

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**February 7, 2012**  
**7 p.m., ILC Library**

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

Devotions and opening prayer by Pastor Susan

Refreshments provided by Karen Travis

Caring Conversations (Highs and Lows)

Faith Story – John Urbanski

Secretary's Report (Karen Travis)

- Approved January Church Council meeting minutes.

**Motions:**

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve January minutes	Lindy F.	Sharon P.	Motion carried

**Action Items Assigned:**

Action items	Assigned to	Target Date	Status
Explore cost/savings of refinancing through a broker.	Lee Prinkkila	TBD	TBD
Explore cost/savings of refinancing through Bremer Bank or Thrivent.	Brian Nichols	TBD	TBD

**Committee Reports:**

**Middle School Youth – Shannon Fleck and Mary Hovet**

- Youth Rejoice event: February 25 at 5:30 p.m.
- Thinking of tabling Redeemer kids working at the event.
- Main coordinator for Youth Rejoice is Carrie Determan.
- Will put the extra Happenings books on the auction table.
- Martin is checking with the tech team about what's involved in creating tent cards. It's fun for the confirmation kids.
- There are fun events planned for a variety of ages; all are encouraged to attend.

**Social Concerns – Sharon Peterson (Handout A)**

- Total spending: \$214,650
- We take 20% of the first three categories of income (weekly offerings, loose offerings and special offerings). Approximately 13% goes to the ELCA: \$138,710 (number is listed incorrectly on the handout).
- Budget is divided "above" and "below" the line. Please note (from handout):
  - Caring Ministry pulled out and put into other programs (Bill Hawkins)

- Have taken A Brighter Day House off the list
- Council Directed should be \$2,453 (listed incorrectly on handout)
- Social Ministries number should be \$2,015 (listed incorrectly on handout)
- Immanuel's annual giving is actually more than 20% because we give in many other ways outside the Social Ministry.

#### **Senior High Youth – Amy Manicor and Vickie Olson**

- Youth Rejoice: Tickets are now available on the Immanuel website
- 30-hour Famine: March 16 -17
- Lutsen Ski Trip: March 9-11.
- TEC (Teams Encounter Christ) was hosted at Immanuel recently.
- Social Justice Retreat: March 9-11 (weekend retreat at Camp Friendship) — looking for groups of 12 people to go (adults and youth). For more information, see Amy or Vicki. Open to high school youth and young adults.
- U of M Junior and Senior Gathering (U Belong) — Held in partnership with several local youth directors, focusing on moving from high school to college. Not just for those going to the U. Hosted at Grace University Lutheran Church at the University of Minnesota.
- Mission Trip (Cass Lake, MN): All 32 spots have been filled. There may be more openings depending on Youth Works.
- Tossing around options to get more youth bible studies or other activities started. Nothing finalized yet, but leaning toward a Senior High bible study on Sunday mornings at 11 a.m.

#### **Fellowship Committee – Lindy Fischer and Terri Tomlinson**

- Annual meeting went well. Nothing new to report.

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

- Planning is underway for Pioneer Camp and Explore Week.
- Vacation Bible School: Information to come.
- Organizing a service event for 4-6<sup>th</sup> graders (dates not set yet).
- Encouraging people to get registered for summer camps.
- Participants in Youth Rejoice and will be involving Children's Ministry.

#### **Stewardship – Paul Stordahl**

- Working on getting pledges in (have \$825,000 in pledges so far for next year, against a goal of \$900,000).
- Continuing to invite people to make contributions to the Five for Fifty campaign.

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

- Celebration of Marriage Dinner: February 11 — 120 signed up.
- Asking for volunteers for the next Crossroads event (on grand parenting).
- Having conversations about long-range planning for next year (Pastor Paul).
- During Lent there will be Adult Education (Wednesday nights), studying gospel text for the next Sunday.

#### **Properties – John Melchert**

- Will have a meeting this month.
- Dory Kolber's stained glass design was approved. This will be located above the other door to the Sanctuary.
- New signage is being considered
- The Library Committee is purchasing a new table for check-in and checkout.
- We have purchased new furniture and a desk for MaryKay.
- Met with the Fellowship Committee last Wednesday and they expressed concerns about the kitchen. We will be putting a formal plan in place to clean it and maintain it.

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

- Christmas Follow-up: Considering adding another afternoon service (2 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 9 p.m., and 11 p.m.), to accommodate more people.
- Discussed the possibility of adding another exit in the parking lot. Question raised about whether the city might add a turn lane to facilitate traffic flow?
- Easter is coming and we'll have traditional services. We will be passing out Easter eggs a couple weeks before containing service information, as part of our effort to encourage people to invite others to attend.
- Meet and Greet is going well.
- A decision was made not to do a community mailing for the tent meeting due to cost. Instead, we will explore other ways of getting the word out.

### **Worship, Music and Arts – Chip Carlson**

- Committee meeting is next week.
- New music director for the 11 a.m. service is on board, as of February 1. She's exceeding expectations. She's highly qualified and it's great to have someone with such great background join us.
- Besides that, all our musical groups are doing well.

### **Treasurer's Report – Brian Nichols (Handout B)**

- Shared Financial Summary for January with the group (details in handout).
- We exceeded our January budget (budget: \$81,485; actual: \$103,744), which puts us above plan. This is the best January we've ever had, and last year was the second best January we've ever had. Very encouraging.
- Expenses were consistent with the plan, and program expenses were half of plan.
- Benevolence to ELCA given quarterly.
- As long as giving exceeds 8.33%, we're in good shape.
- Broke benevolence down quarterly.
- Bill Hawkins did an 8-year study to calculate income by month and applied it to the budget.
- Decision was made by the Executive Committee today to make a \$100,000 payment toward the mortgage principle. When considering the amount of mortgage paid down last year and this year (at 6% interest), this means almost \$20,000 annual interest savings.

### **Financial Secretary's Report – Rick Harrison**

- Not present during this portion of the meeting (unable to report).

### **Vice President's Report – Lee Prinkila**

- Lee will be talking to a colleague about what interest rate we could get by refinancing; Brian will talk to Bremer Bank and Thrivent. We will be weighing the cost of refinancing against the money that could be saved, before making any decisions to refinance the mortgage.

### **Staff Reports:**

#### **Bill Hawkins**

- Bremer Bank would like to donate 16 chairs to Immanuel from their lobby area. If everyone's in favor, can use them in the library. Downside is storage (sometimes the room needs to be emptied for various events).
- Spent most of the day today putting in budget numbers.
- ELCA report was finished today and delivered to MaryKay. Each year we do this report showing baptisms, deaths, etc. Due February 15.
- We will be providing new office furniture for MaryKay in the next week or two.
- Reminders for Council members:
  - Check your mailboxes!
  - Bills are paid on the 15<sup>th</sup>; let Bill know ASAP if money is owed.

### **Pastor Susan**

- Immanuel requested 35 spots at Holden Village over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The request was confirmed and there are no additional spots available.
- Enjoying working with families preparing for baptism.
- Women's Retreat: Last weekend in February. Excited for the event and think we'll all enjoy it. It's the same day as Youth Rejoice, but people will be encourage to attend Youth Rejoice following the retreat. The event goes from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mount Olivet Retreat Center. Cost is \$35.
- The Synod assembly is scheduled for next weekend at the Shepard of the Lake in Prior Lake. We will be electing a new bishop who will serve for at least the next six years.
- Social ministry: We have spots for Feed my Starving Children on March 17 (open to everyone).
- Pastor Susan will be participating in a two-year spiritual development-training program twice a month, focusing on what it means to live in a spiritual relationship with God.

### **Pastor Paul**

- Thanks to all of those on the Council for stepping up to new roles at the church.
- We've had a great men's ministry — there were 13 of us at bible study last Thursday.
- Lots of interest in both Big Horn camps (backpacking and base camp photography)
- For Lent, we're having members of the congregation tell faith stories. Lorraine will be one of them. We began doing this a couple years ago as a way to continue to focus the work we do as a church on discipleship and helping people live out their faith in daily life.
- Pastor Paul is pursuing a doctorate for ministry in leadership. As part of his studies, he will be working on a long-range planning project.
  - In the next year we'll invite our congregation to be part of renewing God's purpose for Immanuel.
  - Great opportunity to understand our three-fold ministry.
  - Missions are traditionally seen as taking place far away, but we don't live in that world anymore. We live in a community where two-thirds of the people don't go to church. We need to reach out to those, and also to people in our congregation who need to take the next step. We need to recommit to the sense that all of what we do as a church is about training missionaries. How do we engage and equip people for that?
  - Next fall we'll be inviting the congregation and the community to share in this process: What God is doing in the world and in our lives, and where he is leading us as a church.

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

- The Council retreat will be March 24. If you have shared committees try and get at least one to come, if possible. The time will be approximately 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Details to follow. We'll be handing out a binder with information on how Council works, etc.
- MaryKay will be sending out a contact sheet for all those on the Committee.
- The next meeting will be March 13 at 7 p.m. in the Library. Shannon will bring refreshments. Karen Travis will do devotions and Mike Berdahl will share his faith story.

**Other Business:**

Luther's Way deadline is February 17<sup>th</sup>, if you want to submit anything you should send it in by February 16 to [luthersway@immanuel.us](mailto:luthersway@immanuel.us)

The next meeting will be March 13, 2012, 7 to 9 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Prayerfully submitted,  
Karen Travis  
Council Secretary

**Attendance**

P-Present, NP-Not Present

<b>Name</b>	<b>P/NP</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>P/NP</b>
Lisa Anderson	P	Brian Nichols	P
Mike Berdahl	P	Vicki Olson	P
Chip Carlson	P	Sharon Peterson	P
Lindy Fischer	P	Lee Prinkkila	P
Shannon Fleck	P	Martin Rathjen	NP
Rick Harrison	P	Kim Rathjen	NP
Bill Hawkins	P	Paul Stordahl	P
Mary Hovet	P	Gary Thrasher	NP
Eldri Johnson	P	Terry Tomlinson	P
John Melchert	P	Karen Travis	P
Amy Manicor	P	John Urbanski	P
Lorraine Maenke	P	Pastor Susan Weaver	P
Pastor Paul Nelson	P		

## Handout A: Social Concerns (Pastor Susan Weaver)

	Agency or Group	2009 comments	2012 Potential Plan	
	Offerings	Total Immanuel budget	1067000	
016-70-00-02	ELCA - Mpls Synod(13%)		138710	13% of total
016-80-71-11	ELCA - Special Needs Retirement Fund		1300	directed benevolence to ELCA
016-70-00-15	ELCA - Missionaries		3400	directed benevolence to ELCA
	ELCA - World Hunger			directed benevolence to ELCA - half of pew envelopes
016-80-71-04	ELCA - Disaster Response			from dedicated accounts
016-70-00-19	Lutheran Social Services (general fund)		2400	benevolence
016-80-71-17	LSS - Rezek House		10000	directed benevolence to LSS
016-70-00-16	Lutheran World Relief		4800	benevolence
016-70-00-11	Immanuel Project/AMEXTRA	June trip \$1500 FOR Pr Susan, \$1500 for 3 translators subsidized at \$500 each, \$2000 for geeks costs	2000	church members plan to raise \$4K (year 2 of 3 year plan to send \$6K per year)
016-80-71-03	Caring Ministry		1250	from General Budget (it's inreach, not outreach)
	Habitat for Humanity	to be donated to project	5000	sent to Thrivent Builds for local project with Immanuel involvement
016-80-71-15	PROP			benevolence - half of pew envelopes, loose change on Super Bowl Sunday, Thanksgiving offering
016-80-71-14	A Brighter Day House	\$600 benevolence, apply for Thrivent volunteer funds for \$1000 in project expenses		
016-80-71-08	Piecemakers	expenses associated with making quilts for LWR	900	sheets for backings, batting
016-70-00-12	Council Directed		2454	committee's Compassion Child
016-70-00-13	Social Ministries Directed	\$1390 for second disaster trip, fall hunger meal, Going Green, parish nurse beyond \$1000 in church budget, misc committee expenses	2016	
016-70-00-10	Loaves & fishes (St Stephens)	6 meals per year at \$720 per meal	4500	highest bill was \$750, serve 6 meals annually
016-70-00-20	Simpson Housing Services	6 meals at \$290 per meal	3000	highest bill was \$500, serve 6 meals annually
016-80-71-09	Redeemer Lutheran	quarterly payments to help cover their operating costs	7500	benevolence
016-80-71-01	Comerstone	\$4000 for overhead and one meal each month @ \$150 per meal	10920	highest bill was \$160, serve meal monthly, \$9K benevolence
016-80-71-16	Redeemer Center for Life	\$5000 for operating budget, \$500 for block party donation, \$500 for Immanuel use for programming supplies (summer cook out, block party cotton candy, Christmas Store)	10500	\$500 for summer block party, \$10K benevolence
	Haiti - Fountain of Christ		2000	benevolence
	Haiti - Seeds of Support	\$600 benevolence, apply for Thrivent volunteer funds for \$1000 in project expenses	2000	for building materials portion of fee for Immanuel members who travel with St Andrews ministry
016-80-71-06	Hunger Ministry			
	Total Potential Spending		214650	
	Less caring ministry		213400	
	20% of general offerings		213400	
	Difference		0	

## **Attachment B: Treasurer's Report (Brian Nichols)**

### **Immanuel Lutheran Church Income Analysis for January 2012 January Income Analysis Summary**

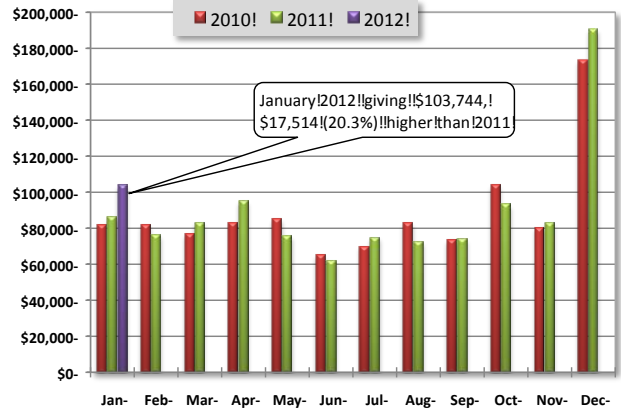
January 2012 giving was more than January 2011 and more than January 2012 budget.

- Number of Sundays in January: 5 in both 2012 and 2011.
- January 2012 attendance: 270 less than 2011 (2784 vs. 3,054\*)
- Total giving January & YTD 2012: \$17,514 (20.3%) more than 2011 (\$103,744 vs. \$86,230)
- Actual giving vs. budget:
- January & YTD: \$22,259 (27.3%) more than budget (\$103,744 vs. \$81,485)
- Completed 8.3% of 2012 budget year with total giving at 9.7% of budget.

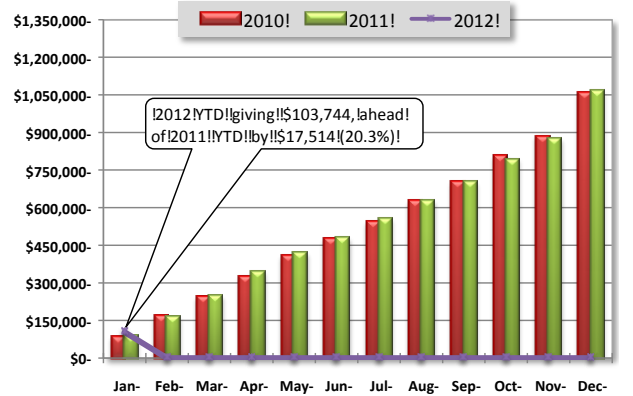
*\*First Sunday of 2012 was New Years Day*

## Immanuel Lutheran Church Income Report for January 2012

Monthly-Giving						
Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	Var.\$	Var.%
January	69,088	81,681	86,230	103,744	17,514	20.3%
February	62,631	81,946	76,078			
March	102,801	76,533	83,025			
April	96,532	82,488	94,959			
May	77,469	84,582	75,593			
June	65,109	65,110	61,527			
July	62,889	69,531	74,684			
August	82,315	82,890	72,215			
September	73,270	73,435	73,812			
October	76,167	103,989	92,878			
November	101,925	80,006	82,900			
December	171,577	173,149	190,460			
YTD	1,041,772	1,055,340	1,064,363	103,744	17,514	20.3%



Cumulative-Giving-by-Month						
Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	Var.\$	Var.%
January	69,088	81,681	86,230	103,744	17,514	20.3%
February	131,718	163,627	162,308			
March	234,520	240,160	245,333			
April	331,052	322,648	340,293			
May	408,521	407,230	415,885			
June	473,630	472,340	477,412			
July	536,519	541,871	552,096			
August	618,834	624,761	624,312			
September	692,104	698,196	698,124			
October	768,271	802,185	791,002			
November	870,195	882,191	873,903			
December	1,041,772	1,055,340	1,064,363			



2012-Monthly-Budget-vs.-Actual						
Month	Budget	Actual	Mo-Var	Mo-%	YTD-Var	YTD-%
January	81,485	103,744	22,259	27.3%	22,259	27.3%
February	76,681					
March	93,918					
April	92,580					
May	74,121					
June	67,973					
July	69,966					
August	73,948					
September	80,875					
October	96,878					
November	91,309					
December	175,266					
Annual	1,075,000	1,037,744	<<NA<<	<<NA<<	(971,256)	9.7%

