

# Immanuel Lutheran Church Centennial Campaign



**"We will tell to the coming generation  
the glorious deeds of the Lord  
and the wonders that God has done."**

*~ Psalm 78:4*

# HONORING THE PAST + EMBRACING THE FUTURE

## Honoring the Past

In the early 1920s, a group of Swedish Lutheran immigrants felt called by God to establish a Lutheran church in Holden. Through faith and God's blessing, their vision would become Immanuel Lutheran Church, and the next hundred years were filled with stories of incredible tenacity, love, and generosity.

In 1928, land for a church building was given by the Hultgren family and a chapel building was given by the Women's Missionary Society of the New England Conference. The congregation was officially incorporated and the first worship service was held in the chapel on March 18, 1928.



As the church grew, more land was given in 1933, allowing a kitchen to be added. By 1948, the congregation had outgrown the chapel space, and the building used by Calvary Lutheran Church in Worcester was given to Immanuel. Members of Immanuel took apart the building, labelling each brick and board, and raised \$48,000 so that the church could be rebuilt in Holden and dedicated in 1949.

Over the next twenty years, as the church continued to grow, so did the building. The congregation raised funds to add an administrative and education wing in 1959, and a gymnasium in 1967. In the early 1990s, the building was renovated and updated to become more accessible and to better fit the needs of Immanuel Lutheran Nursery School, which has served our local community for more than fifty years by offering young children a safe place to grow, learn, and thrive.



As we again envision how to best reach and serve those generations who will come after us, we pray that people will continue to find a loving community of faith at Immanuel. We give thanks for the legacy of faith that earlier generations have passed on to us. We honor the past: the loving hearts and hands that came together over this past century to strengthen Immanuel's mission and ministry. And we rejoice over all that God has done, and the way we can feel God calling Immanuel into the future.

## Embracing the Future



Soon we'll celebrate Immanuel's 100th Anniversary, and we're thinking about how to pass on all the gifts we've known to the generations that follow: the gift of God's love in Christ, the gift of a loving community, the gift of a beautiful creation, and the gift of properties that make ministry and mission possible. We want to continue serving our local towns and area for years to come! Amidst a world that is always changing, our congregation feels that it's important to care for and adapt our beautiful church building, grounds, and parsonage so that we can strengthen our ability to embrace the future. Part of preparing for the future is embracing renewable energy, so that we can be better stewards of our natural resources, spending less on utilities and more on mission.

**Our Church Council and Facilities Committee have identified a number of repairs, changes, and improvements to help embrace our congregation's future:**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Repair Stained Glass Windows	\$39,000
Replace Oil Tank	\$4,000
Repair Lower Parking Lot	\$100,000
Install Solar Panels	\$67,000
Air Condition Sanctuary	\$20,000
Renew Church Front Landscaping	\$15,000
Repair Parsonage Chimney	\$6,000
Replace Parsonage Windows (10)	\$14,000
Update Parsonage HVAC System	\$20,000
Renew Parsonage Lawn/Landscaping	\$5,000
Renovate Men's Room & Custodial Closet	\$25,000
Refurbish Parsonage Breezeway	\$15,000
Paint Parsonage Exterior	\$10,000
Replace Office Wing Roof	\$40,000
Replace Parsonage Roof	\$10,000
5% Contingency	\$19,500
Consultant Fee	\$13,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$422,700</b>

To address these needs, we hope to raise \$450,000 over the next three years through the Centennial Campaign. We know that reaching this goal will be challenging, but we also trust that the generosity and love that have defined the past hundred years will enable us to meet this latest goal. Everyone's support and prayers are essential. If each of us contributes with glad and generous hearts to this campaign, we are confident that we will be able to respond to God's ever-expanding vision for our congregation. It's an exciting and challenging vision that will not only enhance our current ministry, but better prepare us for ministry in the future.

Within the Centennial Campaign, we are also responding to interest within the congregation to have a tithe of (some) individual donations be directed to organizations outside our walls to help others in need. On the commitment form, you have the opportunity to direct 10% of your gift to the three organizations that have been selected: Worcester RISE, ELCA Fund for Leaders and Camp Calumet.

*We give thanks to God for our life together at Immanuel, for our rich history, our beautiful church building, and the legacy of faith and service handed down from generation to generation. God has given us a vision of our church as a welcoming place that creates genuine community, offers inspiring worship, encourages spiritual growth, and engages with the world around us through meaningful service. The Spirit of God has led us, supported us, and united us through all the joys and challenges of this past century. Now we are called once again to venture out in faith so that our Immanuel community can continue to gather people, nurture faith, grow in God's love, and serve God's world.*



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