



As we patiently await an interim pastor, it may be helpful for some to know the first few steps that he/she will help us walk through. The following information is from the *Call Process Handbook, Part 2* and can be found in its entirety at <https://www.css-elca.org/call-and-candidacy>

What is a “Call?”

A call is one element in the Church’s seeking and following God’s movement into the future. The Lutheran call process is unique because it is an effort to discern what God wants for the local church and for the whole Church in order that the Gospel may be proclaimed and the sacraments administered in accordance with the Gospel.

Below are the first two steps to be followed in this important process.

1. The interim pastor works with the council to determine when is the appropriate time to begin the process of gathering the information that will be used in the call process to develop the Ministry Site Profile (MSP).
2. The congregation council may choose to set up a transition team in order to assist with the gathering of information. The congregation’s constitution gives guidelines for selecting a call committee but usually not a transition team, so the appointment of such a team is determined by the council. In smaller congregations, the transition team may be the same as the call committee, but if possible, the two committees should be different. The transition team responsibilities involve research and analysis, documentation and study. The call committee will have strengths in relationships and discernment. Both should have good communication skills so the whole congregation is aware of the important work that they are both doing. Responsibilities of the transition team include:
 - Review of the congregation’s history
 - Review of current make up of membership, with input from congregational members regarding leadership needs
 - Review of the congregation’s constitution
 - Review of core values, mission and vision statements
 - Review of staffing needs and resources
 - Review of property and other physical resources.

After gathering the information provided by the congregation, the transition team makes a final report to the council.



**“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday
September 13, 2020**

See page 3 of this newsletter for more information!

Welcoming All. Growing Together in Faith. Sharing Christ’s Love



Submitting a prayer request for Immanuel's prayer chain is simple. The quickest way to submit your request is to call the church office at 825-4750; Kay Swisher at 826-1989; or Sonja Johnson at 825-9208.

You may also submit your request by email to Sonja Johnson. Sonja's email can be found in the church directory. Please know that requests sent by email may take longer to send out.

Prayer requests may come from anyone who has a need for prayer for themselves or for someone else. Please include only the amount of information you want communicated for your prayer request.

Prayer requests are sent through a phone tree and through email. If you would like to join the prayer chain, please contact Sonja Johnson.

Friendship is one of the greatest gifts a human being can receive. It is a bond beyond common goals, common interests or common histories. It is a bond stronger than sexual union can create, deeper than a shared fate can solidify and even more intimate than the bonds of marriage or community.



Friendship is being with the other in joy and sorrow, even when we cannot increase the joy or decrease the sorrow. It is a unity of souls that gives nobility and sincerity to love. Friendship makes all of life shine brightly.
—Henri Nouwen

Congregational Council Action from July 2020:

Motion to re-start serving communion during in-person worship failed.

Do you have an article for the Messenger?

Please send information to mindy@immanuelsalina.org
Deadline for newsletter articles is the 15th of the month.

CONTACT US:

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The Finance Ministry team reviews the monthly financial statements each month. This month the treasurer, the finance ministry chair, and the office manager have been reviewing and calculating our final obligations to Pastor Happel. We are happy to report that the July offerings were \$13,416 which was 58% higher than June. The first Sunday in August (including Foundation) totaled \$11,095 so we are on a good start for August. We need to average \$15,317 a month in offerings. Through July 31st, we have averaged \$12,785. We need about a 17% increase in our monthly offerings. We ask for your prayerful consideration so we can cover our expenses and build our reserves that we will need in the next couple of years as we look at the compensation package we can offer a new minister. We have received comments such as "I've heard we can't afford a new pastor." The answer to that, "Yes, we can afford a new pastor if we consider our offerings to the Church". It does take money to conduct ministry. Each one of us can make a difference. Any funds we get now in excess of our monthly expenses will be part of the reserves we can have in the future.

The Finance Ministry Team meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Monday of each month. We welcome new members to help in the next year. If you want more information, please contact Corlene Lange, check the calendar for the next meeting date, and join us for our meeting.

Pulpit Supply

As we wait for the Synod to identify an interim pastor to serve our congregation, the following people will be leading us in worship during September:



September 6 - Nancy Mitchell, retired PMA
September 13- Nancy Mitchell, retired PMA

COVID-19 safety protocols for worship (physical distancing, no singing, no communion, exiting the building promptly after worship, etc.) will remain in effect. There will be no assisting ministers. The Revised Common Lectionary will be used.