

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2014
7 p.m., ILC Library**

John Urbanski called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Devotions – Pastor Paul

Refreshments – John Urbanski

Motions:

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve November minutes	Sharon Peterson	Gay	Motion carried
Motion to work with Kairos and the Joshua Group for the next capital appeal.	Brenda	Brian Heinzen	Motion carried

Action Items Assigned:

Action Items	Assigned	Target Date	Status

Council Reports:

Secretary’s Report – Gay Ludvig

Review and approve November minutes.

President’s Report- John

- Nominating Committee update
The committee is in good shape for the January ballot.
- Kyla Rathjen / Mama Hope
John sent around a “thank you” note from Kyla showing her appreciation for the Council giving her \$500. for her fellowship in Budondo, Uganda starting in January 2015.
- Constitution review task force - update
John said it is on hold right now.
- Proposal for 2015 youth fundraisers
John met with Paul Erdmann to discuss the Immanuel 5k and Schwann’s proposals. John and Paul decided that an Immanuel 5k run would be too big a project to do in 2015. John stated that if the youth wanted to do a fundraiser with Schwann’s that it wouldn’t cost the church anything. The students would connect with their friends or family via Facebook or Twitter to see if they would like to sign up for the service. The students would receive 30% of the profit from the sales within the first 45 days of the project. The youth committee will talk about this fundraiser and roll it out in February at Youth Rejoice.
- Kariros update
Pastor Paul introduced Mary Peschauer and Jeff Kjallberg to inform the Council about their vision for the next capital appeal. Jeff and Keith Magnason had helped with the 5

for 50 capital appeal previously, and it was a highly successful campaign. Jeff explained that his Joshua group would use deep listening skills and assessment tools to gather information from Immanuel members and members in the community to frame Immanuel's mission for the 2016 capital appeal. Questions raised from the Council included: "How much staff time would be needed to do the project?" "If we approve of this project, when would we start?" Jeff said there would be some lay investment involved and the deep listening could start this winter and spring. It would cost \$44,000 over a three-year period, and Kairos wanted a 25% deposit to start. John mentioned that this was the same amount of money that the 5 for 50 campaign cost. We thanked Mary and Jeff for their information, and they left. Brenda made the motion to work with Kairos and Brian H. seconded it. The motion carried.

Vice President's Report – Susan G was absent

Financial Secretary's Report – Bob Warner was absent.

Treasurer's report- Brian Nichols

- Highlights of the Financial Summary:
 - Giving was over \$18,000 above budget in November and is over \$9,000 ahead of plan YTD.
 - Church expenses were over budget in November due to furnace repairs.
 - Program expenses were slightly over budget for November but remain significantly under budget YTD.
 - Overall expenses are within \$400 of the budget through November.

Personnel expenses will increase 2 and 1/2 percent to \$35,000 next year and church expenses will increase to \$10,000 over last year. In total there will be a \$60,000 increase next year. There is a 5 and 1/4 increase in giving for next year based on current pledges.

Staff Reports:

Children's Ministry – Martin passed.

Pastor Susan was absent.

Pastor Paul

- Last Monday he and Pastor Susan met at Dave's cabin to discuss better ways to share our faith stories. Immanuel needs to address what we're doing now and create some templates for others in the congregation to share their faith stores; perhaps not their whole journey, but part of it. How can we mentor one another? How can high school students mentor others in their own lives? Immanuel needs to be people focused, not program focused. How can we as a church raise our expectations of how we share our faith?
- Four-and-a-half years ago Paul started his doctorate. He turned in the rough draft of the last chapter recently. His dissertation now has 190 pages.

Committee Reports:

Senior High Youth- Kirsten and Brenda

They left their notes at home.

Worship, Music and Arts – Janis was absent

- John mentioned that Janis had submitted her budget to Brian. This Sunday is the musical "Go Tell It" at the 9:15 a.m. service.

- There will be a fundraiser in April for the bells. There will be a free will offering and matching memorials.
- Brandon is doing well with Servant Song. Gary is working with Brandon to give him a more liturgical background.

Parish Fellowship Co-Chair – Lynette

- She is very pleased with the numbers who are attending the Wednesday Café. About 120-130 show up each Wed. The Cafe is actually making money so the committee will be able to purchase some kitchen equipment with the extra money.

Properties – Brian Heinzen

- New doors are still on order.

Stewardship – Paul Stordahl

- The church has received 244 pledges for a total of \$658,000. Last year by January 7th there were 303 pledges totally \$790,000. The amount that has been pledged this year is a 4% increase per pledge from last year.
- The committee will meet again.

Social Concerns – Sharon Peterson

- The Christmas program is going well.
- People are needed to sleep overnight at the church for when Families Moving Forward arrive the week of December 21-28. People are especially needed to come to church on Christmas Day to serve the families.

Adult Faith Formation – Lorraine Maenke

- Several new people joined her committee. One of the focuses of the group will be “How do we measure one’s faith growth?”
- In January and February Pastor Cox will speak on Islam.

Children’s Education Co-chair – Lisa Anderson

- The new Director of Children’s Ministry is Cindy Paulson who will start her duties on December 16th.
- Sunday school is going well.
- Gretchen is doing a great job on the upcoming Christmas Program at the 9:15 a.m. service on Dec. 14th. Students will lead it. They will also usher, read and sing.
- There is a discussion on the relevance of the media room. The equipment needs updating.
- Lisa again mentioned how grateful she is to Martin and Gretchen for helping the committee with the transition to a new Children’s Ministry director. Craig has also been a tremendous resource to the committee.

Closing Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

Executive Meeting	January 13, 2015	5:45 p.m.
Council	January 13, 2015	7:00 p.m.

Prayerfully submitted,

**Gay Ludvig,
Council Secretary**

Attendance

P- Present, NP Not Present

Name	P/NP	Name	P/NP
Lisa Anderson	P	Pastor Paul Nelson	P
John Bleifuss	NP	Brian Nichols	P
Kim Brattensborg	NP	Sharon Peterson	P
Donna Bregel	NP	Martin Rathjen	P
Janis Cameron	NP	Kirsten Stenoien	P
Susan Geitzenauer	NP	Paul Stordahl	P
Lynette Gust	P	Brenda Tonjes	P
Bill Hawkins	P	Julie Tufford-Olig	NP
Brian Heinzen	P	John Urbanski	P
Eldri Johnson	NP	Bob Warner	NP
Gay Ludvig	P	Pastor Susan Weaver	NP
Lorraine Maenke	P	Christy Woll	NP