

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**December 10, 2013**  
**6:30 p.m., ILC Library**

**John Urbanski** called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Devotions – Pastor Paul Nelson

Faith Story – N/A

Refreshments – Bob Warner

**Motions:**

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve November minutes.	Mike B.	Shannon F.	Motion carried.
Motioned to allow pastors of Immanuel to perform same gender marriages off church property, as the Spirit guides them.	Brian H.	Lisa A.	Motion carried.

**Action Items Assigned:**

Action items	Assigned	Target Date	Status

**Same Gender Marriage Discussion:** The Council shared what they heard from caring conversations and discussions with members of the congregation. The group agreed they are not yet prepared to vote on whether these ceremonies can be allowed in the Sanctuary, based on what they heard. More time is needed for conversation and prayer on this matter. Suggestions were made to have additional bible studies, education, and caring conversations; further consideration of whether or not to have a congregational vote and the consequences of such a vote. The group agreed to consider a vote on this in the spring.

A follow-up question was raised about whether pastors should be allowed to perform such ceremonies outside Immanuel Lutheran Church property. Council agreed this was a separate matter. Brian motioned to allow pastors of Immanuel to perform same gender marriages off church property, as the Spirit guides them. Lisa Andersen seconded. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports:**

**Secretary's Report – Karen Travis**

- Mike B. motioned to approve November minutes. Shannon F. seconded. Motion carried.

**Vice President's Report – Susan Geitzenauer**

- No report.

### **Financial Secretary's Report – Bob Warner**

- Overall, attendance has declined year over year. See Financial Summary for further information.

### **Treasurer's Report – Brian Nichols**

- Had a significant shortfall in giving for November, and expenses were higher than budgeted.
- Building contributions are consistently covering the mortgage payment, including an additional principal payment of \$5,000.
- More information will be available next month, allowing a decision to be made on the 2014 budget.

### **President's Update – John Urbanski**

- Nominating committee meeting next Wednesday regarding getting people on the ballot for the upcoming annual meeting.
- Each chair needs to have a report prepared for the annual report by the end of the year.

## **Council Reports:**

### **Evangelism Committee – Mike Berdahl**

- Logos are now available for ordering Immanuel clothing.

### **Adult Faith Formation – Lorraine Maenke**

- Upcoming event on January 18 at Tavern on 4 & 5. Sign-up available after Christmas. This is for people who are empty nesters of any age. Starts at 7 p.m. Will brainstorm future events. Appetizers will be provided.

### **Worship, Music and Arts – Janis Cameron**

- The Ascension Choir got more than \$1,600 selling treats.
- Auditions for the musical were held Sunday. Still looking for a few people. Rehearsals start January 5, on Mondays.
- Talked about budget. Won't pay for flowers next year unless someone donates flowers for services.
- Will be looking for some portable risers (safety issue for children's choirs). Will be spending money out of memorials for those items.

### **Properties – Brian Heinzen**

- No report.

### **Senior High and Middle School Youth – Brenda Tonjes and Kirsten Stenoien; Shannon Fleck and Mary Hovet**

- Youth Rejoice is January 19. Will be selling tickets for breakfast. Looking for auction items.
- Immanuel's annual Garage Sale is coming May 3.
- Toys for Tots is this Saturday night at KARE 11 studios.
- Youth Quake is January 31-February 2 and it's held in the Wisconsin Dells. Need more adult volunteers to sign up.
- Senior High, worked on budgets and how much individuals should contribute.
- Just got done with care packages (sent to those who graduated from high school). Last year these went to 57 kids. Special thanks to Shannon Fleck for leading this effort!

### **Stewardship – Paul Stordahl (reported by Pastor Paul)**

- Have 270 pledges, tracking above years past. Out of those, 86 people have increased their pledge and 15 are first-time pledgers. Goal of another 80 pledges by the first of the year.

**Children's Education – Lisa Anderson and Eldri Johnson**

- Talked about what will be happening this Sunday with the kids. Rather than a traditional Christmas program, the kids will do advent. Have been focusing this month on what advent is, how to prepare, baking treats, etc.
- Discussed scheduling some Family First events for January, February and March.

**Social Concerns – Sharon Peterson**

- Recently donated \$500 to Feed my Starving Children and \$2,000 to the ELCA disaster fund for the aid to the Philippines.

**Fellowship Committee – Terri Tomlinson, Kim Brattensborg, and Lynette Gust**

- The Service of Remembrance event was attended by 50 people. Refreshments were served by fellowship.
- More than 90 people attended the Smorgasbord. Thanks to the many people who helped to coordinate this and serve on committees. We will discuss how we will make changes to this event to meet the needs of more people to attend. It is a lot of planning and expense for such a small group of attendees.

**Staff Reports:**

**Martin Rathjen**

- No report.

**Bill Hawkins**

- Changed snow removal service vendor.
- Additional conversation on Thrivent Choice dollars. This money is now part of the general income and if needed must be requested specifically for committee budgets.

**Pastor Susan**

- Wednesday nights in January will have three speakers from international ministries we partner with. All are welcomed to attend. ELCA World Hunger representative will be here on January 8.
- Thanked everyone for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary gift and the opportunity to celebrate with Immanuel.

**Pastor Paul**

- Program staff is still hard at work on what it means to live out the new vision statement, and moving from program to people emphasis. Continuing to move this forward.

**Other Business**

- Next Council meeting is January 14 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Prayerfully submitted,

Karen Travis  
Council Secretary

**Attendance**

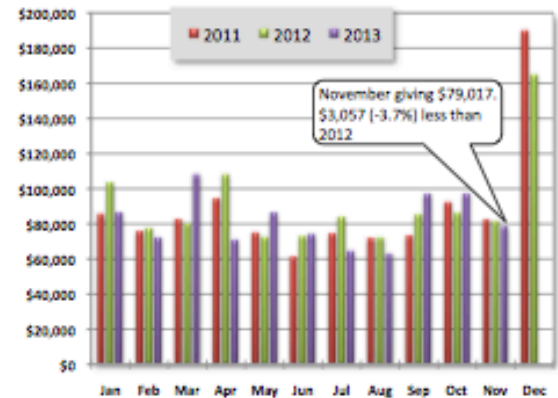
P-Present, NP-Not Present

<b>Name</b>	<b>P/NP</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>P/NP</b>
Lisa Anderson	P	Pastor Paul Nelson	P
Mike Berdahl	P	Brian Nichols	P
Kim Brattensborg	NP	Sharon Peterson	P
Janis Cameron	P	Martin Rathjen	NP
Shannon Fleck	P	Kirsten Stenoien	P
Susan Geitzenauer	P	Paul Stordahl	NP
Lynette Gust	P	Terri Tomlinson	NP
Bill Hawkins	P	Brenda Tonjes	P
Brian Heinzen	P	Karen Travis	P
Mary Hovet	P	John Urbanski	P
Eldri Johnson	P	Bob Warner	P
Lorraine Maenke	P	Pastor Susan Weaver	P

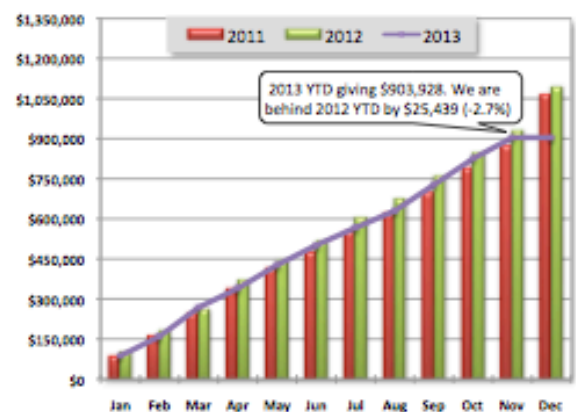
# Income Report

## Immanuel Lutheran Church Income Report for November 2013

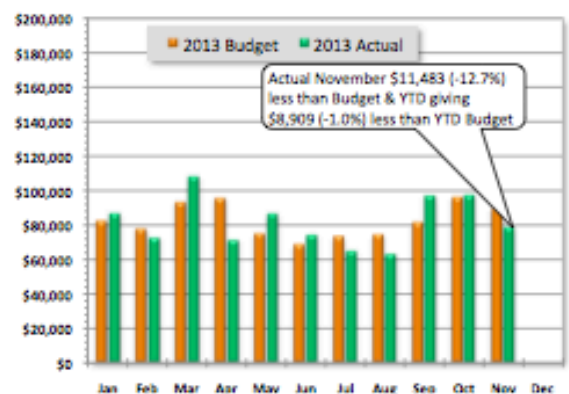
Month	Monthly Giving					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	Var \$	Var %
January	81,681	86,230	103,744	87,046	(16,698)	-16.1%
February	81,946	76,078	78,018	72,714	(5,304)	-6.8%
March	76,533	83,025	80,694	108,598	27,904	34.6%
April	82,488	94,959	108,798	71,449	(37,349)	-34.3%
May	84,582	75,593	73,058	86,953	13,895	19.0%
June	65,110	61,527	73,349	74,499	1,150	1.6%
July	69,531	74,684	84,562	65,157	(19,405)	-22.9%
August	82,890	72,215	72,617	63,296	(9,321)	-12.8%
September	73,435	73,812	85,876	97,427	11,551	13.5%
October	103,989	92,878	86,578	97,772	11,194	12.9%
November	80,006	82,900	82,074	79,017	(3,057)	-3.7%
December	173,149	190,460	165,267	0		
YTD	1,064,363	1,094,635	1,172,653	903,928	(25,439)	-2.7%



Month	Cumulative Giving by Month					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	Var \$	Var %
January	81,681	86,230	103,744	87,046	(16,698)	-16.1%
February	163,627	162,308	181,762	159,760	(22,002)	-12.1%
March	240,160	245,333	262,456	268,358	5,902	2.2%
April	322,648	340,293	371,254	339,807	(31,447)	-8.5%
May	407,230	415,885	444,312	426,760	(17,552)	-4.0%
June	472,340	477,412	517,661	501,259	(16,402)	-3.2%
July	541,871	552,096	602,223	566,416	(35,807)	-5.9%
August	624,761	624,312	674,840	629,712	(45,128)	-6.7%
September	698,196	698,124	760,716	727,139	(33,577)	-4.4%
October	802,185	791,002	847,294	824,911	(22,382)	-2.6%
November	882,191	873,903	929,368	903,928	(25,439)	-2.7%
December	1,055,340	1,064,363	1,094,635	903,928	(190,706)	-17.4%



Month	2013 Monthly Budget vs. Actual					
	Budget	Actual	Mo Var	Mo %	YTD Var	YTD %
January	82,849	87,046	4,197	5.1%	4,197	5.1%
February	78,150	72,714	(5,436)	-7.0%	(1,239)	-0.8%
March	93,889	108,598	14,709	15.7%	13,470	5.3%
April	96,155	71,449	(24,706)	-25.7%	(11,236)	-3.2%
May	75,358	86,953	11,595	15.4%	359	0.1%
June	68,915	74,499	5,584	8.1%	5,943	1.2%
July	73,567	65,157	(8,410)	-11.4%	(2,467)	-0.4%
August	74,710	63,296	(11,414)	-15.3%	(13,881)	-2.2%
September	81,940	97,427	15,487	18.9%	1,606	0.2%
October	96,804	97,772	968	1.0%	2,574	0.3%
November	90,500	79,017	(11,483)	-12.7%	(8,909)	-1.0%
December						
Annual	1,093,002	903,928	-- NA --	-- NA --	(189,074)	82.7%



# Financial Summary

## 2013 November Analysis Summary

November 2013 giving was more than less than 2012 and less than October 2013 budget.

- Actual giving 2013 vs. 2012:
  - November giving: \$3,057 (-3.7%) less than 2012 (\$79,017 vs. \$82,074)
  - YTD giving: \$25,439 (-2.7%) less than 2012 (\$903,928 vs. \$929,368)
- Actual giving vs. budget:
  - November: \$11,483 (-12.7%) less than budget (\$79,017 vs. \$90,500)
  - YTD: \$8,909 (1.0%) less than budget (\$903,928 vs. \$912,837)
- Attendance: Sundays in October 2013: 5 2012: 5

### **Immanuel Attendance: 2012 vs. 2013**

Date	2011	2012	2013	2013 Cum	Variance	Cum Variance
January	3,054	2,784	2,139	2,139	(645)	(645)
February	2,300	3,146	3,309	5,448	163	(482)
March	3,793	3,553	5,149	10,597	1,596	1,114
April	4,616	4,415	2,210	12,807	(2,205)	(1,091)
May	2,417	1,948	2,106	14,913	158	(933)
June	1,595	1,724	1,575	16,488	(149)	(1,082)
July	1,772	1,782	1,435	17,923	(347)	(1,429)
August	1,493	1,544	1,469	19,392	(75)	(1,504)
September	2,495	2,957	2,516	21,908	(441)	(1,945)
October	3,483	2,670	2,651	24,559	(19)	(1,964)
November	3,343	3,111	3,048	27,607	(63)	(2,027)
December	4,208	5,000		27,607	(5,000)	(7,027)
YTD Avg	2,881	2,886	2,510			
YTD Total	34,569	34,634	27,607			

### **Immanuel Lutheran 3 Year Attendance Comparison**

