

February 2018 Church Council Minutes
Immanuel Lutheran Church
February 13, 2018

Those in attendance: Beth Hansen, Pat Hammer, Bob Peterson, Tammy Vergeront, Wendy Wurscher, Martin Rathjen, Anne Walbrun, Cari Larsen, Katie Thormodsgard, Kris Heinzen, Scott Anderson, Tami Ehlers, Tony Szczepaniak, Ruth Lunde, Pastor Angela Fairbanks Jacobson, Dana Connett, Jennifer Johnson, Ben Orton

Jennifer Johnson gave devotions.

Tony Szccepaniak related his faith story.

Secretary's report: Pat Hammer distributed last month's minutes. Cari Larsen moved to approve as altered, Ruth Lunde seconded, the motion passed.

President's report: Beth welcomed new council members Anne Walbrun, evangelism, Kris Heinzen, Middle School, Dana Connett, Senior High, Tami Ehlers, treasurer and Jackie Getchius, Children's ministry. She thanked Martin for his tutorial on communication. Beth encouraged all members to check their mailboxes in the office, and to see Tammy for a key fob if they need one. The council retreat is planned for April 28, possibly at the "new" Onward Eden Prairie house.

Jen Urbanski visited the meeting to speak about the Memorial Fund. She asked that council members submit by e-mail their ideas for needs related to their area that fit in with Immanuel's mission, one to three items with cost researched. We have disbursed \$89,000 in the last 18 years. Janis Cameron will join Jen on the committee, which could use a couple more members, possibly the financial secretary.

Vice president's report: Tony Szczepaniak related that long range planning met for a brainstorming session. They are looking at the most recent congregational survey and other input, and may put a short survey together. Their next meeting is March 20.

Financial Secretary: Bob Peterson distributed his report showing attendance per week, a three year attendance comparison, a three year giving comparison.

Treasurer's report: Tami Ehlers distributed the January financial analysis, which showed a drop in expenses of \$10,527 from January of 2017, and a drop in giving of \$20,428 from January of 2017.

Staff reports:

Tammy reported that giving was down for the month. We had to install a new garbage disposal last month, an unexpected expense. She went through procedures for submitting expenses and check requests.

Martin just finished the first grade stepping stone, communion. Several will commune for the first time next Sunday. Home altar materials are being distributed, he encouraged us to pick up a kit and share a picture on social media, #Living Faith. Martin requested funds from the memorial fund for a video controller, kind of a joystick to control the sanctuary cameras. Tanzania interest meeting shows 15 people committed to the Kilimanjaro hike, plus 5 more for the accompanying tour.

Angela thanked all who joined council. Lent starts tomorrow, theme is Living Faith, which will unfold through the season. Adult Faith Formation just completed financial university, was excellent and will be offered again. She challenged us to read an entire gospel in one sitting. We are planning a campfire vigil on the church grounds from 8 PM on Maundy Thursday to 7 PM on Good Friday.

Paul's proxy reported low attendance in January church-wide, possibly due to the cold weather and flu season.

Old business: Look at the annual meeting minutes that will be e-mailed to you, communicate any changes to Pat.

Committee reports:

Senior High: Jen Johnson and Dana Connett- Youth Rejoice is Sunday, February 25 with breakfast, youth-led worship and a silent auction. Food for the event has been donated by Lou Hernandez of Rock Bottom.

Worship, Music and Arts: Ruth Lunde- Contemporary worship service is being evaluated with field trips to other churches. Participation in music area is high.

Properties: Scott Anderson- replacing discolored ceiling tiles and broken floor tiles, will recruit members to help.

Middle School: Kris Heinzen – Confirmation kids did service projects in January.

Children's ministry: Katie Thormodsgard- Camp Wapogasset this summer has 25 slots for Immanuel, 26 signed up means a waiting list. Becoming a member church there may be to our advantage(cost of \$1,200-1,500 a year). Scholarships for camp help 40% of campers from Immanuel. VBS signup is right around the corner.

Social Ministry: Cari Larsen- Social ministry held a meeting covering benevolence funds with other interested members invited. Sheridan's Story, which provides food to elementary school kids who have insecure food sources for weekends, was added. Also added Children's shelter of Sebu. The local youth housing initiative will be considered in the future as this program gets on its feet and gains community support. Families Moving Forward is back at Immanuel February 25.

Evangelism: Anne Walbrun- Pastor Paul will teach Faith 101 Thursdays beginning April 27. Bingo event will recur next fall the day before the tent meeting.

Fellowship: Wendy Wurscher-thanked all who brought food to the annual meeting.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Pat Hammer, council secretary