

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2013
7 p.m., ILC Library

John Urbanski called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Devotions – Susan Geitzenauer

Faith Story – Shannon Fleck

Refreshments – Eldri Johnson

Motions:

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve May minutes.	Shannon F.	Janis C.	Motion carried.

Action Items Assigned:

Action items	Assigned to	Target Date	Status

ELCA's Response to Law Change for Same Sex Marriages – Group Discussion

- Discussed the recent ELCA communication on this issue and the power of the Immanuel Lutheran Church Congregation Council.
- Group discussed what this means in terms of carrying out our mission and vision.
- There will likely be agreement and disagreement on this issue among members of our congregation.
- Discussed whether or not a vote is needed from the congregation, and the implications (both positive and negative). This is likely to be an emotional issue. Should a congregation vote be needed, a suggestion was made to hold it in the fall, allowing time for caring conversation and input from the congregation leading up to the vote.
- Ongoing caring conversation is needed. John suggested putting together a timeline of activities and caring conversations leading up to a vote.

Committee Reports:

Secretary's Report – Karen Travis

- Shannon motioned to approve May minutes. Janis seconded. Motion carried.

Vice President's Report – Susan Geitzenauer

- No report.

Financial Secretary's Report – Bob Warner (reported by Brian)

- May contributions exceeded last year's contributions and this year's budget.

Treasurer's Report – Brian Nichols

- Reviewed financial summary for May. YTD giving is just over plan.
- Church expenses were near budget, and program expenses are under plan.
- Five for Fifty (building fund), normal payment was made along with an additional \$25,000 payment from the renewal campaign in April. Mortgage balance is below \$800,000, and on track to be paid by the end of 2015.

President's Update – John Urbanski

- Continuing work on the Employee Guidebook. It's been edited and a revised version will be shared with the staff for review in coming months.
- July 12 is the deadline for the August issue of "Luther's Way." Look for where you see God over the summer and consider sharing your stories and photos.

Council Reports:

Evangelism Committee – Mike Berdahl

- No report.

Adult Faith Formation – Lorraine Maenke

- Empty Nesters event coming in the fall (no date yet). 12-14 people are interested in taking part. Meeting with them July 24.
- Looking for new committee members, perhaps representing different areas (e.g., faith groups) and age ranges.
- GROW for the fall will include two units—getting to know your community and getting to know our broader metropolitan area. Various speakers will be involved.

Worship, Music and Arts – Janis Cameron

- The flower garden has been planted, and working with a vendor to transition to doing flowers internally.
- MaryKay is getting pricing on new bibles. Could use older bibles for overflow and for confirmation.
- Gary is continuing to make plans for a musical March 14.
- Junior high and high school music kids had a year-end party, and expect to have about 12 of them back next year.

Properties – Brian Heinzen

- About \$3,500 of roofing work that needs to be done. Need to start seriously planning for a new roof. Will need to get a better understanding of cost and timing for this. When we do another capital appeal, need to include this as part of the capital campaign.
- Didn't have as many people sponsoring gardens on church grounds. Mulch is needed for some areas.
- Tent will be in the same place this fall for Welcome Sunday.

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

- Senior recognition breakfast was a big success, with 90 percent of seniors participating.
- Backpacking is coming up.

Stewardship – Paul Stordahl (reported by Pastor Paul)

- Providing gentle reminders to people who are behind on their pledge.
- Putting together a stewardship campaign for the fall focused on how prayerful giving frees our hearts.

Children's Education – Lisa Anderson and Eldri Johnson

- Discussed turning Everybody Worship Sunday into more of a kid-focused service, to make that Sunday more meaningful for families to worship together.
- 80 children are registered for Vacation Bible School. Twenty-two fifth and sixth graders have volunteered to help.
- Registration for fall Sunday School is starting during VBS. Sunday School for the 11 a.m. service is getting smaller and smaller.
- Tracy leaves Sunday for Camp Onomia with 19 kids.
- Nursery and Children's Library need to be painted and carpet needs to be cleaned.

Social Concerns – Sharon Peterson (submitted electronically)

- Twelve women are going through the orientation process to allow them to visit women in the Carver County Jail. Brought two big bags of books to the jail that were left over from the rummage sale, which were very welcomed by the inmates.
- PROP is doing a lunch program for children who generally get free or reduced lunches during the school year. So far, 274 lunch bags were filled and given to PROP, along with a check last month for approximately \$1,900. PROP is already getting started on the Back to School program where backpacks filled with school supplies are given to qualified families.
- The last grief coalition at Pax Christi is now done.
- Seeds for Support Haiti has inquired about opening up a relationship again with them. Sharon has reached out to Gail Ericson, Tamara Gambino and Paul Wyman to see if they would co-chair the championship for this ministry.
- Immanuel youth will be going to North Carolina this summer on a mission trip. Plans are also being made for the Redeemer Block party, July 10.
- Also discussed updating the Social Ministry brochure.
- Next meeting will be July 23.

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

- No report.

Staff Reports:

Martin Rathjen

- Martin shared Immanuel's new postcard sent to those who come to worship with us for the first time. A similar postcard has also been created to welcome new residents.
- Web designer is working on designs for updating Immanuel's website. Hope to see a first draft by Friday, so we can move forward with a new website September 1.
- Design team met to discuss fonts and color pallets this week. A style sheet is being developed providing guidance on how the logo, fonts, and colors should be used to ensure a consistent look and brand.
- July 12 is the deadline for the August issue of "Luther's Way," and August 9 is the deadline for the September edition. The September issue will include a new design, in keeping with the new brand. Contributions of photos and stories are welcomed!
- Attended an eFormation event a couple of weeks ago and came back with good ideas to share.
- Heading to North Carolina with the mission trip on Friday and will be there all next week.

Bill Hawkins

- Recently made modifications to the financial accounting process to better manage online transactions. Online financial transactions result in bank charges, and Bill asked about more clearly communicating this to members of our congregation (as fees are not counted as charitable donations). A suggestion was made to add a message during the online transaction process.
- As part of new health reform legislation, a credit is provided for small employer health insurance premiums. Immanuel has sent in applications to receive credits, which could total more than \$40,000.

Pastor Susan

- On sabbatical. No report.

Pastor Paul

- Evangelism will be working on updated Immanuel wear featuring the new logo.
- Pastor Paul spoke with Kim Rathjen about using her gifts to bring organization and leadership to faith groups (one of our most important ministries), and to connect more people to service opportunities in the community. Possible part time position.
- Distributed leadership tool sheets provided by Vibrant Faith, and asked Council members to select a few things they can do to help move the vision forward. Encouraged the Council to develop our own “elevator speech” about our faith and our church.
- Talking about changing timing for Sunday morning services. Will continue to have an 8 a.m. service that’s 40 to 45 minutes long. Then would have a 9:15 a.m. service and another at 10:45 a.m.

Other Business

- Next Council meeting is August 13 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Prayerfully submitted,

Karen Travis
Council Secretary

Attendance

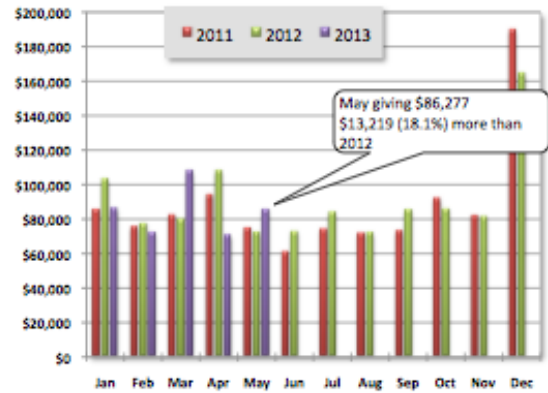
P-Present, NP-Not Present

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

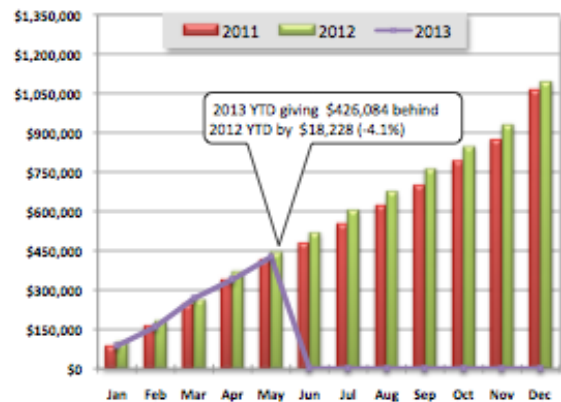
Income Report

Immanuel Lutheran Church Income Report for May 2013

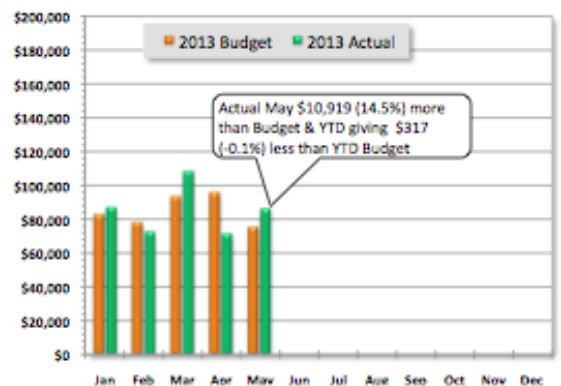
Monthly Giving						
Month	2010	2011	2012	2013	Var \$	Var %
January	81,681	86,230	103,744	87,046	(16,698)	-16.1%
February	81,946	76,078	78,018	72,714	(5,304)	-6.8%
March	76,533	83,025	80,694	108,598	27,904	34.6%
April	82,488	94,959	108,798	71,449	(37,349)	-34.3%
May	84,582	75,593	73,058	86,277	13,219	18.1%
June	65,110	61,527	73,349	0		
July	69,531	74,684	84,562	0		
August	82,890	72,215	72,617	0		
September	73,435	73,812	85,876	0		
October	103,989	92,878	86,578	0		
November	80,006	82,900	82,074	0		
December	173,149	190,460	165,267	0		
YTD	1,064,363	1,094,635	426,084	426,084	(18,228)	-4.1%



Cumulative Giving by Month						
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	426,084	(18,228)	-4.1%
June	472,340	477,412	517,661			
July	541,871	552,096	602,223			
August	624,761	624,312	674,840			
September	698,196	698,124	760,716			
October	802,185	791,002	847,294			
November	882,191	873,903	929,368			
December	1,055,340	1,064,363	1,094,635			



2013 Monthly Budget vs. Actual						
Month	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	86,277	10,919	14.5%	(317)	-0.1%
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Annual	1,093,002	426,084	-- NA --	-- NA --	(666,918)	39.0%



Financial Summary

2013 May Analysis Summary

May 2013 giving was more than May 2012 and more than May 2013 budget.

- Actual giving 2013 vs. 2012:
 - May giving: \$13,219 (18.1%) more than 2012 (\$86,277 vs. \$73,058)
 - YTD giving: \$18,228 (4.1%) less than 2012 (\$426,084 vs. \$444,312)
- Actual giving vs. budget:
 - May: \$10,919 (14.5%) more than budget (\$86,277 vs. \$75,358)
 - YTD: \$317 (0.1%) less than budget (\$426,084 vs. 426,401)
- Attendance: Sundays in May 2013: 4 2012: 4

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		14,913	(1,724)	(2,657)
July	1,772	1,782		14,913	(1,782)	(4,439)
August	1,493	1,544		14,913	(1,544)	(5,983)
September	2,495	2,957		14,913	(2,957)	(8,940)
October	3,483	2,670		14,913	(2,670)	(11,610)
November	3,343	3,111		14,913	(3,111)	(14,721)
December	4,208	5,000		14,913	(5,000)	(19,721)
YTD Avg	2,881	2,886	2,983			
YTD Total	34,569	34,634	14,913			

Immanuel Lutheran 3 Year Attendance Comparison

