

Inside East Immanuel

Volume 10 Issue 6

July/August 2011

Dear Family,

It is safe to say that summer has arrived. The days are warm, the sun is shining bright, and our lives have taken on a different routine. We're finding ourselves spending more time outside, going to bed later, and enjoying those activities that we are unable to do any other season of the year. Summer is also the time of the year when we see less of each other at worship. We spend our weekends camping, at the cabin, swimming, and boating. We do these activities because we find them to give us rest, allowing us to return to work and the busyness of life rejuvenated.

Thinking about all the water activities we enjoy, I got to thinking about how Jesus is like our life jacket in life. Every one of us is capable of managing this thing called life on our own and probably do a fairly good job at it . . . until a crisis comes along that causes us to panic. What would we do then? We would have nowhere to turn, but to our own devices . . . scary! But if we live our life with Jesus by our side, when those times of trouble come along, we can just let go and let him keep us afloat. We don't have to doggie paddle in the frigid lake. We can just float along and rely on Jesus to work it out for us.

This summer remember that Jesus is our life jacket and not just any life jacket we might find laying around in a boat or on a dock. Jesus is the life jacket that we never want to take off. So, please enjoy the activities that give us rest that we are unable to enjoy during the other seasons of the year, but let us also not forget the One who really keeps us afloat through this thing called life.

Join us in worship on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. or at our Saturday Outdoor Worship at 5:30 p.m. Participate in our Wednesday Huddles at 6:30 p.m. at the Outdoor Chapel. Share your gifts with the Habitat Build, Hands of Faith, or the Quilting Group. And join the fellowship with the Corn and Brat Feed in August.

*"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."*

(Matthew 11:28-30)

Your Sister in Christ,

Pastor Kathy

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Synod Assembly Report 2011

Prepared by Dan Pennington, East Immanuel Lay Representative along with Elaine Solum
and Pr. Kathy Pennington

Business

It is the business of all synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) to pass resolutions that address the operating, missional, ministerial and social justice concerns (and probably others) of member congregations as their collective portion of the larger church. This larger church is not just the ELCA as a whole, but its portion of all of Christ's church on earth.

Resolution 1: Mission Plan

This is the operating budget (--oh, how we love the "b" word--) for the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, and it was passed as presented by the Synod Council to the voting membership. A copy of this is available from any of your representatives.

Resolution 2: Minimum Standards for Compensation and Benefits [for Rostered Clergy and Staff]

The minimum compensation guidelines as passed were kept the same since certain federal governmental agencies did not recognize a cost-of-living adjustment for the year. Pr. Kathy can guide you to a website where this material is presented or help you print out a copy if you find it necessary to have one, since it's over 50 pages.

Resolution 3: Synod Assemblies

Synod assemblies will continue to be held annually, but on Saturday and Sunday, with an optional Friday evening educational experience. Planners will seek to make assemblies inclusive, inter-generational, and technologically current.

Resolution 4: Synod By-law Amendments

The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin has its own constitution, just like each member church and the ELCA. To more closely reflect its current missions, the Synod has changed its Leadership and Mission Support Commissions to Evangelical Leadership and Evangelical Mission Commissions.

Resolution 5: Creation Care Task Force

This last resolution was submitted just in time to be fully vetted by the synod council and submitted to the assembly. Its passing established a task force (requiring no funding) of clergy and lay persons to support stewardship of creation in the following five areas: worship, education, property, personal discipleship and public ministry/political action, and to have our synod seek to become a partner in Lutherans Restoring Creation.

New Synod Council Members

There was no election for bishop this year, but we voted in the following synod council members:

Apple River Conference Lay Female: **Betty Lou Anderson**

Chequamegon Conference Clergy: **Rev. Pete Warmanen**

Chippewa Valley Conference Clergy: **Rev. Sarah Semmler-Smith**

Heart of the North Lay Female: **Cathie Robinson**

Lake Superior Lay Male: **Gerry Olson**

Synod Council Vice-President: **Lynn Fering**

St. Croix Valley Conference Lay Male: **Jim Erickson**

Dairyland Conference Lay Male: **Jim Christenson**

Youth Representative: **Sarah Ruehlow**

Assembly Speakers

Yes, we do business at assembly meetings, but we also learn about our church beyond the walls of East Immanuel.

Our three-session bible study was led by Prof. Karl Jacobson from Augsburg College in direct reference to the assembly theme of "Sent to the Crossroads." Karl teaches with a touch of music and a devilish sense of humor.

Prof. Martha (Marty) Stortz, also of Augsburg College, delivered the keynote address about life in the resurrection zone, explaining why our God is the God of second chances as we engage our journey of discipleship.

Phil Blom from the Board of Pensions had the pleasure of telling us that our synod was #1 for the fourth year in a row in regards to clergy and staff completing their online health assessments. This status "has teeth" as it saved our synod over \$36,000. Of course, Bishop Duane Pederson gave Phil several more ways to improve food and even the standard living environment with bacon.

Our bishop also delivered a very appropriate report of how our synod has been sent to and working from the crossroads as we deliver ministry and outreach with local and worldwide effects while dealing with challenging times within our church. He stated that he "is proud to part of a church that does not shy away from engaging the real world with

Continued on page 4

July Servants

Greeters:

Becky & Junior Berquam

Ushers:

Open

Lay Readers:

July 3 Eric Elkin
10 Brandon Johnson
17 Konny Jorgenson
24 Mona Flanum
31 Eric Paulson

Communion Set-up:

Pam Elkin

Communion Assistant:

Eric Elkin

Radio Broadcast:

Gary Hagen

Counters:

Eric & Pam Elkin

Acolytes:

July 3 Kellie Kjeseth
10 Alex Riley
17 Amy Johnson
24 Ondre Bleskacek
31 Jared Shelby

August Servants

Greeters:

Jim & Susie Ivey

Ushers:

Open

Lay Readers:

August 7 Terri Nustvold
14 Barb LaVigne
21 Bonnie Hagen
28 Brandon Johnson

Communion Set-up:

Bonnie Hagen

Communion Assistant:

Bonnie Hagen

Radio Broadcast:

Bob Johnson

Counters:

Jim Ivey & Kevin Solum

Acolytes:

August 7 Ondre Bleskacek
14 Brielle Hopkins
21 Colton Link
28 Brandon Johnson

Eagle Scout Project

One of our high school seniors, Ryan Johnson, has been working towards becoming an Eagle Scout. In February, Ryan came before the church council to present his idea. The council agreed to support Ryan in this endeavor. Since then, Ryan has been working with a mason and the Outdoor Chapel Committee in designing an altar for the chapel. The altar will be 8 feet long, 32 inches deep, and 36 inches high. Construction of this altar will occur in July.

Ryan is seeking donations to cover the cost of materials for this project. The estimated cost is not expected to exceed \$800.* If you would like to make a financial contribution towards this project please talk to Ryan Johnson, Pastor Kathy, or Arvid Flanum.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America. Rank requirements include earning at least 21 merit badges and demonstrating Scout Spirit through the Boy Scout Oath and Law, service, and leadership. This includes an extensive service project that the Scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages—which, in Ryan's case, is an altar for the Outdoor Chapel.

*actual cost is undetermined at the time of this printing

Work Projects at the Church

Please talk to Gary Hagen if you can help complete any of the following projects. He will set you up with the appropriate materials. Thank you for helping us maintain our building and grounds!

- Wash Sunday school and gathering area windows
- Paint pillars by front door
- Point up foundation on south side of church
- Paint foundation on south side of church
- Paint block walls of bathrooms and around back (west and north side)
- Paint bathroom vents on south side of bathrooms (they are getting rusty)
- Inspect all wooden sash windows for glazing putty falling off. Replace putty and paint.
- Repair basketball hoops posts, one post has rusted off at ground level. Need to replace posts with something more rust resistant.
- Foam holes in foundation found in furnace room. Can see daylight from inside.
- Replace outside electrical outlet by north Sunday school addition side door
- Replace entire door and side window of south Sunday school addition side door. Use same material covering foundation of new addition.
- Cover foam insulation on Sunday school addition foundation to prevent further damage
- Place landscape rock and border around Sunday school addition foundation for easier mowing
- Paint letters on church sign along Highway 46.

Continued from page 2

the Gospel of Jesus Christ, even when it is difficult.”

Rev. Mary Francis delivered her report from the ELCA (and therefore from Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson) that we have been acting in the graceful context of “Freed to Serve.” In other words, we continue to act out of gratitude for all we’ve been given.

During the actual assembly, several mission moments reveal some of the new ways in which members and member congregations reach out to others. Two gentlemen are sharing the gospel opportunistically in a tavern environment (with some fairly explicit rules of low-key engagement.) The campus ministry in Eau Claire is providing a sense of Christian community in ways that are “real” rather than campy. And there were several other examples of ongoing ministry.

Assembly Environment

Along with work and learning at a synod assembly, some constructive fun is available, too.

Friday evening brought opportunities for bowling and billiards at UW Eau Claire’s Hilltop Center.

Saturday morning featured a walk in support of stopping malaria (“Catch the Buzz”) which raised \$400.

Rev. Todd Iverson, one of our Assistants to the Bishop, was commissioned as a chaplain in the Naval Reserve.

Friday worship featured Bishop Duane Pederson as the presiding pastor and included very adaptable musicians and a synod-wide volunteer choir.

And technology assisted us in both worship and assembly business without being horribly intrusive. Voting was much faster, and visibility during worship and business sessions was significantly enhanced.

We wish next year’s representatives an even greater experience as they represent our congregation within the ELCA and as they reflect Christ beyond our walls.

Contact Us

Website: www.eastimmanuel-lutheran.org
Email: eastimmanuel@amerytel.net
Church Office: 715-268-2143

Pastor: Kathy Pennington
Church Secretary: Katrine Antolak
Organist: Jane Johnson
Custodian: Nancy Ausen
Newsletter Mailing: Beverly Meyer
WELCA President: Blanche Ausen

Church Council

President: Arvid Flanum
Vice President: Irv Elkin
Secretary: Janet Krueger
Treasurer: Lynn Munson
Financial Secretary: Eric Elkin
Fellowship Deacon: Gloria Feyen
Youth Deacon: Bob Johnson
Education Deacon: Michele Bleskacek
Worship & Music Deacon: Sandy Westlund
Property Deacon: Gary Hagen
Council Member: Brent Elwood
Council Member: Gary Lillie
Council Member: Wayne Peterson

Announcement & Article Deadlines

Items for the bulletin should be submitted no later than 10 a.m. on Thursday each week.

Items for the newsletter should be submitted by the 20th of each month.

Inside East Immanuel is now available on our website. Go to www.eastimmanuel-lutheran.org and check it out!

Also, our monthly newsletter can be emailed to you if you would prefer to receive an electronic copy rather than a paper copy. If you would like it emailed to you as soon as it is published please send an email to the church at eastimmanuel@amerytel.net with "Newsletter Request" as the subject line.

Habitat Build Day

Join us in building a Habitat for Humanity home in Amery on Saturday, July 16th. We need laborers and cooks. Contact Bob Johnson if you would like to help with the construction of the home. Contact Bonnie Hagen if you would like to help provide food.

Hands of Faith

Share your time and your blessings with our community on Wednesday, July 27th. Join us for the entire day, or just an hour or three. Can't come during the day? Then join us for the evening! Fun will be had by everyone, guaranteed!

We'll need people of all ages, and people with different talents. So do not worry, you won't be excluded. Contact Pam Elkin for more information about the day's activities.

We'll gather in the evening around 5:30 p.m. at the Outdoor Chapel for a cook-out, some enjoyable evening activities, and devotions. Bring a dish to share. We hope to see you there!

Corn and Brat Feed

The Corn and Brat Feed will be held on Saturday, August 20th. Watch the weekly bulletin for details.

Semi-Annual Meeting

East Immanuel's Semi-Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 14th immediately following our 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Wednesday Huddle

Do enjoy food, fellowship, and gentle surprises? Then join in on the Wednesday Huddles this summer! We meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Outdoor Chapel, rain or shine (the alternate location is *inside* the church).

Something different happens each week. Watch the weekly announcements for the latest Huddle update. Come every week, or come when you can. Bring a friend or come alone. The more the merrier.

WELCA News

There will be no WELCA meetings in July or August. At our September meeting it will be the election of officers. Please join us. We can use new ideas and help. Thanks to work groups 1 & 2 for working the Memorial Day Dinner. This year the crowd was down. There were only 92 tickets sold, compared to 2010 where 176 were sold. The income for 2011 was \$783.36, in 2010 it was \$ 1,524.24. This makes one think, was it because of the threatening weather? Do we need a menu change? Are we all too busy with other things? This has been a concern at East Immanuel for years and years. This is a way for showing respect for loved ones and the men and women who have lost their lives for our country.

East Immanuel Ladies and girls are invited to a mid summer banquet at Peace Lutheran Church in Dresser. Peace is our sister church. There will be a light salad supper. The guest speaker is Melinda Beyer. She will share her experiences of working at an orphanage in Ghana, Africa. There will be a free will offering for the orphanages in Africa. This is Monday, July 18th from 6:30—8:00 p.m. RSVP to Pat Adams by July 8th 715-755-2515, or talk to Jean or Blanche so we can share rides.

Up coming events:

Luther Point Summer Celebration - Sunday, August 7

Quilt sale, crafts, pottery, art work, farmers market. There is a poster in the narthex.

August 13th Summer Retreat at Luther Point.

We had a cold, windy and rainy 2 days for our brat stand a Dick's Market. We made \$317.28. Thanks girls for all your work.

Church Council June 8, 2011

No quorum present. Informational meeting only.

Attending: Pastor Kathy Irv Elkin Wayne Peterson Gary Lillie
Gary Hagen Janet Krueger Sandy Westlund Gloria Feyen

East Immanuel Lutheran Church Financial Report - May 2011

Account Balances as of May 31, 2011

Bremer Checking Account	28,394.92
Parsonage Loan Balance	25,535.19 Maturity Date 12/5/14
Jerdee Estate Funds	26,184.52
Window Fund Cert of Dep	9,385.43 Maturity Date 2/26/12
ELCA Loan - Interest Bearing	40,000.00 Mission Investment Fund Maturity Date 2/18/12

Committed Funds

Benevolence Fund	1,544.43
Building Fund	3,930.65
Cemetary Fund	442.21
ELCA Loan Interest Fund	3,473.34
Jorgenson Scholarship Fund	122.50
Luther Point Fund	25.00
Mission Fund	135.00
Non-Designated Memorial Fund	5,716.88
Outdoor Chapel Fund	3,013.81
Security Fund	250.00
Total Committed Funds	18,653.82

Balance Sheet - May 31, 2011

Beginning Balance	23,274.59
Income/Contributions	11,491.77
Expenses	7,726.68
Ending Balance	27,039.68
Committed Funds	18,653.82
\$ Available for Expenses	8,385.86

May 2011 - Contributions/Income

	May-11
Benevolence/Sunday Offering	95.00
Building/Sunday Offering	30.00
Donations	100.00 Memorial Donation/Ann Wike/Worship Service Supplies
Flower Reimbursement/Congregation	25.00
Interest Income	128.40 Bremer Int/MIF Int (\$1.18/\$127.22)
Jorgenson Scholarship	500.00
Loose/Sunday Offering	805.00
Memorial Donation	350.00 Memorial Donation/Millie Spurrell for Quilters
Mission/Sunday Offering	30.00
Outdoor Chapel Donations	400.00 Memorial Donation/Jean Flanum Kaluza
Parsonage Principal Payments/Donation	300.00
Radio/Sunday Offering	905.00 includes \$800 memorial donation from Millie Spurrell
Sunday School Offering	9.37
Tithes/Sunday Envelopes	7,814.00

Total Contributions/Income**11,491.77****May 2011 - Expenses**

	May-11
Advertising Expenses	272.89 Easter Services/Platbook/Signs/Summer Worship
BOP-Disability Insurance	117.13 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Flex Spending Account	300.00 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Health Insurance	916.54 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Housing Equity	180.42 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Pension	431.50 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Retiree Suppot	31.54 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Survivor Benefit	45.05 Pastor Kathy
Church Office Supplies	83.35 Toner Cartridge
Cleaning Supplies	31.94 Dick's Market
Dues & Subscriptions	13.50 Christ In Our Home
Educational Materials	173.47 HS Grads/DVD Series/Making Sens/Greatest Story
Jorgenson Scholarship	500.00 Lisa Ausen/Colten Nustvold
Memorial Donation Disbursement	350.00 E.I. Quilters/Millie Spurrell Memorial
Parsonage Loan Payment	300.00 May Payment
Pastor Salary	3,090.00 May Salary
Pulpit Supply	140.00 Katie Longtin
Shipping Charges	16.03 Augsburg Fortress
Telephone - Church	27.80
Telephone - Parsonage	85.80
Utilites - Church	154.96
Utilities - Parsonage	175.86
Worship Supplies	108.90 Palms/Pew Cards
WXCE Radio	180.00 May Broadcasts

Total Expenses**7,726.68**

East Immanuel Lutheran Church

July 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2 8 a.m. Men's Group @ Ida Mae's 5:30 p.m. Outdoor Worship
3 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	4 Happy Fourth of July!	5 9a.m. Quilting 9-11 a.m. Office Hours	6 9:30 a.m.—noon Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Huddle	7	8	9 5:30 p.m. Outdoor Worship
10 10:00 a.m. Worship Confirmation Camp Begins	11	12 9a.m. Quilting Serenity Home	13 6:30 p.m. Huddle 7 p.m. Council	14	15 Confirmation Camp Ends	16 Habitat Builds Day 5:30 p.m. Outdoor Worship
17 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	18	19 9a.m. Quilting 9-11 a.m. Office Hours	20 9:30 a.m.—noon Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Huddle	21	22	23 5:30 p.m. Outdoor Worship
24 10:00 a.m. Worship	25	26 9a.m. Quilting 9-11 a.m. Office Hours	27 Hands of Faith Day 5:30 p.m. Cook-out & Fellowship	28	29	30 5:30 p.m. Outdoor Worship
31 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion						

East Immanuel Lutheran Church

August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9a.m. Quilting 9-11 a.m. Office Hours	3 9:30 a.m.—noon Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Huddle	4	5	6 8 a.m. Men's Group Seaman-Holzmann Wedding 5:30 p.m. Outdoor Worship
7 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	8	9 9a.m. Quilting 9-11 a.m. Office Hours Serenity Home	10 9:30 a.m.—noon Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Huddle 7 p.m. Council	11	12	13 5:30 p.m. Outdoor Worship
14 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Semi-Annual Meeting	15	16 9a.m. Quilting 9-11 a.m. Office Hours	17 9:30 a.m.—noon Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Huddle	18	19	20 Corn & Brat Feed 5:30 p.m. Outdoor Worship
21 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion	22	23 9a.m. Quilting 9-11 a.m. Office Hours	24 9:30 a.m.—noon Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Huddle	25	26	27 5:30 p.m. Outdoor Worship
28 10:00 a.m. Worship	29	30 9a.m. Quilting 9-11 a.m. Office Hours	31 9:30 a.m.—noon Office Hours 6:30 p.m. Huddle			

Please Note: On September 4th we begin our school-year worship schedule with Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m. Sunday school will begin on September 11th.

Serenity Home

East Immanuel serves a meal at the Serenity Home on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Your assistance is needed by either providing a meal for about 20 people and/or serving the meal at Serenity Home in Balsam Lake at 5:30 pm. Please sign-up for serving a meal one month. Talk to Pam and Eric Elkin for more information. The sign-up sheet is on the table under the mailboxes.

Ruby's Pantry

Ruby's Pantry Food Distribution takes place in Amery every second and fifth Saturdays of each month. Registration is from 7 am to 9:15 am only. Distribution begins at 9 am. A \$15 donation to help cover cost of the food, its transportation and storage is recommended.

For more information, call 715-268-7390 or email heaven@amerytel.net or visit www.ameryucc.com.

Bringing God's Groceries to All of God's People!!

Mission Statement

A growing community of faith that welcomes all to worship and to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in an ever-changing world.

East Immanuel Lutheran Church
207 120th Street
Amery, WI 54001



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