

**St John-Tecumseh/Immanuel-Sterling  
Dual Parish Joint Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 26, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Larry Rathe and opened with a devotion and prayer led by Pastor Wolter.

Attending:

Pastor Wolter  
Kirk Bartels  
Tim Sugden  
Stan Karr  
Rick Buehler

Del Lierman  
Rick Thies  
Larry Rathe  
Ed Heiden

Minutes from the February 3, 2016 Joint Council Meeting were read. A motion was made by Rick Buehler to accept the minutes, seconded by Steve Bartles. Motion carried.

Pastor will be gone 3 Sundays in the near future. A supply Pastor has been lined up for the first two, 11/13 and 1/01. A tentative Pastor has been arranged for 1/08. Pastor will confirm at a later time. Pastor and his family will be on vacation.

Thanksgiving service will be at St.John's at 9:00 am Thanksgiving morning.

Christmas Eve proposed times for future services was suggested as 5:30 and 7:30 pm. This is to subject to change and to be discussed each year. These times would work better if Christmas Eve and Christmas day is during the week.

In the rotation, Immanuel will be having the later Christmas Eve service in 2016. Because it falls on Saturday, Christmas Eve services this year will be 4:00 pm at St. John's per approval from St. John's Sunday School Superintendent. Immanuel will have 6:00 pm service. Motion made by Rick Buehler to accept the times for 2016 Christmas Eve services, seconded by Del Lierman. Motion carried.

Christmas Day services will be the normal Sunday worship times, 8:30am at Immanuel and 10:30 at St. John's. It made sense to keep the normal service times to avoid confusion.

New Years Eve service will be at Immanuel at 6:00 pm. Elder's will lead the service with a pre-written message from Pastor and a hymn sing, as in past years.

New Year Day service will be at St. John's with Communion at the normal 10:30am service time. There will not be a New Year's Day service at Immanuel. Motion made by Ed Heiden to accept the New Year's Day service schedule, seconded by Kirk Bartels. Motion carried.

There are 4 weeks of Advent this year. Pastor Wolter will have 3 weeks of service and the 4<sup>th</sup> week will be the joint Christmas Contata conducted by Kevin McKinney. The first Advent service schedule:

- 11/30 – Immanuel
- 12/07 – St. John's
- 12/14 – Immanuel
- 12/21 – St. John's (Contata)

Ash Wednesday service will be at 7:00pm at St. John's.

Immanuel donated a slightly used printer to St. John's Pre-School.

A suggestion was made to Pastor Wolter that it might be nice to see if there is any interest in putting together combined church Adult activities as well as the Youth. Suggestions:

- Christmas party
- Caroling
- Golfing
- Be thinking about new ideas.

Larry read a letter from President Harrison promoting October as Pastor Appreciation Month.

Larry read a letter about a "Wives of Pastors" organization that connects wives of Pastors, Vicars, etc.. There is a conference on February 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in Grand Island. The cost for attending is \$40. This includes a room and 2 meals. Joint council agreed that Tracy deserves to attend this if she wishes. A motion was made by Stan Karr to pay for Tracy to attend the conference, seconded by Kirk Bartels. Motion carried.

The next Joint Council meeting will be tentatively, 2/08/17 at Immanuel at 7:00pm.

No other business to discuss.

A motion was made by Steve Bartels to adjourn, seconded by Tim Sugden. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Rick Thies, Interim Secretary