

# ***THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER***

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## **IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OSMAN**

**The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**



*Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC*

*November 2017*

**In every thing give thanks:  
for this is the will of God in  
Christ Jesus concerning you.  
1 Thessalonians 5:18**

### **From the desk of Pastor McPike...**

#### **Saints Below, and Saints Above**

The first day of November each year is a church festival called "All Saints' Day". As the name implies, it is a day for the church to remember the saints. A very appropriate question to ask in this case is, "Who are the saints?"

In the book of Revelation, St. John identifies saints. "Who are these, and where do they come from?". As we consider just who these people are, it's important to remember what a saint is. Saints are often thought of as those who have saintly behavior. "She's a saint", "He's a saint" are statements made based on some really good qualities observable in a person. As we consider who saints are, it is important to remember what makes a person a saint. Because the number one quality in remembering just who saints are is to remember that saints are forgiven.

Saints are made at the baptismal font, as the power of God enters the lives of people, washes away their sins and brings them into a relationship with God. That identifies all of us as saints, living here on earth as God's children, washed in the waters of Holy Baptism, "washed by the blood of the Lamb". Being a saint is not something that is achieved by exceptional behavior. God declares us to be saints by virtue of His Son's life, death and resurrection. Romans 3 calls Jesus our "Covering of Atonement." He has atoned for our sins, and that atonement covers us, declaring us to be His saints.

The significance of celebrating "All Saints' Day" is in remembering God's rescue of us. The party of saints mentioned in the book of Revelation, then, includes not just the long dead "greats" of the church, such as Old Testament figures Abraham, Moses and David, or New Testament figures like Peter, Paul, John, or even great figures commonly thought of as saints (St. Valentine, St. Patrick, St. Martin of Tours, where the word "Chaplain" originates), but

anyone who has died believing in Christ for forgiveness and salvation. And so, numbered in that grouping of saints are all your relatives who died as Christians.

In my previous congregations, I've followed a newer tradition of the church that includes reading the names of church members who passed from living here in this life to living in eternity over the past year in All Saints Sunday. Because the start of my time at Osman had a somewhat "temporary" status, I did not venture to introduce this custom back when I began in 2008. Since then, I've thought about how best to introduce it. It has been decided that this year, all those who have died since I started in 2008 after Pastor Peters fell will be included. Going forward, we will be remembering only those who have died during the previous year. This will include reading each name of members whose funerals were held since 2008, accompanied by a single toll of the church bell and a moment of silence. In doing so, we are not giving credit or praise to these individuals. Rather, we thank God and celebrate the final rescue of these, His people who were once among us in this life, and at the same time look forward to our own final rescue from sin and death in this world to be taken to the mansions in heaven.

### **Thanksgiving Meal and Service**

"Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song." Psalm 95:2

There are many ways to celebrate and be thankful for all God's gifts in our lives. Let us come together on November 19<sup>th</sup> for a Thanksgiving meal and evening service at Immanuel Osman to do just that. Everyone is invited to this special meal, followed by a Thanksgiving service in the church. Look for further details in the weeks to come.

# Church Council

## Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman Church Council Meeting - September 20, 2017

The monthly council meeting of the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman was held on September 20, 2017. The following members were present: John Lammle, Dave Kunde, Bob Zimmerman, Don Warsaw, Butch Sprau, Steve Martin, Shirley Sprau and Sandy Whitehouse. Pastor McPike was out of town, but sent his Pastor Report ahead of time. Sandy Whitehouse read the minutes from the August council meeting. Butch Sprau made a motion to accept the minutes; Dave Kunde seconded; Motion carried.

### Treasurer's Report:

- The August 31, 2017 balance was \$62,189.55. Bob Zimmerman reviewed the monthly expenses and year to date totals and how we compare to the budgeted amount. We are on track to what we have budgeted. Steve Martin made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report; Don Warsaw seconded. Motion carried.

### Pastor Report:

- Pastor is out of town attending a conference, and will have another conflict for the October meeting. Pastor asked if we could move the October meeting to the 25<sup>th</sup> instead of the planned meeting on Oct. 18. Since the October meeting lands right before the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter voter's meeting, it was felt best to leave the next meeting scheduled for October 18.
- Joy Johnson has resigned from teaching the high school Bible class. She cited a sporadic schedule in attendance of high school students and also her schedule being a bit difficult now and then. The Council discussed how to fill that void. Options were discussed, but it was determined to let Sunday School Superintendent Beth Bidner review and advise the Council.
- Susan Miller will offer blood pressure checks in the Pastor's office after church services on Sunday, Sept. 24. Joy Johnson will assist.
- LMWL Sunday will be held on October 8.
- Reformation fest will be Sunday October 29. The morning service will be the final service of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. There will be a circuit Reformation service in the afternoon at St John, Champaign; also at St. John, Buckley and at Christ Lutheran in Normal. While we will advertise these services, it will probably be a bit hard to make one while having to be involved in setting up for the Reformation Fest.
- Holy Communion will be celebrated on October 1, October 22, and October 29.

### Finance Committee Report:

Per Shirley Sprau, everything is going very well. The accounting firm is making this very easy.

### Elders Report:

Nothing to report this month.

### Sunday School Superintendent's Report:

Nothing to report this month.

### Trustee Report:

Wheel Chair Ramp project:

- Windle Concrete – concrete work is complete. Final cost for concrete and labor was \$9,512.00.
- Railing Quote:
- We have received private donations to go toward the Ramp/Railing project.
- Creative Iron quote is \$7,457.50 and requires 10-12 week-lead time.
- Bob Zimmerman received another quote from JD Construction Services in Foosland. This would be for Transcend aluminum railing with post sleeves, caps, skirts and balusters. The Council decided to install an additional grab bar railing. The total quote for all work, materials and labor, will be \$5,140. Butch Sprau made a motion to accept the JD Construction bid. Steve Martin seconded. Motion carried.
- Surge protection for the church: Brandon and Marvin Clemmons looked at the Church electrical system and will advise on the cost to install a surge protector in Square D panel and review our possible need to upgrade our grounding.
- Reversible Ceiling Fans for the Church Sanctuary. This was considered by the Council in 2015, but was tabled until 2016. This has still not been completed. If an upgrade is needed, then this cost could be added to the 2018 budget. The 2015 quote was \$1,000. Two quotes have been requested.
- HVAC Contract: The Maintenance agreement with Chief Bauer expired in 2015. Steve Martin will get a quote to add the Maintenance contract again and will bring to the October meeting.
- The sound system has been moved to the front of the church.

### Stewardship Committee Report

Nothing to report. A suggestion was made to consider a benefit for the victims of Hurricane Harvey and Irma disasters.

### Parish Nurse Report:

Nothing to report this month.

### New Business:

- Church Property and Contents Policy:
- A draft copy was provided to the Council members to review for future documentation of use of church property and church contents. There will be further discussion of this at the October council meeting.
- 2018 Church Officers: Review ballot and encourage council members to seek possible nominations for positions and bring to the next council meeting. We have several council openings available.

The Church Hayrack Ride and Wiener roast is scheduled for September 24. Responsible duties were discussed. It was mentioned that we may need to consider moving this back into October in future years because of the heat

we've had in September. This will be considered for the future, but then we run into other scheduling conflicts.

- Reformation Fest is scheduled for Oct. 29. Festivities will begin at 5:00pm and the Council decided to hire the German band again. Cost is \$250, but we've paid this with the Free Will Offering in the past. Discussion for Pastor Appreciation gifts was also determined by the Council. A motion to spend \$225 for gifts for Pastors McPike and Ehlers was made by Don Warsaw, seconded by Steve Martin. Motion carried.
- A suggestion was made to purchase a Reformation Banner for \$150. Since Reformation celebration is only a month away, and not sure how long it would take for shipping, it was decided to not purchase the Reformation banner.

#### **Old Business:**

Nothing additional

#### **Upcoming Church Activities:**

- Hayrack Ride/Wiener Roast September 24
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Voter's Meeting October 22
- Pastor Appreciation/Reformation Fest October 29
- Reformation Tour of St. Louis sites TBD
- Youth Harvest Breakfast TBD
- Thanksgiving Service/Potluck November 19
- Christmas Eve Service Program December 24

#### **Closing:**

The next Council meeting will be held on October 18, 2017. The Quarterly Voter's Meeting will be October 22.

A motion to adjourn the September Council meeting was made by Butch Sprau; Seconded by Dave Kunde. Motion carried.

The Council adjourned the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sandy Whitehouse

## **Notes from our Organist**

Over the course of this year during which we have remembered the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, we have sung many of Martin Luther's hymns. The *Lutheran Service Book credits twenty-three texts to him* and I believe we have sung all of them at some point during this year. Some are very familiar, like *A Mighty Fortress* and *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word*. Others are less familiar to modern Lutherans. As we end this year, I would like to remember the less familiar hymns that we sang this year in the order in which Luther published them. They are all based on the timeless theme of God's mercy towards His children, so they can be sung with as much fervor today as they were in 1530.

#### **823 May God Bestow on Us His Grace**

Luther published this hymn three different times in 1524. Like many of Luther's early hymns, it is a metrical setting of a psalm, in this case, Psalm 67. The tune commonly used

with this text is also from 1524, but the text was first published with the tune that is now used for *To Jordan came the Christ Our Lord*.

#### **458 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands**

The chaplain for the Holy Roman Emperor Conrad II (reigned 1027-1039) was a priest by the name of Wipo of Burgandy. When he wasn't busy writing histories about his emperor, he seems to have found time to write both the text and the tune of the Easter hymn, "Victimae Paschali Laudes" (or "Christians to the Paschal Victim" in English). This hymn became the Sequence (a poetic extension of the Alleluia before the Gospel) of the Medieval Easter Mass and eventually a German version of the hymn became popular for those who didn't know Latin. (You can find both the hymn and the sequence at 459 and 460, respectively, in the *LSB*.) In 1524, when Luther published his triumphant Easter hymn, he called it an improved (in German, "gebessert") version of the German hymn. The tune is loosely based on the chant, but Luther and Johann Walter modified so much that it really feels like a new song.

#### **755 In the Very Midst of Life**

Legend has it that a monk of St. Gall known as Notker the Stammerer (+ A.D. 912) was watching as workers constructed a bridge over treacherous waters or perhaps a deep abyss and he began to pray with the words "Media vita in morte sumus" (In the midst of life, we are in death). While modern scholars think that this hymn actually predates Notker by a century or two, it was a well-known all around Christendom at the time of the Reformation. Martin Luther used this ancient hymn as the basis for the first verse of his hymn of trust in the all-merciful God, "Mitten wir im Leben sind" ("In the Very Midst of Life" *LSB* 755), and added two more verses of his own. The German text of this hymn was first published in the *Erfurt Enchiridion* of 1524 and the tune was first published in 1525.

#### **778 Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy**

"Da pacem, Domine" is a Latin antiphon made up of phrases from several different passages of the Old Testament and dating back to the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> century. While the text was well-known around Christendom, it would have never passed the Scripture test of some of the more severe Reformers. Luther, on the other hand, clearly thought it was worth saving and translated into German as prose in 1527 and again in 1529 as a hymn. Luther's tune is based on the chant "Veni Redemptor Gentium" (O Come Redeemer of the Nations). This chant also forms the basis of "Savior of the Nations Come" and "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word." It seems to have been one of Luther's favorites.

#### **406 To Jordan Came the Christ Our Lord**

This is one of Luther's later hymns, published in 1543 in Joseph Klug's *Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert zu*

Wittenberg. In this catechism hymn on Baptism, Luther retells the Biblical story of Christ's Baptism in the Jordan and also lays out the theology of the sacrament in a rhyming metrical way that even the illiterate could memorize and refer back to. The traditional tune, which we used, first appeared in Johann Walther's *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn* of 1524 with the text of *May God Bestow on Us His Grace*. Because the metrical structure of these two hymns is the same, the Lutheran Service Book offers a recently composed tune that can be used for either text.

I hope that singing one or more of Martin Luther's 500-year old hymns every week during this Reformation Year has given us a little peek into his theology, mind, and world. The antiquity of the texts and tunes can make them difficult to approach, but they more than repay the time spent getting to know them. Luther's hymns have taught and inspired Christians for centuries, and have served as models for countless authors and composers, even down to living hymnodists such as Chad Bird and Pastor Stephen Starke. This is a tradition worth handing on to the future – a Godly tradition, not merely a tradition of men.

Alicia Zeilenga Haggin

## Health News from our Parish Nurse

### Diabetes Awareness Month

#### **What is diabetes?**

The pancreas sits behind the stomach and releases insulin to help the body store and use sugar (glucose) and fat from what we eat. Diabetes occurs when the pancreas does not produce any insulin, the pancreas produces very little insulin, or the body does not respond appropriately to the insulin. This later is called insulin resistance. Insulin regulates the amount of glucose in your bloodstream. When the amount of glucose raises to a certain level, more insulin is released by the pancreas to push more glucose into the cells. This causes a drop in glucose in your bloodstream (blood glucose levels). To keep your blood glucose from getting too low (hypoglycemia) your body signals you to eat and release stored glucose from the liver. People with diabetes either don't make insulin or their body cells are resistant to the insulin. This leads to high levels of circulating blood glucose.

#### **What are the types of diabetes?**

There are 3 major types of diabetes.

*Type 1 diabetes* occurs because insulin-producing cells (beta cells) in the pancreas are destroyed by the immune system. People with type 1 produce no insulin and must inject insulin to control their blood sugar. Type 1 commonly starts at age 20 but may occur at any age.

*Type 2 diabetes* occurs when not enough insulin is produced or the body is resistant to the insulin. When there isn't

enough insulin or insulin is not used as it should be, glucose cannot get into the body's cells. Type 2 is the most common form of diabetes. It usually occurs in people over 40 years old and are overweight, but can occur in normal weight people. Type 2 has started to appear more often in overweight young people. Some people can manage their diabetes by controlling their weight with diet and exercise. Others may need to take oral medicine that helps their bodies use insulin better, or use insulin injections. Prediabetes is when a person's blood sugar is higher than normal but not high enough to diagnose Type 2 diabetes.

*Gestational diabetes* is triggered by pregnancy. Hormonal changes during pregnancy can affect the ability of insulin to work properly. This occurs in approximately 4% of all pregnancies. Pregnant women have an increased risk of developing gestational diabetes if they are over 25 years old, above normal weight, and have a family history of diabetes. Blood sugars usually return to normal by 6 weeks after the delivery. A woman with gestational diabetes has an increase risk of developing Type 2 diabetes later in life.

Web MD, other resources, American Diabetes Association, National Institute of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**"Oh come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For He is our God; and we are His people of His pasture, and sheep of His hand." Psalms 95:6-7**

Susan Miller #217-671-0900, [parishnurse@osman.org](mailto:parishnurse@osman.org)

## Celebration for Pastor Schmidt

A special celebration for Pastor Justin Schmidt's 15<sup>th</sup> year in the ministry will be held on Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup>, at St. Luke Lutheran Church in San Jose, Illinois. The worship service will begin at 10:30 with a potluck luncheon after the service. Pastor Schmidt helped Pastor McPike with ministerial duties here at Osman for 18 months from October 2011 to April 2013. If you would like to celebrate with Pastor Schmidt, please tell Brenda Hendricks so she can call in the reservations for lunch by November 12.

## Thank You !

A sincere thank you to the families of Jeannine Henriksen and CJ Warsaw for providing memorial funds to purchase red superfrontal paraments and pulpit and lectern paraments, as well as a matching veil and stole. These were custom made and will be used for Reformation celebrations, and other festival Sundays. Thanks again for your contribution!



## Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid met on October 4 in the Immanuel Lutheran Fellowship Hall. Before the meeting was called to order the ladies joined in a prayer for the families and friends of the victims of the shooting in Las Vegas. After the meeting was called to order, Brenda Hendricks read a devotion entitled "Forgotten, Not Likely" from Lutheran Hour Ministries. Wilma Grussing led the topic entitled "The Source!" from a Quarterly. Five members answered the roll call with a Bible verse on prayer. The minutes were read by Wilma Grussing. Connie Warsaw gave the treasurers' report which showed a balance of \$1559.55. The flower fund treasury balance was reported as \$213.80 after sending several cards to our church members during the month. Brenda Hendricks shared an email correspondence from our adopted student, Chris Walters. Brenda Hendricks thanked all the members who made food and helped serve the Pastors' Conference in September. She thanked all the women who have made quilt tops or helped tie quilts. Special thanks was given to Connie Warsaw for hemming the quilts. Brenda Hendricks then thanked the women who showed up for the church cleaning in September. After some discussion the members decided to host a fellowship hour after the Advent service on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Due to a conflict, the November meeting date needed to be changed. The members chose Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> for the next meeting. Election of officers will take place at that meeting as well as decisions on monetary donations for the year. The meeting closed with singing the hymn "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus". The next regular meeting will be **November 15** with Agnes Watson giving the topic. Shirley Sprau volunteered to do the devotions, and Connie Warsaw volunteered to serve the refreshments. The roll call will be answered with a verse on thankfulness. All ladies of the church are always invited to attend the Ladies Aid meetings.



Brenda Hendricks, Arnita Zimmerman, Connie Warsaw and Diana Zimmerman hold some of the pillowcase dresses the ladies made this year

## In Memory

### Wilma Forrest

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Wilma Forrest who went to meet her Savior on Thursday, October 5, 2017, at the age of 94. Wilma was blessed to be a farm wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Her visitation was held on Sunday, October 8, at the East Lawn Funeral Home in Bloomington and her graveside service conducted by Pastor McPike followed the visitation at East Lawn Memorial Gardens.

## LWML News

### Quilt Dates

Our next dates for quilting will be November 7 and November 9 at 8 a.m. in the hall. Everyone is invited to come. We won't be quilting in December but will resume in January.

### LWML Sunday Thanks

Special thanks to all LWML members who participated or assisted in our celebration on October 8. A big thank you to Brenda Hendricks for giving her PowerPoint presentation during adult Bible class about her experience at the national convention.

## Hayrack Ride and Wiener Roast

An enthusiastic group of Immanuel Lutheran members and friends met on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm for a scenic hayrack ride through the countryside. Upon arriving back at the church, a potluck with grilled hot dogs was held. The kids roasted marshmallows for s'mores, and everyone enjoyed homemade ice cream. Thanks to everyone who helped with this annual event!



## Statistics

Date	Worship	Sunday School	Adult Class
9/24	53	2	8
10/1	48	1	12
10/8	75	2	14
10/15	57	4	11
10/22	59	n/a	n/a
10/29	n/a	n/a	n/a

*Happy  
Thanksgiving*



## Congratulations!

### November Birthdays

Deb Peyton.....11-02  
 Emily Grussing.....11-05  
 Lee Whitehouse.....11-06  
 Malachi Johnson.....11-10  
 Esther Lutz.....11-10  
 Karen Bryan.....11-11  
 Brent Lutz.....11-11  
 Randy Zimmerman.....11-13  
 Steve Warsaw.....11-14  
 Dwight Hooker.....11-15  
 Rick Hardesty.....11-16  
 Mary Beth Duncan.....11-19  
 Agnes Watson.....11-22  
 Nick Forrest.....11-24  
 Jenna Clemmons.....11-25  
 Bill Forrest.....11-25

### November Anniversaries

Annette and Jeff Warsaw.....11-03-2001  
 Stefani and Greg Warsaw.....11-16-2002  
 Connie and John Grussing.....11-19-1999  
 Kim and Marvin Clemmons.....11-21-1998  
 Connie and Don Warsaw.....11-22-1969  
 Anne and Bill Amdor.....11-26-1983

## 2017 Elder Schedule

Jan Marvin	Feb Don	Mar Butch
Apr Roy	May Roy	June Butch
July Don	Aug Butch	Sept Marvin
Oct Marvin	<b>Nov Roy</b>	Dec Don