

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 8, 2014**  
**7 p.m., ILC Library**

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

Devotions –Paul Stordahl

Refreshments – Lorraine Maenke

Faith Story – Brian Nichols

Caring Conversation – Tell about your Lenten journey to the person beside you, and ask how it is going. Also ask, “Where did you see God on spring break?”

**Motions:**

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve March minutes	Sharon	Christy	Motion carried

**Action Items Assigned:**

Action Items	Assigned	Target Date	Status

**Executive Council Reports:**

**Secretary’s Report – Gay Ludvig**

- Review and approve March Minutes

**President’s Update – John Urbanski**

- Luther’s Way deadline – noon on April 11th or earlier if possible
- Constitution and Bylaws’ task force - Six people met and divided the work into two smaller groups and will compare the ELCA model Constitution to the current Immanuel Constitution. Then, recommendations on the changes Immanuel needs to make will be proposed, and the changes can be done in one meeting instead of waiting two years.
- Same gender weddings – There will be two sessions to discuss the implications of having or not having same gender marriages at Immanuel. The sessions will be on May 4<sup>th</sup> at noon and on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The pastors and John will give an introduction, and then people will meet in small groups. Council members are to listen and take notes to give feedback. John will write an article in Luther’s Way about the process Immanuel is going through and reinforce the idea that a decision hasn’t been made at this time.

**Vice President’s Report – Susan Geitzenauer**

- No report

**Financial Secretary's Report – Bob Warner**

- No report

**Treasurer's Report – Brian Nichols**

- Church expenses and revenue are close to budget. The building fund balance varies by \$1,000. Brian will talk to Bill to identify which dedicated accounts need work and aim to get the proper amounts by mid-August so funds may be balanced by Sept.

**Committee Reports:**

**Evangelism Committee – Julie Tufford-Olig or John Bleifuss**

- John said he would find out how much a sleeve on the picture directory would cost.
- The picture directory will be published in the spring of 2015.
- There will be police on Easter Sunday to direct and control traffic. There will be a barricade at the east entrance.
- “Via de Christo” is a three day retreat for adults here at Immanuel.

**Adult Faith Formation – Lorraine Maenke**

- The women's group will attend the Church Basement Ladies outing for April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- There were 100 men for the cribbage tournament, and they raised \$3,000.
- The empty nesters brought up ideas they wanted to pursue this year which included speakers, topics and activities. There may be a community bike ride.
- Men at Immanuel are encouraged to sign up for Feed My Starving Children on April 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-9:30 p.m.
- Men's softball will be held on Thursday evenings. The men will play other churches; the games are at Round Lake.

**Worship, Music and Arts – Janis Cameron**

- The musical “Come to the Table” was very well attended, and the musicians received great feedback about it.
- About 75 people attended the Redeemer Art Concert at Immanuel on April 6<sup>th</sup>, and the musicians were very talented.
- More people have signed up for flowers in the sanctuary.
- Congregational members are encouraged to purchase tulips and lilies to decorate the sanctuary for Easter.
- There will be palms available for this Sunday.
- Janis wants to compare attendance at the different church services to see if different times should be scheduled. Pastor Susan said that this summer church will be offered on Monday nights instead of Wednesday nights.

**Properties – Brian Heinzen**

- The spring clean up will be on May 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-noon. Volunteers are needed, and they are to bring rakes, trimmers and other tools to work outside.
- The LED lights are in the sanctuary, Luther Hall and outside. Bill will ask the LED people to shift some lights to see the cross better in the sanctuary.

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

- Food donations are coming in for the Easter Breakfast which is April 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-10:45 a.m. The students are not selling tickets ahead of time, but will offer a suggested donation for either an individual or a family at the breakfast.

- May 3<sup>rd</sup> is the garage sale from 8:00-1:00 p.m. Brenda recommends that donations come in beginning Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m., and larger donations be brought in the Wed. before May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:45 p.m. Twenty percent of the profits will go to the Simpson House. The remaining 80% of the profits will go to Immanuel's youth to pay for trips and events. Adult and student volunteers are needed for the garage sale.
- The Chicago Mission trip was cancelled as not enough students signed up for it.
- Martin recommended that an excel sheet be devised for the different youth accounts.
- Christy said that she met with three youth who grew in their faith.

#### **Stewardship – Paul Stordahl**

- There have been no meetings since our last Council meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Children's Education –Eldri Johnson**

- There were about 57 children for the movie "Veggie Tales."
- Only four families have signed up for the Eggstravaganza on April 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Children from age 3 through 2<sup>nd</sup> grades are encouraged to attend. The true meaning of Easter will be given to the children in addition to crafts, games and an egg hunt.
- There will be a carnival on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. There will be games and a cupcake walk.
- The last day of Sunday school will be May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Vacation Bible School will be from July 14-17<sup>th</sup>.
- The VHS tapes will be replaced with DVD's.
- Eldri is requesting that room H be painted. The property committee will discuss that.

#### **Social Concerns – Sharon Peterson**

- She received a letter from Andrew Hinderlie from Global Missions that he is ending his service with the organization.

#### **Parish Fellowship – Lynette Gust or Kim Brattensborg**

- No report.

#### **Staff Reports:**

##### **Martin Rathjen**

- Martin encouraged us to take out our smart phones to look up Immanuel's web site. He mentioned that more people are getting their information from their phone, and that we should be aware of what is on Immanuel's website.
- There will be a first communion for fifth graders coming up on Maundy Thursday.
- Martin is attending a Minnesota nonprofit conference.

##### **Bill Hawkins**

- He pays bills on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- Immanuel's snowplow service was changed to save money. The two trucks that were sent to clear the parking lot last Friday were not enough for the huge snowfall we had. Bill took pictures of the huge snow piles that were left to receive a discount, and if he doesn't receive one, he will switch back to the previous service.

**Pastor Susan**

- She noted that there are more children in church than previously.
- Mary Brown, from Lutheran Social Services, commented that Immanuel won the Servant in Christ Award for the large financial gifts we give and Kim’s Camp Noah contributions.
- Thanked Eldri and Brian for their participation in Wed. evening Lent services.
- This Sunday the congregation will meet outdoors to celebrate Palm Sunday, and the children will lead the parade at the north door.
- For Easter services Pastor Susan recommends that Council members use Kowalski’s parking lot.
- Summer worship will be on Monday evenings instead of Wed. evenings.
- Encouraged Council members to sign up for the Prayer Vigil on Maundy Thursday.

**Pastor Paul – absent**

**Upcoming Meetings: Council Retreat: April 26, 2014 8:30-3:00 p.m.**

**Council May 13, 2014 7:00 p.m.**

**Closing Prayer**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.**

**Prayerfully submitted,**

**Gay Ludvig,  
Council Secretary**

**Attendance**

P-Present, NP-Not Present

<b>Name</b>	<b>P/NP</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>P/NP</b>
Lisa Anderson	NP	Pastor Paul Nelson	NP
John Bleifuss	P	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	NP	Brenda Tonjes	P
Bill Hawkins	P	Julie Tufford-Olig	NP
Brian Heinzen	P	John Urbanski	P
Eldri Johnson	P	Bob Warner	NP
Gay Ludvig	P	Pastor Susan Weaver	P
Lorraine Maenke	P	Christy Woll	P

### 2014 March Analysis Summary

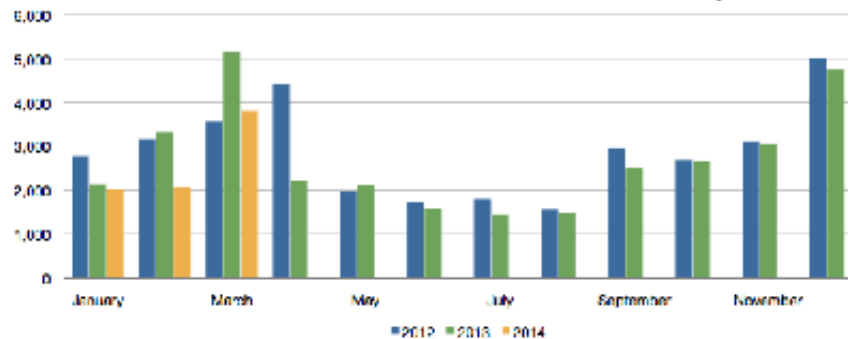
March 2014 giving was less than March 2013 and less than March 2014 budget.

- Actual giving 2014 vs. 2013:
  - March giving: \$10,886 (-10.0%) less than 2013 (\$97,712 vs. \$108,598)
  - YTD giving: \$4,185 (1.6%) more than 2013 (\$272,543 vs. \$268,358)
- Actual giving vs. budget:
  - March: \$307 (-0.3%) less than budget (\$97,712 vs. \$98,019)
  - YTD: \$4,555 (1.7) more than budget (\$272,543 vs. 267,988)
- Attendance: Sundays in March 2014: 5 2013: 5 \*including Easter

### **Immanuel Attendance: 2013 vs. 2014**

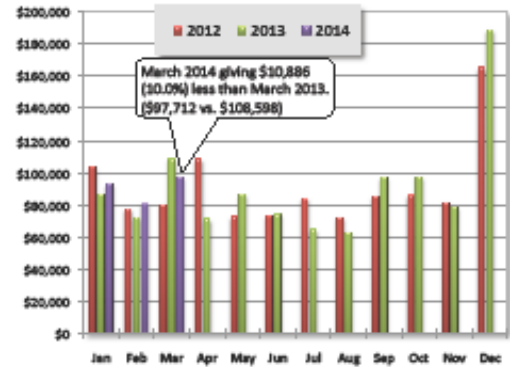
Date	2012	2013	2014	2014 Cum	Variance	Cum Variance
January	2,764	2,132	2,012	2,012	(197)	(197)
February	3,146	3,302	2,066	4,081	(1,240)	(1,437)
March	3,633	3,749	3,783	7,874	(1,398)	(2,835)
April	4,415	2,210		7,874	(2,210)	(4,045)
May	1,948	2,703		7,874	(2,100)	(6,145)
June	1,704	1,675		7,874	(1,675)	(7,820)
July	1,732	1,433		7,874	(1,433)	(9,253)
August	1,514	1,482		7,874	(1,482)	(10,735)
September	2,937	2,515		7,874	(2,515)	(13,250)
October	2,670	2,661		7,874	(2,661)	(15,911)
November	3,111	3,048		7,874	(3,048)	(18,959)
December	3,000	3,719		7,874	(3,719)	(22,678)
YTD Avg	2,698	2,898	2,826			
YTD Total	34,334	32,355	7,874			

**Immanuel Lutheran 3 Year Attendance Comparison**

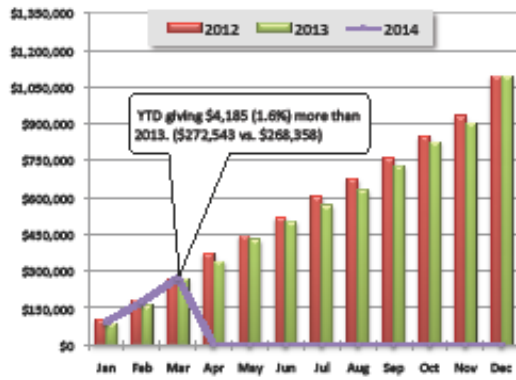


## Immanuel Lutheran Church Income Report for March 2014

Monthly Giving						
Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	Var \$	Var %
January	86,230	103,744	87,046	93,305	6,259	7.2%
February	76,078	78,018	72,754	81,526	8,812	12.1%
March	83,025	80,694	108,598	97,712	(10,886)	-10.0%
April	94,959	108,798	71,499			
May	75,593	73,058	86,953			
June	61,527	73,349	74,499			
July	74,684	84,562	65,157			
August	72,215	72,617	63,296			
September	73,812	85,876	97,427			
October	92,878	86,578	97,772			
November	82,900	82,074	79,017			
December	190,460	165,267	188,830			
YTD	1,064,363	1,094,635	1,092,809	272,543	4,185	1.6%



Cumulative Giving by Month						
Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	Var \$	Var %
January	86,230	103,744	87,046	93,305	6,259	7.2%
February	162,308	181,762	159,760	174,831	15,071	9.4%
March	245,333	262,456	268,358	272,543	4,185	1.6%
April	340,293	371,254	339,857			
May	415,885	444,312	426,810			
June	477,412	517,661	501,309			
July	552,096	602,223	566,466			
August	624,312	674,840	629,762			
September	698,124	760,716	727,189			
October	791,002	847,294	824,961			
November	873,903	929,368	903,978			
December	1,064,363	1,094,635	1,092,809			



2014 Monthly Budget vs. Actual						
Month	Budget	Actual	Mo Var	Mo %	YTD Var	YTD %
January	89,245	93,305	4,060	4.5%	4,060	4.5%
February	80,724	81,526	802	1.0%	4,862	2.9%
March	98,019	97,712	(307)	-0.3%	4,555	1.7%
April	97,650					
May	80,165					
June	72,492					
July	75,661					
August	76,571					
September	87,225					
October	100,934					
November	93,085					
December	188,230					
Annual	1,140,001	272,543	-- NA --	-- NA --	(867,458)	23.9%

