

# ***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*

*January 2017*

**I am the way, and the  
truth, and the life.**

**John 14:6**

**Epiphany Open House.** To help celebrate Epiphany (January 6) and say thank you for your generosity, well wishes and kindness, Pastor and Sharon invite you to an open house at their home in Philo—112 W. Jefferson Street on Saturday, January 7 from 2-4 PM.

### **Church Council**

#### **Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman** **November 2, 2016 Council Meeting**

The Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman held its monthly council meeting on November 2, 2016. Those attending were John Lammle, Bob Zimmerman, Debbie Lammle, Diana Zimmerman, Shirley Sprau, and Pastor McPike. Pastor McPike began the meeting with devotion from Psalm 46, the Psalm for Reformation Sunday. Secretary Debbie Lammle read the minutes from the last meeting. Corrections were noted in the treasurer's balance for October. Diana Zimmerman made a motion to accept the corrected minutes; Shirley Sprau seconded; motion carried. The secretary then read the minutes of the last Voter's meeting for review by the council. Treasurer, Bob Zimmerman, read the treasurer's report with a balance of \$65, 401.93. Shirley Sprau made a motion to accept the report; Debbie Lammle seconded; motion carried. Bob Zimmerman then reviewed areas of potential change in the 2016 budget. He stated he would get with the Finance Committee to finalize the budget before the next council meeting.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor McPike stated that the Reformation kick-off at Immanuel Osman will be held on November 13<sup>th</sup>. On November 20<sup>th</sup> Pastor Ehlers

will be preaching. Pastor has written the Christmas Program, which includes responsive readings by the children. This will be incorporated with a dramatic skit on the writing of the Christmas hymn "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come".

The stained glass window given by the Frances Zimmerman family will be dedicated during the November 20<sup>th</sup> service. The new member recognition will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup>, with donuts and coffee served after the service. The new families will be notified about this special recognition.

Chairman Lammle thanked Bob and Shane Zimmerman for helping install the first directional sign. He stated he was waiting on permission from a land owner prior to install of the second directional sign. Chairman Lammle went over the 2016 church activities. Even though the attendance was down for the Harvest Breakfast, positive contributions were received. Fifty one were in attendance for the Reformation Fest/Pastor Appreciation event and all enjoyed the German polka band. Pastor McPike was thanked for his dedication to Immanuel Osman. Other thanks were given to everyone who helped with the event. The Benefit proposed by the Stewardship Committee will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup> for Jodi Welborn Stockle. Roy and Annette Whitehouse and Dwight and Terri Hooker are coordinating this event.

The Thanksgiving Dinner on November 20<sup>th</sup> was then discussed. Because of the Aaron Warsaw wedding on the same day, it was decided to place a sign-up on the bulletin board to determine the interest in the event, which will determine whether to continue with the meal before the 7pm Thanksgiving Service.

The Christmas Eve Service will be December 24<sup>th</sup> with a hymn sign at 9:30am Christmas morning, and Christmas Day Service at 10am.

Chairman Lammle went over the ballot for the

upcoming election in January. He informed the council that the Staff pay and benefit summaries and job descriptions are coming along. Staff pay was provided by Treasurer Bob Zimmerman. The Staff benefits were then discussed and the council agreed that no benefits are currently provided to paid staff. Chairman Lammle and Bob Zimmerman met with CPA, Gale Helpingstine, to discuss helping Immanuel Osman with the treasurer's job. His fee would be approximately the same amount as the amount paid to Bob Zimmerman by Immanuel Osman, but someone in the church would still be needed to write the checks and take the offerings to the bank. This was tabled till the next council meeting.

Chairman Lammle stated interest had been shown in filling the secretary's job, and that Brenda Hendricks would continue as a temporary secretary through November. The secretary's opening will be posted through November. Pastor McPike stated he established a service plan on the church web site that provides the organist and secretary with hymn numbers for the upcoming services through the end of the year.

New Business: Chairman Lammle would like to present Council recommendations for monthly mission giving to the voters at the annual voter's meeting. Pastor McPike suggested giving to the Back Pack Program at Fisher, Blue Ridge, and Mahomet school districts beginning next fall. Chairman Lammle informed the council that according to the 2011 Immanuel Lutheran newsletter, the \$150 monthly mission money was to be directed to Lutheran groups. It appeared that this was changed to discretionary contributions in the following months of 2011. Chairman Lammle proposed sending \$450 to both the Ft. Wayne and St. Louis seminaries in the first six months of 2017. Pastor McPike suggested that we share the monthly mission money between Lutheran organizations and local groups, but let the voters decide at the upcoming Voter's meeting in January. Chairman Lammle agreed to add this to the agenda for the next annual meeting.

Chairman Lammle provided a policy and procedure for Needy Funds which was reviewed by the council and Pastor McPike. All agreed that they trusted Pastor McPike's judgment when distributing Needy Funds.

The 2017 Activity Calendar was then addressed. Pastor McPike gave the dates for the special Sunday services for the 500<sup>th</sup> Celebration of the Reformation. Pastor suggested serving a German Meal on February 19<sup>th</sup> (the date to recognize Luther's death) instead of the Valentine's Dinner, but continue letting the youth

serve the event. Another Senior Member recognition was then discussed. Discussion continued on special events for the Reformation Celebrations.

Diana Zimmerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Debbie Lammle seconded; motion carried. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Lammle

## **Annual Voter's Meeting**

Everyone is urged to attend the Voter's Meeting after church on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Anyone 18 years and older, who are members of Immanuel Osman, will be asked to sign the constitution prior to the meeting, if you have not done so previously. Normal business and election of officers will take place at this meeting, followed by a potluck in the fellowship hall. Members are suggested to bring meat, vegetable, salad, or desserts; table service and drinks will be provided. If you wish to help take the Christmas decorations down, please stay after the potluck.

## **Ways to Serve**

Please consider signing up for altar flowers, eternal flame, Altar Guild, and visiting the shut-ins for the coming year. The new lists will be posted on the bulletin board at the back of the church starting in January. Thanks to everyone who volunteers their time and talents to help make Immanuel Osman a wonderful place to worship.

## **"Worship for Shut-ins"**

Know someone who can't get to church? Lutheran Ministries from Concordia Theological Seminary produces "Worship for Shut-ins". It airs locally on WCIX-49 Sunday mornings at 7:30am.

# Thank You!

Thanks to Alicia Haggin for the many extra trips to Osman for Choir Practice; Connie and Don Warsaw for gathering the candy and fruit for the Christmas bags; those who donated money for the treat bags; Bob Zimmerman and Butch Sprau for getting the Christmas tree; those who decorated the Church; Pastor McPike for writing the Christmas Eve program; Connie Warsaw for directing the children; Brenda Hendricks for leading the bell choir; the children for presenting the wonderful "Heaven Above To Earth I Come" program; Barb Gaines for picking up the poinsettias and all members who donated a poinsettia; Nick Haggin for writing "Now Praise We Christ Beautifully", Soloists: Pastor McPike, Nick Haggin, Theresa VanWakeman-Wilson, and Sara McPike and the choir for adding their joyous voices to the service, and Alicia Haggin for her skills in accompanying. We treasure our church family for their skills and talents which they give back to the Lord! Thank you all!

**Thank You!** Thank you for the prayers, cards and calls during my stay in the hospital this past week. They all were very much appreciated along with the visits from Pastor McPike. I'm so very grateful to have a church family that is so giving of their prayers and thoughts. Thank you all and have a Merry Christmas! Rick Hardesty

**Thank You!** I appreciated the Osman choir stopping in to sing to me on December 11 so much. You filled the room with outstanding beautiful voices. Thanks so much! Paul Ferguson, Colfax

**Thank You!** Pastor and Sharon want to thank everyone for the gifts at Christmas time, and also the expressions of sympathy at the death of Sharon's father, Don Griffin. Your expressions of love as our church family are very much appreciated.

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

On Sunday, December 11, the Stewardship Committee which consists of Dwight and Terri Hooker and Roy and Annette Whitehouse presented the soup supper benefit recipient, Jodi Burgess, a check for \$6375.52.

The benefit was held on Saturday, November 12, at the fellowship hall with delicious soups, sandwiches, and desserts being served. The check was a combination of the free will offering that was collected on that evening plus some of the Thrivent Choice dollars that our congregation has graciously received from the Thrivent members. Jodi is undergoing continued treatments for Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.



## LWML NEWS

The LWML met on December 8 and began by listening to "A Silent Night" by Amy Grant followed by the LWML pledge. Agnes Martinie had devotion based on Proverbs 8. Barb Whitehouse-Gercken provided the topic on the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter and discussed why we need a Saviour. 10 members were present. Minutes were read by Terri Hooker and Deb Martin provided the treasurer's report with a balance of \$976.03. Both reports were approved. Deb Lammle read an e-mail from our seminary student, Brian Johnston. Thank you's were offered to everyone who participated in LWML Sunday and special thanks went to Terri and Dwight Hooker for boxing up and taking the quilts to Gibson City.

We have completed 14 quilts so far for the next year and 34 pillowcase dresses. The group decided to schedule quilt dates for the first Thursdays of the month and only add Saturdays as needed. Upcoming dates will be Jan 5, Feb 2 and March 2. Terri reported that she sent off 111 quilts in 19 boxes and it appears LWR has used about 104 from our last year's shipment. Several members have completed busy quilts and given them to the nursing home for Alzheimer patients.

Thanks were offered to everyone who donated to our Military Biblestick project. We collected \$875 which was matched by an anonymous donor through Faith Comes by Hearing. The Biblestick they sent us was given to Terri Hooker to give to Nathan to use as he sees fit.

A report was provided by Connie Warsaw on the fall rally at Thomasboro and Brenda Hendricks reported on her Camp Cilca experience.

The group decided to provide Christmas gifts for Pastor McPike and Pastor Ehlers. After some discussion, the group decided to have refreshments after the Ash Wednesday service on March 1 instead of a meal prior to the service. Brenda Hendricks and Barb Gaines volunteered to be on the committee for this.

As a result of the zone meeting, the group voted to send \$75 to national in honor of the LWML 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. After approval from members, toys were purchased to take to Seek and Find in Rantoul. These were delivered on 12/9.

Deb Lammle gave the zone report and stated that each society is asked to donate to a scholarship for the

parochial schools in our district in 2017. This can be either a monetary donation or a fundraiser.

Upcoming events: CID convention in Altamont 4/28 and 4/29, National Convention in Albuquerque June 22-25. Info was shared on transportation costs. Early registration begins 2/1/17 and forms will be in the winter quarterly.

The spring gathering will be hosted by Cissna Park, Milford and Watseka—date to be determined.

After some discussion, the group decided to discontinue the secret pal program and look in to a project to work on throughout the year. Suggestions were donations to local charities or adopting a needy family. We will then just have a grab bag gift exchange next year for Christmas.

Connie Warsaw provided delicious refreshments and Brenda Hendricks served. The next meeting will be on March 9 with Wilma Grussing having topic and Brenda Hendricks and Terri Hooker serving as hostesses.

## Danville Zone LWML

The Danville Zone LWML presidents met at the Country Thyme Tea Room for a Christmas luncheon on December 9<sup>th</sup>, and at the same time brought their collection of toys donated for Seek and Find ministries in Rantoul. After a wonderful meal and a quick game, the group took their toys to the Seek and Find store where they were welcomed and thanked for their efforts in helping those less fortunate to have affordable toys for their families. Thanks ladies at Immanuel Osman for your contribution and thanks to Barb Gaines and Diana Zimmerman for doing the shopping!





## LADIES AID NEWS

The Ladies Aid held their annual Christmas Luncheon on December 7<sup>th</sup> with several guests attending. Besides the delicious food and gift exchange, the group also played a light-hearted game called "Christmas Tree Wrap". Each team was given the same amount of bows, lights, ornaments, and garland to decorate a person as a Christmas tree.

After a limited time, the group judged the completed decorated "trees", and a small award was given! A great time was had by all! For questions regarding tree decorating please see Wilma Grussing!



## CHOIR NEWS

An energetic group of carolers from Immanuel Osman spent Sunday afternoon spreading Christmas cheer to Alma Hassebrock, Wilma Forrest, Marge Morrissey, and Phyllis Burnett along with the residents at Colfax Heritage Manor, Gibson City Annex, and Bridle Brooke Assisted Living at Mahomet. Thanks to Alicia and Nick Haggin for accompanying and directing the choir, for choir members who brought cookies, Shirley Sprau for picking up the poinsettias, and Pastor McPike for reading the Christmas story. The group shared fellowship and pizza together at Monicals before retiring for the evening.



## Statistics

Date	Worship	Sunday School	Adult Class
12/4	60	2	8
12/11	68	4	9
12/18	Church cancelled	Due to weather	
12/24	n/a	0	0
12/25	n/a	0	0

January

## Elder Schedule

January Marvin		

# CONGRATULATIONS!

## January Birthdays

Alma Hassebrock.....01-03  
 Phyllis Burnett.....01-05  
 Sara Kunde.....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  
 Matthew Burgess.....01-27

## January Anniversaries

Rev. Keffie and Angie Deen.....04-02-2014  
 Christie and Leonard Delaney.....01-07-1995

## Please Note...

If your birthday or anniversary has been omitted, please let the church secretary know by email: [secretary@osmanlutheran.org](mailto:secretary@osmanlutheran.org)

Thank You!

## Upcoming Events

January 4<sup>th</sup>- Church Council-7pm

January 7<sup>th</sup>- Open House at Pastor and Sharon's at 112 W. Jefferson Street, Philo from 2-4pm

January 8<sup>th</sup>- Voter's Meeting and Potluck