



Immanuel Lutheran Church of Brunswick

The Beacon

Monthly Newsletter

March 2024

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven (Ecc. 3:1).

Dear friends in Christ: greetings and salutations as we begin this time together. This is a time of change, of transition. Oh wait—as the Ecclesiastes quote that I just referenced indicates (at least as one considers the broader context of Ecclesiastes), we are always in a time of change, of transition from where we were to where we are going to be. It can be an anxious time, but it can also be an exciting and hopeful time.

I hope to get to know you better as we begin this journey; hopefully, we will be scheduling some small group opportunities to get to know each other better in the coming weeks. As of now, I'm planning on being around on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and probably some Thursdays (as well, of course, as Sundays). I will be serving essentially half-time as the Intentional Interim Pastor here at Immanuel and half-time in the same position in Braham. (So, if you can't find me at Immanuel, I might be in Braham; in fact, I'll probably base my office largely out of Braham.) Obviously as this is a "new" relationship between these congregations, there might also be some growing pains as we work out how this is going to happen; I anticipate that on some weeks I'll be more focused on activities happening in Braham, and other weeks will focus more on activities happening at Immanuel.

Various bits of me will also, invariably, show up in some of my sermons, but let me take this opportunity to do a little bit of an introduction. I grew up in Park Rapids, MN—and didn't attend church (other than on Christmas Eve). My main interests then (and maybe still) were in speech, theatre and band (I played oboe, flute, clarinet, and piano—but, after years of inactivity, now feel woefully incompetent on all of these). I attended St. Olaf College in Northfield, initially majoring in instrumental music education and physics; I

would graduate with degrees in theatre and mathematics (with grades 5-12 teaching certification); yet perhaps the most "momentous" part of the experience there was that I would find a "home" in the student congregation, eventually spending three years

serving on the council and being a worship assistant nearly every Sunday. Following college, I taught high school math in Adrian, MN. And then went to graduate school in mathematics at the University of Hawaii—Manoa. After receiving a master's degree there, made a vocational turn to attend Seminary at Luther Seminary in St. Paul. Following seminary, I spent a year as hospital chaplain in Yuma, AZ.

Immanuel will technically be my third (or fourth—depending on how one counts this dual Immanuel-Braham situation) Interim Pastor position. I say "technically" because there was this odd little bit related to timing at the beginning of my first call where, for a couple of months, I was actually under a synod interim call until we moved into a congregational call (this isn't the "normal" process—normally interim pastors are not eligible to receive a call from the congregation). Speaking of that that first call, it was at Hope Lutheran Church in Riverside, CA. I served there from January 2013 to April 2016. At that time, I moved to Northeastern Minnesota and First Lutheran Church in Pine River, where I served until the end of May 2022, when Sarah and I got married, and I went on leave from call. I moved to her home in



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ABOUT US

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BRUNSWICK

2088 Highway 70, Mora, MN 55051
320-679-2015

brunswicklc@gmail.com

immanuellutheranbrunswick.com

Interim Pastor Jacob Burkman

651-788-6997

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

22nd of each month, submit info to:

colleen.hendershot@gmail.com

or brunswicklc@gmail.com

Please try to submit information via email so doesn't
have to be retyped if possible, thank you!

COUNCIL

YOUR 2024 COUNCIL:

Dan Hartog

Sarah Bauer

Cathi Nehring

Janie Richardson

Colleen Hendershot

Joy Nehring

Colleen Sinell

Council meets 5:30 p.m. 3rd Tuesday each month.

Monthly Council Meeting minutes included in newsletter.

REGULAR EVENTS

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 8:30am

Streamed live on Website: under Worship tab

immanuellutheranbrunswick.com

Also YouTube channel

BIBLE STUDY 9:30am

Each Tuesday in Fellowship Hall

Women of ALL ages welcome!

WELCA WOMEN

1st Thursday of the Month

QUILTING

Every Monday @ 9 a.m.

SENIOR LEAGUE

10 am - 1 pm

4th Monday every month

Join us for fun, fellowship and games with
Mexican Train and enjoy a potluck lunch.

IN OUR THOUGHTS ...

This list to be renewed monthly

Colleen Hendershot

Brian Prokosch

Joan Lakedon

John McKaown

Eldon Luke

Teri Svendsen

Corinne Argetsinger

Gwen Johnsen

Nancy Jacobson

Tammie Johnsen

Walt Argetsinger

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

March

Mar 2 Karen Dare

Mar 2 Graham Maciej

Mar 7 Jenna Maciej

Mar 8 Lindsey Atchison

Mar 11 Jim Nelson

Mar 12 Ben Bauer

Mar 13 Shelby Atchison

Mar 13 Rod Minnich

Mar 17 Janie Richardson

Mar 21 Travis Stromberg

Mar 27 Roger Peysar

SCHOLARSHIP INFO

Scholarship applicants 2024:

The scholarship application packets will be available
in February from the church office and submitted by
April 1 to the office or Donna Oslund's mailbox.

The committee will review and submit them to the
Council for final approval. Students must include
their latest GPA (2.75 or above) with the application.
If approved the money is sent the second semester
to the college, and students must reapply every year.

Scholarship Committee

Continued from page 1

Arden Hills where we continue to reside because she's a medical doctor/researcher at the University of Minnesota (and thus much more geographically restricted than I would be). During my time at First Lutheran, I served on the NEMN Synod Council and as chair of the Reference, Counsel, and Memorial Committee; I was also the assistant speech coach at Pine River-Backus High School. For most of 2023, I served as the intentional interim pastor of Grace and Emmanuel Lutheran churches (a two-point parish) in Sandstone, MN. Sarah and I are expecting our first child (a girl) in early April; the council has agreed to give me a couple of weeks of paternity leave, so there will be this absence coming up (hopefully the baby waits until after Easter).

As an interim, part of my introduction, to which I will attempt to return often, is this interim process. I know that there will likely be anxiety about getting a "permanent" pastor and anxiety around other changes. Let's not rush this process in an attempt to race through the anxiety; doing so can easily lead to having a poor fit for your next settled pastor. But, at the same time, there is no reason why, as you and I work

at getting to know each other better, the interim Developmental Tasks (or Focus Points) (there is some changing of terminology with these—I don't really care which we settle upon) can't also appear on the radar. As I'm introducing myself, I also want to introduce these, which are the work of the congregation during the interim period (and will be guided by the Transition Team and me):

- Coming to Terms with History (or "Heritage"): Who have we been in the past?

- Discovering a New Identity (or "Mission"): Why do we exist?

- Allowing Needed Leadership Changes (or "Leadership"): Who is doing what?

- Reconnecting with the Denomination (or "Connections"): To whom do we belong?

- Committing to New Directions in Ministry (or "Future"): Who is God calling us to be?

I look forward to our time together, as we begin and progress through this process of transition. There will be more information to come, so keep an eye and ear out for it.

Peace,

Pastor Jacob Burkman

FINANCIAL REPORT —————

Current general fund balance is \$9,404.50. Each month we continue to transfer money, which would have been used for pastoral expenses, into the Misc. Transfer Acct., minus cost associated with not having a pastor. This shows us how we are doing as if we had a pastor. Our monthly average giving for 2022 was \$2,501.84 compared to \$2,152.59 for 2023. Needed weekly average giving (to meet 2024 budget as approved by the congregation at the 2023 annual meeting) is \$2,834.42. January looks like it will come in around \$1,500 for weekly average giving.

Parking Lot Update

Current Balance in parking lot account is \$3,821.05, with payments of \$508.77 monthly, this covers seven months. Our current balance is \$35,514.89.



A great big thank you! My heart is overflowing with gratitude for your generosity and thoughtfulness. The brunch on Sunday celebrating my anniversary and retirement was perfection! Members of Immanuel you are amazing! You let your light shine!!!

Namaste, Pastor Janeva

COUNCIL MINUTES

Immanuel Lutheran Church February 20, 2024

Call to Order:

Members Present: Colleen Hendershot, Sarah Bauer (vice president), Dan Hartog (president), Joy Nehring, Janie Richardson, Colleen Sinell, Cathi Nehring (secretary) and Pastor Janeva Stromberg

Guests: Gladys Nelson

Upcoming Events:

o April 18th – Ham Loaf- Leads- Mary Stromberg and Barb Dick

o April 26th Blood Drive- Lead- Sarah Bauer

o May 19th- Confirmation

WORSHIP: Maundy Thursday- March 28th (service at 7pm)

Good Friday- March 29th will be at Braham or Mora.

Unfinished Business:

o Constitution and Bylaw Updates: Available for review by congregation.

o Parking Lot Fundraiser Ideas: Need to make a push to make money to pay for parking lot loan. \$2000 from WELCA

o Pledge Cards / One Time donation cards

o Movie Night

o Dance with live band

o Parsonage: Have the property committee go through the parsonage and determine what needs to be done.

o Hiring Cleaner-Bid provided by Alexys Nehring
Selling the parsonage

▪ Housing expense vs. Parsonage

o Utilities at the parsonage (phone and internet)

Treasurer report:

o Upcoming bills: \$5811.04

o General fund: \$10075.75

o Weekly budget needed \$2834.12- Average January \$1486.25/ February \$1367

New Business:

o Auditor Update – Alvin Arens COMPLETED

o Meeting for Bylaws and Constitution

o Anonymous Donation – discussion about what types of organizations/community members.

o Reviews / Check Ins (Dan) done before March 19, 2024

Katie Nelson- Colleen Sinell and Colleen Hendershot
Gladys Nelson and Colleen Hendershot- Dan Hartog and Joy Nehring

Cleaners- Sarah Bauer and Cathi Nehring

o Food Manager for Kitchen – training

o Lindsey Atchison is willing to get the food manager license for the kitchen. Class is available mostly online now; the cost will be about \$200. Looking for approval for the church to pay all fees associated with getting this license. WELCA will pay for the license

o Soup Supper Offering – where does this money go- Colleen Sinell motions that funds for soup supper go to the parking lot. Seconded Joy Nehring

o Dishwasher Maintenance – who is responsible for ensuring the dishwasher is maintained and supplies are on hand? If Barb Dick is willing.

o Interim Pastor Jacob starts March 3rd!! Service at 8:30am

February Minutes: Read and Approved.

Lord's Prayer

Adjourned 7:04 pm: Motion: Sarah Bauer Second: Colleen Hendershot

Next Meeting: March 19, 2024 5:30PM

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

STUDENTS AND THEIR MENTORS

Grade 9

Amelia Atchison, Connie Kawalek
Sam Dick, Bob Richardson
Haleigh Eggert, Colleen Sinell
Ethan Stromberg, Rick Stromberg

Grade 8

Benjamin Bauer, Jim Nehring
Alison Nehring, Janie Richardson
Amarah Pioske, Barb Dick
Gibson Pioske, Bob Richardson

Grade 7

Willow Atchison, Shari Hartog
Lucas Dick, Rick Kawalek
Shane Pioske, Jeff Monson

Thank you to all our mentors who have volunteered to mentor a student this year.

Class Schedule:

There is No Class during Lent students are expected to help at Soup Supper and attend evening Service. Please arrive at 5:45 pm to help where needed; check in with Mel or Shirley.

The Prophet Project:

Confirmation students and their mentors have a special project to prepare for class on April 24th. Please take this time to meet with your youth and work on the project. Remember to take time to have some fun!

NOLA NEWS:

*Team meeting on Sunday March 10th 4-5:30 pm at Calvary

*We are SO VERY CLOSE to making our total! Just a little more left. Way to go!!

*Butter Braids Sales have started and will end on March 3rd with a delivery date of March 19th, order your Butter Braids from a youth!

Green Team:

Amelia Atchison
Gibson Pioske
Lucas Dick
Haleigh Eggert
Ethan Stromberg

Blue Team:

Willow Atchison
Sam Dick
Amarah Pioske
Alison Nehring
Benjamin Bauer
Shane Pioske

YOUTH—THE SERVICE CONNECTION

This is a way to connect service needs to service volunteers. Our confirmation students will be looking for jobs they can do to help you around your homes. If you have a simple task, please contact Shirley Zierke or Mel Pioske. We will need to know the size of the task and when you would like it completed.

New Orleans 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

“Created to Be” July 16-20, 2024

New Orleans Youth Gathering – 6 children and 3 adults planning on attending. Down payments made! One additional adult on backup in case someone unavailable to attend from Grace, Calvary, or Immanuel.

SHARE THE GOOD



Taken from Highlights of Timeline from Building Committee

Chapter 2 - Moving worship service to Town Hall

February 1, 1999 altar items were moved from church to Town Hall by Tim McNeilly; Gary Sobas; Robert Althoff and Bruce Nehring.



Below is photo of inside of Town Hall on Easter Sunday, April 4th



SOUP SUPPER & SERVICE

March 6, 13, 20

6:00 Soup Supper; 7:00pm Worship

Join us every Wednesday throughout our Lenten journey. Soup Supper begins at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall and is followed by a short worship service in the Sanctuary at 7:00 PM. Worship will use the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28 7:00 pm Worship

Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples. Pastor Jacob will lead our Maundy Thursday Worship Service. Service will include Holy Communion and will conclude with the stripping of the altar as we anticipate the crucifixion of Christ.

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29

Holy Week Worship also includes Good Friday.

There will be NO Worship at Immanuel.

Members are invited to attend worship either at Braham Lutheran with Pastor Jacob that begins at 6:00 pm; Grace Lutheran Church in Mora that begins at 6:00 pm; Calvary Lutheran Church in Mora .

PALM SUNDAY

March 24 8:30 am Worship

The Palm Sunday Liturgy recreates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as we wave our palms and make our procession into the church.

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31 8:30am Worship

He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Easter Worship: 8:30 AM

Easter Breakfast: 9:30AM

SYNOD INFO

REMAINING STEPS OF THE CALL PROCESS

2. Interim Period
 - Transitional Ministry Forms - Selection of Call Committee
 - Role of Church Council is to focus on mission, oversee ongoing ministries, communicate with congregation, arrange for pastoral care.
3. Call Process
 - Call Committee completes the Ministry Site Profile
 - Names of pastoral candidates are sought - the Interview
4. Calling the New Pastor 5. Welcome and Installation

For more information on the call process, please see the NEMN Synod website:
nemnsynod.org or scan QR code



SERVING US THIS MONTH

MONTH	Mar 3	Mar 10	Mar 17	Mar 24	Mar 31
Acolyte	Amarah P	Ethan Stromberg	Sam Dick	Ethan S	Ben B
Altar Guild	Mary AS & Amy G	Mary AS & Amy G	Mary AS & Amy G	Mary AS & Amy G	Mary AS & Amy G
Coffee Treats	Mel P & Shari H	Shirley Z & Connie K	Barb D & Jaime D	Janie P & Ashley	Easter Brunch
Communion Asst.	Jim N	Shirley Z	Dan H	Sarah B	Rick S
Counters	Cathi N & Colleen S	Gladys N & Sarah B	Connie K & Joy K	Cathi N & Colleen S	Gladys N & Sarah B
Lector	Shelby A	Cathi N	Abby H	Genea H	Emily H
Sound	Dave H & Brady N	Dave H & Brady N	Dave H & Brady N	Dave H & Brady N	Dave H & Brady N
Ushers	Rick & Connie K	Jim & Joy N	Jason N family	Bauer family	Chris & Shirley Z

Ushers: Don't know what to do? There is an instruction sheet in the back pew. Just follow along.

If you cannot make assigned date: Please call someone else to swap or sub. Remember to do so in a timely manner and let the office know of the change.

Have questions? Or want to sign up to serve as a Worship Assistant? Call church office 320-679-2015

MARCH 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						2
3 8:30am Worship & Streaming Online	4 9am Quilting	5 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7pm AA Mtg.	6 6pm Soup Sup- per; 7 pm. Wor- ship	7 1:30pm WELCA	8	9
10 8:30am Worship & Streaming Online NOLA 4pm @Calvary	11 9am Quilting	12 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7pm AA Mtg.	13 5pm /Worship Meeting 6pm Soup Sup- per; 7 pm. Wor- ship	14	15	16
17 8:30am Worship & Streaming Online	18 9am Quilting	19 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 5:30pm Council 7pm AA Mtg.	20 6pm Soup Sup- per; 7 pm. Wor- ship	21	22 Newsletter deadline	23
24/31 Palm Sunday Easter Sunday 8:30am	25 10am Senior League	26 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7pm AA Mtg. .	27 Holy Week, no confirmation	28 Maundy Thursday Worship 7pm. w/ Communion	29 Good Friday-NO ** Attend church of choice	30 9am Altar Guild