

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

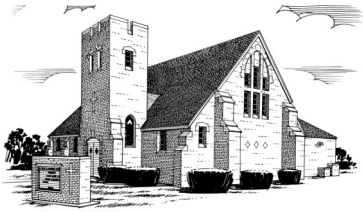
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IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OSMAN

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC



December 2019

Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Confirmation Class Schedule:

December 1 – Class at 8 AM

December 8 – Class at 8 AM

December 15 – Class at 8AM

December 22 – Christmas Program Practice in church during regular class

December 29 – Christmas Break

January 5 – Class at 8 AM

Advent Service

Advent focuses on Christ's "coming", and to celebrate the beginning of the season, Immanuel Osman had our Advent Service on December 4th at 7pm. Following the service, we had a social hour in the hall with cookies and punch sponsored by the Ladies Aid. Remember the reason for the season!

Benefit Soup Supper

Thank you to all the members who volunteered in a variety of ways for the benefit soup supper on Saturday, November 9. Approximately 124 hungry attendees enjoyed the soups, sandwiches, and desserts that were donated by our church members. It was indeed a great outreach project for our congregation. At the time of the benefit, Megan Thompson, our recipient, was seeking experimental treatment for her metastatic breast cancer. The money was going to help with her expenses when she traveled to the state of Virginia for an experimental treatment program. The week after the benefit she, her mother, and her mother-in-law did travel to Virginia only to get the news that she would not be eligible for the treatment program. Then on November 19, Megan was called to her heavenly home. Her funeral services were held on Monday, November 25. A check for \$3838 (\$2338 from freewill offering at benefit added to \$1500 Thrivent Choice Dollars and contribution by church) has been given to her family. The groceries were purchased with a \$250 Thrivent Action Team Card which was applied for by Dwight Hooker. It was a great evening of delicious food and fellowship as our members worked together to help someone in need in our community. A special thanks to the Stewardship Committee for organizing this event.

Decorating the Church

To prepare the church for the advent season, everyone is invited to help decorate the church sanctuary and outside railings. The Christmas tree will be placed in the sanctuary on December 7th, and the remainder of the decorations will be put up on December 14th at 9am. Come out and help your church family with this special activity!

Christmas Treat Bags

Anyone who would like to contribute to the fruit and candy sacks which are given out on Christmas Eve, can give their money to one of the elders: Dwight Hooker, Jim Van Wakeman, Don Warsaw or Bob Zimmerman. Don Warsaw has applied for a \$250 Thrivent Action Team card to help pay for the goodies. We will be assembling the treat bags on December 24th at 9 a.m. and anyone is invited to help.

125th Ornaments

125th ornaments are available until after the 2020 celebration. Please see Debbie Martin, Christie Delaney, Wilma Grussing, or Marsha Warsaw. Thank you!

With Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes to the family of Jodi Burgess Stockle, who passed away on Thursday, November 13, at OSF Heart of Mary Medical Center in Urbana. She is survived by her parents, Gene and Dorothy Welborn, and six children: Matt Burgess, Derek (Laura) Stockle, Mandie (Craig) Cory, Christie (Brad) Allen, Ben, and Aaron. She is also survived by seven grandchildren. Her funeral service was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman on Tuesday, November 19. Burial was at Willow Brook Cemetery in Fisher. May God's comfort and peace be with the family during this difficult time!

With Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Esther Lutz who passed away on November 19th at the Gibson Area Hospital Annex. Her funeral was held at Immanuel Osman on Monday, November 25th. Esther is survived by her husband, Larry, and two sons, Brent (Cora) Lutz and Brad (Tiffani) Lutz. She is also survived by one grandson, Drayton. Her burial was at Willow Brook Cemetery in Fisher. God's comfort and peace to the family as we remember His words: "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live. Everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die!" John 11:25-26

Poinsettias

Anyone who would like to adorn the altar with a poinsettia for the Christmas Eve service, please sign up on the bulletin board by December 22. The cost will be \$8. Please give your money to John Lammle, and make checks payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman. Flowers may be taken home after church on January 6th.

Ladies Aid Christmas Luncheon

All Ladies Aid members, spouses, and guests are invited to the Christmas Luncheon on December 11th beginning on 11am in the Fellowship Hall. Games and a gift exchange will take place before the lunch, which starts at noon. If you wish to participate in the grab bag, please bring a \$12-\$15 gift. You won't want to miss this special event full of good food, fellowship and fun!

LWML Meeting

The next LWML meeting will be held on December 12th at 7pm. This important meeting will include voting on the by-laws for the combined Ladies Aid/LWML, a Christmas skit, and Christmas grab bag. If you want to participate in the Christmas exchange, please bring a \$15 gift to the meeting. Debbie Lammle has the topic and Wilma Grussing and Brenda Edwards have refreshments. Let's get in the spirit by sharing the joy and love of the season with our LWML sisters!

Jake's Boys Music Ministry

We are excited to have the Jake's Boys Music Ministry coming to Peace Lutheran Church of Thomasboro, Sunday, December 8 at 4:00pm. They will sing a variety of gospel music and refreshments will be served following the concert. There will be a free will donation. Please come and bring your family and friends!

Operation Christmas Child

On November 17th the Sunday School kids, the Confirmation class and some adults filled 24 shoe boxes with all the items donated by the congregation and bought with the Thrivent Action Team Visa card. Members of the church donated another 5 boxes for a total of 29 that were delivered to Gibson City Bible Church on Wednesday. A special thank you to all of our church members who donated school items. We couldn't do this worthwhile project without your donations. It costs \$9 per box shipping so much of the Visa card goes for that. Along with the shoe box, each child receives "The Greatest Journey", a 12-lesson discipleship course. Many children hear about Jesus for the first time and through the Holy Spirit believe. Matthew 25:40 "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

Mite Challenge

Thanks to everyone who turned in their mite boxes already, but if you still have a mite box (confirmation class included) please bring to the Christmas Eve program and leave on the elder's pew. The prize will be given out in the New Year!

*May the peace and hope of Christ's birth
be with you now and in the days ahead*

Reformation Fest



Our annual Reformation Fest was held on October 26th with 37 members and friends attending. The tables were decorated with pictures of pastor (for Pastor Appreciation Month) and “things you should know about Martin Luther”. The menu included Brats, sauerkraut, red cabbage, German Potato pancakes made by Pastor McPike, Apple streusel, and black forest cake, along with several other dishes brought by the members. Some of the choir members and Pastor McPike sang the Reformation Polka, accompanied by Alicia Haggin. After a celebration like this, here are some important facts we Lutherans should remember: Martin Luther was the most influential figure of the Reformation. Luther’s 95 thesis represented the symbolic start of the Protestant Reformation in 1517. “Justification by Faith Alone” is at the core of the Lutheran ethic. Luther’s ideas spread throughout Europe. Guttenberg’s revolutionary printing press was central to the spread of new protestant ideas. The selling of indulgences was directly challenged by Luther in the 95 Thesis.

Ladies Aid Meeting

The Ladies Aid of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman met for their November meeting on the 6th at 1:30pm. President Lammle called the meeting to order, followed by singing “We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator”. Devotion and prayer were given. Roll Call and the reading of the minutes from the last meeting were read by Shirley Sprau. The group voted to accept the minutes as read. Treasurer’s report was given by Connie

Warsaw with a balance of \$1725.27. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Connie Warsaw reported that the LWML had not paid their part of the seminary student’s monthly contribution since September. This will be addressed at the next meeting. Wilma Grussing reported that \$213.80 was the balance in the flower fund. Correspondence from Chris Walters, Rev. Dale Meyer, and another first year seminarian were read. In old business, it was stated that 15 quilts have been tied since we sent the quilts to LWR, and 56 pillowcase dresses made. Thanks were given to everyone who purchased Thrivent cards to buy filler for the quilts, pieced quilt tops, tied the quilts, and hemmed the edges. Thanks to Dwight and Terri Hooker for taking the quilts to Gibson for the LWR collection. And thanks to those who helped clean the hall. It was suggested that we change quilting days to Mondays and Wednesdays. It will be discussed at the next LWML meeting before a decision is made. Advent Social Hour was then discussed. Brenda Hendricks volunteered to coordinate the set-up, clean up, and drinks for this event. Every member of Ladies Aid is asked to bring 9x13 bar cookies or 2 dozen cookies to the hall before the 7pm Advent Service. It was voted on and passed that we give \$40 to Concordia Seminary Food Bank in Ft. Wayne and \$40 to St. Louis Seminary Food Bank. Connie Warsaw made the motion to keep the Christmas gifts to the Pastors the same as last year; Brenda Hendricks seconded; motion carried. Members were reminded to give Annette Warsaw money for LCFS before the end of December. The Christmas luncheon was changed to December 11th beginning at 11am. A sign-up was passed around to volunteer for a specific food item to share at the luncheon. The members were reminded to invite a spouse or guest, and bring a \$12-15 gift for a grab bag if they wish to participate.

The President thanked everyone who served as an officer, served on a committee, led devotions and topics, served refreshments, attended meetings, and helped revise the by-laws. The next meeting will be March 12th at 1:30pm, and continue once a month on the second Thursday through the year, except in August and December.

A copy of the proposed by-laws was passed out to the members. If anyone had an addition or correction, they were asked to notify President Lammle within the week. Cards were passed around to sign for Agnes Watson, Karen Bryan, and Esther Lutz. Thanks were given to Shirley Sprau who provided the refreshments for the day’s meeting. The meeting ended with song, prayers, and refreshments.

Misconceptions about Flu Vaccines

Can a flu vaccine give you the flu? No, flu vaccines cannot cause flu illness. Flu vaccines given with a needle are currently made in two ways: the vaccine is made either with a) flu viruses that have been inactivated (killed) and that therefore are not infectious, or b) using only a single gene from a flu virus (as apposed to the full virus) in order to produce an immune response without causing infection. This is the case for recombinant vaccines.

Are any of the available flu vaccines recommended over the others. For the 2019-20 flu season, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends annual flu vaccinations for everyone 6 mos and older with any licensed, influenza vaccine that is appropriate for the recipient's age and health status, including inactivated influenza vaccine, recombinant influenza vaccine, live attenuated nasal spray influenza vaccine with no preference expressed for any one vaccine over another. Talk with your health care provider if you have questions about which one is best for you.

Is it better to get the flu than the flu vaccine? No. Flu can be a serious disease, particularly among young children, older adults, and people with certain chronic health conditions, such as asthma, heart disease or diabetes. Any flu infection can carry serious complications, hospitalization or death, even among otherwise healthy children and adults. Therefore getting the flu vaccine is a safer choice than risking illness to obtain immune protection.

Do I really need a flu vaccine every year? Yes. CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine for just about everybody 6 mos and older, even when the viruses the vaccine protects against have not changed from the previous season. The reason for this is that a person's immune protection from vaccination declines over time, so an annual vaccination is needed to get the optimal or best protection against the flu.

Why do some people not feel well after getting the flu vaccine? Some people report mild reactions to flu vaccination. The most common side effects from flu shots are soreness, redness, tenderness or swelling where the shot was given. Low-grade fever, headache and muscle aches also may occur. If these reactions occur, they usually begin soon after the shot and lasts 1-2 days.

Side effects of the nasal spray flu vaccine may include runny nose, wheezing, headache, vomiting, muscle aches, fever, sore throat and cough. If these problems occur, they usually begin soon after the vaccination and are mild and short lived. The most common reactions people have to flu vaccines are considerably less severe than the

symptoms caused by the actual flu illness.

Is the "stomach flu" really the flu? No. Many people use the term stomach flu to describe illnesses with nausea, vomiting or diarrhea. These symptoms can be caused by many different viruses, bacteria or even parasites. While vomiting, diarrhea, and being nauseous or "sick to your stomach" can sometimes be related to the flu-- more commonly in children than adults-- these problems are rarely the main symptoms of influenza. The flu is a respiratory disease and not a stomach or intestinal disease.

It's not too late to get your vaccine.

From Center For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Susan Miller parishnurse@osmanlutheran.org



DECEMBER 2019



Osman's Upcoming Events

December Upcoming Events

- 1 Advent Begins
- 4 Advent Svc at 7pm - cookies/punch after
- 11 Ladies Aid Christmas Luncheon at 11am
- 12 LWML meeting at 7pm
- 14 Decorate the church at 9am
- 18 Church Council at 6:30pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Service at 7pm



Statistics

Date	Worship	Sunday School	Conf	Adult Class
10/27	51	1	6	14
11/3	52	1	6	12
11/10	48	1	6	12
11/17	63	2	5	13
11/24a	40			
11/24p	31	-		

December Birthdays

Myron Zimmerman.....12-02
 David Hasty.....12-05
 David Brown.....12-08
 Deborah Martin.....12-09
 Darren Peyton.....12-12
 Barbara Reifsteck.....12-16
 Jerred Grussing.....12-17
 Amber Hendricks.....12-17
 Diana Zimmerman.....12-21
 Nathan Hooker.....12-25
 Deb Johnson.....12-28
 John Grussing.....12-31

December Anniversaries

Dorothy and Gene Welborn.....12-20-1953
 Martha and Darwin Warsaw.....12-31-1966