



## Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 9/12/2023	Time: 7:00 P.M.	Location: Fellowship Hall and Zoom
Attendees: Julie M., Jennifer, Connie, Kelly, Phil, Winnie, Kate, Emily, Mark, Angie, Mike, Jenny, Jolene T, Jolene H, Pastor Dan, Pastor Paul, Paul S,		
Absent: Peg		
Call To Order: 7:00 PM.		
Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: ?????? made a motion to approve the minutes for August 2023. ????? seconded the motion and all approved.		

Mar

Action Item	Who	Status	Expected Completion date
Please let Savannah know by end of August if you are interested in attending the Lutheran Social Services Gala.			August 2023

## Devotions

- Devotions were led by Paul S

## Financial Matters

Jennifer and Connie presented the financial, attendance and giving information.

### Immanuel Lutheran Church August 2023 Financial Summary

	Current Month					Year to Date					Progress to Budget		
	Prior Year	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Var	Prior Year	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Var	YTD Giving / Expense	Annual Budget	% Budget
Giving	\$ 91,216	\$ 99,917	\$ 94,692	\$ (5,224)		\$736,502	\$ 799,333	\$ 759,560	\$ (39,773)		\$ 759,560	\$ 1,199,000	
Misc. Income	\$ 1,109	\$ 5,000	\$ (841)	\$ (5,841)		\$ 61,133	\$ 40,000	\$ 64,613	\$ 24,613		\$ 64,613	\$ 60,000	
<b>Total Recurring Income</b>	<b>\$ 92,325</b>	<b>\$ 104,917</b>	<b>\$ 93,851</b>	<b>\$ (11,065)</b>	<b>-10.5%</b>	<b>\$797,635</b>	<b>\$ 839,333</b>	<b>\$ 824,173</b>	<b>\$ (15,160)</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>	<b>\$ 824,173</b>	<b>\$ 1,259,000</b>	<b>65.46%</b>
Benevolence - ELCA (9%)	\$ 8,209	\$ 8,993	\$ 8,522	\$ (470)		\$ 66,285	\$ 71,940	\$ 68,360	\$ (3,580)		\$ 68,360	\$ 107,910	
Benevolence - Other (8%)	\$ 7,297	\$ 7,993	\$ 7,575	\$ (418)		\$ 58,920	\$ 63,947	\$ 60,765	\$ (3,182)		\$ 60,765	\$ 95,920	
<b>Church Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 93,295</b>	<b>\$ 85,105</b>	<b>\$ 83,128</b>	<b>\$ (1,978)</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>\$602,812</b>	<b>\$ 680,844</b>	<b>\$ 633,060</b>	<b>\$ (47,785)</b>	<b>-7.0%</b>	<b>\$ 633,060</b>	<b>\$ 1,021,266</b>	<b>61.99%</b>
<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,806</b>	<b>\$ 4,552</b>	<b>\$ 5,631</b>	<b>\$ 1,079</b>	<b>23.7%</b>	<b>\$ 30,954</b>	<b>\$ 36,416</b>	<b>\$ 33,225</b>	<b>\$ (3,191)</b>	<b>-8.8%</b>	<b>\$ 33,225</b>	<b>\$ 54,824</b>	<b>60.60%</b>
<b>Total Recurring Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 113,608</b>	<b>\$ 106,643</b>	<b>\$ 104,856</b>	<b>\$ (1,787)</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>\$758,971</b>	<b>\$ 853,147</b>	<b>\$ 795,410</b>	<b>\$ (57,737)</b>	<b>-6.8%</b>	<b>\$ 795,410</b>	<b>\$ 1,279,920</b>	<b>62.15%</b>
<b>Recurring:</b>													
<b>Giving less Expenses</b>	<b>\$ (16,721)</b>	<b>\$ (1,727)</b>	<b>\$ (11,005)</b>	<b>\$ (9,278)</b>		<b>\$ 38,664</b>	<b>\$ (13,814)</b>	<b>\$ 28,763</b>	<b>\$ 42,577</b>		<b>\$ 28,763</b>	<b>\$ (20,920)</b>	

General Fund Balance      Prior Month    This Month    Inc / (Dec)  
 \$ 723,202    \$ 737,493    \$ 14,291

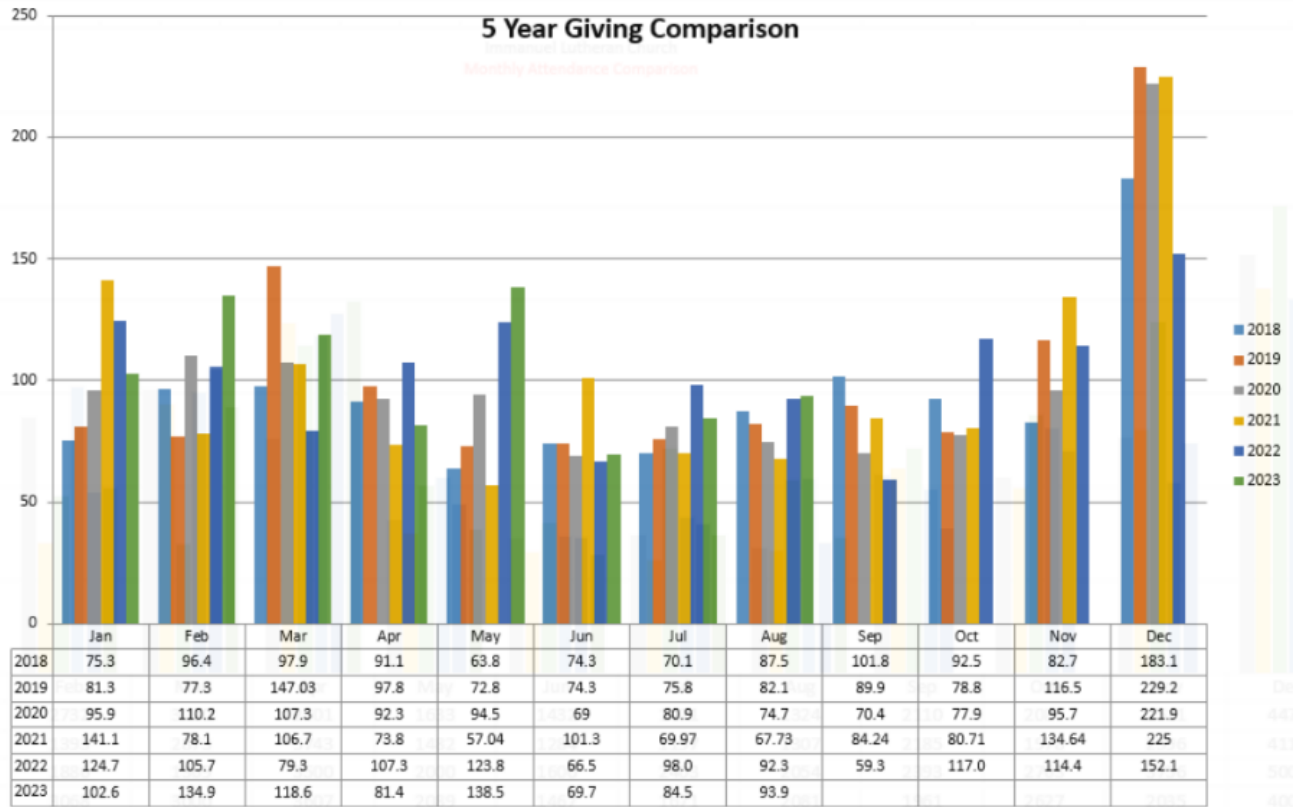
% of year elapsed      67%

#### Highlights

- \* Giving for August was in line with last year. YTD giving remains ahead of last year.
- \* Church expenses will be higher for the rest of the year due to open positions being filled.
- \* Journal Entry impacting Misc Income Line - A correction to insure we properly account for church credit card expenses.

### 5 Year Giving Comparison

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Monthly Attendance Comparison



139.2	124.7	134.9	118.6	138.5	102.6	134.9	118.6	138.5	102.6	134.9	118.6	138.5
1324	<b>2023 YTD</b>	<b>2023 YTD</b>		<b>2022 YTD</b>								
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>		<b>Actual</b>								
	\$824.2	\$839.3		\$797.6								
	1.8% behind budget			3.3% ahead of last year								

### Raise the Roof Campaign Tracking

April 2022 - April 2025

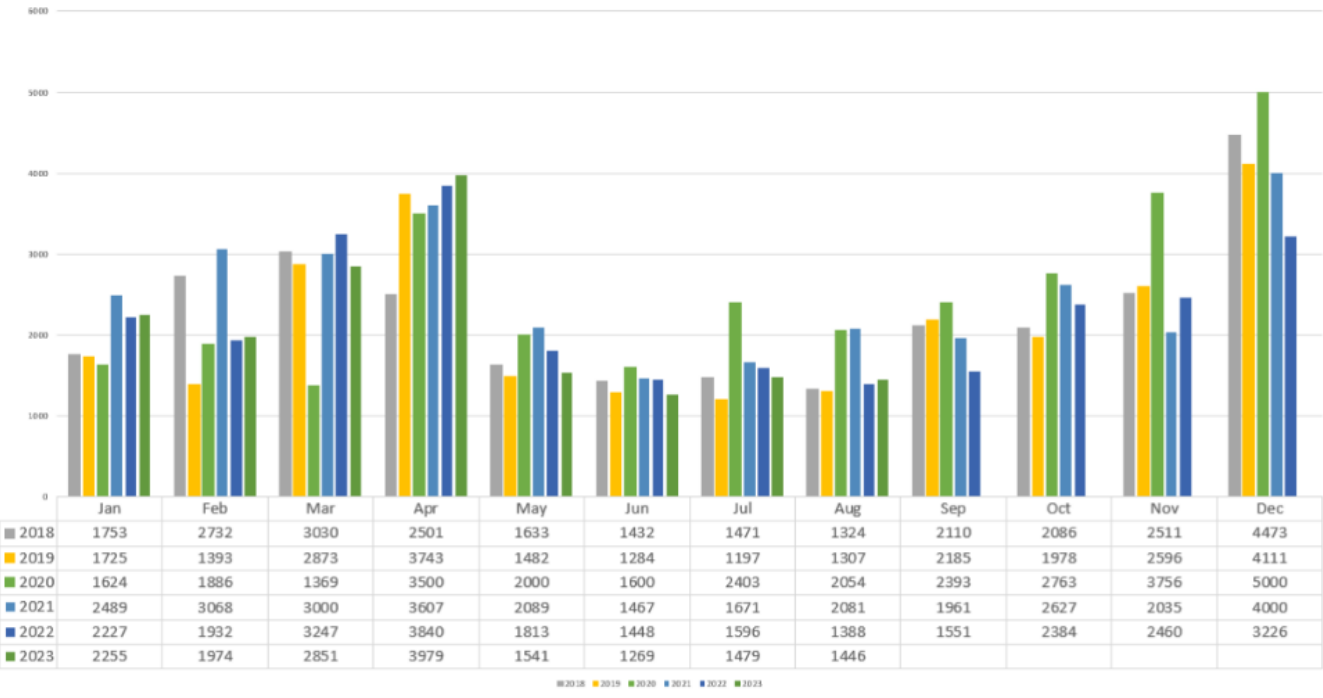
3 Year Pledge TOTAL: \$ 421,214

Year	Month	Received	Total	Actual %	Expected %
2022	Apr	\$ 11,998	\$ 11,998	3%	2.78%
2022	May	\$ 22,030	\$ 34,028	8%	6%
2022	June	\$ 50,788	\$ 84,815	20%	8%
2022	July	\$ 14,044	\$ 98,859	23%	11%
2022	Aug	\$ 8,530	\$ 107,389	25%	14%
2022	Sept	\$ 12,384	\$ 119,773	28%	17%
2022	Oct	\$ 13,013	\$ 132,786	32%	19%
2022	Nov	\$ 9,893	\$ 142,679	34%	22%
2022	Dec	\$ 17,214	\$ 159,893	38%	25%
2023	Jan	\$ 12,461	\$ 172,354	41%	28%
2023	Feb	\$ 13,342	\$ 185,696	44%	31%
2023	Mar	\$ 12,876	\$ 198,572	47%	33%
2023	Apr	\$ 7,802	\$ 206,374	49%	36%
2023	May	\$ 7,825	\$ 214,199	51%	39%
2023	June	\$ 9,619	\$ 223,818	53%	42%
2023	July	\$ 6,969	\$ 230,787	55%	44%
2023	Aug	\$ 12,338	\$ 243,125	58%	47%

### Immanuel Lutheran Church Year-to-Date Attendance Comparison



Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Monthly Attendance Comparison



In Person Worship Trend	Notes:
August 2022 - 59% In Person	
September - 68% In Person	Tent Meeting
October - 61% In Person	Confirmation
November - 66% In Person	Thanksgiving Service
December - 70% In Person	Christmas Services
January 2023 - 56% In Person	
February - 60% In Person	
March - 64% In Person	
April - 66% In Person	Easter Services
May - 67% in Person	
June - 63% In Person	
July - 70% In Person	
August - 68% In Person	
<b>YTD Through August</b>	
16,794 church attendees	
10,720 (64% ) in person	
6074 (36% ) virtual	

## Ministry update

- 5 baptisms, 4 weddings, 3 funerals.
- 4 funerals in the next two weeks.
- Wonderful tent weekend, bingo raised almost \$3,000 for PROP.
  - Food trucks didn't show up (one forgot, other said they were coming and then said mechanical problems, bought pizzas and sold slices (Angie and Mike).
  - Grill initially didn't work on Sunday but all volunteers rolled with the punches.
- Everything starts back up tomorrow.
- Bringing back Sunday School at 10:30 am - 25 kids signed up.
- Pastor Dan's installation on 9/24 and Pastor Craig Pederson is coming to represent the Synod.
- Unpacking Shaped by God theme this fall.
- Pastor Paul will be leaving for Italy on Oct 9 along with the other trip participants.
- Reviewed calendar through mid-December.  
Continued great collaboration of staff, stepping in where needed.

## Church Administrator update

- Met with audit committee for a mid-year discussion
  - Question raised about benevolence giving – why we choose these ministries; highlighted need to better document rationale and communicate to the congregation as it is one of the biggest sums of money – Savannah evaluating partner ministries
  - Good progress being made, helping identify opportunities
- Updates to website being made, obtaining insights on how to help us be better identified in Google searches, and input on how to organize the site so it is easier to find things – should start to see some basic changes with more to come.
- Insurance selection needed.
- Motion made to approve 2024 benefits at Silver A level from Portico – Connie made the motion, Jennifer seconded, all voted to approve the motion.
- Raise the Roof – formed a committee as result of the August Executive Committee meeting and met to discuss how we are spending Raise the Roof capital funds.
  - Roof sections and roof top HVAC unit next priorities – current estimates are approximately \$200,000 for the HVAC unit and \$100,000 for roof sections identified as most critically in need of repair.
    - Horowitz appears to be the best bid when compared across 3 bids received.
      - No down payment required, will bill when onsite
      - \$127,000 in available Raise the Roof funds, at current rate of giving, we should have funds for unit in next 4-5 months (4 month lead time for equipment) but would not have what is needed for roof.
      - Question – can we borrow money from reserves and do journal entry, paying the money back to the reserves as it is received from future giving?
        - It was decided to bring the question to Council for broader input (audit committee recommendation)

## Committee Updates

### Middle School – Jolene T/Lisa

Received no update from Jolene/Lisa.

### Properties – Mark A

- LED bulb replacement in Luther Hall
  - We will be hiring Premier Lighting to replace all light bulbs in Luther Hall. They're targeting late September to complete this work.
- Tree Removal/Trim
- Tree removal and trimming has been completed by Ron Nemeč's company.
  - 2 dead pines along Luther Way, the pine near the holding pond, a Russian Olive on the west side of the church and trimmed the pine on the west end of the parking lot.
- Raise the Roof Capital Budget

- o A group consisting of Kelly, Pastor Paul, Jennifer Schroer, Tom Totall & Mark Arvidson has been created to help guide/manage the Raise the Roof budget and spending.
- o Next project will be to replace the two oldest roof sections (4&7) along with the oldest HVAC on section 4
- Three bids have been received for the HVAC replacement so a final decision will be made soon.
- Native Species Pollinator Garden - Eagle Scout Project, Clark Heilman
  - o Clark will be moving forward with a new pollinator garden next to the Disciples Garden (east side of garden, south of the garden gate).
  - o Install date is scheduled for Sat Sept 30.
- Holding Pond
  - o The second mow/maintenance of the holding pond was completed in August.
  - o Mark will follow-up to determine if a 3<sup>rd</sup> mow will be completed this fall
- Fall Cleanup
  - o Fall cleanup has been scheduled for Sat Oct 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Senior High – Kate/Phil**

- Summer wrap-up with youth committee meeting this Sunday.
- Wyoming happened, although smaller group this year. Big summer with Holden Village trip happening also, so that may have played a role.
- Successful trip overall for learning projects in St. Louis this past July.
- Fall Plans:
  - o Shoring up the Sr. High budget
  - o Info meeting September 20<sup>th</sup> regarding the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans next July. We will combine Immanuel group with two other joining congregations in the metro area.
  - o Game night at the church September 29<sup>th</sup> for grades 7-12. Should be fun.
  - o Confirmation Serviced October 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - o Confirmation retreat Camp Onamia October 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - o Mental health specialist speaker at Immanuel on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Evangelism - Jolene H**

- Bingo benefit was a success last weekend with 37 volunteers, 7 callers from Prop and congregation staff. Raised \$2,481 for Prop (down from last year). Food trucks were an issue, but we will get that back next year.
- Tables of 8 kickoff to be September 24<sup>th</sup> at church. Encourage others to sign up if you haven't already (and I encourage Council to also sign up).
- New Member Open House to be held October 26<sup>th</sup> at Pastor Paul's home.
- Winter event – Beach party – January 19- 2024 – more to come as we get closer.

### **Children's Ministry – Jenny/Emily**

- Sunday School and God Squad starts this Sunday. We have over 100 kids signed up for programming and are planning for a few more to trickle in.
  - o Sunday School 9:00 a.m. = 68 students
  - o God Squad = 22 students
  - o Sunday School 10:30 a.m. = 23 students
- We continue to struggle with finding enough volunteers. Parents feel spread thin with other commitments (school, sports, jobs, family). We are trying to find a balance of asking for commitment to provide successful programming and paring back the need by making sacrifices (combining classes, shorter program, etc.)
- Planning for Advent and Christmas will be underway soon.

### **Worship Music and Arts – Winnie**

Received no update from Winnie.

### **Fellowship - Angie and Mike K.**

Received no update from Angie and Mike.

### **Social Concerns – Kristi/Savannah**

Received no update from Kristi/Savannah

### **Adult Faith Formation – Nancy**

- Pastor Dan and I met to review the current status of Adult Formation and to set a path for future direction. The plan is to make Adult Faith Formation more comprehensive and clarify all the areas. For example, there are groups missing (young adults, new parents, singles, men..) Look forward to more information in coming meetings.
- Current ministries:
  - Women's ministry is going on their hiking trip this weekend and is planning their next events.
  - All the Women's groups (Bible Study and Book Groups) are resuming and looking forward to their new studies.
  - Wednesday night Faith formation is starting.
  - SALT: Planning for fall is in progress.
  - September: Presentation on Bugs with Lunch
  - October: Theology Over Coffee with Pastor Dan.
  - November: Rick Ites on the Bible.
  - December: Christmas concert????
- Faith Formation is on budget. I am working with Kelli to sort out the process for capturing the data.
- Council requests from members:
  - Name tags in pews to ease remembering who you are talking to.
  - Welcome reception for Pastor Dan.

????????? made motion to adjourn the meeting and ???????? seconded and all approved.

The meeting was adjourned with the Council singing a song.