

PARISH THREE

Immanuel and St. Johns Lutheran Churches



January Worship Schedule

January 2nd	9:00a.m. at Immanuel
January 9th	9:00a.m. at St. John's
January 16th	9:00a.m. at Immanuel (Annual Mtg.)
January 23rd	9:00a.m. at St. John's (Annual Mtg.)
January 30th	9:00a.m. at Immanuel



As we turn our attention towards the new year,
remember to complete your year-end reports for the annual
meetings.

Deadline to submit reports is **January 5th.**

Annual reports should be sent to parishthre@wctatel.net

Parish Information:
Office Phone: 641-926-5798
Office email: Parishthre@wctatel.net

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Pr. Kim Home: 515-928-2552
Pr. Kim EMAIL: ktkso2@netins.net
Mailing: PO Box 95, Woden, Iowa 50484

Pastor's COLUMN

January 2022

Dear Friends In Christ,

Another New Year! Those who are of the younger crowd are looking forward to life's journey. Another New Year means the excitement of growing up, reaching for life's goals, and all of the excitement life has to offer.

For those who are a little older, we wonder, "How did we arrive at 2022 so quickly"?

A heartbeat ago many of us were young and strong, looking forward to life's goals. Now life seems to be going by with the blink of an eye. The Psalmist captured the feeling well.

"As for man, his days are like grass, he flourishes like a flower of the field; {16} the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more." (Psa 103:15-16 NIV)

Could one of the reasons for the speed of life's passing is that we are frequently moving with speed? We live in a time of speed. How fast can we get from one place to another? How quickly can our meals be served? How quickly can we get in contact with someone?

With some of the wonders of today we no longer know the meaning of waiting. Look around any waiting room or place where a person is alone. Our electronics provide entertainment, from games to reading a book.

Today our cell phones make us available almost anywhere, any time. I have read that technology anticipated to be here in fifty years has actually become available today. Time is moving quickly.

All of these tools are wonderful for managing our time and our relationships. On the other hand, if we do not be careful our tools will own our time and us. A result can be time moving too quickly which in turn means our lives are moving too quickly.

As we enter the year 2022 think about some slow time for the young and the old. Remember the saying, "stop and smell the Roses." As we practice our faith life I remind you of another saying from Psalm 46:10 "Be Still and know that I am God"

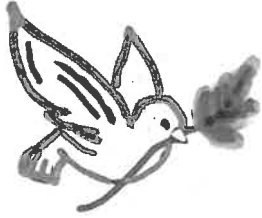
Time is a gift from God. Entering into this New Year we have an opportunity to rethink the gift of time. How will we use it? Or will our time use us? Reflect on the stewardship of your time. Are you trying to do too much? Do you make time to be still and know God?

If we are honest with ourselves this year will probably be faster than last year. Going faster makes taking time to be still all the more important. Make time each day and each week to be still with God.

Have a blessed, slower, and quieter New Year.

Pastor Kim Peterson





MINUTE BIBLE STUDY



Psalm 46

We are entering the New Year with many hopes and prayers that this year will be better than the next. Maybe it will be, maybe not. One thing we can be certain of, God is our refuge and strength.

During a quiet moment – think about that first verse. How has God been or can be your refuge and strength?

Vss. 2-3 When does it feel like the earth is shaking under your feet? Why do you not need fear?

Vss. 4-5 See Revelation 22:1-3 for further understanding about the River.

Vs. 6 Are nations in an uproar today? How does that affect your life?

Vss. 7-9 What should we look for? What is the Living God (the LORD) doing – think of the cross?

Vss. 10 What does it mean to “be still”. What will happen when you are still?

Immanuel News

Servant Schedule

Communion/Dossal/ Banners

Allen & Susan Post

Readers

January 2nd - Wendy Harms

January 16th - Sherri Post

January 30th - Susan Post

St. John's News

Servant Schedule

Ushers

Eric Larson & Daryl Beenken

Communion

Julie Larson

Bulletin Board

Emogene Kurtzleben

Shannon Doege

Altar Cloths & Flowers

Lisa Steffen

Readers

January 9th - Wendy Harms

January 23rd - Val Gibbs

Annual Church Meeting



Immanuel's Annual Meeting will
be on **Sunday, January 16th**
following church service.

ANNUAL MEETING

St. John's Annual Meeting will
be on **Sunday, January 23rd**
following church service.



JANUARY
BIRTHDAYS

IMMANUEL

Jan 2 - Doug Culbertson
Jan 3 - Timothy Ricklefs
Jan 4 - Jay Mayland
Jan 6 - Gregory Gjerde
Jan 8 - Le Ann Bruns
Jan 8 - Michael Mayland
Jan 8 - Abby Sexton
Jan 13 - Kody Plymesser
Jan 14 - Branden Larsen
Jan 16 - Julie Alphas
Jan 17 - Sharon Hoffmann
Jan 17 - Tyson Ricklefs
Jan 20 - Nicholas Kardoes
Jan 30 - Scott Gjerde
Jan 30 - Ronald Schmidt
Jan 30 - Emily Ullmann
Jan 31 - Ethan Boyken

ST. JOHN'S

Jan 3 - Nick Wood
Jan 9 - Lori Larson
Jan 14 - Amy Juhl
Jan 15- Jim Steffen
Jan 16 - Morgan Hobbs
Jan 16 - Allyson Wilson
Jan 17 - Jacob Rivera
Jan 18 - Britaney Folkerts
Jan 19 - Nolan Harmon
Jan 20 - Deb Alphas
Jan 20 - Dennis Smith
Jan 22 - Jake Wood
Jan 23 - Dixie Buns
Jan 24 - Jacquelyn Kennedy
Jan 25 - Lori Neal
Jan 26 - Karen Larson
Jan 28 - Olivia Gibbs
Jan 30 - Steve Gerdes



Parish Three Council Meeting

Thursday, January 13th at 7:00pm at St. John's



Thank You.

**Thank you for the many
Christmas cards
and gifts.**

**We very much appreciate
your thoughtfulness, care, and love.**

**May God bless all of you
with
a joyous and wonderful
2022!**

Pastor Kim & Bess Peterson

*Thank
You!*



Thank you to everyone who purchased an angel gift or donated food for the sharing tree. A special thanks to Lisa Steffen for delivering the items to Mason City. May your generosity be a blessing to those who received the gifts.





"By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace" (Luke 1:78-79).

Friends,

On the night of Dec. 10 and early morning of Dec. 11, an outbreak of at least 30 tornadoes swept through six states. So far, 94 people are reported dead across five states, more than 80 of those in Kentucky. For those unaccounted for, search-and-rescue operations are underway. Homes and businesses were destroyed, and over 300,000 people were without electricity.

Lutheran Disaster Response is collaborating with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod and other partners in the area to assess the damage and develop an immediate and a long-term response plan. Your gifts to support these response efforts will empower our partners to meet survivors' immediate and long-term needs. Given the extent of the damage, recovery will take years as thousands of homes will need to be rebuilt or repaired. With your support, Lutheran Disaster Response can accompany survivors on the long road to recovery.

Your gifts to "U.S. Tornadoes" will be used in full (100%) to help people impacted by the tornadoes until the response is complete.

The season of Advent is a time of hope as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth. Right now, we have an opportunity to share hope with our neighbors in their time of greatest need. Please join me in prayer and consider giving if you are able.

In Christ's service,

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran
Disaster Response Fund
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Additional Ways to Give

Checks or money orders can be sent to:

Lutheran Disaster Response

P.O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Write "U.S. Tornadoes" on your check memo line.

Give by phone at **800-638-3522**

(Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm CT) or [online](#).

Message from Lutheran Services in Iowa

January 2022, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Amplifying the Voices of Iowa Children and Families

Individuals struggling without access to critical healthcare and family support services. Human service providers overworked and underpaid. Former refugees and immigrants striving to build new lives in the U.S.

These are all issues faced by Iowans. Help us ensure their voices are heard at the Iowa State Capitol. Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) will be advocating for our community members who are so often overlooked in our society. You can join us in this important work. Visit LSIowa.org/advocacy and sign up for our Advocacy Alerts. Learn more about the legislative process, the issues impacting your neighbors, and your role as a citizen in helping to amplify their voices. Save the date for March 10, 2022, and join us for Lutheran Day on the Hill, a day of advocacy and education at the Iowa State Capitol. If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Entrepreneurship, Food, and Welcoming

In 2006, Ali and her family traveled from Kenya and resettled in the U.S. They found themselves in an unfamiliar place: Iowa. But today, they still call Iowa home, thanks to the community they built and the support they received while resettling in the U.S. LSI Refugee and Immigrant Services helped the family become comfortable and confident living in their new community.

"They taught us to shop, register for school – all the basic needs. Even winter shopping for the Iowa weather," Ali says. "They taught us how to get by. It was nice to help us get settled in."

After some time in Iowa, Ali and her husband, Salah, decided they wanted to open a restaurant as successful as the one they had in Kenya. They soon realized how challenging this would be – the biggest obstacle being the financial burden of opening a restaurant in the Des Moines area. After 15 years of never giving up on their goals, they were able to open Gursha Ethiopian Grill.

Opening during a pandemic, when other restaurants in the industry struggled to remain open, has come with its share of obstacles. But thanks to community support, the restaurant is a popular destination in the area.

Ali dreams of one day franchising to other locations. With their continuously growing clientele and delicious food, this goal is not far away.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rural Titonka
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January 2022 Newsletter

