

Immanuel Council Minutes
Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 5:45-6:30 pm at Immanuel

Attendees: Eve Erickson, Randy Bestul, Yvette Fleming, Al Reedy, Pastor Connie Monson, Jeff Stark (Zoom) Absent: Mike Herrick, Leanne Homa

Call to Order: President Yvette opened the meeting and Eve asked to add an item to the agenda for materials she was handing out. No objections were expressed.

Pastor's Report: Devotions will be at the Joint Council Meeting. Pastor Connie suggested that we could bless the Brick donations along with the offering every week or month which might elevate that form of giving.

Secretary's Report: September minutes were reviewed. Mm by Al, 2nd by Jeff, approved without changes.

Treasurer's Report: Randy presented a 9 month report and tracking with the annual budget. He estimates a \$5-6,000 overage by the end of the year to take into account as budget planning is done for next year. Mm by Jeff, 2nd by Al, approved without changes.

Old Business:

1. Fellowship Hall Progress Report: No one was present to report. Yvette will speak with Gordo about tasks to do while we wait for the electrician.
2. "Cottage Meetings" Report by Pastor Connie: Cottage meetings are completed, four were held. Yvette has offered to help compile information. The results will be shared in worship on November 9. The service format will be altered for the day.
3. Bible Camp Scholarships: Three volunteers, Jeff Stark, Yvette Fleming and Al Reedy will meet with Pastor Connie (as convener) on Oct. 29th to share ideas and set a direction for promoting and awarding youth scholarships to Luther Park.
4. Update on Copier: Thank you to Bev Steele who has donated a used copier to Immanuel which has many features we will use.

New Business:

1. Justice Seekers Report: Eve and Pastor Connie briefly previewed the Allies and Advocates for Migrant Neighbors presentation at Messiah Lutheran's Justice Seekers meeting on October 16. All are invited to attend.

2. RIC Report: Thank you to Jeff for arranging for Ronaldo Hudson of the Illinois Prison Project to speak to us on October 12. It was an inspiring experience for all who attended. He raised our awareness and offered ways to understand and connect with others.
3. Wall hangings for sanctuary: Since Bethesda moved to paraments for multiple season use, conversation at Immanuel has arisen regarding decorations in our sanctuary and other public areas. Suggestions for guidelines were discussed that would be in keeping with our mission and sensitive to varied tastes. Pastor Connie and Eve will report to the Council in November with a plan to move forward that pulls together paraments, art and decoration.
4. Added Agenda Item: Eve submitted a memorandum along with a letter from ELCA Bishops regarding the Church's position on the treatment of migrants by our government. She asked for consideration of this at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 2025, 6:00 pm

Adjourned: at 6:26 pm by Yvette

Submitted by Eve Erickson