

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2013
7 p.m., ILC Library

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

Devotions – Brian Heinzen

Faith Story – Susan Geitzenauer

Refreshments – Lorraine Maenke

Motions:

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve September minutes.	Sharon P.	Brian H.	Motion carried.
Motioned that the Council accept the recommendation to proceed with Gold Plus Portico coverage for 2014	Susan G.	Brenda T.	Motion carried.

Action Items Assigned:

Action items	Assigned to	Target Date	Status

Committee Reports:

Secretary's Report – Karen Travis

- Sharon P. motioned to approve September minutes. Brian H. seconded. Motion carried.

Vice President's Report – Susan Geitzenauer

- ELCA/Portico benefits update. Health insurance options are changing for next year and Immanuel must decide between four options for employees. ELCA recommends Gold Plus (most closely resembles current plan), and the recommendation is to proceed with this option. Financially this plan should be similar in terms of cost to the current plan, though we'll know for sure once enrollment is complete. Coverage is very similar. Employees will have the option to buy-up to Platinum Plus and pay for the additional amount out of pocket. Susan G. motioned that the Council accept the recommendation to proceed with Gold Plus Portico coverage for 2014. Brenda seconded. Motion carried. Susan to work with Bill on next steps.

Financial Secretary's Report – Bob Warner (shared via email)

- September 2013 income \$15,487 more than budgeted for September 2013. We are now approximately \$1,500 ahead of 2013 YTD budget!
- September 2013 attendance was lower than last year. January - September 2013 attendance is nearly 2,000 less than January - September 2012

Treasurer's Report – Brian Nichols

- This month giving was more than \$15K ahead of budget. YTD financials are on target.
- Will need a strong fourth quarter.
- Building Fund giving was also strong, and there are currently nearly four months of mortgage payments in reserve.

President's Report – John Urbanski

- Still waiting for responses on the Employee Guidebook.
- "Luther's Way" content is due this Friday.
- Same gender marriage training next Tuesday at Pastor Paul's home. Training includes an overview of Immanuel's marriage process. Discussed voting process for December 10, 2013. Some people in the congregation have expressed concern that the Council has already decided. Need to clarify that all thoughts and concerns will be heard and taken into account when the Council votes. As Council members we are to vote based on what we hear, not based on our personal opinions. Pastor Paul suggested we clarify this and the role of the Council in the next "Luther's Way." Caring conversations will be held November 3, 14 and 20.

Council Reports:

Evangelism Committee – Mike Berdahl (delivered by Pastor Paul)

- Trying to recruit people for the parking lot attendants.
- In the process of ordering new Immanuel wear.

Adult Faith Formation – Lorraine Maenke

- January 18 meeting to discuss interests of empty nesters. More to come

Worship, Music and Arts – Janis Cameron

- Gary's back and he led the choir last week.
- Still deciding on the musical, with rehearsals to being the end of November
- Norwegian choir was wonderful.
- Liturgical dance is moving forward, November 17 at 4 p.m.
- Church is purchasing about 40% of flowers. Will be spending more on flowers for certain services, and costs could add up unless more is contributed toward flowers in coming months. Flowers from the church garden have also been helpful in offsetting costs.

Properties – Brian Heinzen

- Trying something different this year, rather than a fall and spring clean up we're getting people to champion specific tasks once per quarter (rather than just twice per year). Putting together a list of tasks (e.g., painting, window-washing, etc.).
- Still waiting for a bid on fixing the doors in the Sanctuary.

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

- Lock-in September 27 at the Big Thrill Factory in Minnetonka. Huge success. Approximately 40 kids participated.
- October 16 will be Box City, a joint event with area churches to be held at Immanuel this year. Will be putting together hygiene packs for PROP.
- Will be selling Chinook Book this year (e.g., with coupons to support local businesses). This is a fundraiser similar to the Happenings Book kids used to sell.
- Biaggi's fundraiser is coming up November 3.
- Confirmation Retreat is scheduled November 8-10. Encouraging people to register.
- Youth Rejoice will be held January 19.
- September 20 was the 7th and 8th grade dance, with more than 700 students participating.
- Youth Quake will be January 31-February 2 in the Wisconsin Dells.
- Mission trip will be in Denver this year. Informational meeting will be held November 13. Will be doing a special college mission trip to Chicago, possibly in May.

Stewardship – Paul Stordahl

- Had another Stewardship meeting October 1. Changed the theme to “Change my heart oh God,” October 27 through November 17 (Stewardship Sunday, with a breakfast that morning). Each Sunday there will be speakers providing personal stories about giving, and will be promoting Simply Giving as well.

Children’s Education – Lisa Anderson and Eldri Johnson

- Sunday school has begun and it’s going well.
- Stepping Stones for 3rd graders took place over the past three weeks.
- First Sunday of “Wiggle in Worship” time took place two Sunday’s ago, with intentional play time. Good opportunity for kids to get used to being in the nursery.
- Families First weekend started this past Sunday. There were 7-10 families, likely due to bad weather. It took place at Minnetonka Orchards this year (new venue).

Social Concerns – Sharon Peterson

- Tamara Gambino represented Feed my Starving Children and would like support and involvement from the church.
- Kim Rathjen provided an update on Feeding ministries and faith group meetings.
- Amextra Trip over MEA is set, and 12 people are going.
- Grief Coalition starts October 24 at the Methodist church. Winter session will be at Immanuel.
- Discussed whether to go with a “ministry of the month,” and decided they’d like to try it.
- There was an anonymous donor who paid off the mortgage at PROP.

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

- Smorgasbord will be back to Thursday nights. First Thursday in December. Tickets go on sale in November. Hoping the numbers come back, because attendance has been declining.

Staff Reports:

Martin Rathjen

- No report.

Bill Hawkins

- Need to destroy some of the old records (keep the most current five years).
- Lack of storage space is an issue. Boy Scouts will need to clean the closet out in preparation for an upcoming fire safety inspection.
- Encouraged people to check their mailboxes.

Pastor Susan

- Discussed Group Spiritual Direction, conducted in small groups. Information Sessions on October 20 and 21. This is different from a bible study, not like pastoral counseling. Goal is to help one another to discern the movement of God in your life, assuming God is at work in and among us. Asking people to make a six-session commitment, every other week for three months.
- Having great fun at GROW, and speakers have been very well received. Cornerstone, Rezek House, and Redeemer will be coming to talk.

Pastor Paul

- Reflected on all the great things going on this fall, starting with Welcome Weekend. Young classes are bigger than the current confirmation class, so it appears Immanuel is growing. However, worship patterns are changing – more people are coming they are coming less frequently. Experiences outside of worship are legitimate experiences of faith, so how do we keep people connected to this faith community? Topic of an upcoming two-day staff retreat.
- Will be recruiting 40 men this month as part of a study for Luther Seminary.

Other Business

- Same gender marriage training is October 15, 7 p.m.
- Next Council meeting is November 12 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Prayerfully submitted,

Karen Travis
Council Secretary

Attendance

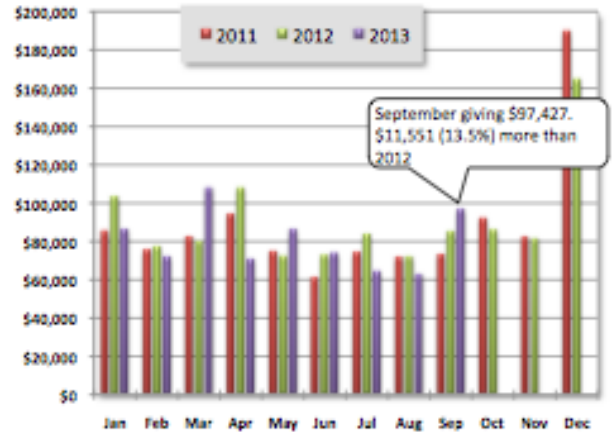
P-Present, NP-Not Present

Name	P/NP	Name	P/NP
Lisa Anderson	P	Pastor Paul Nelson	P
Mike Berdahl	NP	Brian Nichols	P
Kim Brattensborg	NP	Sharon Peterson	P
Janis Cameron	P	Martin Rathjen	NP
Shannon Fleck	NP	Kirsten Stenoien	P
Susan Geitzenauer	P	Paul Stordahl	P
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	NP	Bob Warner	NP
Lorraine Maenke	P	Pastor Susan Weaver	P

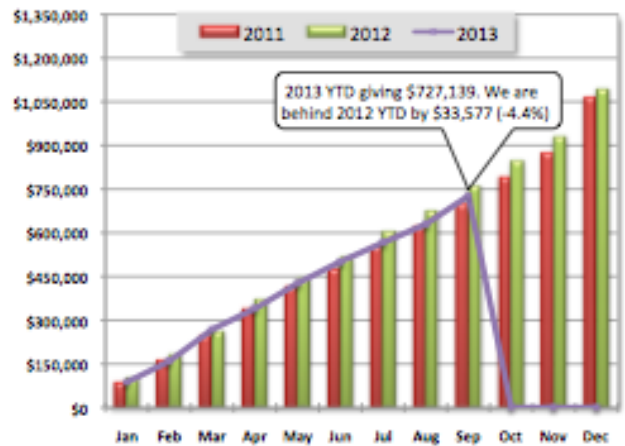
Income Report

Immanuel Lutheran Church Income Report for September 2013

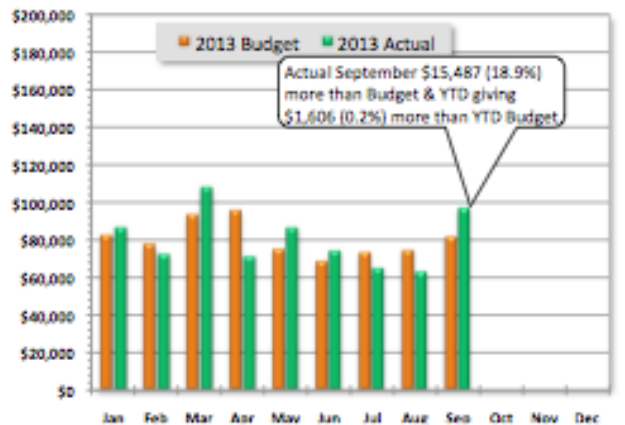
Monthly Giving						
Month	2010	2011	2012	2013	Var \$	Var %
January	81,681	86,230	103,744	87,046	(16,698)	-16.1%
February	81,946	76,078	78,018	72,714	(5,304)	-6.8%
March	76,533	83,025	80,694	108,598	27,904	34.6%
April	82,488	94,959	108,798	71,449	(37,349)	-34.3%
May	84,582	75,593	73,058	86,953	13,895	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	0	0	
November	80,006	82,900	82,074	0	0	
December	173,149	190,460	165,267	0	0	
YTD	1,064,363	1,094,635	1,172,653	727,139	(33,577)	-4.4%



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	426,760	(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	0	0	
November	882,191	873,903	929,368	0	0	
December	1,055,340	1,064,363	1,094,635	0	0	



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	86,953	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						
November						
December						
Annual	1,093,002	727,139	-- NA --	-- NA --	(365,863)	66.5%



Financial Summary

2013 September Analysis Summary

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

- Actual giving 2013 vs. 2012:
 - September giving: \$11,551 (13.5%) more than 2012 (\$97,427 vs. \$85,876)
 - YTD giving: \$33,577 (-4.4%) less than 2012 (\$727,139 vs. \$760,716)
- Actual giving vs. budget:
 - September: \$15,487 (18.9%) more than budget (\$97,427 vs. \$81,940)
 - YTD: \$1,606 (0.2%) more than budget (\$727,139 vs. \$725,533)
- Attendance: Sundays in September 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	2,105	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		21,908	(2,670)	(4,615)
November	3,343	3,111		21,908	(3,111)	(7,726)
December	4,208	5,000		21,908	(5,000)	(12,726)
YTD Avg	2,881	2,886	2,434			
YTD Total	34,569	34,634	21,908			

Immanuel Lutheran 3 Year Attendance Comparison

