

Immanuel Council Minutes
Wednesday June 17, 2026 at 5:45 pm at Immanuel
Zoom ID: 832 9354 1222 Passcode: 511991
Call-In Number: 1-312-626-6799

Attendees: Pastor Connie Monson, Robert Schlack, Al Reedy, Eve Erickson, Jeff Stark, Randy Bestul, Yvette Flemming and Leanne Homa

Call to Order: at 5:46 by President Jeff Stark

Devotions by Jeff Stark—reading from *You Don't Have to Say that You Love Me* by Sherman Alexia followed by prayer.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Connie reported on the Truth Taking and Telling Initiative regarding Indian Boarding Schools. She announced the potential showing of the movie "Sugar Cane" during an evening here at Immanuel. This would provide more education and discussion of the treatment of Indigenous people.

Secretary's Report: by Leanne—needed two edits; the motion made by Al to accept edited version, 2nd by Eve as corrected, and vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: by Randy—catching up with April, May & June Reports. Budget is doing well with some bigger annual donations being recorded. Motion made by Yvette to accept, 2nd by Pastor Connie, vote was unanimous.

Old Business:

1. **Justice Seekers Report**—by Eve & Pastor Connie--Eve presented a list of topics created by the Justice Seekers committee for us to consider our priorities. The committee must make the final choices. No recommendations were determined at this meeting.
2. **Allies and Advocates for Migrant Neighbors (AAMN) Report**—by Eve & Pastor Connie; the budget is growing and is currently being managed by Immanuel Lutheran, but it represents five churches and other individuals. Randy Bestul, our financial secretary, Pastor Connie and several others are concerned about the management of these funds and who should have the responsibility to manage these funds. Much discussion ensued. Motion made by Robert that "The church delegate authority to a "subcommittee" to develop criteria for and manage a "benevolence fund" for the immigrants who may be in need of financial support. This subcommittee could take the form of the current AAMN founders (which include Eve Erickson and Pastor Connie) or some other variation where the council has some say in the management. Regardless, certain administrative functions such as mission, donation and fund dispersal criteria, etc. would need council involvement.

Somewhat akin to our MEMORIAL fund.” (This motion has been copied from the Status Report presented at the council meeting.) 2nd by Eve, vote was unanimous.

3. **Art and Decorations Committee Report**—by Leanne—no report this evening
4. **Mission Committee Update**—by Yvette—The 100 Who Care program voted this round to support the new public radio station WOJB in the area with \$14,000. The Reconciling in Christ (RIC) initiative is asking for donations and Immanuel’s Mission Committee will have to meet to decide on a donation amount.
5. **Spring Clean-up progress**—by Leanne—no report this evening
6. **Cottage Meeting Follow-Up**—table until another meeting
7. **Artesian Well issues**—by Yvette—the church well has been cleaned and fixed with a cost of \$525. The bill will be paid from the Maintenance Fund.
8. **Church’s Basement Foundation issues**—by Jeff & Leanne—the foundation and water issues in the basement were reviewed by Northland Basement Systems, and their bid for repairs and remediation is \$16,776.06. They also recommended a professional grade dehumidifier be installed for about \$2000+. Full details are available from Jeff or Leanne. A second and third bid will be presented once they are available.
9. **Synod Budget**—tabled until another meeting
10. **June 21—Joint Service Plans with Peninsula Churches Update**—by Eve—everything is in place for this Sunday as the four Lutheran churches will have a joint service and potluck. The four pastors and Eve Erickson and Karen Novachek have organized this event for us. Many other volunteers that day will make this possible.
11. **June 13—Lupine Day Report**—we hosted three “treasure sale” vendors at Immanuel and had limited traffic—probably due to the main “shopping district” being on Superior Street and signage to the church vendors was minimal.

New Business:

1. **Church Doors and Threshold Ramps**—by Jeff—The west and south entry doors to the church need replacing. Jeff and Eve provided bids from two vendors. The bid from Lucas _____ was \$7500.00. The bid from Bill _____ was \$5170.90. More research as to the quality of the doors and the paint on the doors is needed.

Also needed is a ramp for the west door to allow easier access for wheel chairs and heavy items to be wheeled into the building--Jeff did the research. A motion was made by Leanne to order the \$214 rubber ramp, 2nd by Al, vote was unanimous.

- 2. Joint Meeting at Immanuel at 6:30 pm with Bethesda on Wednesday, Sept. 16th. Zoom will be available as well.**
- 3. Bethesda and Immanuel's Joint Potluck Picnic is now officially scheduled for August 23rd at 3:00 pm at Little Sand Bay. This will include a Holden Evening Service. Bring food and lawn chairs!**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Adjourned: 7:30 pm motion made by Yvette to adjourn, 2nd by Eve, vote unanimous

Submitted by Leanne Homa
Council Secretary