

Immanuel Church Ministry Plan

2027–2029

Purpose and Background

This Ministry Plan is based on the congregation's vision and outlines the direction for the life and ministry of Immanuel Church during the years 2027–2029. Its purpose is to provide the congregation, the Senior Pastor, and the staff with a shared direction for their daily work.

The Ministry Plan enables us to work with a long-term perspective, while annual action plans allow us to remain responsive to new needs as they arise. The document therefore serves both as a roadmap for the coming three years and as a tool for prioritizing effectively in the present. Although the Operational Plan covers a three-year period, it is reviewed annually, allowing us to adjust our focus if circumstances change.

Immanuel Church's Ministry Plan is rooted in the life and mission of the congregation. We carry out this mission together through prayer and service. Worship is at the heart of the congregation's life, and together with music, fellowship, teaching, and diaconal ministry, it creates the context in which faith is shared, deepened, and lived out. The purpose of this Ministry Plan is to define the strategic direction that will support and strengthen this life and ministry.

To clarify roles and ways of working, this document distinguishes between the following two levels:

- **Ministry Plan** (3 years) The Ministry Plan sets the direction for the congregation's development through strategic objectives. It answers the question: Where are we going? The objectives are broad and provide flexibility in how they are achieved.
- **Action Plan** (1 year) The Action Plan describes the specific activities and measures needed to achieve the strategic objectives. It answers the question: How will we get there? The plan is detailed and is based on the work carried out by staff within their respective ministry areas.

Immanuel Church's Vision

Immanuel Church is a Christian community for people from all over the world. We are one congregation and invite people to worship in many languages, through a variety of expressions and traditions.

We value diversity and seek to be a congregation characterized by warmth, love, and respect. We strive to create an environment where children and young people can flourish, where people find support, and where faith can grow. Here, everyone should feel at home.

This is where I belong – whoever I am, wherever I come from:

- in a community without boundaries.
- among believers from all over the world.
- in a community that makes a difference.
- in a place where my faith can grow.

Our mission is to share the Gospel and build a congregation characterized by warmth, love, and respect, where diversity is valued and faith can grow.

Congregational Life and Ministry

The life and ministry of Immanuel Church are rooted in Christ's calling and seek to be a Christian community, a voice in society, and a meeting place in the heart of Stockholm. Our ministry is broad and encompasses many expressions that are naturally interwoven, ranging from worship and music to fellowship, diaconal ministry, and mission.

Worship and Diversity

Worship is the heart and lifeblood of the congregation. Sunday is the highlight of the week, with services in three languages—Swedish, English, and Korean—but prayer and worship continue throughout the week. Through worship services, devotions, and gatherings in everyday life, space is created for reflection, renewal, and spiritual nourishment. In our worship services, tradition and innovation meet, with Scripture reading, preaching, praise, prayer, and Holy Communion forming the shared foundation.

Music and Culture

Immanuel Church offers a unique platform for cultural expression through its choirs and orchestras, spanning a wide range of musical genres, as well as through Immanuel, its extensive music school. Music carries both faith and culture; it is central to worship and an important part of the church's outreach through an active concert program and music education.

Fellowship and Growth

Congregational life includes meeting places for people of all ages and stages of life. Opportunities for personal and spiritual growth are created through activities for children, youth, and families, confirmation classes, social gatherings for young adults, Bible studies, and discussion groups. We also offer a rich ministry for seniors, including lecture series, cultural walks, and fellowship centered on theology and social issues. The congregation seeks to build a vibrant, intergenerational community where people of all ages meet and enrich one another.

Diaconal Ministry – Care in Action

Through diaconal ministry, faith is put into practice with a particular focus on people facing vulnerable life situations. This includes everything from pastoral care and "Lunch in Fellowship" to emergency support for people experiencing homelessness and newly arrived immigrants, often in collaboration with other organizations within civil society.

Mission

The congregation is mission-oriented and engaged in mission both locally in Stockholm and globally through partnerships with missionaries and projects in various countries, where the Gospel is shared in both word and deed.

Strategiska Inriktningsmål för Immanuelskyrkan 2027–2029

A Growing Church Community

To continue building a church community where more people are given the opportunity to explore their faith: a church where generations and cultures meet, share their faith, and deepen the sense of fellowship within and between the three worshipping communities.

“Praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” Acts 2:47

A Safe and Welcoming Place for Growth

To continue creating a welcoming community that can be a safe place for your faith to grow – whoever you are and wherever you come from.

“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” Eph 3:17-19

Greater Voluntary Engagement

To broaden and develop voluntary engagement across all age groups. To create opportunities for active participation that strengthen both individuals and the church community, while equipping volunteers for service and mission in the church and society.

“Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant...” Mark 10:43

A Diaconal Approach

To ensure that all our activities are shaped by a diaconal approach. To further develop our diaconal work in order to promote greater care, justice, and human dignity, and to be a clear and active diaconal voice in society.

“Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.” Isa 1:17

Sustainable Stewardship of God’s Creation

As stewards of God’s creation, we work to make sustainability a natural part of all our activities and to develop the church community’s ability to practice ecological, economic, and social stewardship in a sustainable way.

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.” Ps 24:1-2