

February 2022
NEWSLETTER



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

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Rick's Column

I would like to extend my warmest greetings to you all. I sincerely hope that this newsletter finds you well. It seems as though it has been quite a while since I have last written. As I write this letter, we have just held our Annual Meetings at both churches. The attendance was wonderful, and we are all set for another year of continued success at ILC and MLC. At each church, we welcome new members to the church councils. Thank you to Jason Kottke and Mindy Hogness for your willingness to serve our churches and their members.

Recently I put out a request for help for a young family who needed beds for their children, as well as some financial help. The response from the churches and community was amazing. We were able to find beds, household items, and provide a cash gift to this family. They were so appreciative. The members of our churches and community have a true "servant's heart." It makes a person sure feel proud and blessed to be a part of such a loving community. Thank you all!

As of late, we have been experiencing challenging winter weather to say the least. I think we are all looking forward to spring. However, there is no great loss without some gain, and the significant snowfall may help relieve some of the drought conditions that we experienced last year.

I resume college courses on February 7th on my road to ordination, and I am excited to once again be learning and hopefully growing as your pastor. After two full years as your Pastor, my love for serving you and God has not waned one bit. I am so blessed.

Speaking of education, the Confirmation kids and I are continuing to learn about God and our ELCA heritage each Wednesday. They are a fun and enthusiastic bunch and are eager to learn. I am proud of the strides they have made, and they were rewarded with a pizza party last week. Back to learning this week!

This year we kick off the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday on March 2nd. We will then begin our 40-day journey to Holy Week and then Easter Sunday. As we enter this Lenten Season of 2022, it is my hope and prayer that we live our lives in great thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a special time of year. Whether you are abstaining from a food or activity during Lent, or simply devoting more time for prayer and communion with God, let us take this season to show our love and thankfulness to Christ, as he gave us the ultimate gift of salvation through his death and resurrection. In Matthew 22: 37-38, Jesus reminds us that the greatest commandment of all is to, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."

Please continue to pray for those in our midst that are suffering from ill health and medical challenges. I also invite you to join me in prayer for peace in our world and for leaders to resist war. Believe in the power of prayer! Finally, hold tight to your loved ones. Cherish them and your moments together always.

May God Bless you all.

Rick

PARISH PRAYER LIST

People currently on our prayer lists are *Steve Ellefson, Tanner Martinson, and Patty Cross*. 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
4 - Lois Jenson
6 - Nichole Kadoun
8 - Miley Lien
10- Scott Berndt
Drake Hogness
Tracy Lien
Melissa Mund
Carl Nelson
Travers Storhaug

11 - Kevin Odegard
12 - Joni Peterson
13 - Cindy Yagow
14 - Jesse Arth
Kenna Peterson
Myron Yagow
16 - Lynn Johnson
Connie Robbins
19 - Nellie Nelson
Phylis Springer

23 - Jim Peterson
Eliot Roder
26 - Mitch Tompkins
27 - Reese Hogness
Cheryl Roder

MLC MEMORIALS

In memory of Rex Corliss
From: Myron & Lori Yagow (MLC)

In memory of Todd Goolsbey
From: Mike & Deb Schutt (MLC)

In memory of Myron Koeppe
From: Myron & Lori Yagow (MLC)

In memory of Joel Larson
From: Keith & Donna Johnson (MLC)
Mike & Deb Schutt (MLC)

In memory of Jim Robbins
From: Keith & Donna Johnson (MLC)
Mike & Deb Schutt (MLC)

"Noisy Offering" on Sunday, February 6th, at MLC. Bring your change, paper currency or a check. Checks can be made out to Sanford Children's Hospital.

Milnor Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Present: Bill Pribula, Rick Bryant, Diane Wallin, Myron Yagow, DeNae Mahler, Kelly Arth
Absent: Travers Storhaug, Deb Wagner, Randy Syrstad, Alisha Olson

Meeting was opened with Devotions from Rick. Secretary and treasurer's report reviewed. Motion made by Kelly Arth to accept and approve reports, seconded by DeNae Mahler. Motion carried.

Committee Business

- Worship
 - Nothing to report.
- Stewardship
 - JoRelle Grover, Development Director with Churches United, gave a presentation on the services and facilities available through Churches United at the December 19th worship service. JoRelle was excited to take all the gifts under our Giving Tree with her, along with several monetary donations she received that morning. Thank you to everyone who blessed Churches United with gifts!
 - Update to December minutes, the \$500 donation designated to the Sisseton Agency was changed to the White Earth Reservation which is now sponsored by WELCA.
 - A stewardship focus for 1stQtr. 2022 was discussed. Neighbors in states affected by natural disasters were mentioned. Diane will check with the Synod on a churchwide fund.
- Education
 - Nothing to report.
- Properties/Grounds & Parsonage
 - Heat issues in sanctuary and fellowship hall: Crossroads made a repair to one of the furnaces. They were able to get the 2 furnaces working and "communicating with each other". They set the thermostat at 69-70 and suggested leaving it set at that.
 - Broken Altar Windows. Myron met with Fargo Glass and Paint in the sanctuary.

Their report was complicated. To make an assessment they would need to set up a scaffold which would take several workers several days and would be costly. If the windows could be replaced the scaffold would have to remain in place while glass was ordered, then installed. This issue will be discussed at the annual meeting.

Pastor's Report—Wintery weather on January 5th. Confirmation was delayed until January 12th. As a service project, the class moved the nativity scene to the basement – Thank you Students! Now in the quieter time of the year, Rick has signed up for an online class in February and one of his four intensives at Wartburg Seminary in June. Classes are Tue – Friday so no pastoral replacement will be needed.

Old Business

- One more new council member is still needed. Rick will highlight this during announcements.
- Annual meeting will be on January 30th.

New Business

- Council was notified Linda Costain will spearhead a "noisy offering" for Sanford Children's Hospital in Fargo on February 6th.
- Resuming passing offering plates was discussed. A motion to resume while still having a plate on the piano for those not wanting to participate was made by Myron Yagow, seconded by DeNae Mahler, motion carried.
- Budget was reviewed and motion to approve the new budget was made by Kelly, seconded by Diane, motion carried.

Next Meeting: February 9, 2022

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Myron Yagow, seconded by Kelly Arth, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Wallin
Acting Secretary

February Altar Guild
Kristie Johnson and Linda Robbins

WELCA

Day of Doing Quilters will meet January 15th and 16th at 9:00 a.m.
Yarn Angels will meet January 8th and 22nd at 1:00 p.m.

Day of Doing Quilters

Day of Doing Quilters continue to collect gently used clothing of all sizes and toys (but no stuffed animals) for the White Earth Reservation.

Thank You for Your Gifts to Churches United!

Thank you for your generous gifts to our December stewardship focus, Churches United. The gifts under the Christmas Giving Tree filled two totes to overflowing! JoRelle Grover, Churches United Development Director, gave a presentation at our December 19th worship service, telling about the services and facilities they provide. With that perfect timing, she was able to take our gifts with her. A special thank you to Gage Sundquist for helping box up the gifts and put them in JoRelle's car!

JoRelle was delighted with the array of gifts and especially noticed the ethnic dolls (Barbies of color). JoRelle said the dolls would be very special gifts. Thank you to that "inspired" Christmas Elf and to everyone who gave monetary gifts to Churches United!

Stewardship Committee
Andrea Hogness
Denae Mahler
Diane Wallin

Milnor Lutheran Sunday School

Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.

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

- The Sunday School students will sing during worship on Sunday, February 13th.
- Sunday School will not meet Sunday, February 20th.

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

Sunday School Lunches

February 6th--Henry & Abigail L, Aiden & Kali H,
Hunter & Briley L

February 13th--Emilee & Ava B, Brinley & Blake Y,
Kenna & Lyla P

March 7th--Brooks & Avyn H, Gwyn K, Jacob H



Will You Help Our Neighbors?

Did you notice some good news in our annual report? Our church is doing very well financially, and our service groups are well supported too. Considering how blessed we are here in Milnor, the Stewardship Committee is suggesting, for the next two months, we give memorials and special donations to Lutheran Disaster Response. LDR brings God's healing, hope and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disaster in the United States and around the world.

Deacon Laura Carson of the Eastern North Dakota Synod writes, "I love to support LDR because I know 100% of my gift goes directly to helping (not administrative costs and salaries) and is known for being one of the first organizations to respond and the one that stays the longest, helping with long term recovery."

With disastrous tornadoes tearing through five eastern states and wildfires most recently in Colorado, there are many people who could use our help. An article in the January 14th "Green Sheet" quoted local officials across the region hit by the tornadoes as saying the work of faith groups, among others, had been invaluable in dealing with the tornadoes. Another article about the Colorado wildfires said, "The daunting road ahead for Coloradans affected by wildfire is also being faced by thousands of American families whose homes were damaged or destroyed by extreme weather last year from tornadoes in the Midwest and Kentucky to Hurricane Ida's impact in the Gulf Coast and New Jersey."

Please consider helping our neighbors in other states, while we count ourselves lucky to be dealing only with cold, wind and snow!

To send blessings to our neighbors, write "LDR in memory/honor of _____" on your gift. We will ask LDR to send our offerings to the state where there is the most need. Thank you for caring and sharing!

Stewardship Committee
Andrea Hogness, DeNae Mahler, Diane Wallin



Immanuel Lutheran Church

February

Worship Services:

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

February Ushers: Bryce Hogness and Paul Mund

February Altar Guild: Mindy Hogness

Communion: February 6th

IMMANUEL COUNCIL MINUTES

January 19, 2022

The Immanuel Lutheran Council met January 19, 2022, at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Present were Brenda Gibbon, Derek Martinson, Joel Halvorson, and Landon Mund. Joel called the meeting to order.

The Secretary's report was read. Motion to accept the report was made by Derek, seconded by Brenda, motion carried. Derek gave the Treasurer's Report. The church has a balance on hand of \$22,197.79.

The council looked over the Stewardship Committee's proposed budget, which was approved.

Old Business:

The council discussed the church/cemetery shed further. One idea involved hiring someone to strip the building down to its frame and re-side it, along with adding a roll up door. Discussion was tabled for the Annual Meeting.

New Business:

The council briefly discussed getting a dumpster for the church. This could be used and dumped on an as needed basis. This was also tabled for the annual meeting.

Lastly, the council went over the upcoming council changes for next year. Derek was nominated for President and will be taking the place of Joel. He will also continue his role as the Treasurer. Brenda was appointed as Vice President, and Landon will continue as the Secretary.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will take place on February 16th, 2022.

Landon Mund
Council Secretary