

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC

August 2022



From Pastor McPike's Desk...

While Saxon Germans played a key role in the formation of the LCMS, they were not the only major immigration of the day. To celebrate the 175th Anniversary of Synod, this edition examines another group of Germans, the Franconians, who settled in east central lower Michigan. "Franconia" is an area in the middle-north of the kingdom of Bavaria, or southern Germany.

Many small, scattered German-Lutheran churches, few pastors

Germans were immigrating to the United States in record numbers in the mid to late nineteenth century. When Germans would organize communities, they would set up churches based on their religious background from Germany. If Lutheran, then the church was Lutheran. This quickly caused an incredible shortage of pastors on the American frontier. Churches were begging for pastors, often placing articles in newspapers in Germany encouraging pastors to consider immigration.

One solution, at least in the interim, was known as the "circuit rider". This pastor would travel around a regular "circuit" of vacant churches. When the pastor came to town, sometimes only once a quarter, he would baptize all the babies born since his last visit, and he would serve the sacrament of Holy Communion. (This ended up being a contributing factor to the **unfortunate practice** of communion being held less than every Sunday, and sometimes only four times a year that was still common in the early-mid 20th Century in America.) The pastor would also leave enough sermons for the next three months for the elders to read so they could hold church services until he returned.

An early German missionary to the United States was a pastor by the name of F.C.D. Wyneken. Pastor Wyneken traveled the frontier searching for settlements of German Lutherans who had no church. When he came across a new settlement of Germans, he was known to ask, "Where are the Lutherans?" When he found new settlements of German Lutherans that had no congregation, he would work to establish a congregation in the area, preach for a time, and then find someone who could visit the congregation regularly (circuit rider) until a resident pastor could be sent to them. Not only did Wyneken gather German Lutherans into congregations, but he wrote many articles about the tremendous need for Lutheran Pastors on the American Frontier. German newspapers would publish these pleas for help. The pleas were picked up even in Franconia by a pastor by the name of Wilhelm

Löhe (pronounced “Lay-uh”). Of note, Pastor Wyneken was influential in the formation of the LCMS in 1847, and succeeded Dr. Walther as president, serving for 14 years beginning in 1850.

Pastor J.K.W. Löhe, Neuendettelsau, Bavaria

As the news of the shortage of Lutheran pastors on the American frontier spread through Germany, one pastor, Rev. Wilhelm Löhe, of St. Lorenz Church, Neuendettelsau, Bavaria became very interested in providing a solution. Pastor Löhe saw that the German system of making pastors was far too slow and devised a way to quickly provide “frontier preachers” for America. Löhe began advertising for recruits. Those suitable for his program would move into his parsonage in Bavaria, where he would educate them for a short time and provide books on practical matters such as preaching, leading worship, teaching catechism, and other functions of a pastor. The recruits were then sent, passage paid, to America with enough studies to occupy their time aboard ship. Once there, they made their way to another pastor, Rev. Wilhelm Sihler, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne. They would spend another period of time in Sihler’s parsonage, and then they were sent to vacant Lutheran congregations on the American Frontier.

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

The LCMS has always had two seminaries. Both serve the church well. Both have very different roots. *Concordia Seminary, St. Louis* was founded by the Saxon Immigrants in Perry County in 1839 (see part 1). It began as a teacher’s college and seminary, all in one. It was founded on the German education system, where many years of study were required for the education of pastors. (As an example, the first graduate of that school to receive a call was the same year as the founding of the LCMS, eight years after the seminary was founded.) After the formation of the LCMS in 1847, the St. Louis seminary was nick-named the “theoretical seminary”. It was the seminary that carefully groomed professional theologians not only as pastors, but also as professors and other leadership positions for the church.

As previously mentioned, Rev. J.K.W. Löhe felt the need so great for pastors on the frontier that he devised a rather vocational approach to teach basics of being a pastor and sent them out. These men were called Löhe’s *Sendlinge* in German, or “the sent ones.” The process, from start to finish, took less than one year, in contrast to the lengthy process at the St. Louis Seminary. While the official “start” of *Concordia Theological Seminary* as an institution is 1846, Löhe “gifted” the seminary to the new Synod (LCMS) in 1847. Because of the very different amount of time and approach, the Fort Wayne seminary became known as the “practical” seminary. The difference between St. Louis and Fort Wayne could also be thought of this way – St. Louis was the “academic or university” Seminary. Fort Wayne was the “preacher’s trade school.” For at least 75 years, Fort Wayne (later Springfield) graduates received only a certification to be an LCMS pastor; no academic degree was given. The basic differences began to change in the 1930s and ‘40s, when the Springfield/Fort Wayne program began to adopt more rigorous academic standards. Today, the education received, and degrees given at one pretty much is the same as the other. Only don’t say that to either a St. Louis or Fort Wayne grad... they will claim THEIR Seminary is the better one!

Next Month: Franconian Colonies in Michigan

August Lawn Mowers

The week of July 31 – August 6 – Leonard Delaney
The week of August 7 – 13 – Bob Zimmerman
The week of August 14 – 20 – Don Warsaw
The week of August 21 – 27 – Roy Whitehouse
The week of August 28 – September 3 – Kenneth Whitehouse



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.

Ladies Aid/LWML

Eight ladies met on July 14th for the Ladies Aid/LWML meeting at 7 PM in the fellowship hall. After the meeting was called to order, the LWML song was sung and the LWML Pledge was said by the group. A devotion was read by Deb Martin, in the absence of Annette Warsaw who was just returning from the National Youth Convention. The topic entitled “What God Does For Us” was given by Marsha Warsaw. Roll call was answered by a favorite vacation. Marsha Warsaw, substitute secretary, read the minutes from the May meeting, and they were approved as read. The mites were collected. Connie Warsaw gave the treasurers report which showed a balance of \$3143.27 after a very successful bake sale. The treasurer’s report was approved. Correspondence was read from our adopted student. Wilma Grussing reported on cards she had sent in the last two months. Terri Hooker reported we have completed eighty-one quilts. Next quilting dates were announced as August 1st and August 3rd.

In old business Brenda Hendricks thanked all the members who supported the adopted family since our last meeting. She thanked all who baked items for the July 4th Bellflower bake sale and to those who helped set up the tables and worked at the sale. The sale made a profit of \$920.25. The money that was put in the box of left-over baked goods the following Sunday was added to the Mite Box collection. She also thanked Diana Zimmerman and Barb Whitehouse-Gercken for visiting the shut-ins in June.

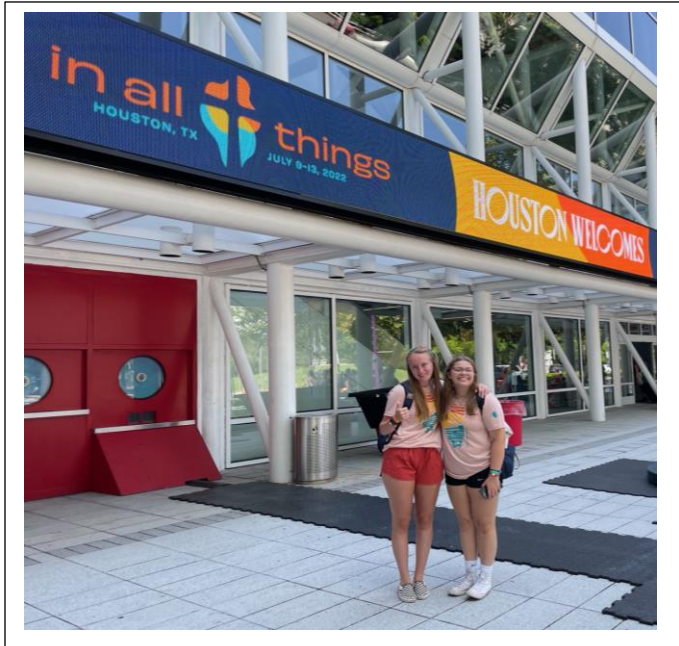
The first item of new business was determining the amount of money per month the group wanted to give to support a Seminary student for the next year. We cannot support Jackson Scofield, our last Seminary student, because he goes out on vicarage. A motion was made to give \$75 a month from September to May to support a new student. The motion passed. The Danville Zone will be making 80 health kits and 80 school kits for the campaign of “What’s Your 80?” in celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the National LWML. Each group in the Danville Zone will make six of each so our group will be assembling those at the September Meeting. Deb Lammle and Sue VanWakeman will oversee the August luncheon scheduled for August 10th and will communicate details in the bulletin. A motion was made and passed to purchase a gift for the upcoming bridal shower at the church.

The next meeting will be on September 8th at 7 PM. Annette Warsaw will have topic, and Terri Hooker and Brenda Edwards will serve refreshments.

Ladies Aid/LWML Luncheon

All Ladies Aid/LWML members and guests are invited to a lady's luncheon on August 10th, at Jack's Café in LeRoy at 11:30 AM. If you are interested in attending the luncheon, please sign up on the list on the back bulletin board. Please indicate on the list the number of guests that you are bringing so the reservation number can be called in a few days in advance.

Youth Gathering



The National LCMS Youth Convention was held in Houston, Texas, on July 9th -13th. Jenna Clemmons and Addi Warsaw attended the convention from our congregation. Kim Clemmons and Annette Warsaw accompanied them. These are a few words from the girls about their experience.

From Addi Warsaw: This summer I went to the LCMS Youth Gathering, and I made lifelong memories. First of all, Houston, Texas is hot in July....hot and humid! However, that did not stop us from praising the Lord and eating some good food. It was really inspiring to see so many kids my age praising God and believing in what I do. I could feel the love of Jesus in Minute Maid Park when we sang “Amazing

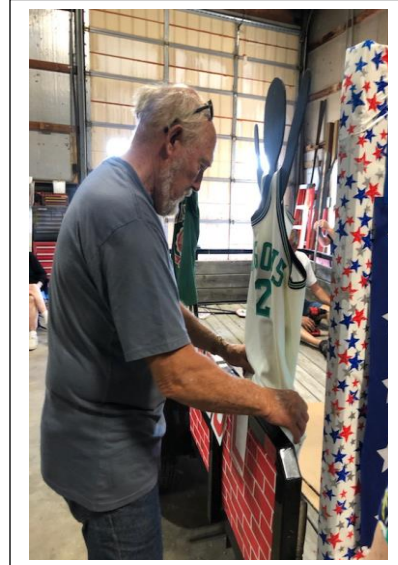
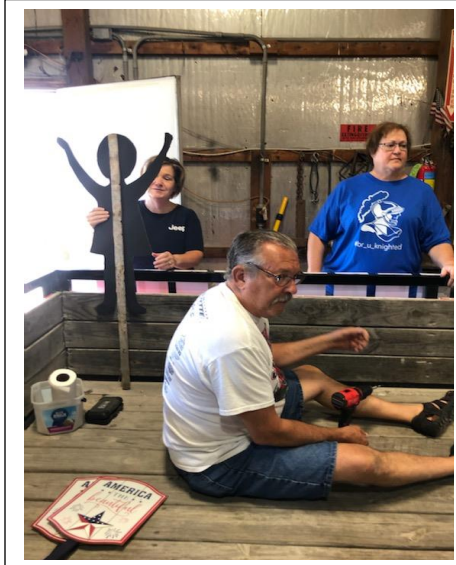
Grace” and our personal favorite, “A Mighty Fortress”. We went to a couple of sessions, and the best one I attended was about making decisions. The speaker talked us through asking God for help, whether it be a life altering decision or something as simple as “Should I take Spanish next year?”. He gave us an acronym, TRUST. T- Turn to the Word. R – Reflect with the right people. U – Unpack your motives. S – Soak it in prayer. T – Take a step of faith. This session was very helpful to me and outlined clearly what to do in a time of need. Overall I learned that no matter what”Jesus is in all things!”

From Jenna Clemmons: The time I spent in Houston, Texas at the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering is something I will always remember. The opportunity to interact, learn, and worship with 18,000 other Lutherans my age was awesome! There were so many activities and opportunities to participate in each day. I especially enjoyed the Mass Events held every evening in the Minute Maid Stadium. This year's theme was “In All Things” and this message was carried out in each day's teachings, such as “Jesus Creates All Things”, “Jesus Reconciles All Things”, and “Jesus Reigns Over All Things”. I really enjoyed the way Pastor Zach Zehnder was able to get his message across in a way teens like me could relate to. It was also a memorable event to participate in a worship service and receive Holy Communion led by Reverend Matthew Harrison, President of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend this gathering!

The girls will share more of their experiences with the congregation after church on Sunday, August 21st.

Church Float

“God Shed His Grace on Thee” was the theme for the church float for the July 4th Bellflower Parade. This phrase comes from the song America the Beautiful. The float depicted the beauty of Bellflower as the agricultural crops and the people who make up the town of Bellflower. Thanks to Jill Hardesty, Brenda Hendricks, Terri and Dwight Hooker, Connie and Don Warsaw, Sandy and Lee Whitehouse, and Diana and Bob Zimmerman for helping to assemble the float. Thank you to Steve Warsaw for his trailer to build it on and for pulling it in the parade. Thank you to Lee Whitehouse for obtaining the FS building in Bellflower to construct it in. Thank you to Sandy and Lee Whitehouse for riding on it and throwing out the candy. The float won second place and a \$30 cash prize.



Quilting

The ladies will be tying quilts for Lutheran World Relief on Monday, August 1st, at 8 AM and on Wednesday, August 3rd at 12:30 PM in the fellowship hall. All ladies of the congregation are invited to tie knots. The group has made 81 quilts since October when the last collection day was held.



08-07 Sue VanWakeman
 08-08 Phyllis Hasty
 08-08 Linnea Warsaw
 08-09 Annette Warsaw
 08-18 Ashley Genzel
 08-24 Pam Christians
 08-25 Butch Sprau
 08-26 Ross Warsaw
 08-28 Sarah Ford
 08-29 Jill Hardesty
 08-29 John Lammle
 08-29 Kari Genzel
 08-30 Will Delaney

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Bible Class</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
June 26	46	10	3
July 3	51	7	1
July 10	57	6	2
July 17	40	10	2
July 24	43	8	1



8-1-2020 Mackenzie and Chase Zimmerman
 8-8-1981 Carolyn and Doug Majercin
 8-8-1998 Cindy and Shane Zimmerman
 8-25-2001 Tiffani and Brad Lutz
 8-26-1967 Diana and Bob Zimmerman

Back to School Prayer

Almighty Father, Everlasting God, hear my prayer over each child as they head back to school. Steady their hearts and calm their anxieties as they prepare for a new school year. Protect them and keep them safe, allowing them to focus on learning and growing. Open their ears to hear wisdom. Help them seek understanding and insight. Lead them to make wise choices and mercifully correct them when they don't. May they feel your presence daily in their school and seek to reflect your love to all around them. Open their eyes to see through love, their ears to hear your wisdom, their minds to learn knowledge and understanding, their mouths to speak kindness, and their hearts to love others with compassions and grace. Amen.

(Kathryn Shirey from "Prayer and Possibilities")

