

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OSMAN

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC
Reverend Justin Schmidt

March 2012



He shall come down like rain upon the
mown grass: as showers that water the
earth. Psalm 72:6

Church Council Minutes

The Church Council Meeting held on Tuesday, February 14, 2012, was called to order by Chairman Rick Hardesty in the church Annex with Pastor McPike opening the meeting with a message from Mark, Chapter 9.

Members in attendance: Mike Hendricks, Jill Hardesty, Christie Delaney, Annette Warsaw, Rick Hardesty, Roy Whitehouse, Aaron Warsaw, and Pastor McPike.

Secretary's Report:

Secretary Jill Hardesty read the minutes from the January meeting. A motion was made by Mike Hendricks to approve the minutes as read. Second by Aaron Warsaw. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Mike Hendricks gave the Treasurer's Report with a balance of \$70,804.06 as of January 31, 2012. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Aaron Warsaw. Second by Annette Warsaw. Motion carried.

Treasurer Hendricks also discussed the monthly mission contribution and available organizations. After discussion and some clarification on who or what organizations can receive these funds, a motion was made by Annette Warsaw to make a contribution to Christ Lutheran School in Buckley, IL. Second by Christie Delaney. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor McPike mentioned the congregational survey that was discussed at the January Voters Meeting. John Lammle provided some document input to the Council from a human resources standpoint. Each Council member was given the information to look over and bring back questions at the March Council Meeting. Pastor will also try and get information from his old church in Nebraska for reference.

- Pastor McPike suggested for the 2013 Voters Meeting in January to possibly have a sample ballot in the newsletter one month before the meeting with all listed for offices and to submit names via email in writing to avoid any communication errors. Further streamlining of the process would help that.
- The Council has decided that the monthly meeting dates will be the first Tuesday of each month for 2012.
- An uninterrupted power supply (UPS) has been purchased for the computer in the church office. Thank you to Larry Lutz for his donation.
- As of Easter time frame, Church Secretary, Karen Bryan, will resign her position to spend more time with family. The Osman Council is looking for someone to job shadow Karen until then to learn the position for the bulletins and newsletters. If you're interested, please see Pastor McPike or Chairman Hardesty.
- Pastor has a training workshop for his continuing education in Springfield. The cost of the workshop is \$80.00.
- The Youth Group will be taking all confirmands and Youth Group members to the Passion Play in Bloomington in March. More information will be coming out at a later date.

Elder's Report: The 2012 Elders Schedule has been given to all elders and to the Church Secretary.

Sunday School Superintendent's Report: Annette has ordered the VBS kits for 2012. She'll be requesting June 24-June 28 for VBS and a July 1st program at the church. A survey will be asked for in the next few weeks and to get those dates on our families personal calendars. The theme of VBS will be "Amazing Desert Journey."

Trustee's Report: No report.

Old Business:

- The installation of the double door in the church hall update will be ready for the April Voters Meeting, according to the committee. A vote will take place of the committee's door selection with Trustee's approval. Then scheduling of installation with Dick Johnson will be done to complete the project.
- The Youth Group and Fellowship Club combined for a great turnout on Saturday, February 4th at the Bellflower Gym. Brats, hot dogs, chips, and baked beans were served, along with plenty of volleyball, basketball, Euchre, and Dominos! Thirty-five were in attendance. The committee's felt this was a very worthwhile gathering.

New Business:

- Chairman Hardesty announced the New Member Reception will be held on March 11th. We'll be celebrating and welcoming the new members to Osman. Kristine Zimmerman, Ashley Hadler, and new transfer's, Theresa Van Wakeman-Wilson, Jim and Sue Van Wakeman and the Henriksen family. Please join us after church in the Hall for cake and punch.
- Summer Vicar program was discussed. Pastor is waiting to talk to the Seminary about it at the end of this month when Vicar paperwork is due into the Seminary.
- Chairman Hardesty is asking for a volunteer to type "official acts" into a computer database from our paper book. There is no set time limit, but he'd like to get this completed as soon as possible. If you're interested, please let Pastor McPike know.
- An online version of the monthly newsletter is available. If you are interested, please email Pastor at pastor@osmanlutheran.org. You'll begin receiving those after the next printing. Also, if you see someone hasn't picked theirs up or they don't attend often, it would save paper and stamps for you to assist us to take theirs to them. Thank you! The paper version of the newsletter will still be available.
- Pastor will be showing a Walther movie to be held in the church Hall on Sunday, April 22nd at 5:00 p.m.
- Annette Warsaw mentioned it's been four years since church and family pictures have been taken and suggested we contact Olan Mills. Jill Hardesty will contact them for more information and be brought up at a later date.

The next Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 6, 2012.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Aaron Warsaw. Second by Roy Whitehouse. Motion carried with adjournment with the Lord's Prayer at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jill Hardesty, Council Secretary

New Parents/Grandparents!

Amanda and Chuck Amdor are the parents of a son, James Dean, born February 10, 2012. Grandparents are Don and Connie Warsaw. James is named for several people. Chuck's middle name is James as well his dad's (Paul) middle name was James. There are great-grandfathers on both sides of the family with the name James and Don's middle name is Dean. May God bless this new family.

Youth Group Valentine's Dinner

The Osman Youth Group would like to thank everyone that attended our Valentine's Dinner (February 18, 2012). We hope that everyone enjoyed the evening and enjoyed the different seating set up in the Fellowship Hall. We made over \$300.00 for our youth activities. The kids learn so much every time we host this type of event and we're so very proud to be watching them grow and learning lessons that will last a lifetime. Thanks to all of the parents for their support and assistance during the year.

A special thank you to our honorary members, Darryl Redding and Will Delaney. Their help is so very much appreciated. We're looking forward to attending the Passion Play in March in Bloomington. Rick and Jill Hardesty

Passion Play

Watch the bulletin for the exact date that the youth will be attending the original American Passion Play at the Bloomington Center For The Performing Arts. Those attending will take a spiritual journey and travel with the living Christ, meet his Apostles, and follow his ministry. The play is historically and biblically accurate, and is the oldest continuously performed Passion Play in the United States. Some of the memorable scenes include the miracle at Cana, the raising of Lazarus, Christ walking on water, the triumphant Entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, the Garden of Gethsemane, the trials of Jesus, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and the Ascension. Witness the greatest story ever told where Christian history comes to life! (All performances are held from 2:00-5:30 p.m. and money for this event will be paid by the Immanuel Lutheran Youth Group.)

Acolyting in March

The following confirmands will be acolyting during March:

March 04	Hannah Duncan
March 07	Mackenzie Delaney (Lent)
March 11	Chase Zimmerman
March 14	Cheyenne Zimmerman (Lent)
March 18	Mackenzie Delaney
March 21	Hannah Duncan (Lent)
March 25	Chase Zimmerman
March 28	Mackenzie Delaney (Lent)

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, March 6, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex.

Ladies Aid Meeting

Ladies Aid will meet on March 7, 2012, at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Roll Call is a verse on "love." All ladies of the congregation are welcome!

LWML Meeting

LWML will meet on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies of the church are invited. Wilma Grussing will have the topic and Karen Bryan and Shirley Sprau will serve refreshments.

Thrivent News

Choice Dollars! All members that qualify for choice dollars should have received a letter in the last few weeks asking you to indicate who you want your money to be donated to. If you want to continue to give it to our congregation, you need to mark the box indicating that. If you choose another organization, you will be asked to list it at the bottom of the letter. If you did not get a letter, but have been eligible for choice dollars in the past, please see Brenda Hendricks.

Benefit Supper! A benefit soup supper will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2012, from 4:30-7:00 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall. The recipient will be Charles "Chuck" Poland, brother of Carolyn Heinze. He resides in Newman, Illinois, and was originally diagnosed with thyroid cancer which has spread. He and his wife have four grown children and many nieces and nephews live in this area.

The menu for the supper will include chili, potato soup, oyster soup, sandwiches, pie, and drinks. A freewill offering will be collected. The offering will be partially matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. The sign-up donation sheet is on the back bulletin board. Come out for a bowl of soup and help show God's love for people in our community!

Making Palms into Crosses

Anyone interested in making palms into crosses please meet in the Annex of the church on March 31, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. The palm crosses will be passed out to the congregation during the Palm Sunday service.

Easter Caroling!

The choir and all other interested members will share the joy of Easter to our shut-ins during Palm Sunday weekend. The time and date is undetermined so watch the bulletin for exact details as the time approaches. Let's use our voices to spread the Good News of the Easter season!

Online Database

An online version of our official acts book is needed. If you are interested in typing information into a database, please let Pastor or Chairman Hardesty know. There is no time limit, but we'd like for the project to begin soon.

Silverware, Dishes in Fellowship Hall

There is a collection of mismatched silverware that has been left at the Fellowship Hall during the past years. As you serve on the Lenten committees this year, would you please take a look and see if any of it belongs to you. There are also a few other dishes that have been left (pie plates, etc.).

Special Thank You!

Thank you very much to Susan and Steve Martin for all of their hard work at the church. They have leveled the burn pile and cleaned out and organized the storage closet in the Fellowship Hall and the furnace room. The rusty metal cabinets in the furnace room have been replaced with molded plastic cabinets due to the dampness. Your efforts are very much appreciated!

Thank You!

It is with a heavy-heart that I resign as Church Secretary effective Sunday, April 8, 2012.

I acknowledge and thank Scott Gercken who sent me hymn numbers for our bulletins from 2005-2010 and wrote "From the Organ Bench" in our newsletters from May 2006-July 2007 (member and organist for our congregation until his resignation in July 2010).

I acknowledge and thank Connie Warsaw, Brenda Hendricks, and Debbie Lammle who sent me weekly articles for the bulletins and the monthly newsletters throughout the years.

I acknowledge and thank Jill Hardesty for sending me the monthly Church Council minutes and to Rick

and Jill Hardesty who are the sponsors of our Youth Group.

I also acknowledge and thank the Church Council Chairmen that I worked with through the years: Bob Zimmerman, John Lammle, and Lee Whitehouse.

I enjoyed working with the late Pastor Edgar Peters from September 2005 until he passed away in March 2009. We are thankful for and appreciate all that he did for our congregation and church!

I have also enjoyed working with Pastor Jeff McPike beginning in 2008. He has brought guidance, leadership, clarity, knowledge, vision, and steadfastness to our congregation and church. Thank you Pastor McPike!

I also thank Pastor Justin Schmidt who joined our church family in 2011. He brings the word of the Lord to us with enthusiasm and vigor and he lessens the burden on Pastor McPike!

This church is "special" to me. I was raised in this church, as well as my children, and I have known several members of this church my whole life! May God continue to bless the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman!! Sincerely, Karen Bryan

Prayer Requests

If you have any prayer requests, please contact Pastor McPike or call and leave a message at the church. We will try to keep up with prayer requests, and don't want to leave anyone out, but we won't know about them unless you tell us! Also, hospitalizations will not automatically be included by pastor unless you give him specific permission (to satisfy federal privacy rules).

Office Hours for Pastor McPike

Pastor McPike is available on Tuesday evenings after 7:00 p.m., by appointment, in the Annex office. He is also available on Saturdays, depending on his home visit's schedule. Please contact him if you need to set up an appointment.

Church Website

You can view the Church Website at <http://OsmanLutheran.org>. Weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters are listed as well as other information about our church.

Bulletin/Recording of Worship Service for Shut-ins

If anyone is aware of shut-ins or other people who are unable to physically make it to church every week, let Esther and/or Larry Lutz know so they are included in the "Prayer List," they will receive a copy

of the bulletin, and they will be given a recording of the service if they would like.

Electronic News List

An electronic news list was created to get information to Immanuel members and friends. Please send a note to OsmanNews@n9cqs.com and you will be signed up for the list. Please note, your email address will not be used for any other purpose than for this news list. If you have questions, please ask Pastor McPike.

Bulletin/Newsletter Deadlines

Bulletin Deadline. To have submissions included in Sunday's bulletin, please forward them to Karen Bryan by 12:00 noon on Thursday.

Newsletter Deadline. To have submissions included in the monthly newsletter, please forward them to Karen Bryan by 12:00 noon on the Wednesday before the last Sunday of the month.

Statistics

Date	Worship	Sunday School	Adult Class
01-29	77	8	8
02-05	79	11	8
02-12	87	10	11
02-19	96	11	11
02-22	65	(Ash Wednesday)	
02-26	---	Statistics Unavailable	
02-29	---	Statistics Unavailable (Lent)	

Elder-on-Duty

Marvin Clemmons	Mar	July	Nov
Butch Sprau	Feb	June	Oct
Aaron Warsaw	May	Sept	Jan 2013
Roy Whitehouse	Apr	Aug	Dec

Altar Guild

MarchSusan Martin

Lay Readers

Shirley Sprau03-04
 Aaron Warsaw03-11
 Annette Warsaw03-18
 Marsha Warsaw03-25

March Birthdays

Terri Hooker	03-02
Mike Miller	03-06
Brenda Hendricks	03-09
Shirley Sprau	03-12
Frances Zimmerman	03-13
Melia Warsaw	03-16
Joy Johnson	03-19
Shaun Zimmerman	03-20
Taylor Homann	03-20
Kim Schuh	03-21
Marsha Warsaw	03-21
Byron Christians	03-25
Nikki Gallier	03-25
Matthew Poppe	03-25
Amanda Forrest	03-30
Jerry Reifsteck, Jr.	03-31
Bill Schuh	03-31

March Anniversaries

Shirley and Butch Sprau	03-03
Brenda and Jerry Edwards	03-27
Joy and Skinner Johnson	03-31

God's Fragrant Rose

*A lovely rose with leaves of green
Ascends upon the wall
With crimson red and floral spread
Does make one stand in awe.*

*A fragile thing, a breath of spring
Its petal doth enfold
A tiny bud so delicate
So beautiful to hold.*

*The perfume of its lingering scent
Does take my breath away
As sweet as lilacs on the bush
An intricate display.*

*A picturesque of summer bliss
Red roses on the vine
Doth lace its tender elegance
Around this heart of mine.*

*Could it be, God speaks to me
Through fragrance in the air
Am I not like the gentle rose
Wrapped in His loving care?*

By Marilyn Ferguson