

# PARISH THREE

Immanuel and St. Johns Lutheran Churches



## Dec. 13th

9am at St. John's

Dec 20th 9am at Immanuel

Dec 24th 5pm at St. John's

6:15pm at Immanuel

7:30pm at Good Hope

## Dec 27th

9am at Good Hope  
(all churches)

## December



December 6th church is by zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/4409991095...>

Meeting ID 44 999 1095

Password 137207

Remember you can check out the  
website at [Parish3.com](http://Parish3.com)

Following the holidays we will turn our attention towards the new year! Remember to complete your year end reports for the annual meetings. Annual meetings will be January 17th at St. John's and January 24th at Immanuel.

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## Pastor's Page

Dear Friends In Christ,

In 1973, Sandra went with her boyfriend and three other guys to the Gitche Manatou state park near Rock Rapids, Iowa.

While relaxing around a campfire, three men came out of the darkness. They shot and killed the four guys and then one of the men abused Sandra.

Life became hopeless as Sandra suffered guilt and shame for over forty years. Then about 2019 at a book<sup>1</sup> signing, people lined up to tell her how much they had admired her. Finally, she could hold her head high as a hopeless time in her life was finally being put behind her.

Few of us experience this kind of trauma in lives. However, many of us do deal with the burden of tragedies and a longing for hope.

We are living in tragic days with COVID-19. Many are wondering who and when will get it next? Who will not get a needed hospital bed because there are so many COVID patients? Whose surgery will be delayed?

Quite honestly, I am not sensing a lot of hope these days. However, it is when we are without hope that God offers us the greatest hope. Now with December we are entering

into a season that emphasizes hope, the season of Advent.

Advent is four weeks of hope. The color for Advent is blue, a calming color that often means serenity.

Our hope is looking forward to the coming of Jesus Christ, celebrating his first coming at Christmas and anxiously awaiting his second coming at an hour that only the Father in heaven knows.

What will Christmas be like this year? Will we be able to hold services? Will we be able to have family gatherings? Hopefully the answer to those questions is yes.

Perhaps one of the blessings out of this time in our lives is learning to look to God and trust Him in ways we have not done so in the past, thus giving us hope.

This year especially, set up an Advent wreath. As you decorate for Christmas, try putting out something blue to remind you of our hope in Jesus Christ.

These days are fearful and challenging. Do not let the hopelessness and fears overcome you. We have a much greater hope in Jesus Christ. Have a blessed Advent Season and Merry Christmas to all of you

Pastor Kim

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<sup>1</sup> Gitche Girl Uncovered by Phil Hammon and Sandy Hammon eLectio Publishing, 2019 Little Elm, Texas

## **MINUTE BIBLE STUDY**

### **A Season of Hope**

#### **The First Sunday of Advent – Nov. 29th**

##### **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

1. Why does Paul give thanks to God?
2. What else do the people need as they await the Day of the Lord (the return of Jesus).
3. Who is faithful?
4. How is this passage hopeful?

#### **The Second Sunday of Advent – Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>**

##### **2 Peter 3:8-15**

1. How long before the Lord returns?
2. What is the promise in verse 13?
3. How should we wait?
4. How is this passage hopeful?

#### **The Third Sunday of Advent – Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>**

##### **1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

1. As we await the second coming of Christ, what should we be doing?
2. What should we not be doing?
3. What is Paul's prayer (Vers 23-24)
4. How is this passage hopeful?

#### **The Fourth Sunday of Advent – Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>**

##### **Luke 1:26-38**

1. What happened to Mary?
2. What is the message from the angel?
3. How does the angel describe the child?
4. How is this passage hopeful?

# ST. JOHN'S

# IMMANUEL

**Dec 1 - Hailey Kofron**  
**Dec 1 - Steven Schutjer**  
**Dec 2- Levi Wood**  
**Dec 4 - Danielle Kurtzleben**  
**Dec 5 - Tyler Doden**  
**Dec 10 - Evan Hobbs**  
**Dec 16 - Abigail Brandt**  
**Dec 18 - Sherri Kunkel**  
**Dec 19 - Carmen Fjetland**  
**Dec 20 - Andrew Hanna**  
**Dec 23 - Nicholas Doden**  
**Dec 23 - Wendy Harms**  
**Dec 25 - Natalie Hankins**  
**Dec 28 - Alyza Schimmelpennig**  
**Dec 31 -Nancy Buns**



**Dec 2 - Millie Culbertson**  
**Dec 4 - Shelly Kardoes**  
**Dec 5 - Karen Post**  
**Dec 9 - Matthew Schmidt**  
**Dec 10- Amanda Post**  
**Dec 13 - Jennie Alphs**  
**Dec 15 - Chase Stohr**  
**Dec 19 - Nancy Axness**  
**Dec 19 - Kevin Brandt**  
**Dec 20 - Marcia Ullmann**  
**Dec 24 - Gerald Rurup**  
**Dec 24 - Doug Swingen**  
**Dec 27 - Owen Harms**  
**Dec 28 - Matt Escobar**  
**Dec 30 - Allison Ullmann**  
**Dec 31 - Betty Ricklefs**



**Dec 8 - Wayne & Jeanne Tollagson**  
**Dec 11 - Denny & Linda Smith**

**Dec 9 - John & Karla Schutter**  
**Dec 20 - Gerald & Janice Meyer**  
**Dec 27 - Ron & Deb Schmidt**



Mercy One light up a life lighting program signup deadline is on Friday, December 11th. The information was in your November newsletter.

Thank you to those that purchased wreaths this year for your home or for the church. The money will be used to help a family in need. The PNF committee

# Immanuel News

## Servant Schedule

Communion/Dossal/ Banners  
Greg & Julie Finer

## Readers

December 20th - David Post

# St. John's News

## Servant Schedule

Ushers - Clay Hobbs & Jason  
Doege  
Communion - Deb Schim-  
melfennig

Bulletin Board -Diana Hayungs

Altar Cloths & Flowers  
Deb Schimmelfennig

## Readers

Dec. 13th - Wendy Harms



Tentative - Parish Three Council  
Meeting December 8th! Check to see  
on time and place.

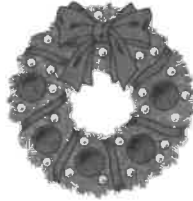


## Annual Meetings in January

January 17th - St. John's -  
meeting after church

January 24th - Immanuel  
meeting after church

We filled 83 school bags this  
year! Thank you and great  
work everyone for helping out!



### Wreaths for St. John's - Memorial

\*\*In memory of Loren & Donna Roberts and  
Kenny & Betty Buns from Mona & Denny Buns

\*\*In Memory of Pastor Trudy from Pastor Kim.

\*\*In Memory of Dick & Pat Schutjer & Robert &  
Elaine Rezac from Bruce & Phyllis Schutjer

\*\*In memory of Leonard & Nancy Steffen &  
Douglas & Dore White from Jim & Lisa Steffen

\*\*In Memory of John and Frances Brunsen from  
Daryl & Karen Brunsen

\*\*In Memory of Larry & Betty Fox from Daryl &  
Karen Brunsen



The Sharing tree is hoping to be up soon. Please be sure to stop by St. John's church and pick an angel from the tree and buy a toy for that child in need.

Val said an email will be sent to all members when she gets confirmation of children/gifts. You can pass the word on if you know of someone who doesn't have an email with us.

Please note the date that it will need to be returned!!



Hat and mitten boxes are located at Immanuel and St. John's. Collection will continue through December for the Immanuel Project! Donations are appreciated to help keep someone warm that is in need!



November 28, 2020

Dear friends and sponsors,

Happy Thanksgiving, and a blessed Advent season to you all!

I know that this holiday season will be unlike any other, with many of the usual celebrations and gatherings cancelled because of Covid-19. As cases surge in the upper Midwest, you are all in our prayers. I hope that you will stay safe and find meaningful ways to celebrate in spite the difficult circumstances.

Here in Cameroon, it seems we have been spared, so far, the high infection rates current in the United States. For the sake of comparison, there have been about 900 cases per million population in Cameroon, whereas in the U.S. it is over 40,000 per million population ([www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/#countries](http://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/#countries)). I will leave it to experts to explain why that is the case and simply say that I am very grateful that infection rates are not so high here. Hospitals would be very quickly overwhelmed if the situation were anything like that in the U.S.

At the Lutheran Institute of Theology, we were able to start the 2020-2021 academic year on schedule at the beginning of October. Our total number of students is around 50 as usual, but what is new this year is that we have seven female students – an all-time high! The first semester is progressing well.



*Beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year at the Lutheran Institute of Theology at Meiganga*



David and Etienne began kindergarten in October. On November 6, their school held a “graduation” ceremony for those who had finished preschool and were starting primary school, a ceremony that had been postponed since June because of the pandemic. They were very proud to wear their caps and gowns! More importantly, they are enjoying being back in school and learning lots every day.

That is all for now. I pray that the season of Advent and the expectation of our coming Savior will bring you hope and peace.

+ Grace and peace +

*Elisabeth (with Eric, Schekina, David, and Etienne)*

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# How Well Do You Know Your Christmas Carols?

Match the title with the lines from the song.

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| ___ O Little Town of Bethlehem      | 1. Good tidings we bring to you and your kin                           |
| ___ What Child Is This?             | 2. Long lay the world in sin and error pining                          |
| ___ Love Came Down at Christmas     | 3. Please have snow and mistletoe and presents on the tree             |
| ___ Go, Tell It on the Mountain     | 4. Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day                |
| ___ Jolly Old Saint Nicholas        | 5. From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold     |
| ___ We Wish You a Merry Christmas   | 6. Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary           |
| ___ Of the Father's Love Begotten   | 7. The ox and lamb kept time   |
| ___ Carol of the Bells              | 8. Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light   |
| ___ God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen     | 9. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation                          |
| ___ Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella | 10. The world, they treat you mean, they treat me mean, too            |
| ___ Pat-a-Pan                       | 11. And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains            |
| ___ Sweet Little Jesus Boy          | 12. On December five and twenty  |
| ___ O Holy Night                    | 13. From the eastern kingdoms come the wise men far                    |
| ___ Silver Bells                    | 14. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light              |
| ___ It Came Upon a Midnight Clear   | 15. Children laughing, people passing, greeting smile after smile      |
| ___ Hark! The Herald Angels Sing    | 16. The blind will see, the lame will walk, the dead will rise again   |
| ___ I'll Be Home for Christmas      | 17. O'er the fields we go, laughing all the way                        |
| ___ Away in the Manger              | 18. Star and angels gave the sign                                      |
| ___ Sing We Now of Christmas        | 19. Peace on Earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled          |
| ___ Angels, We Have Heard on High   | 20. Treetops glisten & children listen to hear sleighbells in the snow |
| ___ Silent Night                    | 21. Lean your ear this way   |
| ___ Mary, Did You Know?             | 22. The men of olden days gave the King of Kings their praise          |
| ___ We Three Kings                  | 23. Behold, throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light           |
| ___ O Come All Ye Faithful          | 24. He is Alpha & Omega, He the source, the ending He                  |
| ___ Joy to the World                | 25. Let Earth receive her King! Let every heart prepare Him room       |
| ___ Little Drummer Boy              | 26. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes                             |
| ___ The Holly and the Ivy           | 27. Round yon Virgin Mother and Child                                  |
| ___ Fum, Fum, Fum                   | 28. Beautiful is the mother! Hush! Hush! Beautiful is her Child!       |
| ___ Jingle Bells                    | 29. One seems to hear words of good cheer from everywhere              |
| ___ White Christmas                 | 30. The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir         |