

November 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 and prayer that this newsletter finds you all well! As I write this letter, we have enjoyed summer-like weather for the past week. This blessing enabled us procrastinators to accomplish some last minute outside chores in preparation for winter and allowed our farmers to finish the harvest. Deer hunting is underway and this rich tradition is being enjoyed and cherished by many in our community. Thanks be to God.

As most are aware, my family, and also Heidi's family, were not able to attend church on November 1st due to Covid-19 concerns. I would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, concerns, and prayers during this time. Thanks to your prayers, we are now back to work. Covid continues to be a grave concern in our community and the world. Please be cautious and safe, but most of all, please continue to pray to our Almighty for healing and protection. Speaking of prayers, it appears that the 2020 presidential election is over after one the closest elections in our history. I would like to implore all of us to pray for peace and unity for our great nation.

Moving forward, church services will continue to be at 9:30 a.m. for MLC and 11:00 a.m. at Immanuel. Communion will be on the first Sunday of the month at both churches. We have started confirmation classes and we have an ambitious group of young men and women who are eager to learn about what it means to be a Lutheran and a Christian. We have a great time together and I cherish each Wednesday spent with them. Due to scheduling conflicts, I have still not been able to pin down a date to confirm last year's

confirmands. I will continue to try and find a date/time that works for everyone. I will keep everyone posted. Sunday school and our children's sermons will continue at MLC. I am a week away from completing two more credits on my road to becoming ordained. I love learning and there is much to learn!

Before we know it, we will be celebrating Thanksgiving and then Christmas. These holidays bring joy for many, but for others, especially with Covid-19, loneliness and despair creep into their lives. Let us please watch out for our loved ones and neighbors. A simple phone call and words of hope and encouragement can make all the difference in the world. Please feel free to reach out to me if I can be of help in anyway. I am available 24/7.

I would like to thank the council members of both churches and everyone who works behind the scenes to help me and support me. Words cannot express my gratitude. I would also like to thank the congregation for all of your support, help, prayers, and encouragement. I am so blessed to be your pastor.

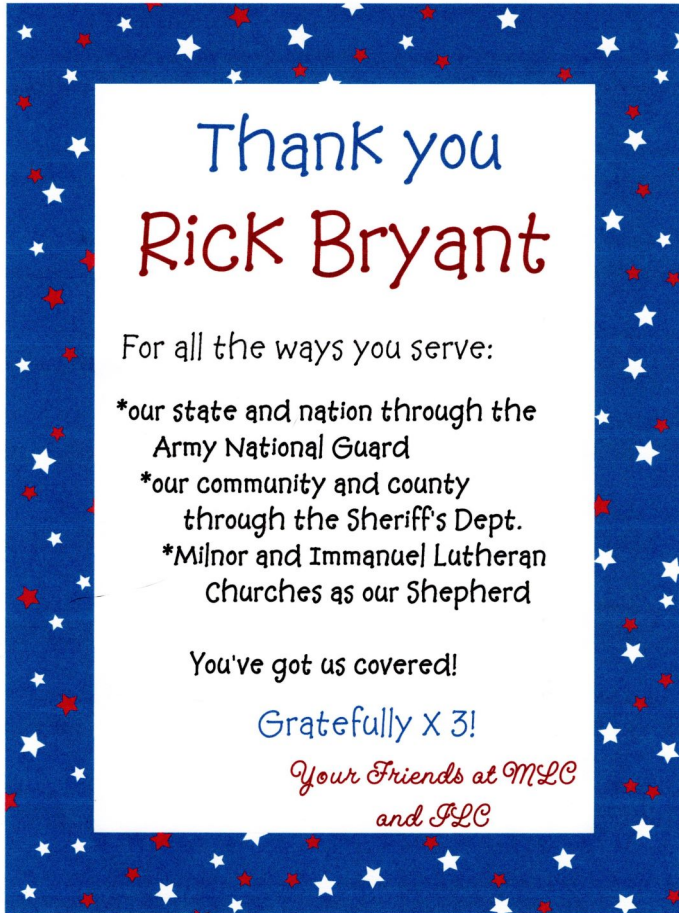
In closing, I offer these words of hope from Romans 8: 38-39, *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."* Amen.

May the God of love and mercy be with you all.

Rick

PARISH PRAYER LIST

People on our prayer lists are *Curt Mahler, Mardell Aabrekke, Bobbi Haugen, Jim Robbins, Avery Moxness, Mary Alice Mund, and McKayla Keelan*. Please keep them in your prayers.



Noisy Offering at MLC

Noisy Offering Sunday is November 22nd. This is an opportunity to help Sanford Children's Hospital in Fargo. Save your change to place in the pails on a table in the back of the church. (Paper money or a check will also be accepted.) Your stewardship is greatly appreciated. God Bless .



Fun Financial Facts

Did you know that you can gift stock or grain to the church or other charities? See the informational sheets in the church entry .



November Birthdays

1 - Aubree Peterson
Spencer Peterson
Don Wehlander
4 - Ernest Roder
5 - Kolten Kadoun
6 - Amy Kuehn
Elsie Skarpness
8 - Mary Johnson
9 - Vickie Berndt
10 - Tom Mund
Blake Yagow

11 - Adam Baldwin
Orvin Hogness
15 - Tina Johnson
Chloe Smith
Karen Wohler
16 - Hap McCleery
17 - Cannon Ferderer
18 - Jaidyn McCleery
Pat Olson
Macy Roeder

21 - Dorothy Pribula
23 - Annette Hudson
24 - Steve Ellefson
26 - Kris Lien
27 - Leah Buskohl
Lu Diede
28 - Josie Rotenberger

Milnor Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes (unapproved)

October 14, 2020 @ 7 p.m. (conference call)

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 14th:

Motion to approve from Diane, Kelly seconded, all in favor

Treasurer's Report for September: Motion to approve from Kelly, Myron seconded, all in favor. Discussion was had on the uncategorized bank error. There was a deposit made both by mobile and later also cashed by check. In November, this error will be corrected.

Committee Business

- Worship & Shepherding (Kelly, Lonnie)
 - No new business
- Stewardship (Diane, Andrea)
- Education (Randy, Alisha)
 - Everything has been going smoothly so far with Sunday School
- Properties/Grounds/Parsonage (Myron, Travers, Don)
 - Rec'd donation for sound system in fellowship hall; reviewed bid from Site On Sound. Ceiling panel speakers – there will be 6 in the main portion of the fellowship hall & 2 in the kitchen. This is a new sound system only for the fellowship hall but it ties into the main one. There is a wireless mic and one that is wired in, but the cost is around \$500 more for wireless so we will go with the wired in mic for the limited amount of time it will be used
 - Window well covers were suggested that we are in need of for the back of the church. Don will stop into Riverside to see if they have any suggestions and try to get quotes
 - LED cross lights are not in yet. The supplier told Crossroads that they are coming out with a better product so they are waiting and they thought it would also be cheaper

Pastor's Report

- Attendance has improved & children's sermon went very well
- Confirmation is starting on Oct 21st

- Regular communion with masks and gloves went well
- We need to get lectors back to reading so Diane will reach out to the November & December shepherding group
- Nov 22nd for the noisy change offering, ice cream pails will be put in the back

Old Business

- Benevolences paid so far this year was \$2000 to Synod & \$300 to Red Willow. Last year for missionary, we distributed \$1,000 to Nebraska flooding & \$1,000 to food pantries
 - Lutheran Social Services - \$1,200 – the council supports paying the entire amount right now; Andrea will send Grace a note
 - Missionary - \$2,000
 - Abuse Resource Network in Lisbon was brought up by Rick, he will check with them. After further discussion it was decided that the missionary money will go to Sargent & Ransom County Food Pantry, Sisseton Reservation effort and Abuse Resource Network (Lisbon)
 - Synod - \$3,500 (\$2,000 pd) – will discuss paying remainder in November

New Business

- Publishing of the meeting minutes – since we are publishing them before they are formally approved, we decided that corrections made will be included as addendums in the following newsletter

Next Meeting: Next meeting will be November 11th at 7 via conference call. Motion to adjourn by Kelly, Alisha seconded, all in favor

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Hogness
Secretary

Correction: September minutes said Rick "can't get to the Wahpeton/Breckenridge area". This should have read that Rick does not have anyone to visit in Wahpeton at present.

MLC Financial Report

Sept. Income	\$14,905.11
Sept. Expenses	15,545.47
Net Loss	640.36
Year-to-Date Gain	\$26,630.84

Sharing Our Blessings!

As the end of the year fast approaches, the council has made plans to share money budgeted for mission projects. Part of those funds will be given to Churches United in Fargo/Moorhead. Expanding on that, the stewardship committee is sponsoring a "Giving Tree" project through the end of the year that will benefit that good cause. The committee invites members and organizations in our church to designate special gifts to Churches United until December 31. Altar Guild is already on board to share extra funds given for the poinsettia project. So this year, your gifts given to remember or honor loved ones will help beautify our Christmas sanctuary and help homeless families in our area.

Churches United was founded in 1987 by local churches to provide good nutrition, safe shelter and stable housing to families in immediate need. Beyond providing emergency services, Churches United embraces "housing first" principles that strive to move residents from shelter to stable housing as quickly as possible. Their staff works to address the root cause of homelessness by connecting residents to community services that will elevate income and thereby increase housing stability and prevent a return to the shelter.

Executive Director Pastor Sue Koesterman shared that they have been in overflow conditions since October 2019. As their clients struggle with the added challenges of COVID-19, their need for food and housing is even greater. Churches United's ongoing financial needs are greater, too, to meet demands for extra sanitation and to replace volunteers with paid staff.

Needs List: In addition to monetary gifts, their website has this needs list: face masks, sanitizer wipes, Tylenol, cough medicine, Kleenex, single use gloves, canned goods and activity books for adults and children. Collected items may be placed in a special box in the entry.

As you enjoy your safe, warm home, please keep in mind those who are searching for food and shelter in these cold, pandemic days.

Parsonage Update

As we announced in the September Newsletter, the parsonage shed project has been completed this fall. This was a big project and will be of great use for the Bryants! Thanks to the grounds committee on the council that led this effort. Also, thank you to Rick who built his own shelves for the shed! We currently have only about 1/3 of the project paid for so any donations would be appreciated. We'd like to pay this off so that we can focus on the next parsonage project which we hope to be the basement bathroom. The grass was also planted this fall and there was a great effort from all (too many to name) both young and old. There were more kids than adults and they were hard workers that did an awesome job spreading the grass and hay.



November Altar Guild
Deb Schutt & Jasmine Smith

WELCA

MLC Day-of-Doing Quilters – No meeting this month.
Due to COVID concerns, there will not be a WELCA Christmas Tea this year.

November Shepherding Schedule

Leaders: Dave & Connie Robbins; Jim & Linda Robbins

Lectors for November are as follows:

November 8 Judy Kleingarn
November 15 Jodi Ost
November 22 Linda Costain
November 29 Bobbi Fuhrman



Christmas Poinsettias

MLC members wanting to donate toward Christmas poinsettias in memory of or in honor of loved ones or friends should contact Kristie Johnson (427-5259) or Connie Robbins (427-5536) by December 13th.

WELCA QUILT RAFFLE

Because of COVID 19 concerns, MLC WELCA will not be holding their usual Fall Bazaar & Supper this year. They are, however, raffling off a beautiful quilt made by Bobbi Haugen. Tickets are available from the church office or Milnor Clothing. We are hoping you will buy many tickets or give an extra donation, since we won't have the auction or supper to bring in additional funds. These funds are given to worthy organizations to help people in need and used to fund projects in our church and parsonage. Tickets can be turned in to the church office or Milnor Clothing by December 1st. The drawing will be held December 6th.

MLC MEMORIALS

In memory of Karen Edison
From Jim & Ione Foley (MLC)

In memory of Karen Johnson
From Teresa Toyne-Dick (MLC)
Jim & Ione Foley (MLC)



Baby Shower

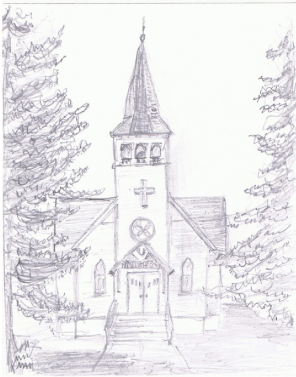
There will be a come-and-go baby shower for Jackie Ellefson Bell at Milnor Lutheran Church on Saturday, November 28th, starting at 10:00 a.m. She is registered at Target and Bed Bath & Beyond.

Milnor Lutheran Sunday School

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

-Sunday School will not be held on November 8th or November 29th..

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



Immanuel Lutheran Church

November

Worship Services:

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

November Ushers: Dan, Landon & Wyatt Mund
November Altar Guild: Dawn Mund & Melinda Mund
Communion: November 8th

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;

Come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his;

We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,

And his faithfulness to all generations.

