

July/August 2020
NEWSLETTER



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

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Rick's Column

Greetings and Peace to you all,

It is my hope that this newsletter finds you all well, healthy, happy, and having a great summer! As I write this newsletter, the 4th of July weekend has just passed. I hope that you all had a great weekend with family and friends. It sure has been hot and muggy as of late. As I get older, I like the heat less and less, or, maybe I just find more to complain about. We sure could use some gentle rain. It is very dry in our county. Our Almighty knows this and I pray that rain will come soon.

Our churches continue to hold services every Sunday. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with the guidelines the council has put in place. I don't think now is the time to let down our guard quite yet. I think it is wise for all of us to err on the side of caution and do what we can to ensure the continued safety of our community. Each and every one of us has different circumstances in our lives that may determine how we deal with Covid-19 individually. I pray for the day when we can all cast our cares aside and live our lives as we see fit. I look forward to the day that the children and Sunday school return to church. I long for the day that our church pews are filled again and folks do not have to be afraid of something that they cannot see. And that day will come in God's own time. In spite of this, let us not lose sight of the fact that God has lovingly sheltered us from the struggles that other communities have endured. Thanks be to God.

Each of our congregations have recently suffered the loss of members. Gloryie Gregor passed away on June 22nd 2020 and Jodi (Friskop) Albaugh passed away on July 5th 2020. Let us be assured that because of the Grace of Jesus Christ they are now resting in their

eternal home. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

I recently enrolled for my fall classes in the TEEM program at Wartburg Theological Seminary. Last spring I completed two credits toward the required 16 credits to complete the TEEM program and finally become ordained. I enjoy learning and I hope these classes prepare me to better serve you folks as your pastor.

I want to be the best pastor I can for you all and further education can only help. Having had a break from classes, it is easy for me to forget that I am not yet a full-fledged pastor. But, that day will come!

I have started to slowly do some visitation to some our long-term care facility residents and I hope to do more as facilities continue to ease the restrictions on visitors. Please let me know if you know someone who would like me to visit with them and share communion. Also, please continue to pray for those who are on our prayer lists. There is no greater physician than God and the power of prayer is a medicine that has no equal.

As I close this letter, I wish to leave you with this simple Bible verse from Jeremiah 33:3, "*Call to Me and I will answer you and tell you great and wondrous things you do not know.*" There are so many times when we find ourselves lost and scared. Yes, even me. The world seems wild and confusing. But, I find comfort in this Bible verse and I hope that you do too. God does have all of the answers to the unknown and is the One who can erase our fears and replace them with an inner peace that no one on this earth can ever take away.

May God Bless you all.

Rick

PARISH PRAYER LIST

People on our prayer lists are *Mervin Wohler, Mitch Sebens, Bobbi Haugen, Jim Robbins, Stormey Martin, Mary Alice Mund, Norma Brekke, Ron Lillestol, McKayla Keelan, and the families and friends of Gloryie Gregor and Jodi Friskop Albaugh*. Please keep them in your prayers.



July

2 - Mike Martinson
Shirley Mund
4 - Greyson Arth
6 - Harry Gainor
7 - Tom Hogness
8 - Randy Syrstad
9 - Wanda Hogness
10 - Luna Odegard
13 - Abigail Lunneborg
Darick Yagow
14 - Jeri Christiansen
17 - Linda Martinson
19 - Bud Kuehn
20 - Janice Larson
23 - Jerome Johnson
Jason Kottke
24 - Donna Johnson

26 - Jeanette Buskohl
Payton Lien
Sierra Tergesen
27 - Adam Martinson
28 - Tanner Martinson
Alisha Olson
30 - River Bryant
David Lunneborg

August

3 - Lacey Ferderer
4 - Carson Roeder
5 - Joel Halvorson
6 - Carson Deyle
Jolene Schwalk
Holden Yagow
7 - Easton Fyre
Paula Tayer

8 - Kevin Peterson
9 - Terry Dusek
10 - Florence Dahlstrom
12 - Brayden Larson
17 - Judy Anderson
Jim Kleingarn

19 - Debbe Ellefson
Gwyn Kuehn
Steve Metzen
20 - Lance Hogness
23 - Brinley Yagow
26 - Brenda Gibbon
27 - Tammy Martinson
29 - Brooke Peterson
30 - Dan Mund
David Robbins

Online Giving

If you would like to donate to our churches online, you can do so following these instructions:

- 1) Go to tithe.ly
- 2) Click on "Sign up for free in 5 minutes."
- 3) Select "Give to my church."

Click the "Give Online" button. You must create an account – it is the same one you can use as an app on your phone or on their website. Select Milnor Lutheran Church or Immanuel Lutheran Church. You can set up a recurring donation, or simply make a one-time contribution.

Milnor Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

June 25th, 2020 @ 7 p.m. (conference call)

Present: Andrea Hogness, Don Nelson, Diane Wallin,
Travers Storhaug, Myron Yagow Kelly Arth, Lonnie
Rotenberger, & Rick Bryant
Absent: Alisha Olson, Randy Syrstad

Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 26th: Motion to approve from Diane, Kelly seconded, all in favor

Treasurer's Report for May: Motion to approve from Diane, Travers seconded, all in favor

Committee Business

- Worship & Shepherding (Kelly, Lonnie)
 - Discussion was had on a possible outdoor service by our cars & have a sound system
- Stewardship (Diane, Andrea)
 - Diane called the shepherding leaders for July to let them know the guidelines
 - In June we had another Great Plains Food Bank sponsorship at Milnor Lutheran parking lot
- Education (Randy, Alisha)
 - Sunday School usually starts after Labor Day; will wait to see what school is doing & discuss with Superintendents
 - Confirmation will try to start around that same time; around mid to late-September. Last year's class will be confirmed next fall
- Properties/Grounds/Parsonage (Myron, Travers, Don)
 - There was an at least 8 ft sinkhole on the side of the fellowship hall and part of the air conditioner partially fell into it. Discussion was held if we should put in a claim and the council thought it would be best. Don will call a basement place and ask if they could deal with anything like this or tell us what to do. Thank you to Myron for the gravel to fix this and Don, Myron & Brian Tayer for filling it. Myron will reach out to file the insurance claim
 - Lighted cross replacement came up again, the council felt we should put it on hold until we know more about the sinkhole expenses (cross light will cost approximately \$750 to replace)
 - The shed for the parsonage will be started on in the first couple weeks of August. Riverside will deliver the materials. Travers will call contractor to discuss further

- The bill came in for the sewer and it was \$3,284

Pastor's Report

- 1st Sunday after pandemic attendance was ok, but there was only 11 at the last service
- Rick has started doing some visits to shut-ins
- Wahpeton conference was held today at the church and sharing was done on how others are doing things at their church
- Funeral for G. Gregor on June 26th
- Starting classes in August and has completed 2 classes so far

Old Business

- Sound System – will need an update from Randy

New Business

- Heidi out of office on vacation week of June 22nd, will be back on Monday, June 29th
- Don will contact Barb about cleaning after Gregor funeral
- Direction the council is taking for future funerals
 - Recommending masks
 - Social distancing will be practiced with seating as much as possible
 - If the family wants to serve food, the shepherding group will not be responsible for it, the family will need to provide for all of it including servers, food, plates, napkins and clean-up

Next Meeting: Meet in August via Conference Call.

Motion to adjourn by Andrea, Travers seconded, all in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Hogness

Secretary

MLC Financial Report

June Income	\$ 11,308.57
June Expenses	10,121.66
Net Gain	1,186.91
Year-to-Date Gain	\$ 21,989.29

Council Members Needed in 2021

Three of our MLC council members will be done with their terms in January. We are looking for volunteers to fill the empty seats. One of the open seats is President. Please reach out to one of the council members if you are interested!

MLC MEMORIALS

In memory of Charles Ellefson

To Milnor Lutheran Church
From Mark & Verla Berge
James & Ione Foley
Marjorie Johnson
Bob & Shelly Lenzen
Gary & Phylis Springer

To Milnor Lutheran Cemetery
From Marshall & Rachel Lien
Curt & Vi Mahler
Allen & Joan Peterson
Bruce & Dayna Speich

To Milnor Lutheran Improvement Fund
From Jeanette Buskohl
Pat Sebens Freese

To Milnor Lutheran Sunday School from Alice Wehlander
To Yarn Angels from Monty & Bobbi Haugen

In memory of John Bear

From Bruce & Dayna Speich (MLC)

In memory of Karen Johnson

From Curt & Vi Mahler (ML Cemetery)

In memory of David P. Nelson

From David Lunneborg (MLC)

CONGRATULATIONS TO 2020 SENIORS

Congratulations to MLC seniors who graduated from Milnor High School this year :

Brandt Larsen
Jaidyn McCleery
Mason Nelson
Dalton Odegard

We weren't able to have our Senior Recognition Sunday this year due to Covid restrictions, but the Day of Doing Quilters did bless each of them with a quilt!

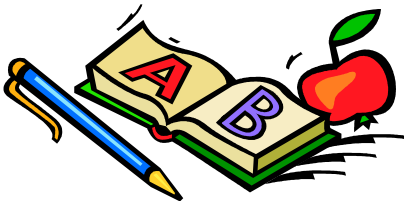
Day of Doing

Day of Doing Quilters will meet **July 21 & 22 and August 18 & 19**, beginning at 9:00 each day.

They continue to collect children's clothing (for ages newborn - 17 years) for the Reservation at Sisseton. Donations are currently stored in the library/cry room.

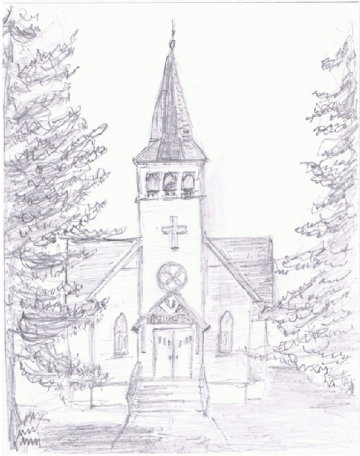
School Kits

MLC WELCA will be filling 50 school bags for Lutheran World Relief again this year. So when school supplies go on sale, please remember to pick up a few extra items to help those less fortunate. Supplies needed this year are:



- 70-sheet notebooks, wide or college-ruled (155 needed)
- Pencil sharpeners (36 needed)
- Blunt-end scissors (35 needed)
- Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink) (225 needed)
- Pencils (169 needed)
- 16 or 24 ct. boxes of crayons (32 needed)
- Rulers (22 needed)

Special thanks to Joy Christiansen, who has made around 700 bags for this program since 2009! Thank you, Joy, for all the hours and hard work you put into blessing those in need!



Immanuel Lutheran Church

July/August

Worship Services:

Sundays at 8:00 a.m.

July Ushers: Harlan Hogness and Lance Hogness

July Altar Guild: Sandy Hogness and Danielle Hogness

July Communion Server: Joel Halvorson (July 12th)

August Ushers: Joel Halvorson and Derek Martinson

August Altar Guild: Heidi Moxness

August Communion Server: Derek Martinson (August 2nd)

IMMANUEL COUNCIL MINUTES

June 17, 2020

Immanuel Lutheran Council met June 17, 2020 at 6 p.m. Present were Paul Mund, Joel Halvorson, Jim Berndt, Derek Martinson and Mike Martinson.

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Mund.

The Secretary's Report: Report was presented by Secretary Mike Martinson. Motion to accept was made by Joel, seconded by Derek. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report: Derek Martinson presented the treasurer's report. Mike made a motion to accept the report and pay the annual budget items, seconded by Jim. Motion carried.

Pastor's report: Pastor Rick was absent from the meeting.

Committees: No discussion on committees.

Old Business:

-- A discussion was held concerning progress on replacing the evergreen trees around the church. Mike will contact the Rod Hogness family to see if they are still willing to donate the trees.

-- The A/C system has not been operating properly. Property and Management will contact Crossroads.

-- The cross still needs to have the ballast installed. Derek will schedule getting it done.

-- It was reported that the outside water spigot was fixed, so we are able to water grass/flowers.

--The Pancake Breakfast was discussed. It was decided to table it until August to determine if we would be able to hold it in September, given current conditions concerning Covid 19.

New Business:

--Communion was discussed. Disposable cups were used and will continue to be used for now.

-- It was decided to not hold church on July 5th so families could celebrate this nation's Independence Day with their family.

--The rope on the flagpole is tangled, and needs to get untangled so the current flag can be replaced.

Joel made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jim. We closed with the Lord's Prayer. The date for the next meeting was set for August 19th, 2020.

Mike Martinson
Council Secretary