

Call Committee: Let's all approach our work with energy!

It's an exciting time in the process of calling our next pastor! Your call committee members thank you for understanding that they are required to keep all information about pastoral candidates and the interview process completely confidential. But they can share that, at this time, they are engaging in conversations with candidates, watching and listening to sermons and studying a myriad of other information.

Although the committee has specific, important duties, every single one of us at Immanuel has a role in praying for the Holy Spirit's guidance, and preparing to welcome and support our next pastor. So as the call process continues, consider your own "calling" as one of God's people at Immanuel.

In his book, "The Christian Faith from a Lutheran Perspective," Rev. Peter W. Marty (a previous Immanuel pastor) puts it this way:

In our own lives, we seek to listen for the voice of God, hoping that God might touch us with purpose as God did Moses and Mary.

On our worst days, we hear little more than the subjective whisperings of our own hearts. We mistake the verbal echo of our own desires with the deeper intentions of God. We see what we want to see and stop listening to what we do not want to hear.

On our best days, we look for that sweet spot of what we love to do, do reasonably well (or are determined to do well!), and are pretty certain the world needs. We start to notice the way God stitches capacities, passions and potential into our quite ordinary lives. We become convinced that we must use our lives in some way that better reveals the grace of God. We aim to center our commitments on a greater good than just ourselves. We notice others. We get a burning desire to serve.

Our next pastor will need your commitment, energy and "burning desire" every bit as much as we all will need our next pastor's commitment, energy, guidance and faith leadership.

Together, we can hit that "sweet spot."

Thanks be to God!

Your Call Committee

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