

February 2020
NEWSLETTER



**Milnor Lutheran and
Immanuel Lutheran Churches**
Rick Bryant

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Rick's Column

Greetings to you all! I hope this letter finds you all healthy and happy, knowing that Jesus Christ is guiding and protecting you. We have been blessed with warmer weather as of late. It is always nice to get a break from the bitterly cold weather we often experience here in our beloved North Dakota.

On 1-26-20, we held our annual meetings at both churches and I feel confident in saying that our churches are truly enjoying the blessings of our Almighty God. I am so proud to be a part of these churches as I watch day in and day out folks volunteering, working, donating, and sacrificing for the well-being of our churches. While many rural churches have an unsettled future, you folks ensure that our future is nothing but bright. Scripture tells us in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Together, we have made our churches into something that we can be awfully proud of. God Bless you all.

As I have mentioned in previous services, I would like to start an educational program called Financial Peace University by Dave Ramsey. Other churches have done this program and it has been well received. I am tentatively planning on starting the program in March. I think the opportunity to educate ourselves further and enjoy fellowship would be a good thing. Along with that, I am still planning on implementing a Bible study for anyone interested. Hopefully, my work

schedule at the Sheriff's Office will stabilize soon and we can make plans for these programs. Please reach out to me if you are interested in Bible study and/or Financial Peace University.

I have officially gained acceptance from the Synod into the TEEM (theological education for emerging ministries) Program. I begin my education through Wartburg Theological Seminary on February 10th. I am starting with two classes to get my feet wet. Please pray for me! I will be attending a Conference for Lay Ministers at Red Willow Bible Camp February 20-22. I am excited to meet fellow pastors and to learn all I can.

Before we know it, Lenten season will be upon us. Ash Wednesday is February 26th. During Lent, it is my hope that we all be encouraged to confront our sinfulness while giving thankfulness for the gift of grace that we receive through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent lasts for 40 days, which is reminiscent of Jesus' time in the wilderness before he started his earthly ministry. For us Christians, the season of Lent is truly a testament of our faith and love for our Glorious Savior.

Please always feel free to reach out to me anytime, anywhere, for anything. It is an honor to serve you folks and our Messiah. Grace and peace to you all.

Rick

PARISH PRAYER LIST

People on our prayer lists are: *Mayvis Solberg, Larry Halmrast, Karen Edison, Deanne Else, Arlene Lillestol, Ron Lillestol, and McKayla Keelan.* Please keep them in your prayers.



3 - Vaiah Berndt
4 - Lois Jenson
Brandt Larsen
6 - Nichole Kadoun
9 - Miley Lien
10 - Scott Berndt
Drake Hogness
Tracy Lien
Travers Storhaug

10 - Melissa Mund
Carl Nelson
11 - Kevin Odegard
12 - Joni Peterson
14 - Jesse Arth
Kenna Peterson
Myron Yagow
16 - Lynn Johnson
Connie Robbins

19 - Nellie Nelson
Phylis Springer
22 - Kyle Peterson
23 - Jim Peterson
Eliot Roder
26 - Mitch Tompkins
27 - Reese Hogness
Cheryl Roder

CHURCH CANCELLATIONS

The best ways to learn about church cancellations during storms are: the MLC Facebook page, KFGO Radio, or Valley News Live TV. If none of these are available to you, please arrange for someone to call you. If you need assistance with this, please contact the church office.

Attention Thrivent Financial Members ...

If you are eligible to designate/direct money from your Thrivent Choice Dollars, remember that you must do so by the end of March. Call 1-800-847-4836 and say Thrivent Choice when prompted.

Milnor Lutheran Council Minutes December 11, 2019

Present: Andrea Hogness, Connie Robbins, Don Nelson, Alisha Olson, Lonnie Rotenberger, Myron Yagow & Rick Bryant. Absent: Randy Syrstad & Curt Anderson

Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 13th:

Motion to approve from Connie, Myron seconded, all in favor

Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve both October & November from Lonnie, Alisha seconded, all in favor

Committee Business

- Worship & Shepherding (Alisha, Lonnie, & Andrea)
 - Lonnie & Alisha are working on special music for Christmas Eve services.
- Stewardship (Lonnie, Andrea & Alisha)
 - Nothing to report
- Education (Randy & Connie)
 - Nothing to report
- Properties/Grounds/Parsonage (Myron & Curt)
 - Thank you to Pat Sebens Freese for the donation to MLC improvement fund.
 - \$500 donation will be received from Luther League to go towards a new shed for the Parsonage – thank you to Luther League!
 - WELCA would also like to donate \$3,000 towards remodeling the parsonage basement bathroom; they will allow us to use \$500 of that towards the shed– thank you to WELCA!
 - Myron & Curt will check into snow removal for the church sidewalks. Last year Richie Hogness handled it.

Pastor's Report

- Reviewed the Pastor's Report
 - Candidacy meeting is Friday Dec 13th at 1:00
 - Hoping to start children's sermon in early 2020
 - Bible study is lined up

Old Business

- Still need 3-4 council members to run for next term

New Business

- Received a grant from Thrivent for \$2,500 (letter from Brent Edison). Will put this towards windows expenses -thank you to Thrivent & Brent!
- We were informed that Bishop Terry Brandt resigned.
- New Member process was discussed. It was decided that we will adhere to the constitution, but that we do want to welcome new members without too much formality involved.
- We reviewed a letter from Milnor Scholarship Association about a 'Buck a Basket' fundraiser sponsorship. Motion to approve from Myron, Alisha seconded for MLC to sponsor one of the dates, all in favor.
- 2020 budget was reviewed and approved. Motion to approve from Andrea, Myron seconded, all in favor.
- 2020 annual meeting will be Jan 26th.
- Andrea drafted the 2019 council annual report and distributed for review. If there are no changes, we will use that for the 2019 report.

Next Meeting: Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8th, 2020. Motion to adjourn by Connie, Lonnie seconded, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Hogness
Secretary

MLC Financial Report:

December Income	\$20,750.20
December Expenses	14,363.84
Net Income	6,386.36
Year-to-Date Loss	-\$ 6,512.70

The council is excited about continuing to make more updates to the parsonage in 2020; however, we need funding to support our projects! Our first priority is looking at an outdoor storage shed/garage options. Rick has his own snow blower and lawn equipment and will be taking care of the parsonage yard. We feel this will pay for itself in time! Secondly, the basement bathroom is in need of remodeling. So we are looking for donations to support these projects to continue our parsonage improvements. Please consider making a donation or organizing a fundraiser. Thank You!

February Altar Guild
Kristie Johnson and Linda Robbins

WELCA

MLC Day-of-Doing Quilters – February 18 & 19 at 9:00 a.m.
Yarn Angels – Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.

Milnor Lutheran Shepherding

February Co-Leaders: Pat Olson and Diane Wallin

- February 2 --Greeters/Ushers: Steve & Andrea Hogness Family, Jeanne McCauley, Don Marquette;
Lector: Diane Wallin; Communion: Andrea & Diane
- February 9 --Greeters/Ushers: Kevin & Brooke Peterson, Jim & Ione Foley; Lector: Pat Olson
- February 16 --Greeters/Ushers: Gary & Phylis Springer, Pete & Jeri Christiansen; Lector: Jeri
Communion: Pete & Jeri
- February 23 --Greeters/Ushers: Gary & Phylis Springer, Curt & Vi Mahler; Lector: Vi

*Thank you to everyone who serves and supports our church.
Each family is invited to donate \$10.00 annually to the shepherding fund.
This is used to buy food for meals served at funerals.*

Day of Doing Quilters' Children's Clothing Drive Continues

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our children's clothing drive for the Reservation in Sisseton, SD. We will continue to collect clothing for ages newborn - 17 years. Especially needed are winter coats and jackets, snow pants, and snow boots. There's a tote in the entry at Milnor Lutheran where you can place your donations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

NOISY OFFERING

In April we will again be collecting Noisy Offering at MLC. Thank you for your generosity in November.

Milnor Lutheran Sunday School

Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School - 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

-Sunday School will not be held February 16th.

*If you have questions about Sunday School, please contact
Greta Buskohl (427-5646) or Mary Yagow (427-5023).*

MLC Sunday School Lunches

February 2 - Brady & Miley L, Gwyn K, Harper,
Saryce, & Nico M, Hadley L
February 9 - Josie & Eli R, Jace, Cole & Easton F,
Braylon W



PARENT VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED

There is a need for a person or a team of a couple people to take over the coordination of the Palm Sunday Breakfast. (Deciding on menu, finding kitchen help, getting food donated or getting money donated to purchase groceries.)

This is a fundraiser for the Sunday School that is done every year. The children sing in church on Palm Sunday and then there is a free-will breakfast following the church service.

Currently the breakfast is rolls/muffins, egg bake, boiled eggs, and juice that is donated and served by the Sunday School families. However, this menu could be adjusted by whoever is in charge of coordinating.

Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks,

Mary & Greta

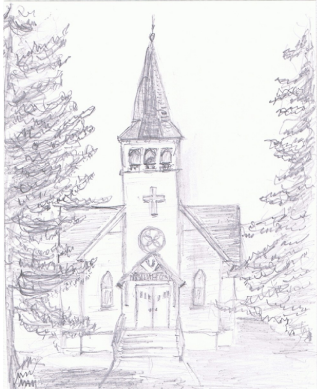
LUTHER LEAGUE LUNCHES

February 16--Mason Nelson, Brandt Larsen,
Elle Lien, Payton Lien
February 23--Spencer Peterson, Micah
Anderson, Machaela Mund, Ryan Mund

CONFIRMATION ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

February 2	Kris & Gavin
February 9	Sofia & Evelyn
February 16	Kolten & Amber
February 23	Gavin & John

Reminder, Luther League: Lent begins on Wednesday, February 27th. The Lenten Supper Serving Schedule will be ready in the near future, so watch for it on the bulletin boards.



Immanuel Lutheran Church

February

Ushers: Tom Hogness, Paul Mund

Altar Guild: Wanda Hogness

Communion Server: Paul Mund

Worship Services: Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Council Meeting: February 19th at 7:00 p.m.

IMMANUEL COUNCIL MINUTES

January 15, 2020

Present at the meeting were council members Wanda Hogness, Michael Martinson, Don Wehlander, Paul Mund, and Treasurer Derek Martinson. Absent Joel Halvorson and Jim Berndt.

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Mund.

The secretary's report: Michael Martinson moved to approve the Secretary's report, including the December 11th, 2019 Council Meeting minutes. Don Wehlander seconded, carried.

The treasurer's report: Don Wehlander moved to approve the December Treasurer's report given by Derek Martinson. Michael Martinson seconded, carried.

The Pastor's report: None.

Committees: Council adjusted and reassigned the committees for 2020 as needed.

Old Business: Discussion concerning the outdoor shed, repair to the bell and the outdoor lighted cross will be held at the annual meeting in two weeks.

New Business: Election of 2020 officers was held. Wanda Hogness nominated Paul Mund for President, Don Wehlander seconded, carried. Don Wehlander nominated Derek Martinson for Vice President, Wanda Hogness seconded, carried. Wanda Hogness nominated Michael Martinson for Secretary, Don Wehlander seconded, carried.

The council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be February 19, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Wanda Hogness
Immanuel Council Secretary