

December 2023

NEWSLETTER

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

Rick's Column

Greetings and Peace to you all,

As I write this letter, Thanksgiving has just passed and the weather has sure cooled off. We have, however, enjoyed higher than normal temperatures for this time of year. It is my hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with good food, friends, and loved ones. Harvest appears to be behind us, and now our farmers and ranchers can hopefully take a well-deserved rest. We are certainly blessed in so many ways in our little community.

In church news, we are now in the season of Advent. The meaning of Advent is "coming." This is a wonderful time of the year as we anticipate Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. I sincerely hope that each and every one of you has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to the upcoming New Year and all of promising signs that the future holds for our community and church. Thanks be to God.

On December 3rd at 2:00 p.m. is the WELCA's annual Christmas Tea. This will be held at MLC and all area women are invited to this event, which will feature speakers from or living in Milnor and the impact their jobs have on the community. There will also be snacks, music, and door prizes.

On December 10th, our Sunday School kids at both churches will put on their annual Christmas

program. The kids and staff work hard on these events and we all look forward to their programs with great anticipation. Also on December 10th, there will be rolls, juice, and coffee at MLC and a pot-luck dinner at ILC following the service.

Confirmation will break for Christmas after our class on Wednesday, December 20th. We will resume classes January 3rd, 2024.

Christmas Eve services will be held at 5:00 p.m. at MLC and at 7:00 p.m. at ILC on Sunday, December 24th. No morning worship will be held at either church that day.

I would like to recognize the ladies of Yarn Angels and Day of Doing Quilters for all of their amazing work in once again creating beautiful, warm blankets, quilts, hats, and scarves for folks in need. These items absolutely are a "life-changer" for many, and your compassion for others does not go unnoticed. God bless you ladies and your remarkable work.

In closing, I leave you with the words from **2 Corinthians 3:18**, which remind me of you all. *"We all, with unveiled faces, are reflecting the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit".* May His blessings be upon you all.

Rick

PARISH PRAYER LIST

People currently on our prayer lists are *Melissa Bryant, Mervin Wohler, Allen Peterson, Kit Mund, Bill Larson, Loralie Martinson, Andrea Coppin, Jill Wehlander, Mary Alice Mund, Shyrlee Friskop, Mark Thorson, Phyllis Gelinske, and Terry Timm*. 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.



2 - James Foley

3 - Alison Kottke

Tallulah Schutt

4 - Bill Pribula

Kathy Rysavy

5 - Teegan Olson

6 - Pat Freese

Marshall Lien

Brad Lunneborg

7 - Melinda Mund

8 - Brian Fuhrman

8 - Blair Michels

9 - Chris Larson

10 - Dana Gainor

12 - Kylie Martinson

14 - Janis Claus

Adam Kottke

20 - Jen Sundquist

21 - Doug Martin

22 - Allison Yagow

23 - Shelby Mund

Allen Peterson

24 - Harlan Hogness

25 - Curt Hogness

26 - Avyn Hogness

27 - Aiden Heitkamp

28 - Mary Alice Mund

29 - Hannah Mund

Dale Torreson

30 - Melissa Rasmussen

31 - Jordaan Larson

Dawn Mund

Lonnie Rotenberger



Please join us!
Sunday, December 3rd at 2:00 p.m.

WELCA CHRISTMAS TEA **Milnor Lutheran Church**

The program will feature Jeri Christiansen, Jennifer Ellefson LaGosh, Alix Larsen, and Pearl Stockwell, who will share how their careers impact our community. Music by youth. Door prizes, Christmas carols, goodies, and fellowship included.

All area women are invited!
Please bring a food pantry item.



Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to donate toward Christmas poinsettias in memory of or in honor of loved ones or friends, please contact Kristie Johnson (427-5259) or Connie Robbins (427-5536) by December 10th.

Milnor Lutheran Council Minutes

November 15, 2023

Present: Randy Syrstad, Jason Kottke, Kris Lien, Bill Pribula, Deb Wagner, Jill Baldwin, Alisha Olson, DeNae Martinson, & Rick Bryant;

Absent: Nate Sundquist. The meeting was opened with devotion from Pastor Rick.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were reviewed. Motion made to approve as recorded by Jill Wohler and seconded by Kris Lien. All in favor, Motion carried.

Committee Business

- Worship (Deb & Jill) Special vote was taken October 22nd per request of several members of the congregation regarding resumption of ushering out and passing offering. The vote was as follows: Offering: 17 for passing the offering, 35 for leaving it at back of the church. Ushering: 22 for ushering out, 29 for no ushering. Will resume leaving the offering at the back and no ushering. Per discretion of Pastor Rick, we may usher out and or pass offering at special events such as when Sunday School Children are singing.
- Stewardship (DeNae & Jason) – nothing new currently.
- Education (Randy & Alisha) – Sunday School Program will be Dec 10th.
- Properties/Grounds & Parsonage (Bill & Nate)
 - Exterior wood on bottom of the stained-glass windows (No update – waiting on contractor)
 - Church floor tile – No update
 - Humidity issue in basement – still waiting for an estimate from Crossroads.
 - Gutter hanging down on south side of church – no update currently.
 - Roof snow stoppers laying by the heat pump for church. The committee will look at this after church on Sunday.

Pastor's Report – December 3rd – Deacon Laura Carson will be here to do the sermon. Confirmation will resume November 29th.

Old Business

- Council Size – update from Bill regarding process, change to the constitution will be drafted and presented to congregation this Sunday to make the 60-day requirement to be voted on at next annual meeting.
- Window air conditioner for parsonage garage – tabled until spring.
- Weeds in the grass at the church and parsonage – tabled until spring.
- Snow blowing this winter – Ashlynn Sundquist has agreed to do this.
- Drainage around church in front of door – Discussed a couple of options. The committee will look at this on Sunday and come up with a plan.

New Business

- Pastors Contract – due in December. Bill will meet with Grace and look at this.
- Leading Worship Workshop – Saturday Nov 18th, 2023, 10 am – 2:30pm at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cogswell. This is a continuation of a meeting that Bill attended this past summer.
- Christmas Eve Service is on Sunday this year. Discussed church services and the council has voted to not have morning service and just have Christmas Eve Service. No Christmas Day service. Deb will let Heidi know this.

Kris Lien made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Randy Syrstad seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: December 13th @ 6:15pm

-Deb Wagner, Council Secretary

October Income	\$ 18,858.47
October Expenses	13,081.40
Net Income	5,777.07
Year to Date	\$11,995.66

December Altar Guild
Kristie Johnson and Linda Robbins

WELCA

Day of Doing Quilters will meet December 12th and 13th at 9:00 a.m.
Yarn Angels will meet December 12th and 26th at 1:00 p.m.
The WELCA Christmas Tea will be Sunday, December 3rd, at 2:00 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.

DECEMBER SHEPHERDING SCHEDULE

Leaders: Tracy Lien, Dorothy Pribula, and Paula Tayer
December 3, 2023-- Ushers/Greeters: Brian & Paula Tayer Family; Lector: Tayers
Communion: Tayers and Kristie Johnson
December 10, 2023-- Ushers/Greeters: Shane & Nichole Kadoun
December 17, 2023-- Ushers/Greeters : Kris & Tracy Lien, Brian & Willow Tyler; Lector: Willow
Communion: Liens, Tylers
Christmas Eve-- Ushers: Bill & Dorothy Pribula Family; Lector: Bill Pribula;
Communion: Pribulas, Johnsons
December 31, 2023-- Ushers: Bob & Darla Schutt; Lector: Bob

Thank you to everyone who serves and supports our church.

MLC MEMORIALS

In memory of Florence Dahlstrom

From The Dahlstrom Family (MLC + Cemetery)
Dave & Judy Brenna (MLC)
Jeanette Buskohl (ML Cemetery)
Brent & Jaci Edison (MLC)
Jim & Ione Foley (MLC)
Marlene Hogness (ML Cemetery)
Mike & Linda Martinson (MLC)
Scott & Jan Melroe (MLC)
Bill & Dorothy Pribula (Day of Doing Quilters)
Clem Severson (MLC)

In memory of June Fritzen

From: Renee Larson (Yarn Angels)

In memory of Mary Ann Jelinek

From: Kenneth Metzen (ML Cemetery)

In memory of Craig Speich

From: Jim & Ione Foley (MLC)
Marshall & Rachel Lien (ML Cemetery)

Milnor Lutheran Sunday School

Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.

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

- Wednesday, December 6th, at 5:00 p.m. there will be a practice for the Christmas program. This will last about 45 minutes.
- Sunday, December 10th, will be the Christmas Program during worship. Rolls, coffee, and juice will be served following the program.
- Sunday School will be on Christmas break after the program and resume January 7th.

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

Sunday School Lunches

December 3 - Taylor & Kaleb O, Natalie & Lincoln G, Hadley & Brayden L

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



MLC SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE PROJECT

A great group of kids filled 51 boxes for Operation Christmas Child on Sunday afternoon, November 12th! The afternoon started by giving the kids some information about Operation Christmas Child. We then said a prayer and got started.

Each box needed to have a wow item. The wow items for our boxes were stuffed dinosaurs, Disney Princess Barbies, or stuffed unicorns. Other items the kids packed in the shoe boxes were hair brushes, toothbrushes, scrunchies, monster trucks, wash rags, bracelets, squishy balls, stickers, coloring books, crayons, mittens, water bottles, flashlights, sun glasses, and pens. A label was then placed on each box indicating if it was for a boy or girl and the age range of the child. The boxes were then taken to a church in Wahpeton where they will continue on their journey. It was a fun afternoon! We hope to make this a yearly service project. If you'd like to donate, each box cost approximately \$22 and checks can be made out to MLC Sunday School.



Immanuel Lutheran Church

December Ushers: Bud Kuehn and Mike Martinson

December Altar Guild: Linda Martinson

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. (10th & 17th)

Worship Services: 11:00 a.m.

Communion: December 3rd and 24th

Christmas Program & Potluck: December 10th at 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Service: December 24th at 7:00 p.m.

No morning worship on December 24th.



Immanuel Sunday School

- We meet on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
- Our Christmas Program will be Dec. 10th during the worship service. (Potluck dinner to follow.)
- Sunday School will not be held on Dec. 24th or 31st.

LUTHER LEAGUE

Sunday Acolyte Schedule: December 3rd: Henry Lunneborg and Teegan Olson
December 10th: Emilee Bergstrom and Braylon Wyum
December 17th: Cole Fyre and Rhiannon Johnson

Sunday Lunch Schedule: December 17 - Carson Deyle, Gavin Williams, Braylon Wyum,
Henry Lunneborg, Joseph Banish

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.