



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH AND SCHOOL

## VOTER'S MEETING BALLOT POLICY

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to direct the handling of completed paper ballots after a vote during a Voters meeting at Immanuel Lutheran Church. It is noted that not all votes at a Voter's meeting require a paper ballot.

### POLICY:

All applicable federal, state and local laws are to be obeyed. The Chair of the Board of Directors or the designate shall appoint three Stewards to count the completed paper ballots and report to the Chair or designate the results of the counted ballots. After the Chair or designate shares the results of the ballot vote with the members of the Stewards attending the Voters Meeting, the ballots and the results shall be placed in a sealed envelope. This envelope must be marked with the date of the vote, the name of the voted item, the date of destruction of the ballots which shall be 30 days after the date of the vote and the signatures of the Chair or designate along with the three appointed ballot counters.

The Chair or designate will announce to the Stewards attending the Voters Meeting that if anyone has reason or concern to have the ballots recounted, they have 30 days in which to submit a written request to the Board of Directors for the envelope to be opened and the ballots recounted.

The sealed envelope shall be kept in the church safe for 30 days.

If a Steward makes a written request to the Board of Directors for a recount of the ballot votes within the appointed 30-day period, the requesting Steward, the Chair of the Board or designate and the Business Manager will open the sealed envelope together and recount the results of that ballot.

At the end of the 30-day period, the Chair or designate and the Business Manager will remove the sealed envelope from the secure locked file drawer and destroy the ballots in each other's company.

Reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors on 8/23/10

  
Kris Schuldt

Chair, Board of Directors

  
Rev. Jason Auringer

Senior Pastor

Uniting families *in* Christ to reach new generations *for* Christ.

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## **STATEMENT OF BELIEF**

In addition, ILCW is part of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) which is a mission-oriented and Bible-based denomination that confesses the historic, orthodox Christian faith in the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a faith built on "the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone" (Eph. 2:20). With the universal Christian Church, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod teaches and responds to the love of the Triune God, who created all that exists; became man to suffer, die, and rise again for the world's redemption; and brings people to faith and new life through His Word and Sacraments. The three persons of the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – are coequal and coeternal, one God.

Therefore, we believe without reservation that the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament are the written Word of God and the only rule and norm of faith and of practice. In addition, this congregation accepts without reservation the writings contained in the Book of Concord: (The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church) and agrees to conform all our teaching and practice to the Scriptures and the Confessions.

In order to conform to the Scriptures and the Confessions, we issue the following statements of belief.

### **Statement of Belief on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality**

We believe God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen. 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe the term marriage has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen. 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).

However, we also believe God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10:9-10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11).

We believe every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of ILCW.

### **Statement of Belief on the Sanctity of Human Life**

We also believe all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically and/or intellectually disabled, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life (Ps. 139).