

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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

April 2023



From Pastor McPike's Desk...

About one year ago, I started a series of articles to help celebrate the 175th anniversary of the LCMS. This edition looks at the various hymnals of the LCMS over the 175 year history to the present day.

Two events of the Middle Ages lead to what we know today as “the hymnal”, books that contain collections of hymns. One was the technology to make it happen. That technology was the invention of the printing press and movable type, thanks to Johannes Gutenberg in the 14th Century. The other was the Reformation. Before the Reformation, choirs of monks and nuns did all the singing, and the entire service was in Latin. Hymnals were not needed for the laity as they were often more spectators than participants.

As Martin Luther championed the singing of Christian hymns in German by the people, hymnals were produced that collected these hymns into books. Keep in mind, this does not mean that by 1529 there were hymnals in pews (were there pews?) or stacks in the back for the people to use. It simply means that efforts were being made to start mass producing the hymns once they were written.

By the time of the Saxon Immigration and the formation of the LCMS in 1847, C. F. W. Walther was determined that the new Synod would have its own hymnal. The *Evangelische Lutherische Gesangbuch* went through a variety of printings over the years, serving the Synod for over six decades. It has been variously referred to in later years as “Walther’s Hymnal”. Indeed, that name was actually given to it in more of an official way by Matthew Carver who in the last decade translated the whole thing into English. This English translation is available today from *Concordia Publishing House*.

The first official English hymnal of the LCMS was not produced until just before WWI, in 1912. It is called *Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-book (ELH)*. The primary liturgy in ELH is “The Common Service of 1888”. This service has an interesting history. English Lutheranism in the 19th Century was somewhat chaotic, with various English forms being used and no real unity in liturgy. A committee was assembled, consisting of representatives of several Lutheran synods, including the *United Synod of the South* and the *General Synod* (both predecessors of the “United Lutheran Church in America”, an early predecessor of the ELCA). This committee worked through the 1880s to arrive at what became known as the “Common Service” later named “the Common Service of 1888”. This liturgy is found in every English hymnal of the LCMS since, including *The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH, 1941)*, *Lutheran Worship (LW, 1982)* and *Lutheran Service Book (LSB, 2006)*. Of note, many liberties were taken with the service for the form

in the *LW*, including some confusing attempts to avoid high notes above the register of most singers; language was also modernized. A return to the form it took in *TLH* was made in *LSB* (2006), as Divine Service, Setting 3.

Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-book (1912) was significantly larger physically compared to “Walther’s Hymnal”. The German books mostly did not have notes and were small enough to carry to church in one’s pocket or handbag. Indeed, it was common for folks to have their own hymnals and carry them to church regularly rather than handing them out or having them in the pew. Catechism students were presented with a hymnal at confirmation and used it throughout life. A comparison of first-editions of “Walter’s Hymnal” to the later editions shows a practical approach to hymnal upgrades. Any hymns added since the first printing of the book were added as an addendum with higher numbers. Thus, an early “Walter Hymnal” could be used by Germans throughout their lifetimes, perhaps only missing out on some added hymns. But when the pastor announced turning to hymn 35... ALL books had the same hymn 35! Perhaps you have such a book that was given to an ancestor several generations ago!

The Lutheran Hymnal (1941) is the LCMS hymnbook that has the longest history of use in the church. Anyone who became a member of the LCMS prior to 1982 used TLH. It features only one Communion Service, the “Common Service of 1888” (page 15). Because of the unfortunate influence of American Protestantism, TLH also contains a version of the Common Service which makes communion unnecessary (page 5), something that was unthinkable in European churches. (My friend, Pastor Wright at Altamont, calls this service the “dry mass”). The overwhelming musical style of TLH is “Anglican Chant” ... a very basic, distinctive sounding four-part harmony accompaniment. This works for a number of hymns, but not all. The free flowing, Gregorian style of the Christmas hymn “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” quite frankly sounds ridiculous when forced into blocky, Anglican chant cords. Yet... TLH features it that way anyway! And anyone who tried to sing “Oh Come, All Ye Faithful” as presented in that book (TLH 102) will recognize the attempt to force that hymn to conform. Terrible!

Next month: *Lutheran Worship* (1982) – a miracle and a mess

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday service will be held on April 6th at 7 PM and Good Friday service will be held on April 7th at 7 PM. The resurrection of our Savior will be celebrated on Easter morning, April 9th, at 7 AM.

Mowing List

Yes, spring will be here soon!! The mowing list for 2023 was printed in the March newsletter. If you cannot mow on your designated date, please trade with someone on the list. If you cannot mow, please let John Grussing know one week in advance at 309-498-5080. There is also a list posted on the back bulletin board.

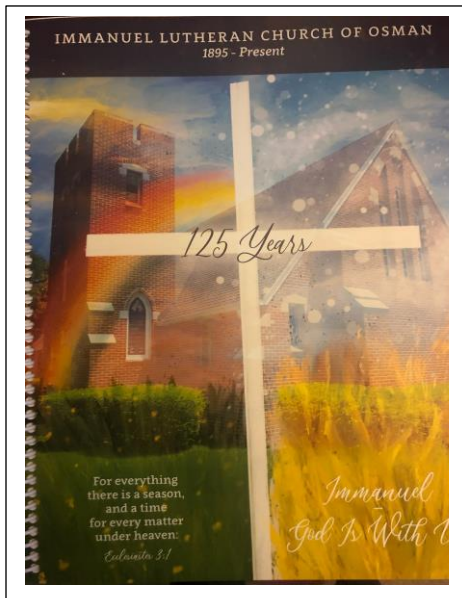
Quarterly Voters Meeting

The quarterly voters meeting will be held on Sunday, April 23, immediately after the worship service.

Ladies Aid/LWML Meeting

Seven ladies met on March 9th for the Ladies Aid/LWML meeting at 1 PM in the fellowship hall. After the meeting was called to order the LWML Pledge was said by the group. The opening devotion was given by Terri Hooker. The topic was given by Connie Warsaw and was entitled “Women With Jesus at the Cross and the Tomb”. Roll call was answered with a Bible verse on forgiveness. Marsha Warsaw, substitute secretary, read the minutes from the February meeting, and they were approved as read. The mites were collected. Connie Warsaw gave the treasurer’s report which showed a balance of \$2,184.99. She also collected dues from the members for the current year. The treasurer’s report was approved. The correspondence consisted of a thank you from our newly adopted Seminary student, Nicholas Brusick who is from the Peoria area. Wilma Grussing reported on cards she had sent in the last few months. Terri Hooker reported that the group has completed 53 quilts since last October. The group decided that in April the quilting dates will be April 11th and 13th which is a Tuesday and Thursday. 74 pillowcase dresses for Dresses for Africa have been completed. The group hopes to reach 80 by May for the “What’s Your 80?” campaign for the 80th anniversary of the national LWML. In old business the group discussed the adopted family and the rotation of food committees. President Hendricks thanked the members that donated food for the Ash Wednesday soup supper. The group discussed serving brunch and lunch to the Zone Pastors on March 14th in the fellowship hall. The Danville Zone Spring Fling which will be hosted by our ladies along with the Thomasboro and Loda ladies in March was planned by the group. Everyone was encouraged to help. The CID convention will be held on April 28-29 in Quincy. Our group will need a voting delegate. The National Convention will be in Milwaukee in June. Delicious desserts and snacks were prepared by Terri Hooker and Diana Zimmerman and were enjoyed before the meeting. The next meeting will be May 11th at 7 PM. Deb Martin will have topic and Brenda Edwards and Marsha Warsaw will serve as hostesses. The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

History Book



The history book which covers the years of 1995 – 2021 is being printed this week at ProType Printing in Paxton. The estimated completion of this job is this upcoming week. The cost of the printing of this 176 page book is approximately \$50, but the congregation is going to use the 125th Centennial Celebration money that was not used for the celebration in 2021 to pay for part of the printing so each person will owe \$25 per book. The book can be purchased with cash, or a check made out to Immanuel Lutheran Church with “history book” written on the memo line. The money will be collected when the books are distributed. The distribution will be in the fellowship hall after a Sunday worship service. Watch for an update on a distribution date. There are a few extra books, so it is not too late to get one if you did not sign up for one earlier.

Easter Lilies

This year the Easter lilies that adorn the altar area will be purchased by the Altar Guild so there will NOT be a member donation sign-up sheet on the back bulletin board.

Lutheran Witness Subscriptions

It is time to renew subscriptions to the Lutheran Witness. If you would like a subscription and have never had one, please contact Brenda Hendricks before April 1st. The congregation pays for the subscription.

Holy Land Tour

Dear friend,

I am organizing a tour of the Holy Land in October/November of 2024. I have always wanted to see the land of the Bible with friends. This is a big endeavor, and I am asking for help. If you or anyone you know might be interested, forward this on to them. Anyone can contact me for more information at the numbers below. There is a brochure about the trip on the back elder pew.

Thank you,
Pastor Jim Wright
Immanuel Lutheran Church
203 E. Division St., Altamont, IL 62411
Office 618-483-6395 Mobile 217-994-1116

Mother – Daughter Salad Supper

The LWML ladies of Peace Lutheran Church in Thomasboro will be sponsoring a Mother-Daughter Salad Supper on April 30th at 4 PM. (The doors will open at 3 PM.) It will be held at the “Venue at 600” which is located at 600 Commercial Street in Thomasboro. The speaker is Shauna Green, the head coach of the University of Illinois Women’s Basketball Program. Bring your mother, daughter, sister, best friend, and join in the good food, fun, and fellowship! If you would like to bring a salad, please do so. There is limited seating so please call Ronda Scott at 217-643-7472 for reservations by April 23rd. A freewill donation will be accepted at the door for a charity of their choice. All women of the congregation are invited.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Aaron and Rong Warsaw on the birth of their baby boy, Chris Lynn, on February 28th. Steve and Marsha Warsaw are the proud grandparents, and Mia Warsaw is the proud sister. May God continue to care for this new family.





Chase Zimmerman.....04-03
 Courtney Williams.....04-03
 Erik Henriksen.....04-08
 Connie Warsaw.....04-12
 Leonard Delaney04-17
 Steven Sprau.....04-18
 Gina Feit.....04-19

Hallie Payne.....04-23
 Bob Zimmerman.....04-23
 Linda Warsaw.....04-25
 Kristan Hansen.....04-25
 Deb Lammle.....04-



Alicia and Nicholas Haggin..... 04-28-2007

Statistics

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Worship</u> | <u>Bible Class</u> | <u>Sunday School</u> |
|-------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| February 26 | 40 | 14 | 2 |
| March 5 | 43 | 15 | 0 |
| March 12 | 38 | 10 | 3 |
| March 19 | 42 | 17 | 2 |

“Remember Me”

The holiest week of the year for Christians is upon us, as we remember the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and prayerfully walk the path of His suffering, death, and resurrection for our sake.

It is appropriately, a solemn time, but it should also be a season that fills our hearts and lives with a grateful grasp of our “great salvation” (Hebrews 2:3). So, what, could be more fitting than to pray our way through the week? But what should we pray? I have a suggestion. It’s a simple prayer, easily remembered and repeated – just two words – but it’s one of the richest and most effective prayers we can pray. It’s the prayer that reached out to Jesus while He was hanging on the

cross, in the last moments of His earthly life. One of the thieves that were crucified on either side of Him uttered the eleventh-hour request, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom”. (Luke 23:42)

“Remember me.” Simple enough. But there’s so much more to those two words than memory. To the ancient Hebrew mind, remembering was no mere mental recall; it meant turning your attention to someone and acting forcefully and effectively on that person’s behalf.

When we pray “Remember me”, we are asking God to do for us as He did for Noah, Abraham, Rachel, and the thief on the cross. We are asking God to turn His face toward us, to bless us and keep us. We are asking Him to act on our behalf and on behalf of those we hold dear. We are asking for His help. For strength. For peace. For mercy and grace. All this – and more – in just two words: “Remember me”. Make that your Holy Week prayer. Let it lead you all the way to resurrection joy! (“2 Words to Pray During Holy Week” by Bob Hostetler)

Danville Zone LWML Spring Fling



The northwestern breeze and the light snow did not hinder the Danville Zone LWMLers from driving to Osman on Saturday, March 18th for the Spring Fling. The theme was “Bloom and Grow in God’s Love”. The registration table manned by Diana Zimmerman and Marsha Warsaw welcomed the ladies, had them sign in, and gave them a name tag. The ladies from Peace Lutheran Church in Thomasboro and the ladies from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Loda helped host the brunch which consisted of egg casseroles, breads and coffee cakes, and fruit salad.

The speaker was Mary Dickinson, a master gardener, from Loda. She spoke on growing succulents. The Loda ladies provided

the door prizes which were Shamrock plants given to ladies in certain categories – like oldest, most grandchildren, etc. They also provided table favors which were small flowerpots with a pack of seeds.

A skit was performed after the speaker. The skit was taken from the LWML website and was entitled “Ready, Set, Grow”. Annette Warsaw, Connie Warsaw, Marsha Warsaw, and Brenda Hendricks performed the skit which had a setting of a garden club group discussing flowers but each of them referred to a verse in the Bible.

The registration fee was \$5 or a donation to Will’s Garden at the Carle Foundation Hospital on the roof. It was started in memory of a young boy who died of cancer at Carle. A donation of \$335 was collected.

Readers

Before COVID we had volunteers who read the Old Testament Reading and the Epistle Reading each Sunday from the lectern. If there is enough interest, this practice is ready to be initiated again. If you are interested, there is a sign-up sheet by the flower chart on the side bulletin board. The Sundays are listed, and the next month’s inserts are tacked next to the signup sheet.

