

CHURCH TALK

A monthly publication of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church of Coleridge, Nebraska; a member of the Lewis & Clark Cluster in the Nebraska Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



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OUR COUNCIL

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| Dan Kock, Council Chairman | Claudet Wege, Council Secretary |
| Bob Hansen, Vice-Chairman | Jacie Burbach, Claude Hofeldt, |
| Terry Ebberson, Treasurer | Dallas Graham, Steve Nordby, Council Members |
| Angie Hall, Financial Secretary | |

Immanuel Lutheran Church Legal Meeting

August 17, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.

*Respectfully submitted by Claudet Wege, Council Secretary,
pending approval at the September Council Meeting*



Present at the Immanuel Lutheran Church Council meeting were Interim Pastor Deb Valentine, Chairman, Dan Kock, Claude Holfeldt, Steve Nordby, Dallas Graham, Bob Hansen, Jacie Burbach, Angie Hall, & Claudet Wege. Chairman, Dan Koch brought the meeting to order and Pastor Deb led us in devotions.

Secretary's Minutes: MSC to accept the minutes from the last meeting.

Treasure's Report:

- George Hefner's bill for part of the new sound system should be paid from the property improvement savings & not from the church maintenance.
- The property improvement fund should reflect the removal of the \$20,000 to the endowment fund.
- Council should have a running balance from the endowment fund committee.
- MSC to approve the treasure's report.

Property Committee:

- Love Signs repaired the neon red cross on top of the church.
- Kevin Krei will have a little extra charge concerning the parsonage back door which included extra work. He will begin work on the church attic insulation in September.
- Fire extinguishers were checked by Heartland Fire Protection Company from Norfolk. We have a total of six extinguishers & they are checked yearly.

ILCW Report:

- ILCW general meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 2nd at Immanuel. There will be election of officers & Pastor will present a short program. Plans are to display the stewardship quilts & samples of each different kit set that have been made through the year some week-end in October for the congregation to view & to be blessed for their journey in November to Lutheran World Relief & The Orphan Grain Train.
- The ILCW sent \$50.00 to Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in honor of Amanda Hefner. Amanda sent the group a thank you & explained how much she is enjoying her choice to be a minister. Pastor Deb will see about making an appointment with Amanda to preach for Immanuel sometime in the future.

Call Committee: The committee had a mock interview with a guest pastor. The committee compiled questions that they could ask a perspective minister. The guest pastor & Assistant Bishop Gary Panko gave the group advise & tweaking of the questions. Immanuel is to reimburse the guest pastor for his service plus travel expense, however, the guest pastor refused to accept payment. The council agreed that he should be paid for his travel expense at least. Immanuel will have to pay travel expense for all candidates we interview as well. For long distant candidates, it may be possible to use skype.

Chairman's Report:

- Since no one has come forward to purchase the remaining cemetery fence materials, we may submit them for the Hartington combination sale. Dan will check on the feasibility of that. Another suggestion was to list the material on a facebook advertisement site, which Angie agreed to set up.
- Kevin Krei is in the process of replacing the siding for the church parsonage.
- Our flying friendly visitors (bats) have still been an issue. Kevin Krei is planning to install the church attic insulation in September. Thoughts are that screens in the attic should be checked &/or replaced in the attic at the time the insulation is installed. Other thoughts were that the varmints may be coming through the crumbled mortar between bricks or even from the bell tower where the ropes come

through. It was suggested that once we have all avenues where the bats may be coming in are secure we then would have an exterminator come.

- The north church yard will need some soil & seeding done this fall.

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor presented part of her report in writing.
- Pastor reported on "Telling Our Story". She passed copies of her summary of the input given at the gathering which was held on July 29th. She said she will still need one more meeting for further input. She asked some of the council members to join her for a final input for the project.
- Luther League will have a planning meeting in September with Tiffany & Brian Ebberson.
- Confirmation class will begin meeting on Wednesday, September 9th & then on Sunday, September 13th. Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 13th as well.
- MSC to allow Pastor Deb to use the chalice & procession cross for a special occasion at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hartington.

Old Business: Angie reports that the Ministry Site Profile is on line & PDF is available for the congregation & the council.

New Business:

- Ushers for funerals was discussed. It seems the same people are asked. Plans may need to incorporate others to help.
- Next month's meeting we will work on our membership list.
- Rod Benson will no longer remove snow north of intersection from the church. It was said that he was paid by the school, the city & the church. It was decided that the church can handle the snow removal for any special occasions that parking would be needed there.
- Two cemetery plots requested from Jodi & John Kohn. These are Jim Vock's children. MSC to accept the requests.

MSC to adjourn the meeting @ 8:45 P.M.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Our next meeting will be September 21st 2015 @ 7:00 P.M.

SEPTEMBER CIRCLE NEWS

Respectfully submitted by Pastor Deb Valentine

Unit General Meeting

September 2, 2015 - 1:30pm

Serve - Peace Circle

Election of 2016 Officers

Special offering - Monetary for Mosaic

Theme: Sabbath Keeping

Theme Verse: Exodus 20:8 "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy."



Grace Circle will meet September 8th, the second Tuesday of the month, at 1:30 PM at the church.

Bible Study: Pastor Deb Valentine

Hostess: Linda Olsen

Peace Circle will meet September 9th, the second Wednesday of the month, at 1:30 PM at The Embers.

Bible Study: Pastor Deb Valentine

Hostess: Kay Hefner

Stewardship project for September will be Lutheran World Relief - Monetary for shipping Expense

Call Committee Members: Charlotte Hall, Jacie Burbach, Tiffany Ebberson, Mary Jo Hansen, Robert Colwell, and Bill Hefner



Committee Update: The Call Committee has completed the mock interview with an individual supplied by the synod. We have met again with Pastor Gary Panko and are ready to receive potential candidates as they come available. As we continue to work to call our new pastor for our congregation, continue to pray to strengthen this committee for this task with the thought that your providing reaches to every need of our church.

TEACHERS AND SUPERINTENDENT WANTED:



With our church's youth heading back to school this month, Sunday School will be back in session after the Labor Day holiday. Start date will be September 13th. Parish Ed has met and are in need of a teacher for the younger ages and a superintendent for this year. If you are able to assist throughout the year, please call the office.

Volunteer Opportunity

Children's Christmas Program Director-Immanuel's children congregation is looking for someone who wants to share the story of the birth of Jesus with the help of the talents of the youth of our congregation. This volunteer should be able to see the innocence of children as they learn the greatest story ever told. If interested in making an impact on the families of our congregation, contact the church office.



Sunday School Kickoff & Parents Meeting

September 13th, 9:00 AM

During the Sunday School hour, the parish ed committee will be holding a parents meeting. They will be gathering information on the children of the year and informing the parents of the schedule of this year's education hour. They have changed the structure of Sunday School and when the children will be singing in church. Very important information will be shared this morning, therefore all parents are encouraged to attend.

Blessing of The Shoes

Along with the kickoff of the educational hour on the 13th, Pastor will be blessing the children's shoes during the worship service.





Divine Drive-In will be featuring *The Wizard of Oz*, Sunday, September 13th, serving starting at 6:30 PM, movie time at 7:00 PM. Immanuel Lutheran will be hosting a movie night on the back lawn for all. Food and Refreshments will be served. Pack your lawn chairs and blankets!!!! More information on the enclosed flyer in this month's church talk.

YOUTH Meeting

Luther League Kick-Off Party September 20th, 5:00 PM at church

Pizza Party, Games and Planning the Year's Schedule and Events. Luther Leaguers are invited this evening to come and be a part of your spiritual journey with Christ. Check your mailboxes in the next couple weeks on more information of this evening. Any questions, contact Tiffany and Brian Ebberson.



Save the Date



Immanuel Lutheran's Evangelical Committee is planning their 2nd Annual Harvest Dinner on October 11th. Look for more information in weekly bulletins and next month's church talk.

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. [2 Corinthians 9:10](#)



GOOD JOB, GIVERS OF IMMANUEL

You did it!!! We are sending 47 school kits this year!! The circles were so surprised by the great generous donations provided by you. They want to thank you for your wonderful givings and look forward to working on this stewardship project again.



QUILT AUCTION RESULTS: Carol Joy Holling Camp's 28th Annual Quilt Auction was an enormous success because of the generosity and support they receive. They are so grateful for all the donations. On Saturday, July 25th, 650 people came out for the day where a record of 450 items were sold raising a total of \$100,460 for their camping ministry.

MISSING: The office is in search of a Council Meeting Minutes Ledger dating back from the 1920's. The scripts of minutes contain both English and German. If you know the whereabouts of this book, please return it or call the office if you have any information. Thank You!



Upcoming News:

As our church looks forward to the future, we would also like to transition to the technology age that is around us. In the upcoming months, we will be switching our records to a more digital method and may be in need of some information from you. Look for future mailings from the office to gather your email, and questionnaires to see how you would like for the church to contact you and your loved ones.

Folks & Forks

Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry, Norfolk will be holding their annual fall fundraiser on Sunday, September 20th at 3:00PM at St. John's Lutheran Church, Highway 81 & Benjamin Ave. They will also be featuring the Northeast Area Jazz Ensemble. A silent auction will also be help this afternoon. This fundraising event will be a free will offering for pie and custard, and an afternoon to benefit the campus ministry in Norfolk to that they may discover and fulfill their vocations as disciples. For more details, www.folksandforks.com



Christ in Your Home

The September, October, November issues have now been placed on the narthex table. Grab your copy today!

<http://immanuellutherancoleridge.org>



WEBSITE NEWS: Your monthly newsletter and the server's schedules are now posted on the church's website.

Make God your homepage...

Telling Our Story

Nineteen of us took part in the Telling Our Story Event. Those who were present enjoyed walking down memory lane, and hearing about the experiences of others. The questions that were asked of each decade are 1) What was happening of significance in the world? 2) What was happening of significance in Religion? 3) What was happening with this congregation?

We heard about the rationing of gas, and sugar, the division between Catholics and Protestants; all day Mission Festivals, and youth staying in Luther League until they were married. The large sheets of paper that were filled out by each decade are hanging on the north wall in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Deb is compiling the information and it will be made available for everyone to see.





FROM THE PASTOR'S KEYBOARD

Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year Festival which marks the beginning of a 10-day period of prayer, self-examination and repentance. Like our New Year, the Jewish New Year is a time to be introspective, to look back at the mistakes of the past year and plan changes to make in the New Year. This year Rosh Hashanah begins on September 13 - which happens to coincide with the start of our Sunday School year.

In Nehemiah 8:1-12 we find the story of the first New Year Festival after the return from exile. You may remember that during the exile many of the Jews had been forced to leave their homes; leave the Promised Land, and were taken away to Babylon in captivity. The temple, and much of Jerusalem, was left in ruins. They lost their land because they had not been faithful to God, and had not obeyed the word of God declared through the prophets. Away from the Promised Land, and with the destruction of the temple, the people felt as if they had been abandoned by God. They struggled to be faithful to God, and to worship God while in a distant land.

But then, after 70 years, the people were allowed to return to Jerusalem, to rebuild the city and the temple. On that first New Year festival after they returned from the exile, Ezra, the priest, read from the book of the Law of Moses. It was a day of rejoicing and celebration.

As we begin our Fall activities, it is helpful to reflect on the importance of the scriptures for us as individuals and for us as a church. The Bible is a record of God at work in human history, in the lives of people of faith. It is our story, and it is the story of our faith. As the words spoke to their original hearers, they speak to us still. They reveal to us the message of God's love and faithfulness, even when God's people are not faithful.

Sunday School will begin on September 13th. Confirmation will begin on September 9th. However, Christian Education is important for all people of faith, not just for children. As we are beginning a new year of Sunday School Classes for our children, I would encourage our High School students and adults to consider taking part in a class as well. Please let Pastor Deb know if you would be interested in taking part in an adult study - and the best time or day for us to meet.

Individual Bible study is also important for Christians. A Good study Bible, with introductions for each of the books and study notes for particular verses can be a real helpful tool. By reading approximately three chapters a day, you can read the entire Bible through in a year. There are many "One Year Bibles" that are designed for this purpose. I prefer those who have a reading from the Old Testament, Psalms, Proverbs, and New Testament for each day. I would like to encourage each of you to begin or to continue studying the Bible. The scriptures help us to grow in faith and faithfulness; and serve as a source of inspiration, of comfort, and of strength.

Blessings,

Pastor Deb