

**“Still Immanuel, Becoming Immanuel”
Planning Our Personal Giving
Celebration Weekend October 10-11**

**Questions and Answers About
Our Stewardship Work Together**

WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

It has been said that stewardship for the Christian is “everything he or she does after we say, “I believe.” Stewardship for Christians is the faithful use of our resources: our time, our energy and our money to further God’s work.

WHY SHOULD WE GIVE TO GOD’S WORK?

The Bible is full of references to God’s people sharing the work of ministry. All of the baptized (that is you!) are workers in the community for God. Our offerings of time and money are a witness to our faith. God has given us as a gift life here and forever. Our response is our stewardship.

WHY SHOULD WE SUPPORT THIS CONGREGATION AND OUR SYNOD?

Immanuel Lutheran Church would not exist were it not for the gifts of our members. If we want an effective and caring congregation we must support it. Whether it is world and domestic mission through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and our Northern Great Lakes Synod or outreach and service to the Negaunee area, we are called to serve and to give.

WHAT IS AN ESTIMATE OF GIVING FORM?

Every Immanuel household is asked to complete the enclosed “Estimate of Giving.” This form is sent to each household of our congregation. Please write in an estimate of your weekly or monthly giving for 2022. In this way we can be reminded to give faithfully and regularly to God’s work. Giving to God’s work is a joy. It is through this Estimate of Giving that we can hold ourselves accountable for our giving and participation. Added together our congregational leaders will also have a better idea of the projected income for the coming year.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

That is a question that you must answer with God's help. Pray about it. Some Christians are tithers in terms of financial giving. A Biblical tithe is 10% of income. All of us will want to work towards more generous giving. Plan on growing! We can all give more—even if that increase is a small amount!

WHAT IS A TIME AND TALENT SHEET?

Some of us are planners or leaders. Some like to usher or read lessons or teach Sunday school or are willing to serve on Council or pound a nail or work in the kitchen. Whatever your talents and abilities—share them with God's people at Immanuel. Sign up for ministries by completing the Time and Talent Sheet that was sent out to your home recently and bring it along to worship October 10-11. Your gifts of enthusiasm, energy and a willingness to serve are appreciated by the whole congregation.

WHAT IS OUR SCHEDULE FOR OUR STEWARDSHIP WORK?

At worship on Sunday and Monday September 10-11 the congregation will receive our Time and Talent Sheets and our Estimates of Giving for the year ahead. We will place our promises on the altar at the end of our worship, and then on Sunday we will celebrate with a meal together.

On October 10 (9:30 a.m. Sunday) and on October 11 (6:00 p.m. Monday) we will receive your estimates of giving for the New Year and celebrate together what God continues to do for the people of Immanuel Lutheran Church. We will place our estimates upon the altar as a witness of our faith. The Estimate of Giving forms and the Time and Talent Sheets will be sent to members' homes. Additional forms will be available before worship on October 10-11.

Can you grow your giving? Can you increase your offering and your participation in our work? We all are being challenged to give more to God's work and to live in the promise.

WHAT ABOUT LUNCH ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 10?

Come to the "Stewardship Pasty Luncheon." After worship on October 10—you are invited to a fellowship time over a Pasty! We will have music and discussion together. We will think about what it means to be an Immanuel Church family in the midst of a pandemic. We will look into the future, thanking God and enjoying a meal together.

To plan for enough pasties, please register at church or on-line on the church website. Come! There is plenty of room for you!