

February 2024

NEWSLETTER



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

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Rick's Column

Greetings and peace to you all!

As I am writing this newsletter today, it is a balmy 42 degrees and sunny outside. Who would have ever thought that we could have as mild winter as we have so far. It is astounding! The forecast calls for these mild temperatures to remain with us, and soon we can all start thinking about the arrival of spring!

We have finished holding the annual meetings at both churches. Let us welcome Immanuel's new council members Derek Martinson and Paul Mund. At Milnor Lutheran, we welcome Paula Tayer, Loren Ellefson, and Wade Kuehn. As always, we have folks who are willing to step and fill needed spots on our councils, and we thank God for those willing to sacrifice some personal time to serve our churches. In fact, may God bless ALL OF YOU, as I watch day in and day out folks volunteering, working, donating, and sacrificing for the well-being of our churches. Of course I am biased, but I believe no one could top us as a church community. Together, we have made our churches into something that we can be awfully proud of.

Out at Immanuel we have recently held two beautiful baptisms, Lillian Hope Martinson and Stetson Blegen. We welcome them as new members in our church family and God's family.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working and learning with this year's confirmation class. They are so

polite, respectful, kind, and have a true willingness to learn. I look forward to each and every Wednesday. As of late, we are reading the entire book of Matthew, which we should finish up before Lent. As usual, we will not hold confirmation classes during Lent, as the students will be serving meals for the Wednesday night Lenten services. Speaking of Lent, it will be upon us very soon. We will kick off Lent at MLC on Ash Wednesday, February 14th, which also happens to be Valentine's Day. The soup and sandwich meal will start at 6:00 p.m. and worship will begin at 7:00 p.m. We will then rotate between ILC and MLC for the remainder of Lent. For us Christians, this 40 day journey to the day that Christ arises from the tomb is the epitome of our faith. I look forward to walking this journey with all of you.

As many of you know, my beloved Melissa is now home. She has been on quite the journey. Without a doubt, your prayers have played a huge part in her getting strong enough to come home. I could not have endured this ordeal without the help and love of all of you. I just don't have the words.....

I leave you with the short but powerful words from 2 Corinthians 12:9. *"My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness."*

Hold tight to your loved ones and cherish each and every day. May God's undying love 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, Marcus Anderson, and Arlis McFarland*. 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.



- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 3 - Vaiah Berndt | 10 - Melissa Mund | 19 - Nellie Nelson |
| 4 - Lois Jenson | Carl Nelson | Phylis Springer |
| Shiloh Johnson | 12 - Joni Peterson | 22 - Kassie Christianson |
| 6 - Nichole Kadoun | 13 - Cindy Yagow | 23 - Jim Peterson |
| 7 - Ashlynn Sundquist | 14 - Kenna Peterson | Eliot Roder |
| 8 - Miley Lien | Myron Yagow | 26 - Mitch Tompkins |
| 10 - Scott Berndt | 16 - Lynn Johnson | 27 - Reese Hogness |
| Drake Hogness | Connie Robbins | Cheryl Roder |
| Tracy Lien | | 28 - Taelor Griggs |

2024 LENTEN SERVICES

February 14th (Ash Wednesday)	Milnor Lutheran
February 21st	Immanuel Lutheran
February 28th	Milnor Lutheran
March 6th	Immanuel Lutheran
March 13th	Milnor Lutheran
March 20th	Immanuel Lutheran

All Lenten services begin at 7:00 p.m. Soup & Sandwich suppers begin at 6:00 each time.

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!



MILNOR LUTHERAN COUNCIL MINUTES

January 10, 2024

Present: Randy Syrstad, Nate Sunquist, Kris Lien, Bill Pribula, Jill Baldwin, Deb Wagner

Absent: DeNae Martinson, Jason Kottke & Alisha Olson

Meeting was called to order by President Bill Pribula.

Secretary's & Treasurer's Reports were reviewed.

There were some questions regarding money given to synod for the year. Grace attended the meeting and clarified that the budgeted amount was paid in 2 lumps, last payment in December. No further questions voiced. Motion made to approve the reports by Jill Baldwin and seconded by Kris Lien, motion carried.

Committee Business

- Worship (Deb & Jill) – nothing new to report.
- Stewardship (DeNae & Jason) – nothing new to report.
- Education (Randy & Alisha) – nothing new to report. No Sunday School this weekend, will resume on 21st.
- Properties/Grounds & Parsonage (Bill, Kris & Nate) Exterior wood on bottom of the stained-glass windows. The council was informed that the contractor that had previously agreed to do this project is no longer doing this kind of work. Nate will talk with the contractor that replaced the altar windows to see if he would be able to do this.
 - Church floor tile – tiles have been replaced.
 - Humidity issue in basement – We are still waiting on Crossroads to give us a bid.
 - Gutter hanging down on south side of church – Nate was not able to get to this prior to winter setting in, so will be looked at in the spring.
 - Window air conditioner for parsonage garage – removing this for now. Will revisit as needed.
 - Weeds in the grass at the church and parsonage – tabled until spring.

- Drainage around church in front of door. Not able to dig this out due to material that was used. Will readdress this in the spring once things have warmed up. There has been no drainage issues as far as snow and ice so far this winter.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Rick unable to attend the meeting, so no update currently.

Old Business

- Council Size – 2nd Congregational notice was given in December. The change to allow Council size to flex odd numbers from 5-9 will be voted on at the annual meeting.
- The annual meeting will be held January 28th. Deb Wagner will be unable to attend so Jill Baldwin will record the minutes. We have 3 outgoing council members this year, and we have some people that are interested in the council positions. We are waiting for the final decision from them.

New Business

- Final Budget reviewed with Grace. She will let Immanuel know of the change in their contribution for 2024.
- Jill reported that there is a visitation and pastoral care workshop in Cogswell on January 13th. She is planning on trying to attend. Jill has also expressed interest in pursuing lay ministry and would be interested in this as a possible avenue to volunteer as a supplement to current ministry @ MLC.

A motion was made by Jill Baldwin and seconded by Kris Lien to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Next Meeting February 7th @ 6:15pm due to Lent starting on the 14th.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Wagner Secretary

February Altar Guild
Kristie Johnson and Linda Robbins

WELCA

Day of Doing Quilters will meet February 20th and 21st at 9:00 a.m.
Yarn Angels will meet February 13th and 27th 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.

DAY OF DOING QUILTS

On Sunday, January 28th, MLC's Day of Doing Quilters displayed 40 beautiful quilts in the sanctuary. They will soon be delivered to non-profit organizations in the area to help keep folks warm this winter. Thank you to the women who give time and talents to this ministry.

MLC NOTES

Many thanks to Celeste Metzen for serving as MLC's Cradle Roll Secretary for 40 years! She has decided to retire from that position as of the end of 2023, so we are looking for someone who would like to take over those duties. It involves keeping track of the baptized infants in the church and doing periodic mailings.

Reminder to Thrivent Members: Please call Thrivent Financial to designate your Choice Dollars before the end of March.

Thursday, February 8th, is Giving Hearts Day. Many non-profit organizations depend on the generosity of individuals or groups to help support their efforts to aid people in need. Dollar amounts given can receive matching funds. Checks given to a non-profit should be received before February 8th and made out to the organization with the words "Giving Hearts Day" written on the memo line.

FEBRUARY ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

February 4th: Willow & Allison
February 11th: Teegan & Rhiannon
February 18th: Volunteers Needed
February 25th: Emilee & Braylon

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 February 18th.

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

Sunday School Lunches

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

February 11 - Gwyn K, Brinley & Blake Y,
Taylor & Kaleb O, Jacob H

March 3 - Layton, Vaiah & Hailyn B, Ava B,
Canyon C, Eli R



LUTHER LEAGUE

2023 LENTEN SERVING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 14th

Soup: John Kottke, Jerilyn Yagow, Harper Martinson, Andrew Yagow, Charley Hogness, Jace Fyre

Sandwiches: Kris Fuhrman, Emilee Bergstrom, Avery Johnson, Jace Fyre, Gavin Erickson

Bars: Henry Lunneborg, Brooks Hogness, Joey Banish, Josie Rotenberger, Allison Yagow

Wednesday, February 28th

Soup: Daisy Lee, Rhiannon Johnson, Ashlynn Sundquist, Kolten Kadoun, Teegan Olson, Willow Tyler

Sandwiches: Amber Kjar, Greyson Arth, Shiloh Johnson, Braylon Wyum, Lily Lee

Bars: CeCe Johnson, Myah Sundquist, Karleigh Kadoun, John Kottke, Evelyn Bixby

Wednesday, March 13th

Soup: Chloe Smith, Sophia Hanna, Kris Fuhrman, John Kottke, Braylon Wyum, Gavin Williams

Sandwiches: Brady Lien, Amber Kjar, Gavin Erickson, Leah Buskohl, Henry Lunneborg

Bars: Gavin Erickson, Willow Tyler, Miley Lien, Ben Hanna, Carson Deyle

Please bring a large crockpot of soup, 1 dozen sandwiches (2 slices of bread), or a large pan of bars (24) as assigned. Supper begins at 6:00 p.m. Please be there by 5:45.

SUNDAY LUNCH SERVING SCHEDULE

February 18 – Yarn Angels

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

Please bring 2 dozen treats per youth. Each family is responsible for helping in the kitchen: prep & serve, (prepare/start coffee, make juice, set out the lunch, etc.) and clean up, etc.

If you must switch dates, please find a replacement. Questions? Call Lacy at 427-5310 or text/call 680-8942.

Thank you for your continued support serving after church and during Lent.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

February

February Ushers: Bryce Hogness and Paul Mund

February Altar Guild: Mindy Hogness

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

Worship Services: 11:00 a.m.

Communion: February 4th

Lenten Services: February 21st, March 6th and 20th

IMMANUEL COUNCIL MINUTES

January 17, 2024

The council met on January 17th at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Present were Mindy Hogness, Tanner Martinson, Kevin Moxness, Derek Martinson, Landon Mund, and Paul Mund. Mindy called the meeting to order.

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

Committees:

- Education: Sunday School resumed on January 14th; Kelsy Martinson & Kylie Martinson are co-teaching this Spring.
- Property & Management: The council reviewed the list of maintenance items and prioritized the cracked wall as the next project for the committee to evaluate for repair. Tanner will share the list with the congregation at the Annual Meeting for awareness and to seek volunteers.

Old Business:

- No Old Business.

New Business:

- 2024 Officers: The council elected Tanner Martinson as President, Paul Mund as Vice President, and Mindy Hogness as Secretary.
- The council removed the role of Financial Auditor, delegating that activity to the Treasurer. The council also removed the formal assignment of monthly Communion Servers acknowledging that a present member will volunteer on that day to serve communion.
- The council decided that church service will move to 8am beginning Sunday, May 19th, which is in-line with when Sunday School breaks for the summer.

The meeting was adjourned, and we closed with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will take place on March 27th at 7pm.

Mindy Hogness
Council Secretary

Lenten Suppers begin February 21st at Immanuel. We again need volunteers to make soup, sandwiches and bars. Please sign up on the sheet in the entry of the church for the date that is most convenient for you. Thanks!!