

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School
Voters Meeting Minutes
05.23.2022

Attendance: 36

Meeting was called to order by Tom Ruff at 7 p.m.

Pastor Jason Auringer opened the meeting with reading Psalm 63 and with prayer.

Tom Ruff reviewed the minutes from the January 2022 Voters Meeting. Sharon Blalock made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dan Ebert seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Tom Ruff reviewed the minutes from the March 2022 Special Voters Meeting. Dan Ebert made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Joel Mueller seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Election of Three BOD Members

Tom Ruff recognized Roger Huslage, who is coming off the Board of Directors following eight consecutive years of service.

Tom Ruff introduced the five candidates nominated to fill the three open BOD positions. Immanuel stewards marked individual paper ballots, which were collected and counted.

Tom Ruff thanked each of the individuals who put their names forward for the open BOD positions. Tom announced the names of the following elected to serve a three-year period (2022-2025): Carol Waddell as Treasurer, Forrest Van Ness, and Kevin Heneghan.

BOD Update

Tom Ruff, BOD chairman, reported the following:

- The BOD assigned Carol Waddell to serve as Interim Business Manager.
- Long-Term Planning Committee – The Long-Term Planning Committee is being reestablished in order to consider and address Immanuel's future needs. Those interested in participating in this committee should speak with Tom Ruff.

Balcony Renovation Committee update – Roger Huslage reported that contracts have been signed with JM Construction, work is on target to begin June 6, 2022, with a 45 to 60-day target completion. Discussion regarding logistical impacts during renovation, including those affecting Saturday/Sunday worship services.

Ministry Leadership Team

Jason Auringer, Senior Pastor, commented on the following:

- Appreciation for the messages of sympathy and encouragement at the death of his father.
- Pastors Auringer and Roma conducting weekly Wednesday services at the Boulevard.
- New Member class with attendance around 40
- Rebranding initiative: Embraced (by God) – we are – Equipped (worship, Bible study) – to – Engage (the community)
- Website redesign led by Pastor Roma
- Pastor Roma leading Middle School youth program, with Janie Fisher leading the High School group. Janie Fisher will be installed as Immanuel's first Deaconess in June 2022
- Summer worship schedule
- Communication – Received two notes just today. Notes are received periodically. Constructive criticism is good. Unsigned notes are typically not read; but sharing these two notes with Immanuel stewards as a reminder to each of us: To be aware of, to welcome those with whom we, personally, are not acquainted. Sadly, not able to respond to the “unsigned” writer(s) who did not feel welcomed. Discussion regarding becoming acquainted with members as a result of attending different services.
- Lay Readers – David Harms asked about bringing back Lay Readers. Positive response toward the request. Those interested should contact Kim Kisling. Pastor Auringer noted that Table Communion will be brought back to both the 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. services.

Allison Dolak, Principal, commented on the following:

- Thanked members of Immanuel for the sympathy and support shown at the unexpected death of Allison's father.
- 2021-2022 school year wraps up on Wednesday, May 25
- Retirement celebration honoring Joann Massmann, thankful for her years of service
- All accreditation reports completed and submitted.
- 8th (25) grade and Kindergarten (44) graduations held
- 2022-2023 faculty interviews – pleased to report K-8 positions filled, a few part-time positions still need filling
- Calls brought forward to Immanuel's voting stewards:
 - Open Music Position – Jenna Frederickson, music teacher and director.
Tom Ruff asked for a motion to extend a call to Jenna Frederickson to fill Immanuel Lutheran School's open music position. Rod Kumm made the motion to call Jenna Frederickson. Dan Ebert seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
 - Open 5th Grade Position – Carly Ebersole, teacher
Joel Mueller made a motion to extend a call to Carly Ebersole to fill Immanuel Lutheran School's open 5th Grade teaching position. Les Blalock seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.
- Last day for teachers for the 2021-2022 school year is May 31
- “Lion King” musical held May 12-13. Students did a great job, talents of our young people on display.

Treasurer's Report – Carol Waddell presented the Treasurer's Report, commenting on the generosity of Immanuel members. The Overflowing 3-year campaign has completed Year One (total pledged over three years is \$946,881), online giving has picked up, staff and faculty are to be commended for handling expenses well. Indications are that Immanuel will be in a favorable position financially at the end of the current fiscal year.

Business Manager's Report – Carol Wadell thanked both the staff and church members for their patience as staff members have transitioned into their new roles.

Tom Ruff asked for a motion to approve the presented Treasurer's Report. Dan Ebert made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Roger Huslage seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Property Manager's Report - Mike Schlipp reported on the following:

- A recent sewer issue due to a pump that failed; causing a back-up in the storage building. Issue resolved.
- Yearly inspections going well, e.g., alarms, sprinkler systems, etc.
- Balcony renovation and sanctuary updates are moving forward
- Small chapel – looking forward to restoring the chapel to the way it was intended.
- Parking lot seal and stripe project coming up shortly
- Summer clean-up getting underway, including repainting the gym; hiring completed
- Appreciation expressed to volunteer mowing crews: Dennis Jokerst, Amy Schuldt, Rick and Debbie Southard, Terry Stricker, Wayne Benne, Dan Hoskins
- Renovation impacts on summer worship services – A/V and front screen(s) to be set up in a temporary manner, live streaming to continue
- David Harms asked about the parking lot expansion. Expansion proposal to be discussed in upcoming agenda item, including both utilitarian and beautification projects.

2022-2023 Proposed Budget – Carol Waddell presented the proposed 2022-2023 budget, commenting on anticipated increases in insurance and utility costs and a budgeted increase in School Revenue based on higher enrollment (366) and tuition increase.

Les Blalock asked from the budget as it is being presented, how much do contributions reduce the mortgage principal? Carol Waddell referred to the \$33,248 monthly expense and that paperwork needs to be pulled to provide the actual principal/interest detail amounts.

Jim Meyer asked the amount of the current LCEF budgeted mortgage debt. Discussion regarding the \$5.2M mortgage and how any overpayments toward it are handled.

St. Paul-New Melle Support – Debbie Anderson and Carol Waddell spoke to Immanuel Lutheran's three-year agreement with St. Paul.

Anticipate ending the 2021-2022 fiscal year with a surplus. Voting stewards will decide how funds are to be allocated at the September 2022 Voters Meeting.

Tom Ruff asked for any additional questions regarding the proposed 2022-2023 budget. With no additional questions, Tom asked for a motion to approve the 2022-2023 budget as presented. Dan Ebert made the motion to approve the budget as presented. Ron Mottola seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Sanctuary Improvement Expenditure Approval – Carol Waddell stated that a proposal is forthcoming for voters to approve expenditures for Sanctuary updates. Included in the project are replacement of the hard-surface flooring and carpeting, addition of a stacked stone façade around the cross, and fresh paint. In addition, the recommendation is made to build exterior planting/landscape beds to elevate shrub(s) unable to survive the impact of the parking lot salt

(front carport area). It was noted that it is anticipated that adequate funds will be remaining in the Balcony Renovation account.

Tom Ruff noted that a special voters meeting will be called to approve the expenditure.

Roger Huslage reported that the final contractor bid on the balcony is anticipated around \$112,000, with a few added items yet to be purchased. Voters previously approved \$150,000 for balcony renovations.

Parking Lot Expansion Expenditure Approval – Tom Ruff reported on the tight parking lot conditions, especially during school hours. Grant Goris presented the recommendation to relieve that constraint: installing a gravel lot on the grass area located to the East of the church building. This project would involve removing top soil (e.g., 8-10”) and putting down a rock substrate, which would prepare the area for future paving a couple of years down the road. The gravel lot, involving about one acre of land, would provide for 100 parking spaces. Drainage from the hillside, which runs under and causes issues for the current paved parking lot, will be addressed as well, e.g., regrade/drain to the back retention area. Potential expenditure \$67,000.

In addition, Mike Schlipp obtained three bids for needed repairs of concrete in the front area, due to deterioration. The project is anticipated between \$20,000-\$25,000.

Before moving forward, Dan Ebert brought to mind a “greenery” agreement made with St. Charles County when the church facility was built in 2007.

Gauging interest on the project, Tom Ruff asked those present for their comments.

Rod Kumm commented that God willing, for the sake of Immanuel’s future growth for both the church and school, parking has to be considered.

Discussion regarding the entrance/exit issues and St. Charles County’s future road plans.

Gloria Ehll asked what consideration has been made as to where dollars for the project will come. Discussion regarding fund availability in various improvement accounts to carry the expense.

Joel Mueller made a motion that an expenditure not to exceed \$100,000 at the Committee’s discretion be made for parking lot expansion and concrete repairs from the building expansion reserve fund. Dan Ebert seconded the motion.

Discussion. Rob Kumm recommended that based on current pricing increases the allocated amount be adjusted higher.

Joel Mueller amended his motion “... not to exceed \$125,000 ...” Dan Ebert seconded the amended motion.

Motion to approve funds not to exceed \$125,000 for parking lot expansion and concrete repairs approved by unanimous vote.

Rob Kumm brought forward the possibility of a second entrance into the facility. Such a project would require property expansion.

With no further business, Tom Ruff asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roger Huslage made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Forrest Van Ness seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. with the singing of the Doxology.

HANDOUTS:

- Meeting Agenda
- January 24, 2022, Voters Meeting Minutes
- March 6, 2022, Special Voters Meeting Minutes
- 2022-2023 Proposed Budget
- BOD Ballot
- BOD Bios
- Treasurer's Month by Month Summary Report (Distributed)

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

VOTERS' MEETING

AGENDA

TO: Stewards of Immanuel Lutheran Church & School
Ministry Leadership Team
Board of Directors

FROM: Tom Ruff, BOD Chair

MEETING DATE: **May 23, 2022 7:00 p.m. (Location – Fellowship Hall)**

CC: File

CALL TO ORDER

- Opening Prayer – Pastor Auringer

AGENDA ITEMS

- January 24, 2022 Voter's Meeting Minutes
- Election of three BOD members to begin in July 2022
- Brief update from the BOD – Tom Ruff
 - Balcony Update – Roger Huslage
- Reports
 - Senior Pastor – Pastor Auringer
 - Principal – Allison Dolak
 - Treasurer's Report – Carol Waddell
 - Business Manager – Carol Waddell
 - Facilities – Mike Schlipp
- Budget proposal for '22-23 – Carol Waddell
- Request to approve expenditure of funds for sanctuary improvements -Carol Waddell
- Request to approve expenditure of funds for parking lot expansion – Grant Goris

ADJOURNMENT

HANDOUTS:

- Agenda
- January 24, 2022 Voter's Meeting Minutes
- Budget proposal for '22-23
- BOD ballot



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
— CHURCH AND SCHOOL —

632 E. Hwy N
Wentzville, Missouri 63385
(636) 327-4416 www.ilcsw.net

Date: 23 May 2022

To: Voters Meeting

From: Carol Waddell, Treasurer

Overflowing Campaign

- First of 3 year campaign ended 4/30/2022
- \$946,881 pledged for 3 year campaign

Church and School Ministry

- February-April 2022 offering was \$25,335 more than same period in 2021
- Expenses have been very well managed for both school and church
- Appears at this time we will be in a favorable position at the end of the fiscal year

Proposed Budget for 2022-23

	<u>Budget 2022-2023</u>		<u>Budget 2021-2022</u>
Church Contributions	\$1,053,000	5% increase	\$1,000,000
School Revenues	\$2,783,674	10% increase	\$2,500,874
Church Expenses	\$ 528,099	3% increase	\$ 511,480
School Expenses	\$2,780,149	11% increase	\$2,465,749
Property Expenses	\$ 367,047	1% increase	\$ 366,630
Finance Expenses	\$ 108,208	19% decrease	\$ 133,941
Mortgage Expense	\$ 398,976	unchanged	\$ 398,976
Other Expense	\$ 21,890	unchanged	\$ 21,890
Lutheran High School	\$ 31,000	unchanged	\$ 31,000

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH DASH BOARD

Three Month General Giving vs Projected General Giving

	Giving	Projected	Variance
2021-2022	\$ 296,259	\$ 236,700	\$ 59,559
2020-2021	\$ 270,924	\$ 231,700	\$ 39,224

Giving - GENERAL		2021 - 2022	2020 - 2021
February 28, 2022	\$	86,384	February 28, 2021 \$ 100,684
March 31, 2022	\$	85,449	March 31, 2021 \$ 80,317
April 30, 2022	\$	124,426	April 30, 2021 \$ 89,923
3-month total	\$	296,259	3-month total \$ 270,924

Giving - CAPITAL CAMPAIGN - Mortgage Payment

February 28, 2022	\$	60,299	February 28, 2021 \$ 69,211
March 31, 2022	\$	41,408	March 31, 2021 \$ 24,867
April 30, 2022	\$	39,252	April 30, 2021 \$ 25,282
3-month total	\$	140,959	3-month total \$ 119,360
Obligation (3) Months	\$	99,744	Obligation (3) Mo. \$ 104,298

Attendance Worship Services		2021 - 2022	2020 - 2021
February 28, 2022		4,229	February 28, 2021 2,955
March 31, 2022		4,776	March 31, 2021 3,685
April 30, 2022		5,186	April 30, 2021 4,570
3-month total		14,191	3-month total 11,210

Feb=in church [3,290] + YouTube views [939]	2022 Maundy Thurs	145 YouTube Views
Mar=in church [3,074] + YouTube views [851]	2022 Good Friday	103 YouTube Views
Apr=in church [3,290] + YouTube views [1,086]		

Attendance Bible Class		2021 - 2022	2020 - 2021
February 28, 2022		273	February 28, 2021 113
March 31, 2022		239	March 31, 2021 166
April 30, 2022		176	April 30, 2021 180
3-month total		688	3-month total 459

Youth	2021 - 2022	2020 - 2021
Confirmation	24	Confirmation 30

Baptisms	2021 - 2022	2020 - 2021
February 28, 2022	4	February 28, 2021 2
March 31, 2022	6	March 31, 2021 2
April 30, 2022	1	April 30, 2021 3
3-month total	11	3-month total 7

**Immanuel Lutheran Church and School
Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022**

MONTH BY MONTH SUMMARY

	Jul_2021	Aug_2021	Sep_2021	Oct_2021	Nov_2021	Dec_2021	Jan_2022	Feb_2022	Mar_2022	Apr_2022	May_2022	Jun_2022	YTD	
Actual														
Church Receipts	\$ 96,148	\$ 83,940	\$ 88,198	\$ 120,248	\$ 78,162	\$ 121,134	\$ 92,366	\$ 86,384	\$ 85,449	\$ 124,426			\$ 976,455	
Mortgage Contributions	\$ 42,624	\$ 31,386	\$ 29,618	\$ 32,097	\$ 83,948	\$ 32,116	\$ 36,138	\$ 60,299	\$ 41,408	\$ 39,252			\$ 428,885	
ADU to CC Contributions	\$ (9,377)	\$ 1,862	\$ 3,630	\$ 1,150	\$ (50,700)	\$ 1,132	\$ (2,890)	\$ (27,051)	\$ (8,160)	\$ (6,004)			\$ (96,408)	
School Receipts	\$ 348,190	\$ 476,625	\$ 295,311	\$ 172,422	\$ 152,225	\$ 174,271	\$ 239,217	\$ 147,878	\$ 182,982	\$ 145,207			\$ 2,334,300	
Total Income	\$ 477,585	\$ 593,813	\$ 416,757	\$ 325,917	\$ 263,635	\$ 328,653	\$ 364,831	\$ 267,510	\$ 301,649	\$ 302,881			\$ 3,643,232	
Operating Expenses	\$ 262,572	\$ 270,741	\$ 299,875	\$ 381,362	\$ 288,321	\$ 297,170	\$ 281,490	\$ 296,074	\$ 316,162	\$ 400,225			\$ 3,094,493	
Net Operating (In)Loss	\$ 215,013	\$ 323,072	\$ 116,882	\$ (55,445)	\$ (25,186)	\$ 31,483	\$ 83,341	\$ (28,564)	\$ (14,513)	\$ (97,344)			\$ 548,739	
Budget														
Church Receipts	\$ 93,400	\$ 80,800	\$ 78,200	\$ 89,200	\$ 76,500	\$ 113,000	\$ 84,400	\$ 74,100	\$ 75,100	\$ 87,500	\$ 82,200	\$ 65,600	1,000,000	
Mortgage Contributions	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	\$ 33,248	398,976	
School Receipts	\$ 315,500	\$ 370,650	\$ 226,200	\$ 207,971	\$ 177,138	\$ 169,065	\$ 235,350	\$ 184,250	\$ 206,250	\$ 180,250	\$ 157,250	\$ 71,000	2,500,874	
Total Income	442,148	484,698	337,648	330,419	286,886	315,313	352,998	291,598	314,598	300,998	272,698	169,848	3,899,850	
Operating Expenses	298,992	324,621	312,618	397,155	304,626	321,697	316,860	313,005	316,892	394,141	300,112	298,947	3,899,666	
Net Operating Income	143,156	160,077	25,030	(66,736)	(17,740)	(6,384)	36,138	(21,407)	(2,294)	(93,143)	(27,414)	(129,099)	184	
Detail by Board	APR_2022 YTD Actual	APR_2022 YTD Budget	Budget Variance										July 2020 to April 2021	Comments
Church Contributions	\$ 975,603	\$ 852,200	\$ 123,403										\$ 860,423	
Other Church Receipts	\$ 852	\$ -	\$ 852										\$ 627	
Mortgage Contributions	\$ 332,477	\$ 332,480	\$ (3)										\$ 332,477	
School Receipts	\$ 2,334,300	\$ 2,272,624	\$ 61,676										\$ 2,167,376	
3rd Party Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										\$ -	
Total Income	\$ 3,643,232	\$ 3,457,304	\$ 185,928										\$ 3,360,903	
Church Ministry	\$ 380,166	\$ 431,197	\$ (51,031)										\$ 331,097	
School Ministry	\$ 1,998,352	\$ 2,095,296	\$ (96,944)										\$ 1,856,079	
Purchases_3rd Party Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										\$ -	
Fellowship	\$ 1,339	\$ 1,600	\$ (261)										\$ 809	
Finance Ministry	\$ 69,763	\$ 114,976	\$ (45,213)										\$ 106,719	
Mortgage Expense	\$ 332,477	\$ 332,480	\$ (3)										\$ 332,477	
LHSA	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ -										\$ 31,000	
Missions Support/Exp	\$ 4,647	\$ 3,600	\$ 1,047										\$ 2,505	
Properties	\$ 272,320	\$ 279,158	\$ (6,838)										\$ 248,495	
Spiritual Growth	\$ 3,906	\$ 6,670	\$ (2,764)										\$ 2,663	
Youth	\$ 523	\$ 4,630	\$ (4,107)										\$ 4,048	
Operating Expenses	\$ 3,094,493	\$ 3,300,607	\$ (206,114)										\$ 2,915,892	
Net Operating Income	\$ 548,739	\$ 156,697	\$ 392,042										\$ 445,011	
Net Church Capital Funds Set Aside	212,791	(20,631)	233,422										133,714	
Net School	335,948	177,328	158,620										311,297	
Actual P & L	548,739	156,697	392,042											

School Funds Set Aside as of APRIL 30, 2022

Proceeds Trivia Night (2018, 2019, 2022)	\$	129,245
Matching Funds Boeing & Bayer Fika Montsanto	\$	22,195
Special Donations [Menn/NM Donations: Zattarella Est]	\$	188,156
Grandparents Day, Misc sources		
Total School Funds Set Aside	\$	339,596

Church Funds Set Aside as of APRIL 30, 2022

Reserve Future Mortgage Paymt as of 05/15/22	\$	401,933
Cap Reserve for Campus Expansion	\$	414,975
Cap Reserve for Sanctuary/Balcony	\$	318,206
Bldg/Prop Repairs/Improvements	\$	135,862
Schramm & Zattarella/Smay Estate Funds	\$	195,353
Total Other Church Funds Set Aside	\$	1,066,396

Available Operating Funds	
Missouri Bank Acct 04/30/22	\$ 96,421
Less: Accounts Payable	\$ (58,571)
Adjusted Operating Fund Balance	\$ 37,850

Recap of Savings:

Current Year Savings @ LCEF	\$	589,890
Current Year Savings \$ sitting in General Fund	\$	(44,107)
TOTAL Current Year Savings	\$	545,583
Savings: PPP and Prior Yea	\$	461,743

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Wentzville
Proposed Budget Summary
Fiscal Year July 2022 - June 2023

	Proposed 2022 - 2023 BUDGET	2021 - 2022 BUDGET	07/01/21 to 04/15/22 Actuals	07/01/20 to 06/30/21 Actuals	07/01/19 to 06/30/20 Actuals
General Contributions	\$ 1,053,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 909,481	\$ 1,024,483	\$ 993,811
Mortgage Contributions	\$ 398,976	\$ 398,976	\$ 332,477	\$ 398,972	\$ 415,673
Sub-Total Church	\$ 1,451,976	\$ 1,398,976	\$ 1,241,958	\$ 1,423,455	\$ 1,409,484
School Revenues	\$ 2,783,674	\$ 2,500,874	\$ 2,308,859	\$ 2,391,328	\$ 2,161,728
3rd Party School Rev					\$ 40,177
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 4,235,650	\$ 3,899,850	\$ 3,550,817	\$ 3,814,783	\$ 3,611,389
Church Ministry	\$ 528,099	\$ 511,480	\$ 384,853	\$ 413,155	\$ 451,119
School Ministry	\$ 2,780,149	\$ 2,465,749	\$ 2,016,027	\$ 2,238,575	\$ 2,169,946
3rd Party School Exp					\$ 40,177
Properties	\$ 367,047	\$ 336,630	\$ 271,082	\$ 309,000	\$ 367,348
Finance Ministry	\$ 108,208	\$ 133,941	\$ 69,041	\$ 127,318	\$ 120,087
Lutheran HS Assessment	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000
Mortgage Payment	\$ 398,976	\$ 398,976	\$ 332,477	\$ 398,972	\$ 415,673
Other Ministries	\$ 21,890	\$ 21,890	\$ 8,847	\$ 16,334	\$ 14,397
Capital Campaign	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Operating Expenses	\$ 4,235,369	\$ 3,899,666	\$ 3,113,327	\$ 3,813,839	\$ 3,609,747
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 281	\$ 184	\$ 437,490	\$ 944	\$ 1,642
Church	\$ (3,244)	\$ (34,941)	\$ 144,658	\$ 127,676	\$ 9,860
School	\$ 3,525	\$ 35,125	\$ 292,832	\$ (279,485)	\$ (8,218)
IM Capital Campaign Exp				\$ 152,753	
NET	\$ 281	\$ 184	\$ 437,490	\$ 944	\$ 1,642

Mortgage Payment Recap	
BEGINNING June 15, 2020 through May 31, 2025 - New Payment Schedule	Monthly Paymt
Years 6 - 10 @ 4.25%	\$ 33,248
Church Revenues based on Estimated Revenues for 2021/2022	
School Revenues based on 370 Students	
and 150 PS Students -- Tuition Avg Increase K-8 6%	

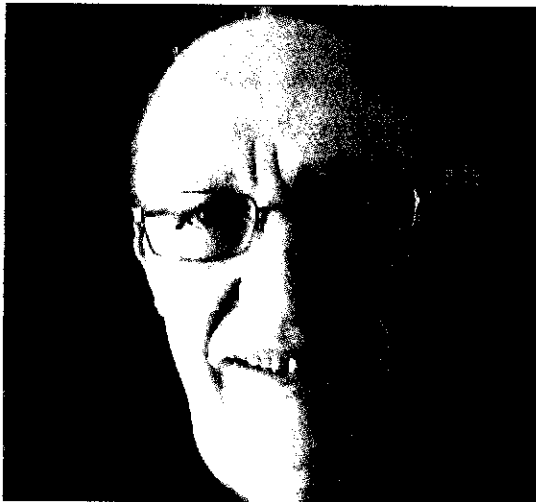
BOD Candidate Bios



Kevin Heneghan

My name is Kevin Heneghan, and I am honored to be considered to represent the congregation of Immanuel Lutheran Church-Wentzville. I grew up in a devout Christian home and attended a Christian grade school in Florissant, Missouri. In the early '90s my family moved to Troy, Missouri where I attended junior high and high school. I graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration, with a dual emphasis in Finance and Banking & Real Estate. After college I moved back to the St. Louis area and began my banking career as an Assistant Bank Examiner with the Missouri Division of Finance. I am currently the President/ CEO & Chairman of the Board of New Frontier Bank in St. Charles, Missouri. I have been involved with and have served on several local boards of

nonprofits and community organizations over the years. My wife, Jill, and I met while attending Mizzou. In October 2004, we were married at Grace Lutheran Church, the church that Jill had attended while growing up in Lexington, Missouri. We moved to Wentzville the following year and joined Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wentzville. We currently live in Lake St. Louis, and have been blessed with four children, Samantha (12), Kate (9), Gus (5) and Nick (2). Sam, Kate, and Gus attend Immanuel Lutheran School, and Nick will start pre-school at Immanuel in the fall. My family and I have been fortunate to meet so many wonderful people and families through Immanuel Lutheran Church and School. If elected, I look forward to serving on the Board of Directors and helping further its purpose of "Uniting Families in Christ to reach new generations for Christ."



Russ Hoppe

I began my Christian life with baptism at Good Shepherd City Mission, St Louis as an infant. I was confirmed at Good Shepherd, Hazelwood and later married my wife Karen there. We have been married for 46 years and have one daughter, Nicole (Jason) and two granddaughters. They live in O'Fallon so we get to see them often.

In 1985, we felt the call into full time ministry as construction superintendents serving Wycliffe Bible Translators. This moved us to Dallas, TX which served as our home base. For several years we participated in projects in Dallas, California and Peru. When Nicole reached school age, we needed less travel and more stability in our lives so we left the organization and remained in Dallas. We attended Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in Desoto, Texas. While we were there,

Cross of Christ was establishing a new congregation, Messiah Lutheran Church in Midlothian Texas, and we transferred there to help get the congregation started. A few years later we moved to Coppell, Texas and transferred to Prince of Peace Lutheran, Carrollton, Texas.

After 20 years in Texas a career change took us to Shreveport, Louisiana. Our plan was always to move back to the St Louis area when we retired, Karen retired in 2018 and I followed in late 2019. So, in 2019 we moved to Wentzville. We found Immanuel in early 2020 and have been attending regularly ever since.

Over the years I have served on Boards of Trustees, Evangelism, and Elders at the churches we've attended. I've also served on Building, Day School Feasibility, Day School startup and other committees. At Immanuel Karen and I have joined the Audio-Visual Team. I also serve as the congregational representative to the Lutheran Foundation. I have been praying for a way to be of more service now that I am retired. I would be honored to serve our Lord and our congregation if elected to the position.

Misty Riutzel

Blessings to you from our gracious Lord and Savior. My name is Misty Elaine Riutzel, and being considered for a Board position at Immanuel Lutheran Church is an honor.

I was born in Quincy, IL., and lived there until I was 36. All of my family and my husband Dave's family live there so we travel to Quincy often. I attended St. James Lutheran School and Church (LCMS) during my childhood. As a high schooler, I got the privilege to participate in many Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ weekends in the area, as well as two National Youth Gatherings. After I got married, I transferred my membership to Lutheran Church of St. John (LCMS), where my husband went through adult instruction and became a member. I taught Sunday School at both churches.

As far as my work experience, I have held positions in human resources, purchasing, and elementary teaching. I also was blessed to work as a librarian at the Quincy Public Library for six years. I received a M.S. in Education and a B.S. in Finance from Quincy University. Currently I substitute teach for Immanuel and for the Wentzville School District. The classroom, with children, is home to me. So is the church.

Two of my children go to Immanuel Lutheran School this year, and two will be there next school year. Elaine is 14, Luke is 12, and Caleb is 7. While my children were too young for school, I had the opportunity to be at home with them mostly full time. My husband works for Ameren MO.

My family has been at Immanuel since 2017. The fruitful Spirit guided and encouraged me to start a women's Wednesday morning Bible study that still meets. The group has a new leader but I sure try to attend and help when I can. Spending time in God's Word with other women has been a life changer. Women in Mission (LWML) welcomed me into their group a couple years ago, and you might see me greeting at the 9:30 AM service once a month. I am also affiliated with an organization called Moms in Prayer that is so dear to me, and keeps blessing me over and over.

In my spare time, I bake often, clean house, do laundry, and just simply hang out with my family and neighbors. My family also keeps busy with our dog Hannah. Baking and cooking for others brings me much joy. That corresponds with my desire to serve in general. I rely on the good Lord as my master planner, and I trust in His timing in regards to this position and everything else.

Forrest Van Ness



My name is Forrest Van Ness, and I am currently serving my first term as a member of the Board of Directors at Immanuel Lutheran Church and School of Wentzville. I was introduced to the Lutheran Church and began my worship at Immanuel in 2008. At that time, I was in search of a church and was so fortunate to have been welcomed by the most faithful and caring people I had ever met. Immanuel became my church home and later after moving to Hwy N, Immanuel became my mother's church home as well. I now have a lovely wife and two adult children, one of whom is in the US Air Force. We attend the Traditional service along with the Praise & Worship services as well as Bible Study. I was a late to join the Lutheran faith and now find God at work with me and those around me. In my college years, I was as pulled towards servant leadership. My understanding of Servant Leadership however grew to have new meaning while worshiping at Immanuel. By God's grace, I quickly discovered that living in God's Word and prayer more clearly defines the richness of servant leadership. For me, servant leadership now requires a greater understanding of God's word (through determined study) so that my words and actions incorporate the examples given by Christ to his ministry. I try to reflect the examples set by Christ as I serve on our Board of Directors. I also serve as an Usher and Worship Assistant. I am humbled to be considered as a candidate for the Board of Directors. If elected to serve, I pray the Lord will guide me to glorify his name.

Carol Waddell



I became a member at Immanuel with my husband John when we moved to the area in 2012 from Nebraska. I have been a member of a Lutheran church my entire life. Currently at Immanuel I attend (usually) the 8 am service, Sunday morning Bible study, Tuesday 6 am Bible study via Zoom, and I serve on the Altar guild. I have enjoyed serving as Immanuel's treasurer for the past 3 years.

I am a graduate of the University of Illinois with a degree in Agriculture Journalism. In 1981, John and I moved to Nebraska where I assisted with the management and recordkeeping of our two veterinary clinics.

During our 31+ years living in Sutton, NE, I served on the Sutton Public Schools Board of Education for 16 years, Zion Lutheran Church Board of Directors, Sunday School and VBS superintendent, Zion Lutheran Church

Endowment Fund Committee, and participated in various adult Bible studies. I also helped launch the Sutton Community Foundation.

We have 3 married sons, 5 granddaughters and 1 grandson.

John and I are blessed God led us to Immanuel. Our faith has grown and deepened through the stewards and many opportunities at Immanuel. It would be an honor and privilege to serve as Immanuel's treasurer using the talents, gifts, and blessings God has given to me.