

October 2022

Dear Members,

What a great year it has been! Our church and school are growing!

There have been many changes this year and many more to come. This letter is to bring you up to speed on what we have accomplished and where we are going in the work of ministry.

First, praise be to God for his blessings and all of the stewards in this congregation who have contributed to where we are today.

### **Call Committee for a Senior a Pastor**

The Call Committee has a list of 5 candidates who are willing to interview. All of the candidates presented are well qualified and have a proven track record of Pastoral Leadership. Once the call committee has completed the interviews, a Special Voters' Assembly will be called to vote to call a Senior Pastor.

Please note that the call process is all according to God's Plan. We may find a candidate on the first call or we may have several call meetings. Personally, I believe that because of our location and that we have a school ministry, the call process will not linger for many months.

### **The Lobby Redecoration Project**

The Lobby Redecoration Committee has been working diligently to complete the lobby by Reformation Sunday. In the plans are a Welcome Desk, Coffee Bar, upgraded seating, and an overall clean, less cluttered look. The project will come in 2 phases as some of the seating will need to be ordered and delivery will be AFTER Reformation Sunday.

The theme for the lobby is "A More Welcoming Church." In this plan we will have a Welcome desk to better engage visitors, provide welcome gifts, and be the center for church information.

I am very excited about this project and hope you will like the results.

Funding for this project has been through private donations from the Estates of 3 long term and Charter Members of the congregation. They have since left this world and have been called home to be with their Savior. All three families have asked that their donations go towards a church enhancement project. The Church Council set up the Redecoration Committee to honor their wishes and create a "more welcoming church atmosphere."

## **Blue News and communication**

We have stopped Blue News in paper form and will be communicating on FaceBook, our website, the TV in the lobby, texting, and through emails. Please visit our website and FaceBook page often and regularly to stay updated on events.

Please let the office know if you have communication concerns or special needs.

## **Stewardship Reports**

The church office will be providing weekly giving and attendance reports to all members who wish to view them. They are posted on the side of the mailboxes and are marked "Stewardship Report."

In the near future we will also be sending out Stewardship Cards to all families asking for an update on your household status, email updates, and texting preferences. We will be opening up event communication through texting in the near future as well.

## **School Enrollment and growing pains**

We have some of the highest enrollment numbers we have seen in over 12 years and we still are growing! The admissions office is still getting inquiry calls and we have had to turn a few families away because we are at capacity. In this fiscal year I will be presenting some possibilities for some building projects to accommodate our growth. Please continue to pray for our school ministry, all of the children, and their families.

## **Technology Upgrades for the Sanctuary**

I would like the members to consider technology upgrades for the Sanctuary. At the next Voters' Assembly Meeting I will be proposing some technology upgrades that will benefit current and future worship. These upgrades will include large LED screens, speaker enhancements, and computer needs to accommodate the new technology.

Thank you to everyone who supports the ministry of Immanuel with their time, talents, and treasures. I am confident God has great things in store for Immanuel Lutheran Church & School.

Peace in Christ,

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