

Inside East Immanuel

Volume 10 Issue 2

March 2011

Dear Family,

One year ago I was interviewing with the call committee and being introduced to East Immanuel. Much has happened since then, and I am glad for the Holy Spirit leading us to be working together in ministry. As I mentioned at our annual meeting, I am still working on getting to know the East Immanuel family. If it were my way, I would have had $\frac{3}{4}$ of the congregation visited by now. However, everything works in God's time and I have not reached the 50% mark yet. In all honesty, I am not disappointed by this because other opportunities have been placed before me, which I have used for the benefit of becoming familiarized with our church family.

There have also been things happening behind the scenes that few people are aware. For example, thanks to Norm, I write for the religion section of the New Richmond News about once a quarter. I also have been working on updating our membership records. We are currently entering all our information into a web-based management system so that soon I will be able to request all March birthdays, for example, and in less than 30 seconds I will know who has a birthday in March. The same could be done for baptism anniversaries, confirmation anniversaries, wedding anniversaries, etc. Our financial secretary and treasurer are using this same program for their record-keeping. And eventually, if members would like to access their personal contribution records, they could do so anytime simply by logging in to this program. This program will also allow us to quickly create an updated church directory.

Know that I have been very impressed with East Immanuel's activity within the congregation and the community. There are some areas for which we could be stronger and I look forward to us addressing these areas together in the years to come. In the meantime however, now that I have been with you for nearly 9 months, I have realized some work that can either be passed on to others or for me to seek your help in completing. With that being said, Katrine will be working more hours so I can be "out and about" more often, and we are moving forward with a homebound visitation team to assist me in visiting our homebound members more frequently. I encourage you to not be hesitant about making yourself available to try something you might be interested in but have never done before. God works through us in amazing ways and leads us down paths we never thought we would walk.

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

Colossians 1:11-12

Your Sister in Christ,

Pastor Kathy

Seven Wonders of the Word

Join us for our mid-week Lenten journey beginning Wednesday, March 9th as we explore the *Seven Wonders of the Word*. Often when we read and reflect on the Scriptures, we think of ourselves as the subjects and the Scriptures as the object of our study and devotion. *Seven Wonders of the Word* reverses that familiar pattern, making the Word itself the active subject of our Lenten journey. Each week has a theme, and all seven themes are phrased as verbs. The Word creates, calls, commands, saves, sustains, shapes, and sends. Note that it is the Word that does the work while we are the ones being acted upon: created, called, commanded, saved, sustained, shaped, and sent.

Focusing on the *Seven Wonders of the Word* gives us the opportunity to see and experience the Scriptures from a new perspective and be deeply moved by them as we encounter their great beauty and their great power. Come to experience the power of God's Word in your life and in our world. A soup supper will be served at 6 p.m. followed by worship at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9th – *The Word Creates*

Supper served by Council. Worship will include Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes.

Wednesday, March 16th – *The Word Calls*

Supper served by Women of Worship. Pastor Bryan Anderson (First Lutheran, Clear Lake) will be preaching.

Wednesday, March 23rd – *The Word Shapes*

Supper served by Confirmation. Pastor Roger Kastelle (Bethesda Lutheran, Dresser) will be preaching.

Wednesday, March 30th – *The Word Saves*

Supper served by the Men's Group. Pastor Kathy will be preaching.

Wednesday, April 6th – *The Word Sustains*

Supper served by WELCA. Pastor Matt Saarem (Balsam Lutheran, Amery) will be preaching.

Wednesday, April 13th – *The Word Commands*

Supper served by the Youth Group. Pastor Kathy will be preaching.

Our mid-week Lenten journey will conclude on Thursday, April 21st with Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. where we will explore *The Word Sends*.

Navigating the Storms of Life

Pastor Kathy has received some requests to address specific life issues that we all face in one way or another. In an effort to thoroughly respond to these requests, there will be a 4-week preaching series during our regular Sunday morning worship services called *Navigating the Storms of Life*.

Sunday, March 13th – Temptation

Sunday, March 20th – Divorce

Sunday, March 27th – Depression & Suicide

Sunday, April 3rd – Death of a Loved One

Walking Together

East Immanuel will be attending Walking Together on Saturday, March 26th and we want you to join us!

Walking together is a congregational resource event sponsored by the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin at Chippewa Falls Middle School, 8:15 a.m.—3:35 p.m. A large variety of workshops are available to choose from. Cost is \$10 per person.

Talk to Eric Elkin or Pastor Kathy if you are interested in joining us, or for more information. We must register by March 17th.

Wine Down

Join other women in winding down from your busy week on Friday, March 18th beginning at 7 p.m. We will be gathering at Terri Nustvold's home.

Homebound Visitors

Our homebound members would love to receive communion on a monthly basis. Right now we have about 8 homebound members and it is impossible for Pastor Kathy to visit them on a monthly basis. If you would be interested in being part of a regular communion visitation team that would give communion to 2-4 people each month please talk to Pastor Kathy.

Three people have already expressed their interest in joining this team, but we are looking for more interested individuals so no one gets overwhelmed. Our hope is for these monthly visits to begin in April.

Men's Group

The Men's Group will be meeting Saturday, March 5th at 8 a.m. in the church basement. Breakfast will be served. The topic for discussion will be "Plugging In with Plenty To Do." Please join us for an hour of fun and fellowship.

Youth Group

Youth Group will meet on Sunday, March 13th at the church from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. We will discuss and plan upcoming events, play games, and have a great time. Come, bring a friend or two, and don't miss out on this faith adventure.

Confirmation Camp

7th & 8th Grade Confirmation Students will be attending confirmation camp July 10th – 15th. Pastor Kathy will be joining them at camp for the week, too.

Specifics about camp have already been sent home, but if you need another copy, please see Pastor Kathy.

WELCA

After not having a WELCA meeting in Dec. and Jan. 9 ladies braved the cold and wind for our Feb. 3rd meeting. Jean gave devotions with Fay as hostess. Friday, March 4th Deronda Lutheran will host World Day of Prayer. This is for all local church's. We will be serving soup and sandwich supper for the April 6th Lenten Service.

Saturday, March 12th from 8:30—12:30 is the 7th annual Women's Retreat at Milltown Lutheran Church. Praise, Prayer and Pantomimes. The presenter will be Sue Saarem, who is a pastor's wife retired post-mistress, musician and seamstress. She will encourage moving prayer from passive to active. Communion Service lead by Pastor Richard Moeldner from Bethel and Dovre Lutheran in New Auburn. Cost is \$8.00 which includes the program and lunch. Register by March 5th with Sandy Christensen, 1767 200th Ave, Centuria WI 54824 or call 715-825-3596.

Our next meeting is March 3rd at 2:00. Please join us if you can. Thank the Lord for all our snow. But think Spring.

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: open
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 Re-

March Servants

Greeters:

Lindy & Kelly Kjeseth

Ushers:

open

Lay Readers:

March 6	Terri Nustvold
13	Bonnie Hagen
20	Linnae Seaman
27	Mona Flanum

Communion Set-up:

Konny Jorgenson

Communion Assistant:

Konny Jorgenson

Radio Broadcast:

Colton Nustvold

Counters:

Eric & Pam Elkin

Acolytes:

March 6	Jared Shelby
13	Brielle Hopkins
20	Brandon Johnson
27	Alex Riley

Church Council Minutes 9 February, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Arvid Flanum. Devotions were presented by Pastor Kathy.

Ryan Johnson appeared at the council meeting to make a presentation about his Eagle Scout project. He is proposing to build an altar for the outdoor chapel out of stone. The project should be a benefit for the church or community and must have at least 100 man hours including planning and construction. This is in the early stages of planning so there is no firm concept yet. A motion to allow Ryan to proceed with the planning for the project and require him to provide updates to the council was made by Gary and seconded by Irvin. Ryan has a mason to assist with the planning and work. The motion carried.

Aaron Riendeau presented the results of the energy audits. The first audit presented was the church. The test used air pressure to detect air flow and leaks. The most significant source of heat loss and air infiltration is the ceiling in the sanctuary. The ceiling tiles are allowing air to leak through. The window frames in the sanctuary are also allowing a significant amount of air leakage. Recommendations: seal the ceiling in the sanctuary with drywall, increase amount of insulation in ceilings. The furnaces in the church are performing well. The one in the Sunday school wing should be serviced and tested next year before the heating season. In the Sunday school wing the recommendation is to increase the amount of insulation in the ceiling. The report can be made available if someone is interested in reviewing it. The parsonage was also tested. The biggest source of heat loss is from attic access and other ceiling penetrations (like ceiling lights). Another source is from wall penetrations for electrical boxes like outlets and switches. There should also be more insulation in the attic. In addition, the foundation walls should be insulated to help reduce heat loss. Along with the reports from the audits, Aaron also pointed out possible rebates and refunds that may be available. The trustees will review the reports and come back with recommendations.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Lynn Munson. Two funds are coming up for renewal...the ELCA loan fund and the stained glass window funds come up soon. Lynn will renew them for a year. A motion to accept the report was made by Gary, seconded by Irvin. The motion carried.

Worship-Sandy -Refurbishing banners for Easter. Received some donations for new hymnals.

Fellowship-Michelle—There is a new list of greeters on the board. We raised \$226 for roast beef lunch. Money is going toward heat.

Trustee Report—Working on front door

Youth – The youth devos group will be leading a worship service in April. Looking at Easter breakfast fund raising event.

Pastor's Report—There is a Synod event, "Walking Together" to publicize for March 26. Pastor Kathy would like as many of the council to attend as possible. She would like to start working with people interested in doing homebound communion visits.

Old Business

Long range planning – Council is working to put together a strategic plan for East Immanuel and we are still working our way through the book "Living Lutheran".

The council reviewed positions open and who would be willing to serve in each capacity. The reorganization is as follows:

President Arvid Flanum, Vice President Irvin Elkin, Secretary Rob Hopkins, Financial Secretary Eric Elkin, Deacon for youth Bob Johnson, Deacon for education Michel Bleskacek, Deacon for fellowship Gloria Feyen, Deacon for worship Sandy Westlund, Trustee Gary Hagen, Trustee Gary Lily, Trustee Brent Elwood, and Trustee Wayne Peterson.

Lenten soup and sandwich – Ash Wednesday is March 9. The council will serve for the first one on Ash Wednesday. Sandy and Gloria will organize for us. The schedule for the rest of the Lenten season will be posted.

Luther Point is working on raising funds for a building to serve as a retreat center and storm shelter along with some other projects. They are asking each church to do a campaign to help raise awareness and funding for the camp.

Staff Salaries – recommend that the officers of the church meet to discuss and review salaries and capacities for church staff. One important aspect to consider is how to support office activities so Pastor Kathy can spend more time outside the office.

Review minutes: The minutes were read back. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Gary and seconded by Irvin. The motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Attending:

Arvid Flanum Sandy Westlund Irvin Elkin Gloria Feyen Wayne Peterson Eric Elkin Brent Elwood Lynn Munson Gary Hagen Bob Johnson Pastor Kathy Pennington Michelle Bleskacek

East Immanuel Lutheran Church

Financial Report - January 2011

Account Balances as of January 31, 2011

Bremer Checking Account	\$29,843.11
Parsonage Loan Balance	\$28,741.69 Maturity Date 12/5/14
Jerdee Estate Funds	\$26,146.06
Window Fund Cert of Dep	\$8,848.49 Maturity Date 2/26/11
ELCA Loan - Interest Bearing	\$40,000.00 Mission Investment Fund-Maturity Date 2/18/11

Committed Funds

Benevolence Fund	\$574.43
Building Fund	\$3,450.66
Cemetary Fund	\$222.21
ELCA Loan Interest Fund	\$4,586.68 *\$1439 earmarked for new hymnals per 2/2009 Council Meeting notes
Jorgenson Scholarship Fund	\$122.50
Luther Point Fund	\$235.00
Mission Fund	\$75
Non-Designated Memorial Fund	\$5,716.88
Outdoor Chapel Fund	\$4,002.81
Security Fund	\$250.00
Windows Fund	\$475.00
Total Committed Funds	\$19,711.17

Balance Sheet - January 31, 2011

Beginning Balance	\$23,236.41
Income/Contributions	\$14,626.23
Expenses	\$8,244.23
Ending Balance	\$29,618.41
Committed Funds	\$19,711.17
\$ Available for Expenses	\$9,907.24

Contributions/Income

	Jan-11
Tithes/Sunday Envelopes	7840.48
Loose/Sunday Offering	264.55
Benevolence/Sunday Offering	130
Mission/Sunday Offering	5
Radio/Sunday Offering	0
Building/Sunday Offering	45
Luther Point/Sunday Offering	25
Olson Endowment/General Fund	3333.2
Olson Endowment/Benevolence Fund	444.43
Olson Endowment/Building Fund	444.43
Olson Endowment/Cemetery Fund	222.21
Parsonage Principal Payments/ Donation	1500 Put on loan principal 2/2/11
Memorial Donation	300 Chinnock Memorial
Flower Reimbursement/Congregation	24
Miscellaneous Income	46.6 Retirement of Equity Credits-Countryside Coop
Interest Income	1.33 Bremer Checking Account Interest
Total	14626.23

Expenses

	Jan-11
Utilites - Church	154.52
Utilities - Parsonage	165.1
Parsonage Loan Payment	237
Advertising Expenses	148.75 Amery Free Press/NR News - Christmas Worship
Dues & Subscriptions	23.5 Devozine
Repairs and Maintenance	170.33 Microphone Battery,Paper Cartridge,Water System/Bathroom-
WXCE Radio	180 December Broadcasts
Outside Professional Services	40 Well Water Annual Test
Garbage Pick-up - Parsonage	54 1/3/11-3/3/11
Fuel - Church	1190.6 751.1 Gallons @ 1.59
Fuel - Parsonage	370.63 233.1 Gallons @ 1.59
Cleaning Supplies	26.24 Dick's Market-Nancy Ausen
Telephone - Church	27.84
Telephone - Parsonage	84.25 Phone - \$24 - Internet - \$59.95
BOP-Pension	431.5 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Housing Equity	180.42 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Health Insurance	970.88 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Disability Insurance	112.19 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Survivor Benefit	43.15 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Retiree Suppot	30.21 Pastor Kathy
BOP-Flex Spending Account	300 Pastor Kathy
Worship Supplies	199.99 Augsburg Fortress-Accompaniment Liturgies/Preach Supports
Pastor Salary	3090 Pastor Kathy - Salary \$2783.33 - Social Security \$306.67
Shipping Charges	13.13 Augsburg Fortress-Accompaniment Liturgies/Preach Supports
Total	8244.23

East Immanuel Lutheran Church

March 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 9—11 a.m. Office Hours	2 9:30-noon Office Hours 5:30 p.m. Praise Team 6 p.m. 7th & 8th Gr. Confirmation 7:15 p.m. 9th Gr. Confirmation	3 2 p.m. WELCA	4	5 8 a.m. Men's Group
6 9:30 a.m. Education 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion	7	8 9—11 a.m. Office Hours	9 9:30-noon Office Hours 6 p.m. Supper 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service 8:15 p.m. Council	10	11	12
13 9:30 a.m. Education 10:30 a.m. Worship 2 p.m. Youth Group	14	15 9—11 a.m. Office Hours	16 6 p.m. Supper 7 p.m. Lenten Service	17 Happy St. Patrick's Day	18 7 p.m. Wine Down @ Terri Nustvold's	19
20 9:30 a.m. Education 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion	21	22 9—11 a.m. Office Hours	23 6 p.m. Supper 7 p.m. Lenten Service	24	25	26 Walking Together @ Chippewa Falls
27 9:30 a.m. Education 10:30 a.m. Worship	28	29 9—11 a.m. Office Hours	30 6 p.m. Supper 7 p.m. Lenten Service	31		

Luther Point Bible Camp

Interested in going to camp this summer? Luther Point has camp experiences for all ages. These include a day-at-camp, week-at-camp, grandparent/grandchild camp, and family camp. Camp brochures have been distributed to children in Sunday school, and additional brochures are available in the narthex. East Immanuel supports all campers with camp scholarships, too. Early bird registration deadline is April 1st.

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 will take 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



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED