

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2014
7 p.m., ILC Library**

John Urbanski called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Devotions – John Urbanski

Refreshments – Lynette Gust

Motions:

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve January minutes	Sharon	Brenda	Motion carried
Motion to defer final LED lighting decision to the Properties Committee	Lisa	Brenda	Motion carried

Action Items Assigned:

Action Items	Assigned	Target Date	Status

Executive Council Reports:

Secretary’s Report – Gay Ludvig (absent)

- Sharon motioned to approve January minutes. Brenda seconded. Motion carried.

President’s Update – John Urbanski

- **Luther’s Way:** Deadline is tomorrow (Wednesday) at noon; typically it's the second Friday of the month.
- **Council Retreat:** Will be held on Saturday, April 26, at Charlson Meadows; 8:30 am to 3:00 pm
- **Same Gender Weddings:** John is writing an update article for Luther's Way. Additional three sessions (Pastor Susan led two sessions and Pastor Paul led one) were well attended and conversations were lively and respectful. Pastor Susan and Pastor Paul shared their thoughts and reflections of the three sessions. Next step is to hold another session (perhaps in March) that talks about the implications of a decision and how do we make a decision – discussing pros and cons and how to continue addressing it prayerfully.

Vice President’s Report – Susan Geitzenauer

- **Employee Guidebook:** Susan will continue to work with Karen Travis and Craig Holje to revise and finalize the employee guidebook

Financial Secretary’s Report – Bob Warner (absent)

- No Report

Treasurer's Report – Brian Nichols

- No report – Bill has been on vacation
- Janice raised questions re annual parochial report data and discrepancies re average Sunday attendance and what defines an "inactive member". John will follow-up with MaryKay re the attendance number and if necessary, the online report will be edited.

Committee Reports:

Evangelism Committee – Julie Tufford-Olig

- Sample clothing has arrived and will be available on Sunday.

Adult Faith Formation – Lorraine Maenke

- Empty Nesters met at Tavern 4&5 in January; about 20 people attended and future events were discussed.
- Women's group outing to attend Church Basement Ladies on February 20.
- Women's retreat will be held March 1.

Worship, Music and Arts – Janis Cameron

- New acoustical shells are working well; plan is to order two more.
- Ascension Choir sang at a Saturday evening service; Gary trying to schedule all choirs to sing at a Saturday service this year.
- Musical rehearsals are going well; will be performed March 15 (Saturday night) and March 16 (Sunday at 10:45 service).
- Good Friday – Reformation Choir will perform same Cantata as last year.
- Discussed flower options.

Properties – Brian Heinzen

- **LED Lighting:** Executive Committee has recommended that we change lights in the sanctuary and other areas of the church to LED lights. Brian shared the following details: bid was \$19,500; Excel offers a rebate of \$7396; non-profit grant from CCE for \$2500 – total cost is \$9,000. Also offering 0% loan for 2.3 years. Estimated savings is \$356 month; loan payment is \$357. Brian and others will meet with the bid company to discuss; also has discussed with Prairie Lutheran which has been pleased with the change. Lisa motioned to refer LED lighting decisions to the Property Committee; Brenda seconded; motion carried.

Senior High and Middle School Youth – Brenda Tonjes and Christy Woll

- Youth Quake – Christy and 7 youth and a student leader attended.
- Youth Rejoice went well and was well received.
- Afton Trip was moved to March 1 due to weather.

Stewardship – Paul Stordahl

- Going to start having quarterly messages to the congregation re Stewardship; encouraging more people to pledge and reaching out to younger members re giving. Only one-third of current members pledge and that one-third provides three-fourths of Immanuel's annual income.

Children's Education – Lisa Anderson

- Volunteer recruiting event on Sunday went well – almost all open spots have been filled.
- Family First Event – February 16 – Frosty Family Fun at Staring Lake Park; March 21 – movie night; April – Eggstravaganza; May – Kids Carnival
- VBS – have started looking at and reviewing curriculum.
- Camp Onomia sign-up weekend is this weekend; third week in June is Immanuel's week at Onomia.

Social Concerns – Sharon Peterson

- March is food-share month for PROP.
- Grief Coalition – 25-30 people have signed up; Monday evenings.

- Jail ministry – 6 members involved; orientation next month for new volunteers.
- Musical will request donation for PROP in lieu of admission. A "service fair" will also be held in connection with the musical.

Parish Fellowship – Lynette Gust

- Annual meeting went well.
- Goal is to work and collaborate more with different groups and activities within the church and add additional social events.

Staff Reports:

Martin Rathjen

- Web designer is working on mobile app for Immanuel's website.
- Working on the communication side of getting all at Immanuel to Onomia.
- Staff would like to approve one panel of the kiosk for local community non-profits. Martin would be point-person for communications and monitor. Council agreed to let Martin and the staff proceed.
- Kim and Martin are considering leading a service trip to Australia – perhaps next February/March.

Bill Hawkins (absent)

- No report

Pastor Susan

- Grief coalition; last night was 4th of 7 meetings; great meetings and meals.
- Facebook study is going well; will provide a survey for next study.
- Starting March 12, Grow study will focus on Lenten preaching texts.
- Rich and Pastor Susan are working on developing a Holy Land tour in Fall of 2015; will hold interest meeting in March.

Pastor Paul

- Program Staff is working on Wednesday night Lenten services – focus on Faith Five and modeling how to do faith practices in homes.
- Starting to explore working with Cairos again re next appeal once debt has been paid off, with focus on giving money to support ministry in Minneapolis.
- Expressed thanks for staff and congregational support during seminary project.

Other Business:

- Paul and Stephanie's twins were born yesterday; all are doing well.
- Discussed dedicated funds issue as it relates to youth account book which tracks funds that have been earned by youth through fundraisers. Total was close to \$15,000. Bill's account is <\$2,000; speculation is that funds have gone in to the general middle school or confirmation accounts. Brian and Bob to work with audit committee to review and make recommendations.
- Three people have signed up to help with the constitutional bylaws review.
- Next Council meeting is March 11 at 7 p.m.
- Council Retreat, April 26, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Prayerfully submitted,

Susan Geitzenauer, Council Vice President
on behalf of 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	P	Kirsten Stenoien	NP
Susan Geitzenauer	P	Paul Stordahl	P
Lynette Gust	P	Brenda Tonjes	P
Bill Hawkins	NP	Julie Tufford-Olig	P
Brian Heinzen	P	John Urbanski	P
Eldri Johnson	NP	Bob Warner	NP
Gay Ludvig	NP	Pastor Susan Weaver	P
Lorraine Maenke	P	Christy Woll	P

Income Report

Financial Summary