

*January/February 2025*

# ***NEWSLETTER***



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

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• **Office Hours:** 9am - Noon--Mon. and Thurs.  
• **Office Phone:** (701) 427-9273  
• **Rick's cell:** (701) 680-1966; Parsonage: 427-5524  
• **e-mail address:** [mlchurch@drtel.net](mailto:mlchurch@drtel.net)  
• **Rick's e-mail:** [bryant@drtel.net](mailto:bryant@drtel.net)  
• **www.Facebook.com/Milnor Lutheran Church**  
• **MLC Website:** [www.milnorlutheran.com](http://www.milnorlutheran.com)  
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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! We have been experiencing some colder weather as of late, but truth be told, it has not been a bad winter so far. But as we all know, there is still time for old man winter to make himself known! March will be upon us before we know it and perhaps when I write my next newsletter spring will be at our doorstep.

We have finished holding the annual meetings at both churches. Mindy Hogness agreed to serve another term at ILC and the rest of the council will remain the same as well. At Milnor Lutheran, we welcome Jen Sunquist, who will be serving with her husband, Nate. A big, heartfelt "thanks" to these folks for serving our churches. I always find myself beaming with pride as I watch day in and day out folks volunteering, working, donating, and sacrificing for the well-being of our churches. As I told each congregation at our annual meetings, our churches are the envy of a million rural churches across our country. Together, we have made our churches into something that we can be awfully proud of.

Our confirmation students have been a joy to teach. They are polite, respectful, and have a true desire to learn and expand their faith. They have learned a great deal about Christianity and our ELCA faith. To see their eagerness to learn makes teaching for Melissa and I a true joy. 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 March 5<sup>th</sup>. 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. Lent lasts for 40 days, which is equal to the 40 days Jesus fasted in the wilderness and was continually tempted by the devil before he started his earthly ministry. For us Christians, the season of Lent is truly a testament of our faith and love for our Glorious Savior.

Our Sunday school programs at both churches continue to be a great success and are molding our young people into devotion and love for God. Thank you to the staff at both churches.

The new audio and sound system is fully functional at MLC and I think we are all very proud to be keeping up the times. It greatly enhances our church services and will prove so valuable for weddings and other events in the near future. Thanks again to all who donated to this project.

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 *Mark Thorson, Marcus Anderson, Pam Bolanos, John Crandall, Don Marquette, Loralie Martinson, Gary Jensen and Bobbi Haugen*. 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.



## January Birthdays

- |                  |                   |                       |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1- Alysha Schutt | 11- Bob Schutt    | 26- Clay Hogness      |
| 2- Bryce Hogness | Diane Wallin      | Lennox Hogness        |
| 4- Jennie Hanna  | McKenzie Speich   | 27- Karen Krause      |
| Jessica Heitkamp | 13- Jill Baldwin  | 28- Keith Johnson     |
| Curt Mahler      | 15- Kari Fuhrman  | 29- Marlene Hogness   |
| Grace Prante     | Randall Johnson   | 30- Bryggen Martinson |
| 7- Kaleb Olson   | 18- Deb Schutt    | Bruce Speich          |
| 8- Matthew Olson | 19- Kris Fuhrman  |                       |
| 10- Vi Mahler    | 23- Larry Moxness |                       |
| William Peterson | Jasmine Smith     |                       |



## February Birthdays

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

***February Altar Guild***  
***Linda Robbins***

**WELCA**

**Day of Doing Quilters will meet February 18th and 19th at 9:00 a.m.  
Yarn Angels will meet February 11th and 25th at 1:00 p.m.**

**FEBRUARY SHEPHERDING SCHEDULE**

Leaders: Linda Robbins

February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 -- Ushers/Greeters: Blair & Lynne Michels; Lector: Carol Peterson  
Communion: Melissa Bryant & Lynne Michels

February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025-- Ushers/Greeters: Dustin & Jessica Heitkamp  
Lector: Mike Schutt

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

**MLC MEMORIALS**

**In memory of Kristie Johnson, Gerald "Smokey" Sletmoe, Gloria Shelton and Jerry Bixby**

From Deb Ellefson (Milnor Lutheran Cemetary)

**In memory of Smokey Sletmoe**

From Lori & Myron Yagow (MLC SS)

# ***Milnor Lutheran Sunday School***

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

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

*Someone is needed to take over Bible School. If you have questions about Sunday School, please contact*

*Greta Buskohl (427-5646) or Mary Yagow (427-5023).*

## **Sunday School Lunches**

**February 16-Luther League serves**

**February 23-Luther League serves**



## **LUTHER LEAGUE**

**Sunday Acolyte Schedule:**

February 16th:	Taylor Olson & Ramona Johnson
February 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	Alison Kottke & Aiden Heitkamp
March 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Layton Berndt & Eli Rotenberger
March 9 <sup>th</sup> :	Reese Hogness & Henry Lunneborg
March 16 <sup>th</sup> :	Brooks Hogness & Braylon Wyum
March 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	Volunteer Needed/Spring Break
March 30 <sup>th</sup> :	Rhianon & Ramona Johnson

### **Sunday Lunch Schedule:**

February 16 – Harper B, Myah & Ashlynn S, Josie & Eli R

February 23- Braylon W, Reese H, Avery Y, Lily & Daisy L

March 2- Sunday School serves

March 9- Sunday School serves

\*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.



## Immanuel Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The council met on Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Council Members present were Tanner Martinson, Kevin Moxness, Derek Martinson, Paul Mund, and Mindy Hogness. Tanner called the meeting to order. The Secretary's Report was read and a motion to approve was made by Paul, seconded by Derek. The Treasurer's Report was read and a motion to approve was made by Kevin, seconded by Paul. Pastor Rick gave a report that all is going well in his role and that he's happy; he also shared that Milnor Lutheran Church wishes to support our roof project in some capacity, TBD as we determine the best course of action.

### Committees:

- **Education:** Sunday School will resume their Winter lessons on Sunday. We're very blessed to report that our program has grown to thirteen children! Note, there will be no Sunday School on February 16<sup>th</sup>.
- **Property & Maintenance:** Property & Maintenance items were discussed in Old Business.

### Old Business:

- Property:
  - Insurance Letter: We received a letter from the insurance company that we must address the shingles and spire otherwise our premium will increase.

Additional conversation on next steps will be discussed at our Annual Meeting with the congregation.

- 1/15 Update: Opinions expressed were to prioritize sealing the roof, if needed, replacing the shingles with wind-locked asphalt. Also removing the bell and placing it on the ground near the front of the church as a nice and safe display. Paul reported that Larry spoke to a representative at Church Mutual Insurance Company and would provide more details at the Annual Meeting.

### New Business:

- Derek brought forth a proposal for the 2025 Budget. A motion to approve was made by Kevin, seconded by Paul and the budget was passed to present to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mindy, seconded by Kevin. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

### Mindy Hogness, Council Secretary

### Key Dates:

- Sun. 1/26: Annual Meeting following Church Service
- Sun. 2/16: No Sunday School

**Milnor Lutheran Council Meeting  
January 8th @ 6:15pm**

Present: Jill Baldwin, Loren Ellefson, Nate Sundquist, Kris Lien, Rick Bryant, Deb Wagner, Paula Tayer, Wade Kuehn  
Absent: Jason Kottke

The meeting was opened with devotion from Pastor Rick

**The Secretary's and Treasurer's** reports were reviewed. No corrections or additions. Kris Lien made a motion to approve the reports and seconded by Wade Kuehn; all in favor, motion carried.

**Committee Business**

- Worship (Jill) – nothing new to report.
- Stewardship (Loren & Paula) – we had a special collection on Christmas Eve which raised \$476 for St Philips Catholic Church in Hankinson to help the congregation following the church fire. Discussed other stewardship opportunities. A motion was made by Kris Lien to send \$500 to the Sargent County Food Pantry this month, seconded by Nate Sundquist; all in favor, motion carried. Jill will notify Grace.
- Education (Jason) – Nothing new to report, Sunday School will resume this Sunday.
- Property and Grounds
  - Exterior wood on bottom of the stained-glass windows. Tabled.
  - External Church Sign – door won't close – Tabled.
  - Parsonage projects
    - Update on doors and windows in the breezeway and the egress window in basement: We received a donation that will cover the cost of the breezeway doors and windows replacement. Nate will get those ordered. Basement windows will be tabled until spring.
    - Window Well covers – tabled until spring.
    - Old well room mold: The contractor will be coming this week to look at what is needed to wall off the room.
    - Front door screen door- Pastor reports that this has been fixed.
    - Outside Outlets – Tabled. Will be fixed with well room/patio repair.
  - Carpet cleaning Church and fellowship hall – waiting for this to be completed.
  - Parsonage Furnace update – Pastor reports that this has been fixed.
  - Mold in Church Basement – Discussed some possible options for this project. Nate will work on a bid for building out walls and sheet rocking/insulating.

**Pastor's Report**

- Confirmation started back today.
- There are 2 baptisms coming up.

**Old Business**

- Update on lay ministry workshops: Jill has started the preaching online class.
- Video/audio equipment installation – Installation will be happening next week. Crossroads has been contacted to put in electrical outlets.
- Proposed Budget- final review complete. Will be presented at the annual meeting.
- The annual meeting is set for January 26<sup>th</sup>.
- New Council Members: Jason Kottke will be leaving council this year. We have a volunteer to take this open council position.

**New Business** - no new business

Nate Sundquist made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Wade Kuehn seconded; all in favor, motion carried.

**Next Meeting: February 12th @ 6:15.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Deb Wagner, Secretary**