

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2012
7 p.m., ILC Library

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

Devotions – Eldri Johnson

Caring Conversations (All)

Refreshments – John Melchert
 Brian Heinzen (helping John on Properties)

Faith Story – Paul Stordahl

Motions:

Motion Made	Made By	Second	Outcome of Vote
Motion to approve August minutes	Lee P.	Sharon P.	Motion carried

Action Items Assigned:

Action items	Assigned to	Target Date	Status

Committee Reports:

Secretary’s Report – Karen Travis

- Approved August Church Council meeting minutes, as amended—page 4 third bullet under President’s Update: “Redeemer’s annual block party is Wednesday night.”

Financial Secretary’s Report – Rick Harrison

- Attendance was up in August, compared to last year, but we’re still trailing YTD by about 700 to 800 people. Averaging 2,500 per month.

Treasurer’s Report – Brian Nichols (reported by Bill)

- 63% of budget has already been collected.
- Program expenses are under budget YTD.
- Made additional \$25,000 to mortgage principal this month.
- Financials are looking good.

Vice President’s Report – Lee Prinkkila

- Still working on scheduling the Kitchen Lady training/meeting

Evangelism Committee – Mike Berdahl

- Didn’t send out mailers this year for the tent meeting. Instead, Facebook offered us \$50 in free advertising, so Martin put an ad out for Welcome Sunday.
- Excluding anyone who’s a member of Immanuel, it appeared on 10,000 different Facebook pages—80 people clicked on it, and 40-50 looked at our Facebook page.

- Need to continue exploring new ways to bring in members.
- September 23 is Faith Group Sunday.
- Will be taking orders for mugs, if people would like to purchase them for \$5.

Adult Faith Formation – Lorraine Maenke

- Men’s ministry, softball season was successful.
- Men’s bible studies begin.
- Woman’s studies event ‘Jump Start your Prayer Life” is October 15.
- November 1, Feed my Starving Children.
- February 23 is the woman’s retreat.
- Adult Sunday school will be 9:30 Sunday mornings, led by Carol Swanson.
- GROW begins tomorrow night.
- The Young Adult group is struggling to get started; continuing to find ways to get more people involved.
- Connections: Working on a singles event. Have had three meetings, and are struggling to find common ground given the variety of ages and life situations. The first event is Saturday, October 6 at 6:30 p.m.—game and pizza night, open to anyone who would like to attend.

Worship, Music and Arts – Chip Carlson

- The children’s choirs will be meeting starting tomorrow night.
- Kim and Mike Whalen will lead Epiphany.
- The Ascension choir participated in Welcome Sunday.
- Servant Song is doing really well. Continuing with one group, one rehearsal per week.
- Reformation choir starts tomorrow. Looking for more members.
- Brass and strings rehearsed performed a few times over the summer.
- Joyful Noise band will perform October 7.
- Middle and high school youth activities—meeting Wednesdays between 5:15 p.m. and 6:05 p.m.
- Holy Commotion is starting.
- Praise Ringers—sending Deb to a bell-ringing conference in October.

Properties – John Melchert (reported by Bill; Brian Heinzen joining)

- Room B (Prayer Room) is completed. Bill thanked all those involved. Came in under budget.
- New custodian started last Tuesday.
- Bill called a window company that installed windows at Immanuel in 2000 to get an estimate (seal on the North door is broken), which came in at more than \$500.
- Snow contract with Reliakore. Cost is approximately \$4,100 for the season.
- Brian is looking into a fall cleanup day. The new custodian (Darryl) may be able to fit some of this into his part-time schedule.
- The Properties Committee is giving \$200 and Social Concerns is giving \$200 to build the new cabinets for PROP.

Senior High and Middle School Youth – Amy Manicor and Vickie Olson; Shannon Fleck and Mary Hovet

- Confirmation starts tomorrow night.
- Have middle school and high school choir starting, meeting Wednesdays before confirmation.
- There will be a Kayak and bike trip to Madeline Island this weekend.
- The Biaggi’s fundraiser is coming up October 14.

Stewardship – Paul Stordahl

- Meeting in one week, getting ready to kick off the fall stewardship campaign.
- The Stewardship campaign begins October 28 (for four weeks), ending with Stewardship Sunday on November 18.
- Next meeting is on September 25.

Children’s Education – Lisa Anderson and Eldri Johnson

- Sunday school starts on Sunday, and they believe they have enough teachers.

Social Concerns – Sharon Peterson

- Simpson House discussion—repairs and renovations needed. The organization needs to raise money to expenses (their share is more than \$100,000). A suggestion was made to raise this need as a Youth Fundraiser. May also have extra funds in the Social Ministry budget at the end of the year.
- ABD House status—they have been able to secure a new loan to avoid foreclosure. Need to raise \$200,000. Immanuel gave them \$500, and may be able to give more if they share their financials and business plan.
- Purchased 50 “Jesus Calling” books for the woman’s prison in Shakopee. Doing some research at the Carver County Jail, and pursuing doing something at a regular meeting held there (where we can visit with inmates).
- Delivered a check to PROP to help them meet their match.
- Bill provided information on the Thrivent Financial Stonebridge Grant. Sharon to check with Tony to see if the Simpson House might qualify; Bill will also look into this with Thrivent.

Fellowship Committee – Lindy Fischer and Terri Tomlinson

- No report.

Staff Reports:

Martin Rathjen

- There is a new “Luther’s Way” newsletter banner.
- Martin is meeting with graphic designers who may be able to work occasionally on a project-by-project basis.
- Google Analytics—had 1,300 unique visitors to the website.
- New resident mailing is on hold while the Communications team is re-designing that piece to make it more catching and visual/personal.
- This fall will do budget re-organization to clarify funding.
- Minutes of meetings are available now on the website.
- Blessings to Paul E. and Martin R. for organizing the texts and tweets of prayers on Welcome Sunday.

Bill Hawkins

- Purchased a couple of laptops.
- Bank fees and charges came to more than \$2,600 through August.
- New custodian was hired as a part time staff member (without benefits). He is covered on his wife’s health plan, paying \$353/month for coverage. May want to consider reimbursing him for this at some point.

Pastor Susan

- Leaving a week from Wednesday on Celtic Christianity Pilgrimage for three weeks.
- Have been interviewing community leaders for the visioning process.
- Discussed the need to welcome visitors when they’re at church.
- Southwest Grief Coalition is looking for people to make and serve dinner for 30 people—seven Monday nights starting the end of October. It’s an easy thing for faith groups and other groups to do.

- Prayers of the People—inviting the Council to lead the congregation in worship over the next several weeks. This is a good way for congregation leaders to be visible and to illustrate that prayers is for everyone. Pastor Susan handed out simple instructions and examples, along with a sign-up sheet for the next 6 weeks. These readings are only about 3 to 4 minutes long.

Pastor Paul

- Visioning: Trained another 35 to do interviews. Getting great feedback from the interviewers and the community.
- Community Listening Forum, October 7, 4-6 p.m. This will include candidates for citywide and state offices, and provides a chance to build relationships and share what we've heard from the members of our community. The event will be held in Luther Hall. The Council is invited to be part of this event, and to invite friends and neighbors to participate.
- Discussed how the church and peoples' understanding of faith is changing. Pastor Paul is reading "Christianity after Religion," and explained that the church we grew up with was about "what we believe." As we moves into the new era, it's more about "how we believe," which is a question of relationships rather than doctrines.

President's Update – John Urbanski

- The next "Luther's Way" deadline is Friday.
- Darryl, the new custodian, works 8 a.m. to noon weekdays.
- The Executive Committee is working on revisions to the Facilities Use policy, and will post it to the website once it's complete.
- Learned about the Lutheran Campus Ministry (University of Minnesota). Paul Erdman is going there tomorrow, and they had 45 young people show up Sunday for the first Sunday church service (higher attendance than last year).
- Encouraged committees to begin thinking about what's needed from a budgeting standpoint, and also about if circumstances continue toward a budget surplus what might we do with that surplus.

Other Business:

Welcome Sunday

- The group discussed the service and all the things they enjoyed.
- A question was raised about why we didn't do the Saturday night service. Pastor Paul explained there didn't seem to be a need for this service, and instead they decided to put everything into the Sunday service.
- Had seven visitors sign up at the welcome table and received a free mug.
- 726 people attended, slightly higher than the regular Sunday service.

The next meeting will be October 9, 2012, at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Prayerfully submitted,
Karen Travis
Council Secretary

Attendance

P-Present, NP-Not Present

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

Income Summary

August Income Analysis Summary

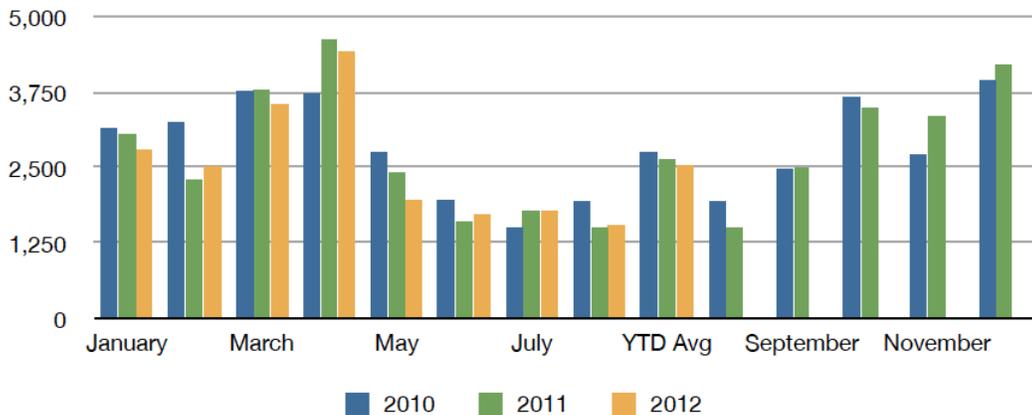
August 2012 giving was more than August 2011 and less than August 2012 budget.

- Actual giving 2012 vs 2011:
 - August giving: \$402 (0.6%) more than 2011 (\$72,617 vs \$72,215)
 - YTD giving: \$50,127 (9.1%) more than 2011 (\$674,840 vs \$624,312)
- Actual giving vs budget:
 - August: \$72,617 (1.8%) less than budget (\$72,617 vs \$73,948)
 - YTD: \$44,168 (7.0%) more than budget (\$674,840 vs \$630,672)
- Completed 67% of 2012 budget year with total giving at 63% of budget.
- Attendance:
 - Sundays in August 2012: 4 (YTD 35) 2011: 4 (YTD 35)

Immanuel Attendance: 2011 vs. 2012

Date	2010	2011	2012	2012 Cum	Variance	Cum Variance
January	3,151	3,054	2,784	2,784	(270)	(270)
February	3,254	2,300	2,502	5,286	202	(68)
March	3,764	3,793	3,553	8,839	(240)	(308)
April	3,722	4,616	4,415	13,254	(201)	(509)
May	2,757	2,417	1,948	15,202	(469)	(978)
June	1,957	1,595	1,724	16,926	129	(849)
July	1,505	1,772	1,782	18,708	10	(839)
August	1,938	1,493	1,544	20,252	51	(788)
YTD Avg	2,756	2,630	2,532			

Immanuel Lutheran 3 Year Attendance Comparison



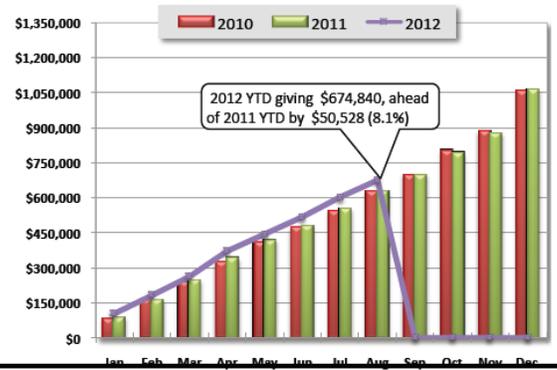
Income Report

Immanuel Lutheran Church Income Report for August 2012

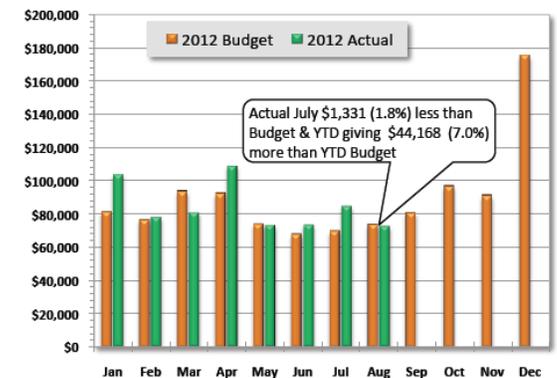
Monthly Giving						
Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	Var \$	Var %
January	69,088	81,681	86,230	103,744	17,514	20.3%
February	62,631	81,946	76,078	78,018	1,940	2.5%
March	102,801	76,533	83,025	80,694	(2,331)	-2.8%
April	96,532	82,488	94,959	108,798	13,839	14.6%
May	77,469	84,582	75,593	73,058	(2,535)	-3.4%
June	65,109	65,110	61,527	73,349	11,822	19.2%
July	62,889	69,531	74,684	84,562	9,878	13.2%
August	82,315	82,890	72,215	72,617	402	0.6%
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	674,840	50,528	8.1%



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	181,762	19,453	12.0%
March	234,520	240,160	245,333	262,456	17,122	7.0%
April	331,052	322,648	340,293	371,254	30,961	9.1%
May	408,521	407,230	415,885	444,312	28,427	6.8%
June	473,630	472,340	477,412	517,661	40,249	8.4%
July	536,519	541,871	552,096	602,223	50,127	9.1%
August	618,834	624,761	624,312	674,840	50,528	8.1%
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	78,018	1,337	1.7%	23,596	14.9%
March	93,918	80,694	(13,224)	-14.1%	10,372	4.1%
April	92,580	108,798	16,218	17.5%	26,590	7.7%
May	74,121	73,058	(1,063)	-1.4%	25,527	6.1%
June	67,973	73,349	5,376	7.9%	30,903	6.3%
July	69,966	84,562	14,596	20.9%	45,499	8.2%
August	73,948	72,617	(1,331)	-1.8%	44,168	7.0%
September	80,875					
October	96,878					
November	91,309					
December	175,266					
Annual	1,075,000	674,840	-- NA --	-- NA --	(400,160)	62.8%



Communications Report

