

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

942 Grape Avenue, Fisher, IL 61843-8512

(217-897-6170)



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

December 2021



Covid Update

Masks are still required. The council decided to make the following changes to the service: Communion for those outside in cars will still be the first part of the communion distribution. The distribution will take place with the elder and pastor going out the counting room door and meeting the cars as they pass by the first sidewalk (just east of the church) instead of the front door. Communion for those inside the church will follow. Communicants will be ushered to the FRONT of the church by household (as we did in the back of the church), communed, and invited to return to their seats. The service will then conclude with the concluding liturgy. Pastor will greet (without shaking hands) at the end of the service. If you have questions, please contact Pastor McPike.

Church Decorating for Christmas

Church decorating will be in stages this year. The undecorated Christmas tree and the greenery adorned our place of worship on the First Sunday of Advent which was November 28th. On Saturday, December 4, at 9 AM the added decorations will be added to the tree and greenery. Everyone is invited to help decorate. The decorations will be taken down after church on Sunday, January 9.

Christmas Treat Bags

Everyone who would like to contribute to the fruit and candy sacks which are given out on Christmas Eve, can give their money to one of the elders: Dwight Hooker, Jim VanWakeman, Steve Martin, or Chase Zimmerman in the next three Sundays. Don Warsaw has applied for a \$250 Thrivent Action Team Card to help pay for the goodies. The exact date that the treat bags will be assembled will be announced in the next weeks. Everyone is invited to help assemble them.

Christmas Eve Worship Service

The worship service to celebrate the birth of our Savior will be held on December 24th at 7 PM. Since there is a very small Sunday School attendance the service will not be led by the children but will be a regular worship service with special music.

Poinsettias

Everyone who would like to donate a poinsettia for the altar for the Christmas Eve Service Please sign up on the poster on the back bulletin board. The cost will be published at a later date. Please sign up by December 19th.

Operation Christmas Child Boxes



The Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes were packed on Sunday, November 21st in the fellowship hall during Sunday School. Bella Ford, Jenna Clemmons, and Addi Wrsaw filled 24 boxes with many school, health, and fun items that had been donated by members of the congregation or bought with a Thrivent Action Team Visa Card. It also costs \$9 per box for shipping. Other adults that helped were Terri Hooker, Susan Martin, Annette Warsaw, and Connie Warsaw. Eight boxes were donated by members so a total of 32 boxes were

delivered to Gibson City that day. A video was also shown from Samaritans Purse showing the happy faces of the children receiving their boxes. For many it may be the first gift that they have ever received. A booklet entitled "The Greatest Journey" is added at the distribution center so many children hear about Jesus for the first time. With the help of the Holy spirit, many become believers. Tracking labels are attached so we know where the boxes go. In 2020 they went to Ukraine and Colombia. We thank all who contributed items for the boxes or gave a donation. As Jesus tells us in Mark 16:15 "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." This is small way we can do that.

Thank You

Like an angel, you appeared in my life to help me along my journey. Words cannot express how thankful I am you were there for me when I needed comfort, kindness, and understanding. You opened your heart and lightened my load. For all you do, I am beyond BLESSED! Thanks for all the cards, prayers, visits, and food throughout my cancer treatment so far. Thanks to Brenda Hendricks for her help in substituting for me as Council Secretary. Thanks to Debbie Martin and Terri Hooker for helping with altar Guild in my absence this month. God's blessings, Debbie Lammle

Ladies Aid/LWML Meeting

Seven ladies met on Thursday, November 11th for the Ladies Aid/LWML Meeting at 1:30 PM in the fellowship hall. After opening by singing “Now Thank We All Our God” the LWML pledge was recited. Marsha Warsaw gave the opening devotion. Marsha also gave the topic entitled “God Is Always With Us”. Marsha Warsaw, secretary, read the minutes, and they were approved as read. Sue VanWakeman, treasurer, gave the treasurer’s report with a balance as of October 31 as \$595.98. Treasurer’s report was approved. The members were asked to pay their 2021 dues of \$17. Correspondence from the new adopted Seminary student, Jackson Scofield, was read by Brenda Hendricks. Wilma Grussing reported on the cards that she had sent in the last two months. Terri Hooker reported on delivering 18 boxes of quilts and 2 boxes of fabric kits to Flatville for Lutheran World Relief. 122 quilts were made by the ladies from October 2020 to October 2021. The next quilting dates were announced as January 3 and January 5 with the first one beginning at 8 AM and the second one beginning at 12:30 PM. Diana Zimmerman reported that when there are 50 more pillowcase dresses completed, she will mail to Dresses for Africa.

The first item of old business was a thank you to the ladies who participated in LWML Sunday which was celebrated in October. Connie Warsaw reported on the Danville Zone LWML Rally which was held in Buckley on September 14th. Brenda Hendricks reported on the LWML CID retreat which was held on October 8 and 9 at Camp CILCA. Marsha Warsaw gave a report on the progress of Amelia Kirkpatrick who is part of our adopted family. With the new year approaching, there was a discussion of whether the group wanted to keep supporting Amelia and her mother, Abby, or find another needy family. The congregation will be asked for suggestions and further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

New business consisted of election of officers. Terri Hooker who was the nominating committee presented the ballot. The five offices were uncontested, so the following new officers were elected: President – Brenda Hendricks, Secretary – Deb Lammle, Treasurer – Connie Warsaw, Christian Growth – Annette Warsaw, and Mission Coordinator – Terri Hooker. The Christmas luncheon which is usually held in December was discussed. Due to COVID restrictions, the group will meet at a local restaurant. The gift exchange will be a collection of hats and mittens or gloves to give to community organizations that help the needy. Ideas for the 100th Birthday Celebration of Ladies Aid was discussed. The ideas presented will be brought before the church council at their next meeting. Our usual Christmas donations to nonprofit Lutheran organizations were not possible this year due to the low amount of money in the treasury. The next meeting will be February 10 at 1:30 PM. The meeting concluded with the Lord’s Prayer. Connie Warsaw and Marsha Warsaw served delicious refreshments before the meeting.

Sponsoring a Needy Family

The Ladies Aid/LWML has been helping a needy family in Saybrook for the past two years. With a new year upon us, the group’s intention is to help a family again in 2022. If any member knows of a family in need, please give name and information to Brenda Hendricks.

Happy 100th Birthday!

Happy 100th Birthday Ladies Aid! The Immanuel Lutheran Ladies Aid was organized by Rev. Henry Predoehl in 1921. The first meeting was not held at the church but rather in the brick home on the north side of main street in Osman which was the home of Mr. Charles Adams. There were approximately fifteen women at the first meeting. Augusta Meyer was the first president and Clara Adams was the first secretary. For six years the ladies had their meetings in homes until they bought the old Dunkard Church and had it moved by a steam engine across the fields. After they and their husbands did some mighty remodeling, the building was respectable to hold meetings in. And soon the necessity for a larger kitchen was apparent so an addition was added to the building. This is where they served their chicken suppers, ice cream socials, and threshermen dinners.

So many changes have occurred as the years progressed, but the ladies always engaged in activities and projects that helped people in need. In the winter months the ladies quilted one day a week. They quilted beautiful quilts for many people upon request. They also served farm sales which was an immense effort to make money for their mission projects. In 2020 the Ladies Aid and the LWML combined. The Ladies Aid is the oldest organization in our church today.

On December 12, this milestone will be recognized in the church service. Old pictures have been collected which will appear on the back bulletin board under the balcony. Due to COVID restrictions, there will not be a cake/punch reception in the hall, but a treat bag will be given to each person attending the worship service that day.

Benefit Soup Supper

Thank you to all the members who volunteered in a variety of ways for the benefit soup supper on Saturday, November 13. Approximately 70 community members enjoyed the soups, sandwiches, and desserts that were donated by our church members and community members. It was a new adventure as this was the first “grab your food and go” benefit due to COVID restrictions. There was so much food left over that the congregation was invited over to the fellowship hall after the Sunday morning worship service to select food to take home for their lunches. There were thirty-five lunches that went home with members. To this date, \$3783 has been collected from the freewill offering for our recipient, Brian Butler of Bellflower. This money will be added to the Thrivent Choice Dollars that our members have designated to go to our church. This combined contribution of \$5240 will help with Brian’s medical expenses as he now needs open heart surgery before Christmas. The groceries were purchased with a \$250 Thrivent Action Team Card which was applied for by Dwight Hooker. It was an evening of packing to-go sacks with food as adjustments were made to the new format, but it was a rewarding experience to help someone in need in our community.

Election of Church Officers

It's that time of year again! Nominations are being taken for several church council seats for the January 2022 Voters Meeting. Seats available are chairman, treasurer, 2 elders, 1 trustee, and assistant financial secretary. Please consider using your God given talents to help in these offices. There is a sign-up sheet on the back bulletin board. If you have any questions, see any council member or Chairman Hardesty. Thank you!

Ladies Aid/LWML Christmas Dinner

Ladies Aid/LWML Christmas luncheon will be held at Jack's Café in LeRoy on Thursday, December 9th at 11:30. All Ladies Aid/LWML members are welcome to invite a guest. Please sign up on the back bulletin board so that a reservation number can be called in before December 2nd. Instead of exchanging gifts, members are asked to donate hats, mittens, or gloves. They will be donated to needy causes in our communities. ALL members of the congregation are also invited to donate these items. There is a collection box on the back church pew.

Birthdays

Myron Zimmerman12-02
 DavidHasty12-05
 David Brown12-08
 Deborah Martin12-09
 Darren Peyton12-12
 BarbaraReifsteck12-16
 Jerred Grussing12-17
 Alicia Haggin12-17
 Amber (Hendricks) Kouri12-17
 Diana Zimmerman12-21
 Nathan Hooker12-25
 Deb Johnson12-28
 John Grussing12-31

Anniversaries

Martha and Darwin Warsaw..... 12-31-1966

Statistics

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Adult Class</u>
<u>10/31</u>	49	1	
<u>11/7</u>	41	1	
<u>11/14</u>	41	1	
<u>11/21</u>	45	1	
<u>11/21</u>	20	<u>N/A</u>	

