

Immanuel Lutheran Church
747 Ann Street
Chadron, NE 6933

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President - Robyn Baquet
Vice-President - Denise James
Secretary - Sharon Thurlow
Treasurer – Chelsea Holt
Building & Grounds - Ericka Lans
Education - Yvonne Moody
Evangelism - Laurie Schmidt
Fellowship - Karleen Gramberg
Social Ministry - Barb Landen
Stewardship - Karen Rupp
Worship - Julie Duncan
Youth/Young Adult - True Thorne
Pastor - Ann Sundberg

Other Staff –

Financial Secretary – Lorrie Bauer
Custodian – Michelle Haynes
Church Secretary – Erin Daniel

Important contact information-

Nebraska Synod Website:
www.nebraskasynod.org, phone number
402-896-5311
ELCA Church wide Website, www.elca.org,
Phone number 800-638-3522

Treasurer's Report
January 2016

Beginning balance December 31, 2015		\$ (5,342.77)
Income	Weekly Offering	\$ 6,899.00
	MIF interest	\$ 92.90
	Coffee/Tea	\$ 50.25
	EOY Adjustments	\$ 85.00
	Interest	\$.03
Total Income		\$ 7,127.18
Expenses		\$ 9,937.10
Ending balance as of January 31, 2015		\$ (8,152.69)

Worship Attendance

Date	Sunday Service
January 3	40
January 10	43
January 17	38
January 24	51
January 31	47

Church Vitality Check

This year as part of our report to the Synod, we are asked to include a candid assessment of our congregation's vitality. These questions are intended to provide an opportunity for conversation and mission planning.

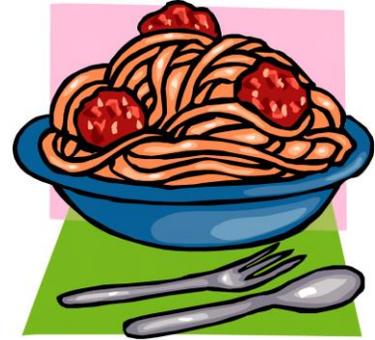
If you have not already filled out this form, please do so and return it to the church office. Please be honest and realistic in your answers. We will compile the results and report back to the congregation in the next month or two. Thank you!

Sweetheart Spaghetti Dinner



Sunday, February 14, 2016
5:00 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

Adults- \$8
Seniors- \$6
Kids- \$5



The middle school and high school youth will be hosting the annual dinner at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Please come and enjoy an evening of good food, fellowship, and support our youth fundraiser.

Social Ministry

We hosted the meal at Closer to Home on Monday, January 18th, serving sloppy joes, beans, corn, fresh veggies and cookies. A huge thank you to Courtney Pendleton, Rhonda Schommer, and Pastor Ann for serving and to those that donated the food! I have to share that we, as Immanuel Lutheran, get RAVE reviews from the Closer to Home Board and the people that eat at Closer to Home. They can count on us each month to serve and they love our food! You need to come eat and share a meal at Closer to Home! We provide the meal every 3rd Monday of the month – **come next month to eat!** It's free and I promise you, we Lutherans are great cooks! Our next meal is Monday, February 15th from 11:30 to 12:30.

Our Shepherd's Pantry has full shelves... however, take a deeper look when you are downstairs... we are getting some odd donations – I'm guessing we've had a few community people clean out their personal pantries of unwanted items and donate them to our pantry!! We continue to need cereal, fruit, powdered milk, spaghetti and canned meat. Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry.

Congregation Leadership

I'm thrilled to serve as your Council President! Our church is filled with energy and life... have you felt it? I have. And I'm excited! It's a great time to be an Immanuel Lutheran!

Not only do you have a new President, but several other positions have turned over as well. I'm pleased to partner with the

following group of wonderful people!



- Denise James, Vice President
- Sharon Thurlow, Secretary
- Chelsea Holt, Treasurer
- Karleen Gramberg, Fellowship
- Yvonne Moody, Education
- Ericka Lans, Buildings and Grounds
- Laurie Schmidt, Evangelism
- Barb Landen, Social Ministry
- Karen Rupp, Stewardship
- Julie Duncan, Worship

Council will continue to meet the first Thursday of each month. Our first meeting will be on February 4th at 6:00 pm. Council members – we will spend time discussing each council position and the role each person plays. Come prepared to share your ideas for this upcoming year!

As your congregational leader, I represent YOU. I need to hear from you. What direction do we need to take? What would you like to see happen? Do you have suggestions on what we can do better, or do more of? Please feel free to give me a call at 308-207-5849, send me an email robynbaquet@qwestoffice.net or stop by the Eagle's Rest RV Park Office. This year is full of promise!

Thank you again for this opportunity to serve!

Robyn Baquet

Lenten Prayer Partners

We invite anyone who is interested to participate in a Lenten Prayer Partner ministry. This includes children and adults, members and friends, those who are able to attend worship and those who are not.

Here is how it works: If you wish to participate, you will be given the name of one other person, your "Prayer Partner." You keep this name secret throughout Lent and commit to the following:

1. Pray for this person every day during Lent.
2. Send this person a note of encouragement at least once during Lent, more often if you choose, reminding them you are praying for them. Since your identity is to remain secret, the notes may simply be signed "Your prayer partner."
3. Reveal your identity to your prayer partner on Easter. This may be done in person, if you plan to worship with us on Easter, or it may be done in the form of a note that is signed by you, but may not be opened until Easter.

At the same time, someone else who has received your name will be praying for you. If you wish to participate, please fill out the form below or contact the church office (308-432-5408.) Please respond by February 9. Please include your address when signing up so that we are sure where to send notes. Prayer partner assignments will be made the week of Ash Wednesday.

Detach and return to the church

2012 Lenten Prayer Partners

Name: _____

Address: _____

Concerns and issues for which I am requesting prayer:

Immanuel Lutheran Congregational Meeting minutes January 24, 2016

The annual meeting of Immanuel Lutheran Church was called to order by President Kit Watson on January 24, 2016, following worship services. There were thirty-nine people present. Pastor led the congregation in prayer. Coffee and cookies were distributed.

The minutes of 2015 were read and approved with a motion to accept by Jean Mohr, seconded by Lorrie Bauer.

Merlyn Gramberg made a motion to accept the Audit Committee's report; Bill Huntington seconded; motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented. Linda Wineteer made motion to accept; Hannah Huckfeldt seconded; motion carried.

Bill Huntington made motion to accept the Financial Secretary's report; Mary Kienitz seconded; motion carried.

President, Kit Watson, thanked the congregation for their help during her tenure. She was "rewarded" with a round of applause.

Pastor Ann presented her report. She noted that Laurie Harris, Jeanine Mohr, and Kit Watson have completed their terms and thanked them for their service. Pastor's report also included statistics for 2015.

President Watson noted that Ericka Lans filled the vacancy of the council position Building and Grounds. On her committee are Jerry Smith who heads up the Building portion and Bryce Landen who heads up the Grounds portion.

The following reports were presented:

Fellowship: Karleen Gramberg

Education: Yvonne Moody

Evangelism: Laurie Schmidt

Social Ministry: Robyn Baquet

Stewardship: Jeanine Mohr

Worship: Julie Duncan

Altar Guild: Angel Franey

The budget was presented. Lorna Eliason made a motion to accept; Lorrie Bauer seconded; motion carried

NEW BUSINESS:

President Kit Watson informed the congregation that the council is gathering information for two possible capital proposals. They will be formally presented at a later date through a special congregational meeting. As mandated by our constitution, these must be approved by the congregation since they will cost more than \$2,500. The proposals being considered are:

1. Supplemental air conditioning for the sanctuary.
2. Sidewalk through prayer garden to make it more accessible.

The nominating committee, consisting of Jeanine Mohr, Uati Paopao, Lisa Briggs, and Ericka Lans, presented the ballot and then counted the votes. Thirty-five ballots were tallied with the following results:

President: Robyn Gramberg

Secretary: Sharon Thurlow

Treasurer: Chelsea Holt

Stewardship: Karen Rupp

Social Ministry: Barb Landen

(one year to complete term)

Building and Grounds: Ericka Lans

(two years to complete term)

Mission Endowment: Jeanine Mohr

Youth Ministry: True Thorne

Audit Committee: Lorrie Bauer

Tracy Shuck

Nominating Committee: Linda Wineteer

Shannon Shuck

Kit Watson

Lorna Eliason

Voting Delegates to State Synod Assembly: John and Junice Dagen

Meeting adjourned by singing a hymn and reciting The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Stitt, Secretary Pro Tem

Pastor's Message

Lent begins this year on February 10, Ash Wednesday, and I am not ready. I have been watching the light of Epiphany grow as the days become longer. I have been enjoying the (slightly) warmer weather, taking advantage of the melting snow to get out and walk, sometimes even without a winter jacket.

The word "Lent" itself comes from the Middle English word for "lengthen." Lent comes each year in the northern hemisphere as the spring equinox approaches, as the growing light begins to awaken plants and hibernating animals, and as the trees stretch out new buds and leaves.

We begin Lent with a cross of ashes on our foreheads and the reminder that one day each of us will return to the dust of the earth from which we were made. The forty days of Lent are meant to remind us of the forty days that Jesus' spent in the wilderness. Each one of us has a "wilderness" in our own lives, times when we feel lost, overwhelmed, alone, abandoned. Lent is a time of awareness of our human shortcomings and of our need for God. If we had to survive on our own, it would be impossible. But we are continually reminded that God is with us, that God is for us.

The traditional practices of Lent are prayer, almsgiving (charity) and fasting. Just as the natural world awakens at this time of year, the practices of Lent are meant to awaken us, to lengthen us, to stretch us toward God.

Once again this year at Immanuel we will read a Lenten devotional book together. The title is "Bearing Fruit." Copies are on the welcome cart, or you can also download it as an e-book from www.augburgfortress.org Once again this year you can sign up to be someone's prayer partner. Once again this year you can fast from a particular food or habit. Once again this year you can make an intentional choice to give your money and time to a particular cause or charity.

May this time of Lent lengthen and stretch and awaken you to all the ways that God is with you.

GRACEVINE

February 2016



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Email: chadimmanuel@bbc.net

Pastor Ann Sundberg

Cell: (919) 475-9754

Where God is with us as we grow in faith!