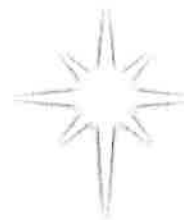


January 2024  
**NEWSLETTER**



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

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## Rick's Column

Greetings and Peace to you all,

Happy New Year! As I write this letter, Christmas and the season of Advent are now behind us. It is my hope that each and every one of you experienced the Christmas you hoped for.

I think we can all agree that it would be tough to remember a more mild December than we have enjoyed this year. The forecast all the way through January 14<sup>th</sup> predicts no below zero weather and very little snow. Unbelievable!

I truly enjoyed the Christmas program put on by our Sunday school students at both churches. I wish to thank all involved for providing us with such well put-together and enjoyable event. It is by no means an easy task, but our Sunday school staff always comes through. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Here on the church front, we now enter a somewhat quiet period before Lent starts. Lent kicks off with Ash Wednesday on February 14<sup>th</sup> which also happens to be Valentines Day. The Lenten season then concludes on Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Confirmation classes are started back up on Wednesday, January 3<sup>th</sup>. The kids have had a well-deserved break, but we look forward to get back to learning about all things God. They are truly an incredible group of kids and we are getting a lot of learning done!

As always in the month of January, both churches will hold their annual meetings. ILC will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. This meeting is

usually followed by a potluck dinner, which we all look forward to. MLC will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in serving on the MLC church council, please see myself, Heidi, or any current church council member. We have three council member openings. Serving on council can be a very rewarding experience and a great way to serve God and our fellow parishioners. We are blessed with the fact that we rarely face severe challenges or encounter stressful issues to deal with. Our churches seem to run in beautiful harmony.

From the bottom of my heart, I wish to thank you all for the outpouring of prayers, thoughts, cards, gifts, and "well-wishes" that you all have provided during Melissa's illness. I could not go on this journey without you. Please continue praying for her and everyone on our prayer list.

I wish to thank you all for an amazing and blessed 2023. Our churches continue to grow and remain very healthy and vibrant. It is such a joy and an honor to walk with God with each and every one of you. Melissa and I are so blessed and we thank God for the honor of worshipping, living, and serving with you.

In closing, I leave you with words from **Isaiah 9:6**: "*For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on His shoulder. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.*"

May God's peace be with you all.

Rick

## PARISH PRAYER LIST

People currently on our prayer lists are *Melissa Bryant, Mervin Wohler, Allen Peterson, Dale Torreson, Bill Larson, Loralie Martinson, Andrea Coppin, Jill Wehlander, Mark Thorson, and Marcus Anderson*. Please keep them in your prayers. If you or your loved one would like to be on our prayer list, please contact the church office.



1 - Evelyn Banish  
2 - Bryce Hogness  
4 - Jennie Hanna  
    Jessica Heitkamp  
    Curt Mahler  
    Grace Prante  
7 - Kaleb Olson  
8 - Matthew Olson

10 - Vi Mahler  
    William Peterson  
11 - Bob Schutt  
    Diane Wallin  
13 - Jill Baldwin  
18 - Deb Schutt  
19 - Kris Fuhrman  
23 - Larry Moxness

23 - Jasmine Smith  
26 - Clay Hogness  
    Lennox Hogness  
27 - Karen Krause  
28 - Keith Johnson  
29 - Marlene Hogness  
30 - Bryggen Martinson  
    Bruce Speich

## Online giving at Milnor Lutheran Church

Online giving is available at MLC using [tithely.ly](https://tithely.com). Click on "Sign up for free in 5 minutes". Select "Give to my church." Click the "Give Online" button. You must create an account--you can use it on an app on your phone or on their website. Be sure to select Milnor Lutheran Church. You can set up a recurring donation, or simply make a one-time contribution. Thanks!



## Baby Shower

There will be a baby boy shower for Harlee Koepp (wife of Connor) on Saturday, January 13th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. She is registered at Amazon.

# Milnor Lutheran Council Minutes

December 12, 2023

Present: Randy Syrstad, Jason Kottke, Bill Pribula, Deb Wagner, Jill Baldwin, Alisha Olson, Rick Bryant Nate Sundquist; Absent: DeNae Martinson, Kris Lien  
The meeting was opened with devotion from Pastor Rick.

**Pastor's Report :** Confirmation classes have resumed. Linda Costain has offered to help with Confirmation classes should Pastor Rick need to take time off to be off to be with Melissa.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were reviewed. \$40,000 was moved into a CD this month. Motion made to approve as recorded by Jill Baldwin and seconded by Nate Sunquist . All in favor. Motion carried.

## Committee Business

- Worship (Deb & Jill) Committee met and hymns are selected thru February.
- Stewardship (DeNae & Jason) Nothing to report.
- Education (Randy & Alisha) – Sunday School is off until after New Years. Sunday School program went well.
- Properties/Grounds & Parsonage (Bill, Kris & Nate) Exterior wood on bottom of the stained-glass windows. Nothing to update – waiting on contractor.
  - Church floor tile – Nothing to report.
  - Humidity issue in basement. Waiting for estimate from Crossroads. Bill again reached out to them, and we are currently on their list.
  - Gutter hanging down on south side of church. Having trouble accessing this area with a ladder due to the overhang. Nate will look and see if he can fix it.

- Window air conditioner for parsonage garage – tabled until spring.
- Weeds in the grass at the church and parsonage – tabled until spring.
- Drainage around church in front of door, plan to dig out the gravel and leave open until spring and then will address a permanent solution in the spring.

## Old Business

- Council Size – Announcement was made to congregation for amendment to council. Amendment proposed. Chapter 12 C12.02 The Congregational Council shall be comprised of 5,7 or 9 members. Will be announced one more time and then voted on at annual meeting.
- Pastor's Contract has been completed and sent to the synod.

## New Business

- The Annual Meeting will be held January 28th.
- There are 2 cross stitch pictures donated by Linda Costain that were made by her mother. Bill will hang these in Fellowship Hall.
- 2024 Budget was reviewed. Will finalize at January meeting.

Motion was made by Jill Baldwin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Randy Syrstad. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting January 10th @ 6:15pm**

-Deb Wagner, Council Secretary

November Income	\$ 14,560.08
November Expenses	10,737.75
Net Income	3,822.33
Year to Date	\$15,817.99

## MLC ANNUAL MEETING

The MLC Annual Meeting will held Sunday, January 28th, following worship. Please have reports in to the church office by January 21st.

*January Altar Guild  
Jolene Schwalk and Deb Wagner*

# WELCA

Day of Doing Quilters will meet January 16th and 17th at 9:00 a.m.  
Yarn Angels will meet January 9th and 23rd at 1:00 p.m.

## **YARN ANGELS IS RECRUITING**

Yarn Angels is seeking people who enjoy crocheting and/or knitting to help make afghans, scarves, and hats. Yarn will be furnished and can be delivered to your home. For more information you can call Bobbi Haugen at 701-680-2806 or Gail McCleery at 701-680-0921.

## **JANUARY SHEPHERDING SCHEDULE**

Leaders: Connie Robbins and Linda Robbins

January 7, 2024-- Ushers/Greeters: David & Connie Robbins; Lector: Lois Jenson  
Communion: Willow Tyler and Allison Yagow

January 14, 2024-- Ushers/Greeters: Linda Robbins and Jeanette Buskohl  
Lector: Linda Schutt

January 21, 2024-- Ushers/Greeters : Cheryl Roder and Janice Larson; Lector: Linda Costain  
Communion: Linda Costain and Cheryl Roder

January 28, 2024-- Ushers: Jim & Judy Kleingarn; Lector: Judy Kleingarn

*Thank you to everyone who serves and supports our church.*

## **MLC MEMORIALS**

**In memory of Roberta Michels and Betty Lunneborg**  
From Connie Foster (Yarn Angels)

**In memory of Oline Nelson and Deanne Else**  
From Connie Foster (WELCA)

**In memory of Craig Speich, Hap McCleery, and Steve Murdock**  
From Connie Foster (Sunday School)

**In memory of Florence Dahlstrom**  
From Connie Foster (Milnor Lutheran Cemetery)

**In memory of Hap McCleery**  
From Phylis Springer (Day of Doing)

**In memory of Yvonne Midtlyng**  
From Mervin & Karen Wohler (MLC)

## ***Milnor Lutheran Sunday School***

**Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School - 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.**

-Sunday School resumes on Sunday, January 7th, at 10:30 a.m.

-Sunday School will not be held on January 14th.

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

### **Sunday School Lunches**

**January 7** - Holden Y, Ellyn & Lexi S, Tallulah S,  
Hadley & Braden L

**February 4** - Hunter & Briley L, Saryce & Nico M,  
Natalie & Lincoln G



## **LUTHER LEAGUE**

**Sunday Acolyte Schedule:** January 7th: Brooks and Greyson  
January 14th: Volunteers Needed  
January 21st: Miley and Daisy  
January 28th: Henry and Cole  
February 4th: Willow and Allison  
February 11th: Teegan and Rhiannon  
February 18th: Volunteers Needed  
February 25th: Emilee and Braylon

### **Sunday Lunch Schedule:**

January 21 – Miley Lien, Brady Lien, Daisy Lee, Lily Lee, Greyson Arth

January 28 – Henry Lunneborg, Cole Fyre, Jace Fyre, Carson Deyle, Gavin Williams, Joseph Banish

February 25 - Emilee Bergstrom, Braylon Wyum, Ashlynn Sundquist, Myah Sundquist,  
Avery Johnson

\*For each youth (up to 2 youth per family), please bring 2 dozen treats per youth.

\*Each family is responsible for helping in the kitchen: prep & serve, clean up etc. (prepare/start coffee, make juice, set out the lunch, etc.)

\*If you must switch Sundays to serve, you are responsible for finding your own replacement.

Thank you to all that ordered from our wreath fundraiser. We raised money for future activities and supported a local business at the same time.

Please join the Milnor Lutheran Youth and Milnor Lutheran Church Facebook pages for lunch schedules and activity announcements. If there are any questions, please contact Lacy Kottke at 701 680-8942.



## Immanuel Lutheran Church

*January Ushers: Orvin Hogness and Don Wehlander*

*January Altar Guild: Marlene Hogness*

*Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.*

*Worship Services: 11:00 a.m.*

*Communion: January 7th*

*Annual Meeting & Potluck: January 21st*

### IMMANUEL COUNCIL MINUTES

December 19, 2023

The Council met on December 19th at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Present were Brenda Gibbon, Mindy Hogness, Tanner Martinson, Kevin Moxness, Derek Martinson, and Landon Mund. Brenda called the meeting to order.

The Secretary's Report was read and a motion to approve was made by Kevin, seconded by Tanner. The Treasurer's Report was read and a motion to approve was made by Landon, seconded by Mindy. There was no Pastor's Report.

#### Committees:

- Education Committee – Starting in January, Kelsy Martinson will be taking over Sunday School teaching for Mindy.
- Property and Management Committee – The Council discussed future church maintenance and upkeep items. The conversation was tabled for time being so a more detailed list with projected costs could be made.

#### Old Business:

- No Old Business.

#### New Business:

- The Council went over the Stewardship Committee's 2024 Proposed Budget, read by Derek. Tanner made a motion to increase the maintenance budget for the year, seconded by Landon. No other changes were made, and Mindy made a motion to accept the revised 2024 Proposed Budget, seconded by Tanner.

Landon made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kevin. The council closed with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will take place on January 17th at 7pm.

**Landon Mund**  
**Council Secretary**

The Immanuel Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner will be held Sunday, January 21st, following worship. Please plan to attend and bring food to share. Please have reports and information for the Annual Report to Heidi by January 14th.