

January 2021
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! It is my hope that this newsletter finds you all happy, healthy, and well. I sincerely hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas! As I write this letter, we have enjoyed warmer than average temperatures and only moderate snowfall thus far. Even with the mild winter, several of our parishioners are still making their way south for the winter. Despite our possible jealousy, we wish them safe travels and look forward to when they return this spring!

As of late, it appears that Covid-19 numbers are dropping drastically in North Dakota! We all hope and pray that this trend continues and that the year 2021 will be without the many challenges of 2020. We are all eager to get back to life as we knew it before the onset of this pandemic. Let us continue to give thanks to our Almighty God and pray for the well-being of the world!

Until further notice, Sunday school will continue to be postponed. Confirmation will continue to be held in-person at 3:30 p.m. each Wednesday. Also, our annual meetings are coming up very soon. I would like to thank the amazing church councils for their untiring dedication to our churches. They gracefully led our churches through this pandemic and we cannot thank them enough. Soon we will have new church council members and we thank them for agreeing to serve the churches and our

community. To the outgoing council members—"thank-you" from the bottom of our hearts. I would also like to offer thanks and praise to the members of our congregations. Your generosity and compassion for others enabled the church to make substantial donations to several humanitarian causes in our area, notably the Sargent County Food Pantry, Abuse Resource Network, and Churches United for the Homeless. God bless you all!

It seems that we have finally gotten the furnace system issues worked out and MLC has been warm! Also at MLC, the cross outside has been fixed and looks absolutely beautiful when it shines in the evening! I have been recording the Sunday services at MLC and posting these videos to YouTube. It is my hope that those homebound and our snowbirds will be able to enjoy the services in the comfort of their homes.

Recently, we suffered the loss of two long-time members of our congregation. Sharette Odegard and Mardell Aabrekke have received their promise and now reside in the heavenly home of our Gracious God. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

In closing, I thank God each and every day for allowing me to walk this journey with you. May our Gracious God be with you all.

Rick

PARISH PRAYER LIST

People on our prayer lists are *Bryce Heitkamp, Jean Anderson, Carol Hogness, Kit Mund, Curt Mahler, Bobbi Haugen, Jim Robbins, Patty Cross, and Mary Alice Mund*. Please keep them in your prayers.



1 - Evelyn Banish
4 - Jennie Hanna
 Jessica Heitkamp
 Curt Mahler
 Grace Prante
7 - Kaleb Olson
8 - Matthew Olson
10 - Vi Mahler

11 - Bob Schutt
 Diane Wallin
13 - Jill Baldwin
15 - Kari Fuhrman
18 - Deb Schutt
19 - Kris Fuhrman
23 - Larry Moxness
 Jasmine Smith

26 - Lennox Hogness
27 - Karen Krause
28 - Jacob Ferderer
 Keith Johnson
29 - Marlene Hogness
 Duane Lillestol
30 - Bryggen Martinson
 Bruce Speich

MLC MEMORIALS

In memory of Karen Edison
From the Edison Family (MLC)

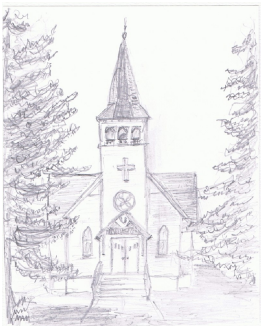
In memory of Janine Gemar
From Eileen Lotzer and Corine Wittmeir (Yarn Angels)

In memory of Joyce Haugen
From Monty & Bobbi Haugen (Yarn Angels)

In memory of Floyd Hovland
From Monty & Bobbi Haugen (Yarn Angels)

ANNUAL MEETING

The MLC Annual Meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, January 31st following worship. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Please send reports to the church office by January 20th.



Immanuel Lutheran Church

January

Worship Services:

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

January Ushers: Orvin Hogness and Don Wehlender

January Altar Guild: Marlene Hogness

Communion: January 3rd (and 10th)

Milnor Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes (unapproved)

December 9th, 2020 @ 7 p.m. (conference call)

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes from November

11th: Motion to approve from Myron, Lonnie seconded, all in favor

Treasurer's Report for November: Motion to approve from Diane, Randy seconded, all in favor

Committee Business

- Worship & Shepherding (Kelly, Lonnie)
Christmas Eve worship service discussion – last years' service was 266, and 2 years before were 220 & 225. With Covid, it won't be that many this year so we will have 2 services at 4:30 & 5:30 – 30 minutes each & limit to 90 people each; Immanuel's service is at 7. Action Items were assigned to Andrea and Diane.
- Stewardship (Diane, Andrea)
 - Giving tree update – we have added Sargent County Food Pantry giving tags and they were all filled. Shed Update –there is about \$450 left
- Education (Randy, Alisha)
 - No updates – SS is still on hold
- Properties/Grounds/Parsonage (Myron, Travers, Don)
 - Window well covers update–the plexi-glass is way too high right now and putting plexi-glass over the windows may cause moisture issues so may want to look into some sort of screen instead so there is ventilation, but still keep the animals out
 -

- Snow removal rate for shoveling the sidewalks will be \$20 per time (Charley/Brooks Hogness are slated to do this)

Pastor's Report

- Rick has completed 2 more credits
- Purchased a camera and we are set up on youtube and goal is to eventually make the services live streamed

Old Business

- Speaker system update – Site on Sound put in the new system in fellowship hall late November. Randy had picked up the extra needed parts and will get that put in. Randy will meet with Rick to make sure that Rick knows how to run the system for future

New Business

- 4H has requested to start using the church basement again – council agreed
- Annual Meeting – planned for Jan 24; Heidi will reach out to groups to get annual reports prepared. *(Later changed to January 31st.)*
- Budget planning for 2021 -motion to approve from Diane, Randy seconded, all in favor

Next Meeting: Next meeting will be January 13th at 7 via conference call.

Motion to adjourn by Andrea, Myron seconded, all in favor

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Hogness, Secretary

November Income	\$ 9,883.40
October Expenses	9,271.89
Net Income	611.51
Year to Date Loss	(\$ 12,899.06)

Thank You for MLC December Donations

Shed:

Keith & Donna Johnson in memory of Harold & Marget Johnson and Clair & Dorothy Halvorson
Steve & Andrea Hogness in memory of Charles Ellefson
Bill & Dorothy Pribula
Joy Christiansen
Linda Costain
Bruce & Dayna Speich in memory of Lyle & Doris Dietzler and Orval & Elinor Speich
Loren & Patty Ellefson in memory of Charles Ellefson
Jeri Christiansen
Jodi Ost

Churches United:

Thank you to everyone that donated items such as activity books, food, cough syrup, etc! We dropped off several boxes and they were so happy to receive them! Thank you to monetary donations from Linda Costain in honor of her great nephews & nieces and Gary & Diane Wallin in appreciation for everyone serving our community during the virus.

January Altar Guild
Sophie Fuhrman and Deb Wagner

MLC Day-of-Doing Quilters

The Day of Doing Quilters will be sending 39 adult quilts and several children's quilts to the YWCA and Churches United in Fargo next week. If anyone is going to Fargo and would be willing to drop off bags of quilts to these organizations, please contact Janice Larson, Gloria Toyne, or Phylis Springer.

Milnor Lutheran Sunday School

Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.

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

-Sunday School will not be held until further notice.

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