

Environmental Sustainability at Immanuel

July 2025

When Immanuel first came together in 2020, it became apparent that taking care of our environment and this beautiful earth that God created was really important to many of our members. We had many ideas and started out by encouraging recycling of all kinds.



In 2022 we started our Children's Garden – helping the next generation to build a love of gardening and an understanding of the role all God's creatures play in sustaining our environment.

Also in 2022 we started the first section of our native pollinator garden and are pleased to be a part of the Butterflyway.



A vision from the beginning was to change the front yard of the church to be more welcoming and inviting to our community. There is a LOT of grass that is full of thistles and other weeds, and because we don't waste city water on watering the lawn, it doesn't look nice in the summer. We started by eliminating a diseased tree and building 4 raised garden planters where we now grow vegetables to share with others and use water from our rain barrels instead of city water.

This year, we started more earnestly into the transformation of the front yard – something that will take 4 or 5 years at least to complete, as we do just what we can manage each year.

We started with this



On July 3rd, we hired Waxy's Bobcat to come and remove the old bushes, grass and random concrete pieces from in front of the hall, office, and lounge. It was one of the hottest days of the summer – hitting a high of 34 degrees! Shown below are two of Immanuel members working hard in the heat.

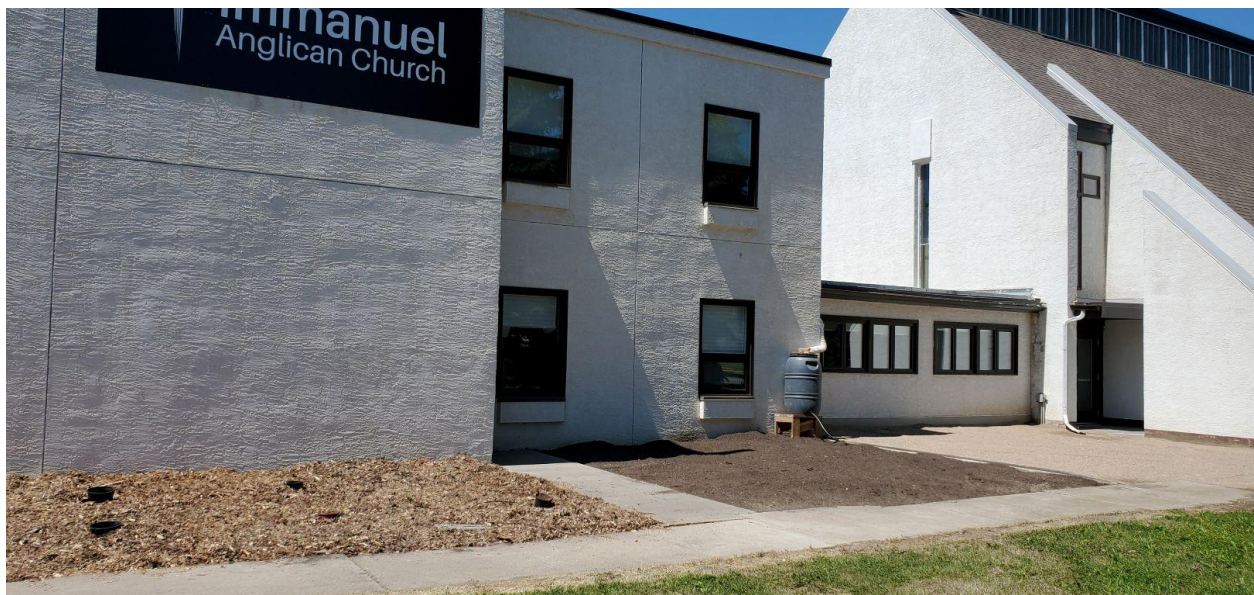


The next week we planted 6 raspberry bushes and laid out cardboard and covered it with mulch to keep the weeds out and also keep moisture in the ground for our plants.

We will add another 8 plants in the fall – they are being donated to Immanuel!



The section that has been covered with crusher dust in front of the lounge is the future home of our prayer garden. No decision has yet been made on the section that is ready for planting in front of the office. We prepared more ground than we planned for due to economies of scale with having Waxy's bobcat out for the first section. A suggestion has been made to plant pumpkins – if you have ideas please bring them forward!



Thanks to everyone who helped to make this vision come together!