

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2015
7:00 p.m., ILC Library**

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

Devotions – Pastor Paul

Refreshments – Pastor Paul

Faith Story – Jen Johnson

Motions:

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve the April minutes	Bob	Brian Nichols	Motion carried
Motion made to use \$5000. for Welcome Weekend	Bob	Brenda	Motion carried

Action Items	Assigned	Target Date	Status

Action Items

Council Reports:

Secretary’s Report – Gay Ludvig: Review and approve April minutes

Bob made a motion to approve the April minutes, and Brian Nichols seconded it. The motion carried.

President’s Report- John U

- **Congregation meeting for Constitution changes - Approved** The document was approved with 102 members, and it will be sent to the Synod. If 120 days passes and we haven’t heard from the Synod, the document with changes will stand.
- **Call Committee - update**
Tom Getchius is the chairperson of the Call Committee. There is a 20 page profile of the half-time Associate Pastor that Immanuel is seeking. In the profile Immanuel describes who we are as a church and what we are looking for in a new pastor. The Committee wants an effective communicator, one who will help people develop their spiritual life, one who will organize faith groups, one who will focus on young adults, and one who will lead worship services. Pastor Paul mentioned that a pastor attracts people who are 10-12 years older or younger than he/she is. The Call Committee meets with the Bishop at the beginning of June.

There are three ways to submit one’s resume:

- Have the congregation submit names.

- The Minneapolis Synod will get eight names for the Call Committee.
- Someone who is looking for a half-time Associate Pastor position may submit his/her name.

The Committee hopes to have a candidate for approval for the July Council meeting.

Vice President's Report – (Brenda)

- **Personnel Committee - update**

Brenda and Jana Cinnamon are working on the language in the Employee Guidebook and revising how the Guidebook is laid out to make it more appropriate. They plan to meet next in June.

Financial Secretary's Report – (Scott Belseth) Giving/Attendance

- April giving in 2015 was less than 2014 (\$105,112 vs. \$90,799)
- 2015 giving: Year-to-date \$7,604 less than 2014 (\$370,050 vs. \$377,655 LY)
- April giving: \$9,425 less than budget (\$90,799 vs. \$100,224)
- 2015 giving: Year-to-date \$3,702 less than budget (\$370,050 vs. \$373,752)
- Attendance: Sundays in April: 4 2014: 4

Treasurer's report- (Brian Nichols): Expenses/Financial Reports:

- Highlights of the Financial Summary:
 - Giving was over \$9,000 less than budget in April and is now \$3,700 less than budget YTD
 - Church expenses were right on budget for April but remain \$10,000 over budget YTD
 - Program expenses were \$1,100 under budget in April and remain \$7,400 (29%) under budget
 - Paid out over \$53,000 for ELCA and Social Ministry benevolence in April
 - Received \$15,137 in contributions for 5 for 50 campaign in April
 - Brian will write an article in the June-July issue of Luther's Way about the YTD Financial Update.
 - Brian will thank Immanuel members for their faithful giving.
 - Brian will remind members that with the current budget, there is no room for pay increases for the church's pastors, associates and staff.
 - Brian will remind members that at the annual meeting in January, the Council was to review the financial results after the first half of the year to determine if pay increases could be made for the second half of the year and still achieve a balanced budget.
 - Brian will encourage members to be up-to-date with their pledges, make an additional contribution over and above their pledge, and if someone hasn't yet made a pledge, now would be a good time to do that.
 - The financial results from the end of June will determine whether there will be raises. A decision will be made at the July Council meeting.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship- Paul Stordahl

Paul will meet with his committee on May 19th to remind people of Simply Giving for the 5 for 50 campaign.

Social Concerns- Sharon Peterson

- To date there have been only 300 cans of tuna donated to Prop. She mentioned that members could give a financial donation instead for the tuna.
- Jen hosted a table for Rezek House.
- There will be a Tour of Shelters on Monday, June 29th.
- Families Moving Forward will be coming to Immanuel from August 30-Sept. 6th.
- Immanuel Exploring Homelessness Group will meet with Molly Koivumaki, from

the city of Eden Prairie on May 18th at 7:00 p.m.

- The Women's Ministry Service Event will be Sat. May 16th from 9:00-2:00 p.m.
- The Redeemer Picnic Dates are July 9th, 23rd, and Aug. 6th.
- There will be a meal for Redeemer's summer youth program on Aug. 19th. It is a Block Party from different churches. Immanuel is supposed to bring cotton candy.
- PROP School Supply Drive: Members are encouraged to sort and pick up items at Immanuel August 24-29th.

Middle School - Donna Bregal

- She will meet with her committee to discuss fundraising. Her members have thought of selling doughnuts at church, bowling or bingo.
- There were 285 people at the Easter Breakfast. They raised \$1,626.
- The garage sale on May 2nd had Redeemer young people helping out the evening before. They liked the ice cream that was given for their efforts. Under \$4,000 was raised from the sale, and 20% of that went to Redeemer for their trip to Detroit.
- There are 9 students signed up for the mission trip which will take place from August 2-7th. They are going to Duluth.

Properties- Brian Heinzen

- The spring clean up on April 25th went well. They purchased more mulch to improve the front of the columbarium, and they are putting chocolate mulch in the bare area in the garden.
- The East doors are in.
- Brian is still deciding about what to do with the crumbled curb near the music entrance.

Fellowship - Melanie Leite Carroll

- The last Wednesday Cafe will be held on May 13th. Donations are encouraged, but not required. Pizza will be served.
- There were a lot of bars left for Paul's celebration which had a wonderful turnout.

Worship, Music and Arts - Bob Peterson

- His committee met last night, and they will meet again in August.
- Sharon's Social Concern's Committee will take care of the garden for the summer.

Children's Education Co-chair- Eldri Johnson

- Her committee met two weeks ago, and they will meet again tomorrow night.
- They will do background checks for volunteers who work with children for Vacation Church School.
- Eldri went over Cindy Paulson's insurance policy, and her policy will be based on what she had at her former job.
- Cindy worked in the nursery during a funeral and recommended that the nursery be deep cleaned and organized.
- Registrations for Vacation Church School total 57 presently. Children who are registered by June 30th will receive a free T shirt.
- Eldri hopes more children sign up for Camp Onamia.
- Eldri and Cindy are looking over the Sunday School curriculum for the 5th and 6th graders as they seem too old for regular Sunday School and too young for confirmation. They are hopeful that more young people will sign up to be a lector and usher on Sunday mornings.
- Eldri is planning more family events such as the one on Oct. 24th. Young people will decorate cars and dress up. It will be called Trunk or Treat.
- She is hoping to have more movie nights.
- She's thinking of a carnival next May.
- She is thinking of adding Stepping Stones for kindergartners.

Senior High Youth- Scott Sabin

- They made \$4,000 at the garage sale. There were 800 Redeemer youth there who worked Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
- On May 20th the youth will listen to Kyle Rathjen talk about her experience in Uganda from 7:00 -8:00 p.m. There will be a leadership team that meets one hour after that.
- There are 29 students and 5 adults registered for the June 14-19th mission trip to the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota.
- The backpacking trip will be at the end of July.
- May 31st will be Senior Day. Breakfast will be served at 8:45 a.m. and worship and blessing will be at the 10:45 a.m. service.
- There will be some changes on the 2015-2016 calendar.
- Paul Erdmann will send a letter to parents of students about this year's Prom.

Adult Faith Formation -Jen Johnson

- Her committee will meet next Tuesday. She wants the group to be relevant and active.
- Jen wants faith pairs on their faith journey to meet at Caribou
- Jen is looking at next year's possibilities for growth. Some issues might be mental health, racism, youth sports and parenting children.

Staff Reports:

• Martin

- In three weeks Stepping Stones will be finished. There were 33 young people in four small groups.
- Martin still needs two more men and two more women for the communications" team.
- June 7th will be called "Get Connected" Sunday. Members will be told how to access the instant church directly on their smart phones, and for those who would like a new picture in the directory, there will be photographers present to take their picture.
- There will be nine days for the backpacking trip at the end of July, and there will be the opportunity to camp at the trail heads for eight days.

• Bill Hawkins

- The yard waste will be placed in the dumpster.
- Roxanne used to connect the hoses for the garden, but now Bill will talk to Mary Ellen Anderson about doing it.
- Bill asked committee chairs to give him receipts by Thursday as that's the time when he pays the bills.
- Bill requested that Immanuel have an emergency plan in place during worship for medical or weather related cases. Bill is going to request that the police talk to staff about a policy.
- It was recommended that Immanuel members stand outside to greet people coming to worship.

• Pastor Susan

- Pastor Susan thanked Melanie for the great job her committee did with the Wednesday Cafe this year.
- She had Mary Kay write a thank you to the team leaders and volunteers for the Wednesday Cafe, and she was appreciative that the budget for the Cafe was in the black.
- The Pastoral Care List that she co-leads with Pastor Paul will be current.
- The Grief Coalition Group will end next Thursday. They had wonderful meals provided by Immanuel members.
- Pastor Susan met with Shelley Germundson, Linda Fingarson, Jackie Woll, Brian Heinzen, and Jill Szczepaniak about the condition of the "Youth Room." They

want to call that room “The Living Room”, and update it for the short term. They want to clear out the junk in it, take down the bulletin board, and go shopping for new chairs and cushions on the couch. There is no budget for updating the room, and someone recommended that the money come from the \$4760. in room rental fees. Pastor Susan hoped the updated room would be finished by the end of this summer.

• **Pastor Paul**

- Pastor Paul thanked everyone who made his celebration on May 10th so memorable.
- He thanked Pastor Susan, Bill and Martin for being wonderful colleagues.
- He plans to continue the men’s ministry groups next fall.
- Pastor Paul thanked the 369 people who took the Congregational Assessment Tool. He outlined some findings from the survey:
 - People seem clearly satisfied with how things are going at Immanuel and are energized about what God is doing in and through the people of Immanuel.
 - There was nothing identified that Immanuel needs to change.
 - Immanuel tends to be more adaptive, positive and thoughtful in its approach to challenges and opportunities.
 - Pastor Paul will write an article in the June-July issue of Luther’s Way regarding the eight markers of Immanuel’s congregational life.
- He talked about the expense of Welcome Weekend. Last year Immanuel spent \$11,700, and this fall he recommends that only \$4500. be spent. He would do this by moving the tent to the back instead of the front. This would be less visible, but there would be more parking available. He mentioned that Immanuel doesn’t need sound equipment for Welcome Weekend, nor risers, and we don’t need to mail every household in Eden Prairie about Welcome Weekend. Bob made a motion to spend \$5000 for Welcome Weekend, and Brenda seconded it

Closing Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Leadership Summit to review congregation survey on June 9th from 5:30-9:30 pm

Council

July 14, 2015

7:00 p.m.

Prayerfully submitted,

**Gay Ludvig,
Council Secretary**

Attendance

P- Present, NP Not Present

Name	P/NP	Name	P/NP
Scott Belseth	P	Bob Peterson	P
Donna Bregal	P	Sharon Peterson	P
Paul and Melanie Leite Carroll	P	Martin Rathjen	P
Bill Hawkins	P	Scott Sabin	P
Brian Heinzen	P	Paul Stordahl	P
Jolene Held	P	Katie Thormodsgard	NP
Alecia and Lou Hernandez	NP	Brenda Tonjes	P
Eldri Johnson	P	Julie Tufford-Olig	NP
Jennifer Johnson	P	John Urbanski	P
Gay Ludvig	P	Pastor Susan Weaver	P
Pastor Paul Nelson	P	Christy Woll	NP
Brian Nichols	P		