



Immanuel

Lutheran Church

Love. Serve. Repeat.

1116 E. Devon Avenue
Bartlett. IL 60103

630-837-1166
immanuelbartlett@sbcglobal.net
www.ImmanuelLutheranBartlett.com

December 2020



The Word became flesh and made
his dwelling among us. ...

Message from the Chairman's Desk

December 2020

Season's Greetings to Immanuel Members and Friends:

I hope all is well with you and your family and friends in this most unusual year of our Lord. I also wish you well and a safe environment for the upcoming Holidays and beyond, using the advice of keeping to small groups with known health conditions and contacts until this coronavirus is adequately controlled.

As discussed in the Treasurer's report, the Congregation has been able to continue functioning mostly due to the continuing contributions of our membership, both when we had to close worship services from March through August, as well as since we reopened the end of August up to now, and are continuing to maintain our scheduled Sunday Services through December and into the 2021 new year. For December, we also will have our Thursday 12/24 Christmas Eve service at 7:00pm, though the traditional congregational singing will be curtailed to minimize the virus spread in church.

Congregational contributions since March have unfortunately been only about 80-85% of the 2019 equivalent contributions, however, up through October we have been able to balance our income versus expenses through curtailing or delaying certain building services and expenses not immediately needed. Additionally, in the case of the mortgage, our Mortgagor, Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) allowed us to only pay the monthly interest due for the last six months through October, and not pay any principal cost, resulting in a cash flow reduction of approximately \$2100 per month for the six month period, or approximately 20% of our normal expenses. However, as discussed in the Treasurer's report, starting in November full payment has been required for the mortgage, and is required to continue forward into next year.

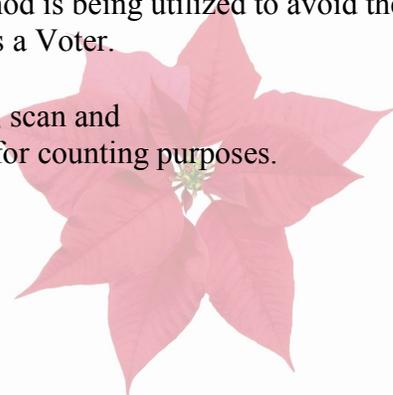
LCEF has offered to refinance the present mortgage by extending the repayments from the present 2+ years to 10 years. The principal borrowed will remain the same as the present principal owed, but it will ultimately increase the paid interest beyond the present mortgage repayment period of 2+ years. This provides the congregation with a much lower monthly cash flow from the present payment of \$2,347 monthly, by lowering it to approximately \$750 monthly, a monthly cash flow reduction of over \$1,500. This LCEF refinancing has no costs or fees and the interest rate will be the same or lower, and additional principal payments and/or refinancing for a shorter period later has no additional cost and is included in the refinancing terms.

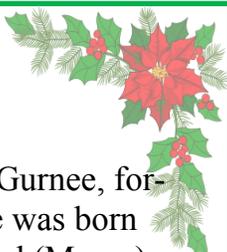
In order to implement this refinancing with LCEF, which will allow the church to function with better cash flow and not draw down our remaining savings and LLF investments, the Voters Assembly needs to approve this course of action. A voter's registration and ballot is included in this mailing, and will need to be signed and returned along with your vote on the motion. This method is being utilized to avoid the normally required in-person meeting and to document your attendance as a Voter.

Please everyone individually fill out and return this ballot by return mail, scan and email, or drop off at the church office no later than December 18, 2020, for counting purposes.

A Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year to all,

David Schroeder





Dorothy Hansen – Our sister in Christ

ROSELLE - Dorothy Marie (Hansing) Hansen, age 94, of Gurnee, formerly of Roselle, passed away on November 18, 2020. She was born on March 15, 1926 in Ontarioville, IL to Arthur and Mildred (Meyer) Hansing. She graduated from Elgin High School in 1944. She worked in the banking industry for more than 40 years and retired in 1991 from Harris Bank Roselle, formerly Roselle State Bank. She married Claude Hansen on November 24, 1951, and they celebrated 35 years together until his death in 1986. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Adore (Biesterfeld) Hansing of Grayslake; and many beloved cousins, nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews. Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband, Claude Hansen; parents, Arthur and Mildred Hansing; and her 9 siblings, William, Clarence, Kenneth, Lawrence, Mildred Miller, Merwyn, Lois Williamson, Jean Meyer, and James. A funeral service was live streamed at www.pop.church/live on Tuesday, November 24 at 10am. Burial will be private at Lakewood Memorial Park in Elgin. She was a lifelong, active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Bartlett. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the church.



ADOPT-A-FAMILY 2020

Immanuel's gift donations to the Adopt-A-Family Program in 2019.



ADOPT-A-FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS – We will again be participating in Hanover Park gift giving program for needy families in our area. Please look for the bulletin board with gift requests from the children in our adopted family. Take an ornament with the child's request on the back and return it to church wrapped with the ornament tag taped to it by Dec. 6th. If you know people who would like to participate but are not coming to church please have them call the office at (630) 837-1166, M-Th mornings 9-12 and I can choose a gift for them to buy and they can drop it off at the church. If you want to give a gift of money for our staff to purchase a gift, please make checks out to Immanuel Lutheran Church with Adopt a Family in the memo line. Please have them here by Dec. 6th Thank you!

Treasurer's Report December 2020



Hello members and friends of Immanuel.

Hope everyone had a Blessed Thanksgiving holiday in spite of yet another departure from the “norm” with limiting group size and wearing face masks. Hopefully, next year will allow us to resume larger family gatherings.

For now, I'm sure everyone is looking forward to Advent and Christmas and New Year's celebrations, again in small groups for your safety please, so we all remain healthy for 2021!

Finances

Offerings for October (\$5,943) and November (\$9,392) totaled \$15,335 compared to \$8,674 and \$9,423 for a total of \$18,097 for October and November last year.

Immanuel's expenses were \$8,567 (Oct) and \$11,518 (Nov) totaling \$20,084 compared to \$19,633 for October and November last year.

Although our current expenses are more in line with 2019 than our income, it is because we have been monitoring current expenses the last several months but there are some expenses which are unavoidable. Guest Pastor expenses for October and November were \$1,850 and Immanuel has had some necessary maintenance expenses of \$1,380 incurred throughout the year which were recently reimbursed to members to keep these expenses in the 2020 fiscal year. We also had to replace our color printer at a cost of \$260 during this period. Although we had an I/O mortgage payment arrangement for a few months, our November full mortgage payment was required in November at an additional expense of \$2,100 over the I/O payments we had been recently paying.

Controlling expenses

Waste Service – We continue to monitor dumpster pickups on an as needed basis since May, resulting in a savings of \$782 over the last seven months.

In-Church Services – We have had small gatherings since Immanuel resumed in-church services, but many members have not yet participated. We continue the Sermon videos on YouTube that Pastor Bauman initiated several months ago. Although those were temporarily replaced with written sermons during Pastor's illness, we have recently reinstated these video sermons with our Guest Pastors. Watch for weekly email messages from Immanuel. You will find these sermons uplifting and you can view them at your convenience.

Military Biblesticks – You may recall Immanuel participated in the Military Biblesticks program back in May. We have three Military Biblestick packages remaining and they are available at **no charge** to members who want to forward a package to a loved one who is currently in the military. What a great Christmas gift to someone in the military at a time when an uplifting message is needed and welcomed. Just contact Lynn and provide your name and the name of the recipient to receive one of the sets, and we'll get it to you.

Winter is coming . . . as many experienced the sight of snow on their lawn just before

Thanksgiving. We have an agreement with our Snow Plowing firm to continue for the coming season at the same charge as the last 5 years.

And . . . Don't forget about our members and friends at Clare Oaks. Take a moment to drop them a note or Christmas card and see how they are doing. This is very important especially at this time of year but also since the folks living here are not permitted to venture out much due to the threat of contracting COVID-19.

Words to live by:

Exodus 35:22

All who were willing, men and women alike, came and brought gold jewelry of all kinds: brooches, earrings, rings and ornaments. They all presented their gold as a wave offering to the Lord.

(This showcases the purpose of giving as a way to honor God.)

Blessings to all.

Bob Brinkman
Treasurer

A great way to help Immanuel out when you are doing your Christmas shopping!



amazonsmile
Org Central



Amazon will make a donation to the church with each purchase. Keep using the AmazonSmile icon for your Amazon purchases, Once again, the link is <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-6414746>.

Or go to our website and click on the AmazonSmile icon.

Remember: Every little bit adds up!

December Birthdays

12/02 Elizabeth Bauman

12/09 Brooke Franzen

12/12 Todd Davidson

12/15 Oscar Caleb

12/20 Carol Tresnak

12/21 Sabrina Murray-Verley

12/24 Mae Hehr

12/24 Brad Kuehn

12/27 Amanda Alford

12/29 Rachel Wachter

**From Rev. Dr. Dean Pittelko,
BCPC, CARS, CBTP - Our “Resident”
Board Certified Pastoral Counselor
at Immanuel**

The birth of our Lord Jesus, God-in-the-flesh, Immanuel [God-with-us!] is the second most important season in the Church Year. Good Friday/Easter wins out as the most important. On our minds as a congregation too this year are our many, many prayers we bring before our merciful Lord’s throne for the healing of our beloved Pastor James Bauman. Let us continue in our earnest prayers for him, not only as our pastor but as our brother in Christ who has been suffering greatly. Any one of us who has suffered serious physical, psychological or family system illness knows the intense pain involved. It is not easy, even for a stalwart man of faith like Pastor Bauman. I feel for him, may our Lord touch him mightily with his healing hand and bless him.

The clinical / psychological issue I would like to address this month is alcohol abuse. Quite appropriate for December, even if the parties are much smaller and farther and fewer between. The Centers for Disease Control of the U.S. government [CDC] states that women should consume no more than one drink per day and men, no more than two per day. Being a central nervous system depressant that enters the bloodstream and affects every organ in one’s body, I would suggest even one or two drinks every day, is going to have a negative effect on your health.

We know the Bible allows alcohol. From Isaiah’s picture of heaven. “On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines” [Isaiah 25:6] to Paul’s recommenda-



tion to young Pastor Timothy to drink a little wine to calm his stomach in 1 Timothy 5:23. Therefore, I will enjoy a beer or two several times per year myself [I highly recommend “Spotted Cow” beer from New Glarus Brewing Company, only available in Wisconsin, worth an overnighter to New Glarus as it is a quaint little Swiss town with some nice restaurants from burger taverns to fine dining and a handful of shops to visit, pretty at Christmas, plus a free brewery tour with samples if you hit it right – 30 miles south of Madison - which is a beautiful day or three trip itself].

Of greater concern is the amount of binge drinking that happens these days. And it is not just among college students, but increasingly part of society in greater numbers. Do remember the health risks involved as you read this short paragraph from The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, part of the National Institutes of Health:

‘Prevalence of Binge Drinking¹ and Heavy Alcohol Use:² In 2018, 26.45 percent of people ages 18 or older reported that they engaged in binge drinking in the past month; 6.6 percent reported that they engaged in heavy alcohol use in the past month.

Binge drinking is knocking on the door of alcohol addiction [what we used to call alcoholism

before various levels of alcohol abuse were broken down under the heading “Substance Use Disorder” by the American Psychiatric Association]. You are playing with matches or a lighter with binge drinking. With heavy alcohol use, you have opened the door of alcohol addiction [alcoholism], peeked your head through the open door, had a look around and smelled the air. You are playing with fire.

I have completed the State of Illinois Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction Counselor Program, 225 hour classroom requirement plus research projects, 350 hours of clinical practicum [300 required plus voluntary 50 hours in the dual diagnosis unit at McDermott Educational Center / Haymarket Treatment Center in the West Loop area of Chicago]. I also competed the Addictions Counseling Program for Mental Health Profes-

sionals at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. My preparation has gotten me ready to work with a wide variety of people with a wide variety of substance use issues. I continue to do my counseling online, during the Covid pandemic – and beyond. You need no software and can use a smart phone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer for us to talk together. I am running a special of \$25 per session for the months of December and January. I will work with you with any substance issue, or any issue. AA or NA is not required. Contact me at 224/645-3300 or dr.deancounseling@gmail.com for more information or to schedule an appointment. Today is the day to start changing your life and with God’s help, we can do it together!

With peace and joy in Jesus, *Dr. Dean*

December 2020 Schedules



Lay Minister Schedule

December 6 - Mike Tellin & Al Thilk
December 13 -
December 20 - Mike Tellin & Al Thilk
December 24 -
December 27 -

Reader Schedule

December 6 - Al Thilk
December 13 - Mike Tellin
December 20 - Sally Hover
December 24 - Al Thilk
December 27 - Mike Tellin

If you would like to volunteer to serve please call the office.

If unable to serve when scheduled, please try to find a substitute. Also notify the church office as soon as possible (630 837-1166 or immanuelbartlett@sbcglobal.net) Thank you!

And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” Is. 40:5

December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Iglesia Apostolica Cristo La Roca (CTR)- Every Sunday 12-5 Every Tuesday 7-9 Every Friday 7-9	1	2	3	4	5 8:00-10:00 a.m. Church Properties
6 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (HC) 10:45 a.m. Bible Class Adopt a family gifts due	7	8	9	10	11	12 8:00-10:00 a.m. Church Properties
13 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Bible Class	14	15	16	17	18	19 8:00-10:00 a.m. Church Properties
20 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (HC) 10:45 a.m. Bible Class	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 p.m.	25 Christmas Day	26 8:00-10:00 a.m. Church Properties
27 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Bible Class	28	29	30	31		