

*For July Parish News and website*

## **Pastoral search continues, and you can help**

As the members of the call committee continue the search for the very best available pastor for Immanuel, they send special thanks to those of you who have recommended pastors who might be a good fit for our congregation.

**If you know of a pastor who might be a good fit for us, please complete the enclosed referral form and return it to any call committee member.** In line with call process guidelines, the committee will not immediately contact pastors you refer, but rather will forward all referrals to the Central States Synod office for initial consideration.

In the meantime, the call committee members invite you to reflect on what long-time Immanuel member Ruth Spong Sarli believed and often reminded us of right up until she joined the saints in the heaven: **Immanuel's past is glorious, but the best is yet to come!**

In Isaiah 43: 18-19, we read: "... Do not remember the former things; neither consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs forth; do you not perceive and know it and will you not give heed to it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert..."

Christian poet M.S. Lowndes says those verses call us to look ahead and focus not on what is in the rearview mirror but on what is before us.

"God wants to do a new thing in our lives," Lowndes writes. "He wants us to rise up to our full potential in Him. He has called us to do mighty things. It is only in moving forward that we ever accomplish what God has called us to do. Yes, it can be hard – but don't be afraid. God wants us to accomplish so much more."

Please continue to offer prayers of thanksgiving for the Holy Spirit's active participation in our call process, and prepare to move forward with our Lord.

Your call committee

Don Arney	Ken Beckmann	Kathy Boehmer	Janie Fee	Linda Fewell
Milan Hanson	Brendan Kennedy	Amanda Roethe	Jack Umbach	Ellen Wilcox