

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OSMAN The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC
Reverend Keffie Deen II

January 2015

Behold, the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin
of the world!

John 1:29

Church Council Minutes

December 2, 2014

Abridged Edition

8 members, plus Pastor McPike, attended the monthly council meeting held on December 2 in the fellowship hall. Secretary's minutes were read and approved. Treasurer Bob Zimmerman reported the cash balance as \$70,218 as of the end of November. Our monthly mission giving had already been approved at an earlier monthly meeting. It will be the Fisher Food Pantry for the month of December.

Pastor McPike reported that his Bible study on Daniel will begin in January. He felt that the Thanksgiving dinner and service went well and was very appreciative that this change allowed him to preach. He then explained the schedule for decorating the church in a progressive way.

Sunday School Superintendent, Beth Bidner, was not present, but Annette Warsaw gave her report that the Christmas program practice as going well. They would be doing Christmas camp on Saturday, December 6th with crafts, food, and practice.

The Trustees reported that furnace filters had been changed. Some work on outside light on the deck of the fellowship hall had been done. An estimate on new ceiling fans for the church had been received by Jeff Warsaw.

Annette Warsaw presented the picture that was requested for the thank you. Due to the lighting and difficult angle the picture was not clear so that idea was scratched. It was approved to order 25 copies of two designs that had been presented last month. These will be used to send to people that give memorials to the church.

A letter of resignation by the social committee was read and was accepted with regret.

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing the proposed 2015 budget.

The next council meeting will be January 6th and the next quarterly council meeting will be Sunday, January 11th.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Hendricks
Council Secretary

Council Meeting

The monthly council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 6, at 7 PM in the fellowship hall.

Quarterly Voters Meeting

The quarterly voters meeting will be held on Sunday, January 11, 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 immediately after in the church hall.

Thank You

A huge thank-you to Beth Bidner, Sunday School Superintendent, and all the children who presented the wonderful Christmas Eve program here at Immanuel Osman. The children were Megan Bidner, Jenna Clemmons, Jack Gallier, Reese Gallier, Addison Warsaw, and Melia Warsaw. The confirmands were Will Delaney, Tyler Duncan, and Mitch Gallier. The young adults were Courtney Delaney, Mackenzie Delaney and Cheyenne Zimmerman. It was a delightful program that reminded us all of how "God Loves Us Dearly". Thank you also to Annette Warsaw for her assistance with the program and Pastor McPike who edited the original program to fit our congregation.

Church Undecorating

The decorations in the church will be taken down on Sunday, January 4th, after church. All hands are very welcome to help. Thank you to all the members who helped put up the decorations and take down the decorations to prepare our House of Worship for Christmas.

Thank You!

A special thank you to Sara McPike for sharing her musical talents with us during the Christmas season. She played the recorder, trumpet, and baritone for part of the accompanying during the Christmas worship services. Thank you also to Alicia Haggin for putting in extra time to prepare for the musical selections for the worship services. It was quite a professional performance in praise of our new born Christ Child!

Thank You!

Thank you to the 11 members who showed up on December 24th to fill the treat bags for Christmas Eve and to all who donated to the treats. We sacked up 150 bags of goodies in a short time. Extra bags were passed out to members on Sunday that weren't at the Christmas Eve service.

Thank You!

Thanks to the following members who donated altar flowers this year: Butch and Shirley Sprau, Don and Connie Warsaw, Bill and Moneta McCleary, the LWML, Neil and Beth Bidner, Larry and Esther Lutz, Jim and Sue VanWakeman, Bob and Diana Zimmerman, John and Debbie Lammler, Rick and Jill Hardesty, and Debbie Martin. Also another thanks to the following members who sponsored the eternal flame candle: Larry and Esther Lutz, Wilma Grussing, Rick and Jill Hardesty, Neil and Beth Bidner, Frances Zimmerman, and Harry Henriksen. We appreciate all those who contributed to the beauty of the altar!

Altar Guild News

Thanks to Barb Gaines for volunteering to be co-chairman of Altar Guild here at Immanuel Osman. Debbie Lammler and Barb will share the position for the coming year. Thanks also to all those who volunteer on the guild, and help make the worship space beautiful and in good order, both to glorify God and to provide a setting which enables the congregation to worship in a meaningful way.

Thrivent News

This month our congregation received \$283 in Thrivent Choice dollars. Thank you to Carolyn Majercin, Steve Martin and Rev. Jeffrey McPike. As of Nov. 30, 2014 our church has received \$3,497 in Choice Dollars. Last year we received \$2,573 so that is a nice increase. You have until March 31, 2015 to allocate Choice Dollars for 2014 so please don't let those dollars expire without designating them. You can call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted say "Thrivent Choice" and when next prompted say "Choice Dollars". You can also do it online.

We have just received word that our region will transition to the new Thrivent Member Network as of July 1, 2015. At that time, the McLean County Chapter will no longer exist and everything will change in the way projects have been done. Each Thrivent member can lead two Community Action Teams per year. Each team will receive an action kit and a \$250 pre-paid debit card for the Action Team expenses associated with the project. You must submit your request 21 days in advance of the event to the Regional Board. We will let you know more information as we learn it.

If we want to do another benefit under the old system, we need to decide ASAP and get it to the board by their January 24th meeting. Funding was reduced by 65% and now that amount has been cut in half since the chapter will only operate for the first six months of the year. We will meet on January 18th for a very short meeting in the Annex after church. Please be thinking of a recipient for a benefit and come to the meeting, or if you can't attend, please let Terri Hooker or Connie Warsaw know who you have in mind.

Thank You!

A special thank you to Harry Henriksen, Gene and Dorothy Welborn, Jim and Sue VanWakeman, Steve and Marsha Warsaw, Larry and Esther Lutz, Don and Connie Warsaw, Neil and Beth Bidner, Butch and Shirley Sprau, Karen Bryan, Bill and Kim Schuh, Pastor and Angie Deen, Bill and Moneta McCleary, Jeri Bidner and John and Debbie Lammler for donating a Christmas poinsettia for this special Advent season. You may take your poinsettia home after the January 4th service.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation class will resume on January 11th in the Pastor's office at 8:30 a.m. with Debbie Lammler instructing. The class will attend the Voter's Meeting after church, followed by the potluck in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor will instruct the students afterwards in his office.

Volunteering builds skill development and socialization

Offers to plan and carry out a task without acknowledgement

Loves to help other by serving the Lord

Undertakes an activity just to assist and serve

No financial gain involved

Tries to promote goodness and improve quality of life

Enlists for service without complaining

Empowers others to do the same

Respect produced from this activity

**THANK THE LORD FOR ALL OF YOU WHO GIVE OF YOUR
TIME AND VOLUNTEER AT IMMANUEL OSMAN!**

Fellowship Club

The Fellowship Club at Immanuel Lutheran Church met on December 7th for a delicious meal prepared and served by Darryl Redding, Debbie and John Lammle, and Susie and Steve Martin.



John Gercken, Steve Martin, Agnes Martinie, Esther Lutz, and guest Gil Downey were recognized with birthdays in October, November and December.

A special speaker, Nathan Montgomery, co-founder and Executive Director of Salt and Light Ministries, spoke to the group and explained the changes in the organization. The light that Salt and Light provides is only as bright as their partners. They rely solely on the generosity of others, be it through financial gifts, donations of goods, or volunteerism. You can let your light shine and help light the way for those they serve. Visit their website or contact Jennifer Milazzo at jennifer@saltandlightministry.org to learn ways to volunteer or assist in this special ministry.

Several boxes of canned food and toys were donated to the Salt and Light Ministries that evening. Thanks to everyone who donated to this great cause!

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 8 and SATURDAY, January 10 at 8 AM and quilting 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 many people across the globe.

LWML

The LWML met for their regular meeting on Thursday, December 11. We opened by singing "Praise, Love, Serve" to the tune of "Go Tell It on the Mountain" and then saying the LWML Pledge. Barb Whitehouse-Gercken had the devotion and Wilma Grussing led the topic. The topic tested us with twenty multiple choice questions on the Christmas story in the Bible which was followed by discussion.

12 members were present as Barb Gaines called the roll call and read the minutes from the September meeting. The treasurer's report showed the balance of \$1136.36.

Debbie Lammle read a letter from Kurt Cockran about his experiences in England, and Brenda Hendricks read a thank you from Kurt and Emily Cockran for their quilt.

Brenda Hendricks gave a report on the fall rally held in Milford, and Connie Warsaw reported on the CID LWML retreat in Camp Cilca in October. Everyone was thanked for their help with the LWML Sunday. We collected \$13.25 in the large MITE box that was left on the back church pew during the month of October.

Terri Hooker reported that she and Dwight took 105 quilts which filled 14 boxes to Gibson City for the LWR drive.

It was also reported that at a special LWML meeting in November Debbie Lammle was selected as the voting delegate for the Danville Zone for the national convention to be held in June in Des Moines, Iowa.

The dates for quilting were set for the first three months in 2015. We will quilt on January 8th and 10th, February 5th and 7th and March 5th and 7th.

It was decided to have a soup supper before the Ash Wednesday service on February 18th. Annette Warsaw, Barb Gaines, and Debbie Lammle volunteered to serve on the committee.

Debbie Lammle presented the idea of "52 Weeks To Do Without" which is a way for our group to collect items that we take for granted in our life styles in a pillowcase and will then give the pillow case filled with these products to Salt and Light at the end of the year.

The meeting closed with a power point presentation to the song "Do You Have Room?" by Shannon Edwards and "O Holy Night" by Rhema Marvanne. We then revealed who our secret pal was for 2014 and drew new secret pals for 2015. Debbie Lammle and Agnes Martinie served delicious refreshments.

Statistics

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Adult Class</u>
11/30	58	5	16
12/03	49	Advent	Evening
12/07	64	4	11
12/14	59	2	11
12/21	61	5	3
12/24	124	Christmas	Eve
12/28	62	n/a	n/a

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



Acolytes

January 4 Will Delaney
 January 11 Tyler Duncan
 January 18 Mitchell Gallier
 January 25 Will Delaney

**January
2015**

Lay Readers

January 4 Annette Warsaw
 January 11 Aaron Warsaw
 January 18 Marsha Warsaw
 January 25..... Shane Zimmerman

January Anniversaries

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



Elder Schedule

Bill	April	July	Oct
Jim	May	Sept	Jan
Steve	Feb	August	Nov
Neil	March	June	Dec