

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**August 13, 2013**  
**7 p.m., ILC Library**

**John Urbanski** called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Devotions – Mike Berdahl

Faith Story – Brian Heinzen

Refreshments – Shannon Fleck

**Motions:**

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve June minutes.	John U.	Brenda T.	Motion carried.
Motion to approve job description for "Coordinator of In-Reach and Outreach," with an offer extended to Kim Rathjen.	Lisa A.	Susan G.	Motion carried.

**Action Items Assigned:**

Action items	Assigned to	Target Date	Status

**Committee Reports:**

**Secretary's Report – Karen Travis**

- Janis asked about fees for charitable contributions (Bill's report), and whether the bank fees are counted as part of the contribution. Bill's been recording the fee as a church expense and not as part of the donation (as explained on the website). Further discussion and clarification is needed. Brian and John will work with Bill on this to account for the full amount. The parenthetical ("as fees are not counted as charitable donations) will be removed.
- John U. motioned to approve June minutes. Brenda T. seconded. Motion carried.

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

- No report.

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

- No report.

**Treasurer's Report – Brian Nichols**

- Discussed financial reports. Giving is slightly below plan (falling short in July). Immanuel received a health insurance credit in July that helps offset this shortfall.
- We still have 3 months of mortgage payments in reserve. May consider making an additional principal payment this fall to bring the balance down.

### **President's Update – John Urbanski**

- Employee Guidebook has been re-circulated to staff and is being reviewed/revise.
- “Luther’s Way” deadline is tomorrow. Council members were encouraged to keep submissions in mind.
- Reviewed the Coordinator of In-Reach and Outreach job description. Considering offering this new position to Kim Rathjen (at her previous hourly rate). Money has been set aside for a staff position. Reaction from the Council was very positive. Lisa A. motioned to offer the position to Kim. Susan G. seconded. Motion carried. John will communicate this to Kim.
- Reviewed same gender marriage conversation plan. Will have a series of three conversation opportunities (three different days/weeks/times) to be held at Immanuel, with facilitated small group discussion and questions. Council members would be there to lead discussions and take notes, and also to make sure all are heard. Respectful listening is key. People can also reach out to Council members to share their thoughts on this. Based on feedback from these sessions, the Council (as representatives of the congregation) will discuss and consider a vote at the December meeting. Asked Council members to consider whether they’d like to be a discussion leader or note taker. Preparation will be provided. Suggestion was made to also gather input at faith groups and share it with Council.

### **Council Reports:**

#### **Evangelism Committee – Mike Berdahl**

- Will be getting the Meet and Greet going again. Will focus primarily on staffing greeters at the front entrance (finding volunteers has been challenging for two entryways).
- Will do another ALPHA series. Discussed best days of the week for this, based on church and staff availability.
- Will be ordering Immanuel clothing, with the new logo. Mike will work with MaryKay on this (collecting samples and taking orders).
- The next Metro Area Minnesota Via de Cristo event will be held October 17-20 for men, October 24-27 for women. This will take place at St. Stephens Lutheran Church in West St. Paul.

#### **Adult Faith Formation – Lorraine Maenke**

- No report.

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

- Choirs are starting up the end of August, with an off-site September 4.
- Roselyn Weber is taking on the Epiphany Choir, and Nicki is finding someone to lead Servant Song until the end of November. Nicki will lead Reformation Choir.
- Looking at transitioning the vendor for flowers.
- 250 new bibles were ordered.
- At the 9:15 a.m. service, they’re going to try using chimes as a call to worship, to get people into the sanctuary on time.
- Discussing the possibility of doing a liturgical dance at Everybody Worship service.
- Norwegian professional singers are coming, September 29-October 5, and are looking for homes to stay in while they’re here. They’ll perform at a service, and a concert in the afternoon.
- Pastor Paul provided an update on Gary. He very much appreciates everyone’s prayers and support. Pastor Paul and Martin will send an email to update the congregation. Updated the Council on how this affects Immanuel’s budget.

### **Properties – *Brian Heinzen***

- Immanuel's roof is leaking, and we're working on a bid for repair.
- Will be meeting soon to plan fall projects.
- Met with Prairie Lutheran Church about the security system they put in place. Shared information and may also possibly share resources. Looking at putting together a security task force to address security (an increasing concern among churches nationwide).

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

- Will be using a different book for fundraising, available in a phone app or a coupon book. Immanuel gets half the cost of the book to support fundraising.
- Pool parties are coming up this weekend (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Lock-in will be end of September. Looking at new locations this year.
- Talking about a possible college student mission trip next summer
- Next year's mission trip will be in Denver, Colorado.

### **Stewardship – *Paul Stordahl***

- Planning kickoff for the fall stewardship campaign.

### **Children's Education – *Lisa Anderson and Eldri Johnson***

- Great to have Tracy on board. Started talking about the budget and whether we can use the Sunday school offering balance to sponsor someone through Compassion International.
- Came out ahead by \$800 with VBS this year. Got 145 registered and 82 volunteers. Discussed opportunities for improvement next year. Looking at different types of programming for VBS for next year. Survey was positive, with more than 95% rating it "very good" or "excellent," and 100% for friendliness of the staff.
- Talked about Sunday school (9:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.). Expect a push toward the end of the year for registrations. Adding a parent/child class at the 10:45 service. Talked about the curriculum for Sunday school, and how to get kids more involved in the Everybody Worship service.
- Agreed to continue Families First weekends (first weekend of every month), geared toward the entire family (all ages).

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

- No report.

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

- Meeting this week regarding the tent meeting.

## **Staff Reports:**

### **Martin Rathjen**

- Immanuel has updated its website. Martin encouraged the Council to send input and corrections if errors are spotted.
- "Luther's Way" redesign will debut in October. Brochures are updated with the new logo.
- Confirmation's coming and 19 10<sup>th</sup> graders have asked to be student leaders.

### **Bill Hawkins**

- Randy (weekend custodian) has given notice. He will stay on until mid-September. Bill spoke with Jim Stokes this morning and he's open to being Randy's replacement.
- Maintenance issues—Darryl will be painting the walls and fixing ceiling tile to fix water damage in the room by the kitchen. Will also restripe the parking lot.

**Pastor Susan**

- Discussed her sabbatical, which will be featured in the next “Luther’s Way.”
- GROW is going through some changes. Will be focusing on the mission statement, particularly the community. Will have a series of speakers for three weeks, intermixed with a series of bible studies (focusing on caring for one another). Speakers will include representatives from the city of Eden Prairie, the local school district, PROP, police department, Cornerstone, Rezek House, Redeemer, Carver County Jail ministry, Loaves and Fishes, etc.
- Come to the block party on August 21 at Redeemer. Great opportunity to serve and connect with this community.
- ELCA church-wide assembly is going on now. You can watch it online (www.ELCA.org).
- Grateful for our substitute preachers this summer.

**Pastor Paul**

- Backpacking was fantastic. Had three groups and no problems.
- Worship times will change after Welcome Weekend. 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
- Getting ready for Welcome Weekend and the Tent Meeting. Martin will be posting pictures of service, projected on screens. Todd Monge is developing banners to feature at this event and to hang in the sanctuary.
- Tomorrow Pastor Paul will be meeting with Eric Savereide. For an Eagle Project, Eric will be looking at building new platforms for the sanctuary. Discussing costs, designs, etc.
- Writing a proposal for putting together four small groups of 10 men to talk about what it means to be men of faith and looking at faith practices.

**Other Business**

- Next Council meeting is September 10 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 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	P	Brian Nichols	P
Kim Brattensborg	P	Sharon Peterson	NP
Janis Cameron	P	Martin Rathjen	P
Shannon Fleck	P	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	P	Bob Warner	NP
Lorraine Maenke	NP	Pastor Susan Weaver	P

# Income Report

## 2013 July Analysis Summary

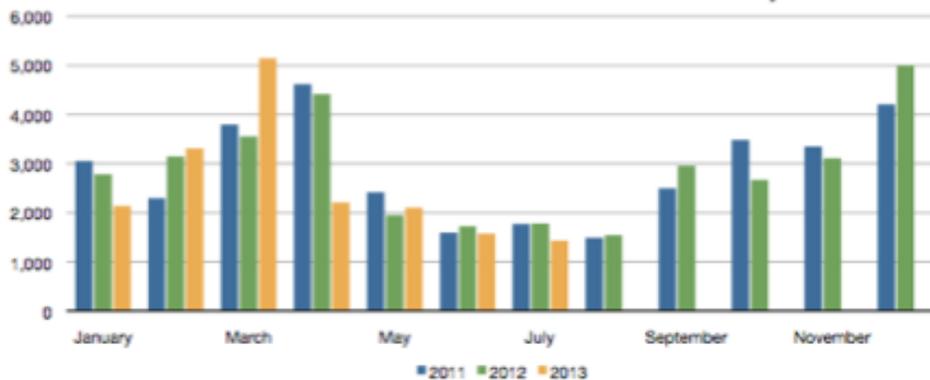
July 2013 giving was less than July 2012 and less than July 2013 budget.

- Actual giving 2013 vs. 2012:
  - July giving: \$19,405 (-22.9%) less than 2012 (\$65,157 vs. \$84,562)
  - YTD giving: \$35,807 (-5.9%) less than 2012 (\$566,416 vs. \$602,223)
- Actual giving vs. budget:
  - July: \$8,410 (-11.4%) less than budget (\$65,157 vs. \$73,567)
  - YTD: \$2,467 (-0.4%) less than budget (\$566,416 vs. \$568,883)
- Attendance: Sundays in July 2013: 4 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	(845)	(845)			
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	1,575	16,488	(149)	(1,082)			
July	1,772	1,782	1,435	17,923	(347)	(1,429)			
August	1,493	1,544		17,923	(1,544)	(2,973)			
September	2,495	2,957		17,923	(2,957)	(5,930)			
October	3,483	2,670		17,923	(2,670)	(8,600)			
November	3,343	3,111		17,923	(3,111)	(11,711)			
December	4,208	5,000		17,923	(5,000)	(16,711)			
YTD Avg	2,881	2,886	2,560						
YTD Total	34,589	34,634	17,923						

### Immanuel Lutheran 3 Year Attendance Comparison



# Financial Summary

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