after I heard her cough, so I kept doing CPR and eventually she started breathing on her own." She regained consciousness and Nathan had to keep her calm until the paramedics arrived. Nathan attributed the outcome to his training as a soldier in the Illinois Army National Guard. "We receive training in medical and other tactics for our jobs", he said. "This training is not just for use while we are in the National Guard. We go back to our communities and that is where the training kicks in. I was not nervous or scared. I knew what to do and reverted to my training." As a result of his quick actions Nathan was nominated as the National Cemetery Administration's employee of the quarter. He was one of the six nominated in the United States. Even though Nathan was not chosen as the overall employee of the quarter, he is very proud to have been chosen as a finalist. Nathan is the son of Dwight and Terri Hooker.

(This was taken in part from a publication of the Illinois National Guard Public Affairs Office which was written by Barbara Wilson.)

Ladies Aid/LWML

The Ladies Aid/LWML ladies will have their next meeting on Thursday, May 12th at 7 PM in the fellowship hall. Topic will be given by Marsha Warsaw. The hostesses will be Terri Hooker and Deb Martin. The roll call will be answered by a favorite Bible story. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend. The ladies will be tying quilts on May 2 at 8 AM and May 4 at 12:30 PM in the fellowship hall. All ladies are welcome to attend – no experience needed!

Our Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Bill McCleary who passed away on Wednesday, April 27th at the age of 94. May God provide comfort and care for those who mourn his loss. Graveside services will be held on Monday, May 2nd at 3 PM at Grandview Memorial Gardens in rural Champaign. Bill has had the distinction of being the oldest male member of our congregation for many years.

Council Meeting

The next church council meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 20th, at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall.

Pastor Henry Update

After Pastor McPike made the announcement in the April 10th worship service about Pastor Henry's heart issue and included him in our prayers, some members reached out to him by email and text. This is the response that was received as written by Deb Henry.

"Thanks for reaching out. It was a scary time...but he is doing fine now. To give you some background: He had gone to the morning Ash Wednesday service at our church while I was at home working at my job remotely. He arrived home and immediately started to complain of chest pains and then jaw pain. His blood pressure was high, so I called 911. He was transported to ER but his EKG really did not show any issues initially. They even considered sending him home but then decided to keep him for observation. So, after being at the ER for 14 hours, he started having chest pain again and this time the EKG showed he was having an MI. They then took him to the cath lab, and they put in 2 stents. The cardiologist said he sustained no heart damage and now has the assurance of 2 stents in place. He can do all activities and now goes to Cardiac Rehab twice a week.

Pastor and I certainly appreciate you reaching out to inquire how he is doing and the offering of prayers for him. He loves to get Osman mail!"

Thanks and Love--Pastor and Deb
7760 South Caesar Drive
Tucson, Arizona 85747
Phone: (520) 906-2558

Orphan Grain Train



Thank you to all the members who donated items for the Orphan Grain Train. Thank you to Bella Ford, James Amdor, and Blaine Martin - our Sunday School children - for tying a fleece blanket. Thank you to the dedicated Ladies Aid/LWML members who donated fourteen of their quilts for this collection. Other items donated were 44 school supply items, 25 pairs of socks, 76 health and hygiene products, 4 food items, 10 baby products, 3 blankets, 39 stuffed animals, 14 linen items, 2 boxes children's clothing, 1 box women's clothing, and 1 cash donation. These items were boxed and delivered to the semi-truck which was at the Central Illinois District LWML Convention on April 30th in Springfield. Connie Warsaw and Brenda Hendricks took the car full of items when they attended the convention.

Happy Mothers' Day – May 8th

Treasurer Elected

At the Quarterly Voters Meeting on April 24th, Terri Hooker was elected the council treasurer. The position was not elected at the annual meeting in January as there were not any names on the ballot. Volunteers have filled the position during the last four months. Thank you to John Lammle and Bob Zimmerman for filling in during this period. Thank you to Terri Hooker for filling the position.

May Birthdays

Doug Majercin.....05-01
Susan Miller.....05-04
Cheyenne Zimmerman.....05-04
Martha Warsaw.....05-08
Wade Warsaw.....05-12
Alvin Hinrichs.....05-15
Barb Whitehouse-Gercken.....05-21
Jesse Johnson.....05-21
Darwin Warsaw.....05-22
Kris Zimmerman05-29
Blaine Martin05-30

May Anniversaries

Susan and Steve Martin05-09-1975
Ashley and Bryce Martin05-19-2012
Amanda and Chuck Amdor05-30-2009

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Adult Class</u>
April 3	59	3	11
April 10	52	3	11
April 14	33	N/A	N/A
April 15	41	N/A	N/A
April 17	76	N/A	N/A
April 24	36	2	12

The True Meaning of Memorial Day **Reprinted from Education.com**

For most people “Memorial Day” means a “Fun Three-Day Weekend.” It comes in late May, after all, when days are long and green, a preview of summer vacation to come. Indeed, for lots of families, the holiday kicks off a glorious season of barbecues, swimming, and other outdoor fun. But the true meaning of Memorial Day goes much deeper than this. It is a somber day of remembrance for the men and women who have died for our country.

The work of honoring dead soldiers goes back as far as our earliest civilizations. When ancient Athens was caught in its deadly Peloponnesian Wars, for example, Pericles encouraged citizens never to forget those who had died in battle. Their noble courage, he said, was “graven not [just] in stone but in the hearts of men.”

Centuries later, as the United States was just coming through the Civil War, Americans found themselves grieving as deeply as any of their ancient ancestors. Having expected a short skirmish, our nation instead fought a four-year war that remains the single most deadly in American history. Historians estimate that 620,000 soldiers died in the Civil War, a number that surpasses U.S. losses in World War I (115,000 dead) and World War II (318,000) combined. These losses were all the more heartbreaking because it was not uncommon for families to have sons or cousins fighting on opposite sides. And when they did fall on the battlefield, it could take weeks and months to locate the dead and bury them properly. And so, wrote General John A. Logan in 1868, by the end of the war, soldiers had been buried “in almost every city, village, and hamlet church-yard in the land.” How would the nation grieve properly, and heal? A powerful custom arose among women and families in towns across the country: honoring the graves of the fallen. On April 25, 1866, in Columbus, Mississippi, for example, women visited a Confederate cemetery to place flowers on the graves of soldiers who had died in the Battle of Shiloh. While there, they noticed unkept graves of Northern soldiers—and the women decorated those graves as well, in respect. Similar commemorations happened across states, both North and South, with celebrations first known as “decoration days.” With his “Order Number 11,” issued in June of 1868, General John A. Logan made the first official national proclamation of a day “designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country.” Let “no ravages of time testify,” he wrote, “to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic.”