#### **Pastor**

Rev. Grayson Albers

# **Worship Director**

**Robin Smith** 

### **Family Ministry**

Corrie Ganger

## **Business Office**

Brenda Whitwell

## Communications Coordinator

Hannah Johnson

# Assimilation Coordinator

Malinda Averill

#### **President**

Mark Conzelmann

## **Chairman of Elders**

Nick Flippin

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August 14, 2025

Dear Members of Immanuel,

As we move through the second half of 2025, we give thanks for God's steady hand guiding our congregation. We want to share with you an update on where we stand today and where we believe God is leading us in the days ahead.

Earlier this year, we announced the sale of the Belton Campus. We are pleased to share that the sale is now fully closed and funded. All insurance-related repairs on both campuses have been completed, and we are finalizing negotiations with our insurance carrier for recoverable depreciation, which should provide additional proceeds for the work already done.

Currently, Immanuel Lutheran Church holds approximately \$2.6 million in cash reserves, placed with the Texas District Church Extension Fund (TCEF), the U.S. Treasury, and Extraco Bank. These funds are being managed carefully to generate interest income while keeping investment risk low. This is the largest cash reserve in our church's history—an incredible blessing from God. These funds are not intended for ongoing operating expenses, which we remain committed to covering through the faithful and consistent monthly offerings of our members.

Looking forward, we see these resources as a gift from God to be used wisely for His work. In the near future, you will notice tangible upgrades to our Temple Campus: fresh paint, improved lighting, new ceiling tiles, and a more welcoming entrance. These will build on recent improvements, such as the updated audio system and new back door, making our facilities brighter, more functional, and more inviting. We also plan to reserve a significant portion of the funds for future needs, including the possibility of expanding our Temple Campus to serve our congregation's growth. Every decision is made with one goal in mind: to create a place where people encounter Christ and are equipped for lives of discipleship.

In full transparency, offerings in 2025 have been lower than in 2024, partly due to the consolidation of campuses and the loss of some beloved members. Through careful stewardship, we have met expenses by reducing discretionary spending. We ask each of you to prayerfully consider how you might continue—or even increase—your support in the months ahead, and to look for ways to invite others into our fellowship. Together, these efforts will strengthen the ministry we share.

In the coming weeks, you will receive your mid-year giving statement by email. Please review it carefully and contact the church office with any questions or corrections.

Paul's encouragement in 1 Corinthians 15:58 speaks to us now: "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." May we remain steadfast, united, and joyful as we walk forward together in the mission God has entrusted to us.

Thank you for your faithfulness, generosity, and partnership in the Gospel.

In Christ, The Board of Directors Immanuel Lutheran Church