

# Council Highlights

## Special Meeting of November 5

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- The Council met in special session to review our present status and plan necessary actions subsequent to the mutually agreed separation of Emmanuel Lutheran and Pastor Hybl that was announced on October 27.
- The Separation Agreement was signed by Pastor Hybl and Congregation President Lou Hiener on Sunday, October 27 after being unanimously approved by the lay members of Emmanuel's Council. The agreement conforms to the NALC's recommendation of a three-month severance package with salary and benefits paid through January 2020. Pastor Hybl's last day as Emmanuel's pastor was October 31 and he is given until November 15 to vacate his office, which he is presently engaged in doing.
- For the three months from now until the end of January 2020, Emmanuel will be served by substitute Pastors that are being arranged by Pastor Carl Johnson, Dean of our Mid Northeast Mission District.
  - Pastor Alden Towberman was our substitute pastor on November 3, and will again serve as our pastor for the November 9 Saturday evening service and the November 10 Sunday service. Pastor Thomas Beam will be our substitute pastor on November 17. The schedule beyond this has not yet been developed.
  - Members requiring pastoral care are to call the church office as usual. During working hours, Gloria Christofano, our church secretary will contact Pastor Johnson to arrange appropriate care. During non-office hours, phone messages are being routed to the three Council Officers (Lou Hiener, MaryAnn Sinwell, and Fred Schamber) who will see that appropriate action is taken in a timely fashion.
- Pastor Johnson, working with Pastor David Wendel, assistant to the NALC Bishop, will be arranging for an interim Pastor to serve Emmanuel, beginning in February 2020. This interim arrangement will pertain until Emmanuel is again served by a called Pastor.
- The council spent considerable time discussing other arrangements that must be made to facilitate an orderly transition.
- The Council is planning a congregational 'Town Hall Meeting' for November 17. This meeting will allow members to ask questions and be updated on the status of ongoing arrangements. It will also provide opportunity for the members of Emmanuel to focus our thinking on the mission and ministry of our congregation as we move into our future.
- This has been a very trying period for all parties, and continued prayers are sought for your council, your congregation, and Pastor Hybl and his family.
- It is now our challenge and our opportunity to put these events behind us and focus our attention on developing a new vision of Emmanuel's mission that will allow us to be effective at carrying out the work of Christ in this community.