

Agenda
Annual Voters Assembly
November 8, 2026

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Mission and Vision Declaration
4. Minutes from November 9, 2025, Voters Meeting
5. Minutes from August 16, 2025, Voters Meeting
6. 2026 Ministry Report
7. Consideration of 2026 Budget
8. Election of 2026 Lay Leaders
9. Closing Prayer
10. Adjourn
11. Doxology

Officers/Directors/Elders Slate

Board of Directors

Officers

- President: Mark Newmeyer
- Vice President: Greg Oermann
- Treasurer: Bill Evatt
- Secretary: Janet Lockwood

At Large Directors

- Stacey Edwards
- Scott Kirsch
- Amanda Lesiker
- Mike Ringstaff
- Jim Russell

Elders

- Joe Aguilar
- Randy Bilbrey
- Scott Blonigen
- Darrell Coleman
- Gene Doss
- Nick Flippin
- George Loa
- Josh Reiss
- Eric Seeliger
- Dolph Wenzel

**Immanuel Lutheran Church 2027
Budget Proposal**

	<u>2027 Budget</u>	<u>2026 Budget</u>	<u>2026 Forecast</u>
Cash Sources:			
General Fund Contribution	932,867	830,000	880,064
Special Offerings / Available Reserves	150,000	100,000	0
Family Life Ministry Income	13,000	13,000	15,341
Worship Ministry Income	1,000	1,000	1,325
Other Church Income	6,000	6,000	5,546
Interest Income	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>52,168</u>
Total Cash Available	1,162,867	1,010,000	954,444
Expenses:			
Payroll & Ministry Staff	453,862	338,687	326,731
Benefits Support Staff	105,374	97,500	98,073
Payroll Taxes	30,026	29,199	29,996
Worker Compensation	<u>2,000</u>	<u>3,533</u>	<u>1,778</u>
Total Staff Costs	591,262	468,919	456,578
Pastoral	65,000	25,000	25,239
Worship Ministry	65,000	54,946	87,758
Parish Education	20,988	19,800	14,581
Community Outreach	39,183	34,135	28,705
Mission Trips/Retreats	14,840	14,000	9,555
Other Family Life	750	750	1,316
General and Administrative	79,415	74,920	81,747
Occupancy	<u>180,306</u>	<u>170,100</u>	<u>173,826</u>
Total Operating Expenses	1,056,744	862,570	879,305
Texas District Missions	<u>93,287</u>	<u>83,000</u>	<u>86,793</u>
Total Expenses	1,150,031	945,570	966,098
Net Cash	12,836	64,430	-11,654

A Word from Pastor Grayson and the Staff

2026 has been a full year at Immanuel! We have walked together through sorrow and celebration as we continue to welcome new opportunities for ministry and revamp old ones. Through it all, our Lord has remained faithful, keeping us rooted in Christ and strengthening us through His Word and Sacrament.

The beginning of the year brought both great lows and great highs, with twelve funerals in the first four months. We grieved alongside families in our congregation and entrusted loved ones into the arms of Jesus. In the midst of those tears, we got to hear over and over the promise that carries us through every season: because Jesus lives, death does not have the final word! And we got to rejoice in that as we gathered for our “Rooted” 100th anniversary celebration at the Mayborn Center! Joining with more than 400 people in giving thanks for a century of God’s faithfulness, we got to see how God’s Word has been at work at Immanuel since before you and I ever got here! Letters from church, city, state officials helped mark this special occasion. WOW, WHAT AN EVENT! What a blessing to remember those who came before us, celebrate the ministry we share today, and look ahead to those who will hear the Good News through Immanuel in the years to come.

Since that celebration, much work has continued. We are grateful for our Board of Directors and Board of Elders and the many people who have helped plan, guide, and carry out ministry here at Immanuel. Some of that work is easy to see, but much of it happens quietly without fanfare.

This year has also brought important steps toward expanding our ministry team. The call extended to Vicar Darrell and the anticipated call to Vicar Matt (our SMP students) give us much to be thankful for and much to prepare for. As a staff and congregation, we look forward to welcoming them into their pastoral roles, supporting their continued preparation, and working together to reach more of our neighbors throughout Bell County with the Gospel.

There is so much more to celebrate! Through Trail Life, American Heritage Girls, VBS, and mission trips, we have had opportunities to teach, serve, and build relationships with many youth and families. Through Bible studies, Theology on Tap, Griefshare, Connection classes, retreats, Evangelist Trainings, fellowship opportunities, our Journeys of Prayer and Praise gatherings, and unrolling an on-line directory, we have continued to give opportunities for people to hear God’s promises, receive encouragement, grow together in faith, and equip others to be the people of God.

Through it all, our mission of **Leading our Neighbors to the Joy of Salvation in Jesus Christ and building up one another in faith through the Word and Sacrament** continues to guide us. Our joy rests in Jesus who walks with us in our loss and sorrow, sustains us in love and forgiveness, fills us in celebration and meaning, and then sends us with His Spirit to serve our neighbors.

We want to say Thank You for your support! ...for your prayers, your generosity, your time, and your willingness to serve. Thank you for inviting and bringing others into the ministry we share together. Thank you for all your encouragement by leading or encouraging others who lead. Thank you for caring for those who are hurting and lending a helping hand when work needs to be done. So much ministry is happening through the ordinary, the everyday work you do, and we are grateful for each of you!

We seek to remain faithful stewards of what God has entrusted to us. As we enter another year, we will continue to listen to His Word, seek His guidance, and trust His promises. We look to the Lord to sustain us for another century, and to be faithful in the work that still lays before us.

May we remain Rooted in Christ, as we love one another and Share in the Joy of Our Salvation in Christ Jesus!

A Letter from the Board of Directors

October 22, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in our Lord Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your faithfulness to Immanuel's ministry. Our centennial theme, "ROOTED: Celebrating 100 Years of God's Faithfulness," reminds us to thank those who came before us and thoughtfully prepare for those who will follow.

Our mission continues to guide that work: "Leading our neighbors to the joy of salvation in Jesus Christ and building up one another in faith through Word and Sacrament." Whether considering pastoral leadership, facilities, finances, or upcoming possibilities, we want our decisions to serve this purpose.

The Board's role is to provide oversight and planning, steward the congregation's resources, and support our ministry leadership. This past year has indeed been a team effort. We have benefited from terrific input, thoughtful discussion, and collaboration among Board members, the Board of Elders, and our ministry staff. I am grateful to serve alongside people who bring different gifts and perspectives while sharing a devotion to Christ and this congregation. Together, we believe Immanuel is well positioned to carry out its mission in the years ahead.

An important step this year was the congregation's overwhelming support for authorizing a future call to Vicar Darrell Becker as Associate Pastor, subject to completion of the required seminary and Synodical requirements. Please continue praying for Darrell and Vicar Matt Johnson as they prepare for pastoral ministry.

We are grateful for Pastor Albers and his faithful shepherding, for Robin, Corrie, the staff, and for the many volunteers who support our worship, education, fellowship, and outreach. Much of their work happens behind the scenes, but it contributes substantially to our life together.

Thank you also to everyone contributing time, skills, and resources to our ongoing property improvements, and for your faithful financial support. As we prepare for the coming year, the Board will continue to weigh ministry opportunities and financial responsibilities carefully.

Samuel's words "Thus far the Lord has helped us" fits this centennial year. With thankfulness for His faithfulness, let us continue praying, serving, giving, and welcoming our neighbors as we entrust the years ahead to His care.

In Christ,

Mark Newmeyer
President, Board of Directors
On behalf of the Board of Directors
Immanuel Lutheran Church