

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

May 2022



## *Farwell and Thank You*

While I have the opportunity, let me say thank you for all the friendships I have made, the valuable lessons I've learned, and the many laughs we've shared. I am very grateful for the opportunity to have worked with a wonderful church family. I will always pray for your good health and happiness. pb

With that, let me introduce Cynthia Kelley, your new church secretary! Cynthia grew up in Mason City and lived in California for 30 years. Upon returning to Lincoln in 1997 she has worked for ALMH, Heartland and Lincoln College along with numerous locations of volunteering (1984 L.A. Olympics, Postville Courthouse and Logan County Animal Rescue). She has two adorable dogs at home and she loves to read and bake in her spare time! Please stop into the office and welcome Cynthia!

## Special Congregational Meeting



Immanuel Lutheran Church will have a Congregational Meeting and vote on **Sunday, May 1, 2022 at 10:15am** at concerning the vote of:  
\*Transfer and Sale of property between Immanuel Lutheran

## Paschal Candle

A brief note on the Paschal Candle. Some of you may have noticed that the Paschal Candle has moved to a position near the altar. During the season of Easter, the Paschal candle is positioned near the altar for the 50 days of Easter. After Pentecost, the candle is returned to its usual place near the baptismal font. The tradition is that (where feasible) the candle will burn continuously throughout the season. Because that is not feasible in our case, we light the candle early for service, and extinguish it after most people have left. If you are curious for more, here is a pdf from the ELCA about the use of the Paschal Candle:

[How Do We Use a Paschal Candle \(elca.org\)](https://www.elca.org/faith-life/faith-practices/easter/paschal-candle)

Or more entertaining, here is my friend, the Rev. Jonathan Schnibben attempting to explain the Paschal Candle in 2 minutes:

[Two Minute Tuesday: Paschal Candle - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



Spring is here! The grass is growing and needing mowing (seemingly every day). Flowers are blooming, birds are singing, Covid restrictions are lifting. We can sing, shake hands, and no more muffin trays for communion. It almost feels like we're getting back to normal. Almost, but not quite. In the United States alone nearly 1 million people have died from Covid. In Logan County that number is around 100 people dead from Covid. 100 of our friends, our family, our neighbors have died from Covid since this pandemic started. And it's not over yet. People are still catching and getting sick from Covid. And unfortunately, people are still dying from Covid. Immanuel has not been immune to this pandemic. There are calls to 'return to normal', but for too many of us there is an empty chair, an empty place in our lives where someone died from Covid. There is no return to what was, we can only go forward to what will be. We will go forward, in grief, in love, with each other, and with God.

I would also like to take this time to thank everybody who helps with our worship services in many various roles. An incomplete list of the various roles that people volunteer to fill during our services are: Greeters, Ushers, Acolyte, Crucifer, Lector, Communion Assistant, Music, Altar Guild. Thank you for stepping up and participating in our worship services. They would not be the same without your help. Thank you again.

Blessings to all,  
Pastor Brian.

# Unapproved Immanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes April 2022

The April 4, 2022 meeting of the Immanuel Lutheran Church Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Pastor B. Wachendorf providing the Opening Prayer. J. Voyles noted that changes needed to be made to the agenda before it can be approved. We need to eliminate all the items under Old Business for they were managed last month and add a discussion about COVID restrictions. He also asked to add to New Business discussing the agenda of the upcoming special meeting. P. Otte moved to approve the April Agenda as amended with these specific items. J. Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

P. Otte shared a devotional reading based on Romans 15:5-7. B. Wood will share devotions in May.

A draft of the secretary's minutes had been emailed to the council members, published in the Parish Patter, and printed for tonight. J. Hall brought forth several changes to be made to the minutes. P. Otte moved to accept the minutes as corrected. J. Hall seconded. Motion carried.

In the Treasurer's report, D. Meier presented verbal highlights to the printed report. This is the first report prepared by L. Johnson of Abbott & Associates, and it uses the same format that D. Meier had used previously. The boiler fund is now being used for air conditioning donations. The transition has gone well, and the new process is working well. J. Hall moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, and B. Wood seconded it. Motion carried. J. Voyles noted that Abbott sent a contract that needs his signature even though it has J. Hall's name on it. Abbott charges \$550/month for services and reports. P. Ruch asked if the contract is annual, but per J. Voyles it's open ended

In the President's report, J. Voyles announced that P. Burge is stepping down as Church Secretary to take a full time position elsewhere. She is giving about a four week notice and is willing to help train someone. We have a couple of names to contact, but if those do not provide a person to take the part time secretarial position, we will advertise for help. A congratulatory farewell celebration was discussed.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Publicity:** (vacant council position) Patty has been doing publicity for Holy Week. Since we do not have anyone officially doing publicity, all Council Members need to keep our ears open. An email came from the synod office looking for community involvement outreach that synod churches are doing currently to be submitted to Living Lutheran magazine. J. Voyles has spoken with D. Campbell regarding putting together an article about what the Outreach Committee is doing with Food for Thought.

**Board of Stewardship:** J. Hall presented the written report from the Legacy Committee's March 20, 2022 meeting during which Treasurer A. Lessen reported a balance of \$7,016 in the Legacy Fund. They discussed the application for a \$3000 grant for The Dolly Parton's Imagination Library for Logan

County administered by the United Way of Logan County. After some discussion, D. Sydney moved to grant \$1,500 for the administration of a Dolly Parton Imagination Library. A. Lesson seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a request for the United Way to follow up with the Legacy Committee with a report of the progress of the project. P. Ruch moved to approve J. Hall's Board of Stewardship Report. P. Otte seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Board of Maintenance:** (vacant council position) J. Hall, acting reporter, presented a written report with verbal highlights. The written report notes a discussion related to the boiler system, waiting for B. Triplett to submit a contract for regular maintenance of the system, and his inspecting the air conditioning system. J. Ireland is working with P. Ruch to fill the cracks in the parking lot, and in the council meeting, P. Ruch noted he has purchased supplies.

2022

## **Immanuel Lutheran Church Council**

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**Paul Otte, Vice President**

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**Phil Ruch, Worship & Music**

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B. Conrady will check on the noise emanating from the water cooler in the Parish Hall. L. Richert has replaced all of the exterior lights with LED and energy saving lights and fixtures with the help of J. Ireland and B. Conrady. Les and Theresa Richert donated all of the materials for these lighting projects. A special thanks to all! With the new lights in the circular stained glass windows over the entries, R. Hall is planning to install plexiglass protection very soon. R. Hall will check the gutter guards for the north side of the church, and he reviewed the impending sale/transfer of property. A report from C. Strampp was related to the exterior boiler room door in need of attention. He agreed to get an estimate from Bee's Landscaping for an estimate on finishing the rock in that muddy area. J. Hall reported to council that Shawna Watkins, indoor custodian, has resigned her position with ILC. The Maintenance Committee is searching for a replacement, however, in the meantime, members will have to do basic cleaning in the interim. Also, Please note: If any group is meeting, please clean up after yourselves due to this gap in housekeeping services especially now.

**Parish Education:** Barb Wood stated we are continuing with Sunday morning discussions. They get interesting!

**Women of Immanuel:** Norma Knollenberg was unable to join us tonight, but the WOI did serve for the conference meeting and, per Pastor, did an excellent job.

**Outreach:** (vacant council position) J. Voyles provided a print report with some verbal highlights. ILC's two bingo sets were missing some of their marbles, so a new set has been purchased. The partial sets will be eliminated. Food Pantry is collecting pasta and sauce in April, complete pancake mix and syrup in May, and boxed foods in June. Food for Thought deliveries are scheduled through the month of May. The Moms Who Care report included a Facebook post: *Moms Who Care had 6th graders at LJHS on Thursday, March 17. There were 19 students who came in to shop, and 6th graders know how to shop. They get all the necessary items to get them by: deodorant, lotions, shampoo, shower geel, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and ChapStick. They also stock up on folders, spiral notebooks, highlighters, and pencils. Socks are also very popular. A teacher had asked us about getting a new pair of tennis shoes for a student. We got her a new pair of Nike shoes in the color she wanted—black! The smile on her face when she saw them and then put them on was priceless!! Then she picked out a new pair of socks and gave us a hug and walked proudly back to class. This is why we do what we do!!* A list of items wanted for donations was included along with a thank you to donors. L. Smith continues to enjoy managing the card ministry. The group further discussed the third White Elephant Bingo night.

**Worship & Music:** P. Ruch noted that the group has not met since the last council meeting but will meet tomorrow. Attendance: Ash Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.: 10, 7:00 p.m., 23; Wednesday Lenten Services, 24; Saturday worship, 22; Sunday worship, 29.

In his report, Pastor noted 7 visits, 7 calls, 1 baptism, and 1 funeral. He has also been busy with working on preparations for Holy Week services and weekly Lenten Services. He hosted the monthly conference meeting and attended the weekly First Call Meeting. It was the first time they had met in person! He attended weekly conference lectionary study, attended Bishop's monthly forum, and led Immanuel's Sunday lectionary study group. He wants to specifically thank Shirley Klink and Glenda Downing for their excellent musical assistance with the weekly Lenten services!

In Old Business, the council discussed COVID restrictions. We have already made masks optional, and the council would like to remove other restrictions on seating, hand shaking, and the communion process. There has not been communion at the rail since before Pastor came to Immanuel! A discussion of current statistics and possibilities ensued. J. Voyles asked if we can say we will remove these restrictions, but the council will revisit the topic and follow LCHD guidelines every council meeting. P. Ruch said the idea is to keep spacing in the pews and do a preparatory for Pastor run of Maundy Thursday communion at the rail. There was a brief discussion of protocols. P. Ruch moved to proceed with communion at the rail, no longer socially distanced pew seating, passing of the peace with handshakes, eliminating signage for the tub of pens beginning on Easter morning with the protocols to be reviewed monthly. J. Hall seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

In New Business, Council discussed the agenda for the Special Congregational Meeting to take place on May 1, 2022 to discuss and vote on the property dispositions of the two parcels of land. A ballot will be needed, and J. Voyles wants to verify what the two parcels are being called for the sake of consistency and clarity. Discussed the odd shape of the property behind the parsonage due to LCHS needing Miller drive. Council will be asking all congregation members to submit questions regarding transfer and sale of property. There were no motions, only informal agreements.

At 8:00 p.m. P. Otte moved to adjourn the meeting, and J. Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried, and all present stood to join hands and pray the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly A. Wiggers de Otte Council Secretary

thank  
you!

I would like to thank everyone who prayed for me, sent me cards, texts, messages, brought us meals and showed other acts of kindness during my year

long journey of cancer treatment, I am humbled and very appreciative of all of your support throughout this past year. I have been blessed with wonderful family and friends who gave me the encouragement, support and love that I needed to help me persevere. My faith in God and His presence throughout my journey provided me with strength, hope, peace, courage, endurance and the promise of His love. I have been blessed. Again, thank you so much. Blessings to you all,

Becky Cecil

### **“Moms Who Care” Program**

This program is for students in high school and Jr. high school who may need some help with personal care items, school supplies or snacks.

The lists are on the table by the plastic container labeled “MOM’S WHO CARE”

### **Church Service Cancellation**

In the event of services being cancelled for any reason at Immanuel, the most reliable resource is to call the church office at 217-732-6777

## *Thank You*

Recognizing those who volunteered during Lent and Holy Week-thank you!!

Barb Wood, Barbara Hobson, Diane Campbell, Nancy Courtwright, Dawn Lanning, Ben Conrady, Paul and Kim Otte, Les and Theresa Richert, Wanda Rohlfs, Phil Ruch, Karen Irwin, Shirly Klink, Glenda Downing, Dick Skelton, Jean Hall, Sharon Begolka, Rachel Jordan, Lois Smith and all of the readers, greeters and communion servers including any other behind the scene people, we thank you!

### **Sign Up/Volunteer**

Sign up sheets for the FREE Summer Lunch Program are available in the Parish Hall. Returning volunteers may receive an email from Connie Crowly to use *sign up genius*. There is a short video to watch as part of registration.

## *Outreach Updates*

Ways to get involved:

- **Meals / Visits**  
Prepare and deliver meals to our home bound or recently released from hospital members. Contact the church office.
- **Moms Who Care Program**  
Donate items to support students in our community. The lists are in the Parish Hall.
- **Food Pantry**  
May we will be collecting complete pancake and syrup

## **SAVE THE DATE**

WOMEN OF IMMANUEL RETREAT



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2022

“GOD BLESS AMERICA”

## *May Birthday Greetings*

*Emmett Kilhoffer-2*

*Michelle Pickett-2*

*Jeff Brandt-3*

*Russell Mosier-3*

*Andy Sheley-3*

*Ed Rouse-5*

*Vicki Broughton-8*

*Andra Lessen-8*

*Tracy Turner-9*

*Dee Baughman-10*

*Chad Chaudoin-11*

*Doug Dutz-13*

*Diane Campbell-14*

*Becky Julifs-15*

*Karlee Russell-15*

*Roger Alberts-17*

*Steve Aper-19*

*Eric Mosier-23*

*Darla Hamilton-24*

*Autumn Hickey-24*

*Andrew McCray-24*

*Amy Seaman-24*

*Camden Nelson-26*

*Josie Millard-28*

*Jason Sheley-29*

*Kim Wiggers de Otte-29*

## *May Wedding Anniversaries*



*Ron and Dar Budd-1*

*Mike and Lydia Dea-15*

*Jeff and Sheila Nelson-16*

*Jamie and Jill Voyles-17*

*Mark and Amanda Stoltzenburg-18*

*Delyn and Brian Duggins-22*

*John and Sherry Fulton-31*

*Dennis and Carol Sheley-31*

## *Baptismal Anniversaries*



*Preston Lee-Boch-20*



*Bob Singley, Les Wood, Jim Mammen,  
Jeff Mammen, Richard Hampe, Becky Cecil,  
Kathy Miller, Frances Comstock,  
Jane Jacobs, Anne McCray, Norma Olson,  
Fran Peterson, Carol Sheley*

### *Military*

*Ian Herzog, Joseph Burge, Jonathan Lessen,  
Alec Broughton, Patrick Hoban,  
Katelyn Hoban, Harrison Splain,  
Emmett Kilhoffer, Erich Maxheimer,  
TJ Kissell, Brandon Miller*

# Women of Immanuel

April 11, 2022

Present: RoseMary, Judy, Wanda, Pat, Kathy and Barbara

Rose Mary read a devotion called Every Miracles.

The treasurer's report was given by Pat with \$1553.38 in the checking and \$1,171.36 in the savings acct.

The Thankoffering service will be June 19. Wanda has been planning the service with women doing the various parts.

Judy has been planning the Mini Retreat on Sept. 10. The theme will be "God Bless America"

We will serve a breakfast for all attending. Women from the churches in Logan County are invited.

There will also be a program following the breakfast.

We will decide later on the July 4th Bake Sale.

We will meet May 9 for our next meeting.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Rose Mary Conrady, sec



## ***Communion***

Moving forward we will return to our routine of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of communion by rail and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays will be communion by station.

## ***Sign Up/Volunteer***

Sign up sheets for the FREE Summer Lunch Program are available in the Parish Hall. Returning volunteers may receive an email from Connie Crowley to use *sign up genius*. There is a short video to watch as part of registration.

## ***Rachel Circle Salad Supper***

Tuesday May 17 at 6:00pm at Diane Campbell home (12 St Andrews Dr, Lincoln) Please bring a salad to share.

***National Day of Prayer*** is Thursday, May 5th. Public prayer will be held from 12 to 1 p.m. in the rotunda of the Logan County Courthouse.

God's Work.  
Our Hands.



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