



PARISH THREE

Immanuel and St. Johns Lutheran Churches



Fall Worship Schedule

September 3	9:00a.m.	Immanuel
September 10	9:00a.m.	St. John's w/Communion
September 10	10:45a.m.	Worship at Titonka Care Center
September 17	9:00a.m.	Immanuel
September 24	9:00a.m.	St. John's w/Communion
October 1	9:00a.m.	Immanuel
October 8	9:00a.m.	St. John's w/Communion
October 15	9:00a.m.	Immanuel
October 22	9:00a.m.	St. John's w/Communion
October 29	9:00a.m.	Immanuel



Thank you to the choir, director, and accompanists for all of their hard work and talents they have shared with us this summer!
The special music is a wonderful addition to our worship services!

Parish Information:
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Living out our faith. Living out our tradition.

This fall as the rhythm of the seasons change I give thanks for God's steadfast love. In the words of scriptures God's mercies never end.

Lamentations 3 NRSV

²² The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,

his mercies never come to an end;

²³ they are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

God's mercy—God's compassion is new every day. And the traditions of our churches can help us see God's continuing compassion. Fall is filled with traditions in many churches. Rally day, service Sundays, prayers for the beginning of the harvest—these traditions from the past can live on today. Traditions are powerful—they can help people make sense of lives ups and downs. There are a whole lot of living traditions in our 3 churches. Some old celebrations have continued for generations. Old relationships and deep family connections can last. But at the heart of the Christian tradition there's something older than any church building and far deeper than old family bonds. The heart of living Christianity is faith that Jesus has died and risen and that in Jesus we will live on after death.

Traditions shape how we live today. But I've learned there's a difference between tradition and traditionalism. My dad used to say in churches tradition is the living faith of the dead. But he warned traditionalism is the dead faith of the living. That's a powerful warn. We want our 3 churches to carry on the values, faith, persistence, and hope of the people who walked before us. Their faith still lives. But we can't be dominated by tradition and miss the new mercies God is giving us to share with the world today.

The church's mission for 2000 years has been spreading the good news of Easter to the next generation. The good news is clear—Jesus has overcome death—and all who believe in him will live. Our top priority is to spread the news of a God who shares new mercies. As churches, our living tradition, as God's people gathered around the good news of Jesus, is sharing resurrection promise. When we are at our best as church we are talking about resurrection, the forgiveness of sins, and the new life that starts with Jesus.

My dad pointed out the difference between tradition and traditionalism. Tradition passes life along to the next generation. But traditionalism can be down-right stifling. Growing up as a Catholic I met many people who were upset by any changes in church. Some folks were so rigid in their understanding of church and worship. They looked down on anyone who worshipped differently. Some traditionalists eagerly told everybody the rules and pointed out other people's flaws. As young adult I struggled to see how Jesus and what he had to say in the 4 Gospels fit into all the rules of the traditionalists.

I keep learning reading scripture that walking with Jesus is not about living in the past. Jesus didn't ask his disciples to walk backwards in time. Jesus sent his followers into the world to share the good news of the Kingdom of Heaven. Walking with Jesus means daily taking a new step today into this world believing that God is going to be with us in the future just as he has been in the past.

Peace and blessings,
Pastor John Heille



10 MINUTE BIBLE STUDY



Read Exodus 1:8-14

The story of God's people started with Abraham and Sarah. And their great grandson Joseph held the second most powerful position in the Egyptian kingdom. Joseph served the King—the Pharaoh. He was the reason Abraham and Sarah's descendants ended up in Egypt. Then generations later a new king was born who had forgotten who Joseph was or what he had done.

The Hebrew people were first welcomed into Egypt but now they faced slavery.

What was the danger of forgetting history?

What was the root cause of this king's evil intentions?

Read Exodus 1:15-16

This story is awful—it's no fairy tale. The Pharaoh was paranoid and his only solution was to kill innocent children.

What is the best response to a king like this giving an order like this?

Read Exodus 1:17-22

Two women stand out as heroes in this story.

What do you admire about them?

Read Exodus 2:1-4

A little boy was born. The order of the king was he should die. But his mother and sister conspired together to keep him alive.

What does this story have to teach us about courage?

Read Exodus 2:5-10

An unexpected character enters the story. The Princess sees this baby boy in his floating bassinet. She knows the orders of her father. And she takes this boy and raises him in the palace. A quick thinking sister brings the baby's own mother to the Princess to come and nurse the child.

God hasn't been mentioned in the story directly.

How do you feel that God has been engaged in the story of the people of Israel?

What did the story have to teach us about evil and God's faithfulness?

IMMANUEL

Sept 1 - Jenee Eden
Sept 2 - Verla Bartelt
Sept 2 - Steven Meyer
Sept 8 - Jim Post
Sept 9 - Travis Stohr
Sept 11 - Russell Bruns
Sept 14 - Michael Fredrickson
Sept 20 - Judy Spear
Sept 21 - Gary Brandt
Sept 21 - Leslie Stohr
Sept 24 - Lilith Francel
Sept 26 - Sydney Fredrickson



ST. JOHN'S

Sept 1 - James Kennedy
Sept 1 - Cameron Krebsbach
Sept 2 - Dennis Squier
Sept 3 - Alan Larson
Sept 5 - Amanda Gross
Sept 7 - Lisa Steffen
Sept 12 - Deven Showalter
Sept 17 - Isabal Haugland
Sept 17 - Dan Weber
Sept 17 - Terell Wilson
Sept 19 - Emma Henken
Sept 21 - Heather Brandt
Sept 21 - Griffin Doden
Sept 21 - Cody Doege
Sept 21 - Clay Hobbs
Sept 21 - Kallista Larson
Sept 24 - Brian Steffen
Sept 25 - Joel Bilyeu
Sept 26 - Emogene Kurtzleben
Sept 26 - Hatley Schutjer
Sept 27 - Logan Hobbs



Sept 6 - Brad & Wendy Harms
Sept 7 - Weston & Shelby Harms
Sept 16 - Lloyd & Verla Bartelt
Sept 23 - Greg & Debra Poyzer
Sept 30 - Scott & Sherry Smithart

Sept 12 - Gary & Cheryl Schutjer
Sept 15 - Jim & Lisa Steffen
Sept 22 - Denny & Mona Buns
Sept 23 - Gary & Dianna Hayungs
Sept 23 - Jacob & Karrie Smith

Immanuel

Servant Schedule

Communion/Dossal

Weston & Shelby Harms

Banners

Organist

Readers

Sept. 3 - Wendy Harms

Sept. 17 - Sherri Post

St. John's

Servant Schedule

Ushers

Thomas Buns & Jim Steffen

Communion

Karen Brunsen

Altar Cloths & Flowers

Melissa Brandt

Readers

Sept. 10 - Val Gibbs

Sept. 24 - Gary Hayungs

Titonka Care Center Live-Stream Volunteer Schedule

Sept. 3 - Rachel K. & Damien

Sept. 10 - In-person worship @ 10:45a.m.

Sept. 17 - Wally & Sue Heyer

Sept. 24 - Allen & Susan Post

Oct. 1 - John & Emogene Kurtzleben

Oct. 8 - David & Marsha Bergstrom

Oct. 15 - Kyle & Maddie Post

Oct. 22 - Gail & Kevin Hamilton

Oct. 29 - Jim Post

Nov. 5 - Rachel K & Damien

Nov. 12 - Wally & Sue Heyer

Nov. 19 - Allen & Susan Post

Nov. 26 - John & Emogene Kurtzleben

Dec. 3 - David & Marsha Bergstrom

Dec. 10 - Kyle & Maddie Post

Dec. 17 - Gail & Kevin Hamilton

Dec. 24 - Jim Post

Dec. 31 - Rachel K & Damien



Parish Three Council Meeting
September 11th
Immanuel at 7:00pm





Confirmation Classes will begin on
Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 6:30p.m. @ Good Hope.
The first meeting will be for students and at least
one parent.



The Youth Night planning meeting has been rescheduled for
September 10th at 6:00p.m. @ Good Hope.

Come help us plan our activities for the next year. All youth
starting 6th grade and older are welcome. Parents and
interested adults are strongly encouraged to attend.



WOW will start up on Wednesday, September 13th
from 6:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. at St. John's!

The WOW students will be filling school bags on their first
day back and will be provided with an evening meal that day.
We will continue to meet every Wednesday.

We encourage St. John's & Immanuel members or
non-members from the community to bring children ages 3
thru 5th grade to WOW.

If you could teach a Wednesday night or two, please let
Phyllis or Aleysha know.

Undie Sunday

September 10th is "Undie Sunday"! The Western Iowa Synod is asking congregations to donate underwear to their local shelters. This is an often overlooked need that is crucial for the care of the unhoused. Through the month of September there will be donation boxes at both churches. Donations should be new and in original packages. Both children and adult sizes are needed. Together we can make a difference!



St. John's WELCA
General Meeting
Thursday, September 7th
at 7:00pm



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH CLEANING

THE ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING
LISTS HAVE BEEN PUT OUT. IF YOU
ARE ABLE TO HELP CLEAN THE
CHURCH, PLEASE DO SO BY
SATURDAY, SEPT. 9TH.

GROUP 1 - UPSTAIRS

GROUP 2 - DOWNSTAIRS



Thank you for your church's generous support for the
Ride Against Hunger! We are church together and together
over \$63,000 was raised for ELCA World Hunger!

Thank you,
Bishop Lonna

Message from Lutheran Services in Iowa

September 2023, LSI Newsletter Article

Leave a Legacy Gift

LSI has responded to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service for over 150 years. During this time, we've created a legacy of lifting up and empowering thousands of our Iowa neighbors, thanks to the generosity of donors like you.

You can celebrate your lifetime through a legacy gift, to ensure LSI can continue to provide lifesaving services for those in need. Many of our faithful donors want their gifts to continue after their lifetime, and have elected to leave a legacy through LSI's foundation or the ELCA foundation.

Planned gifts to LSI help to create a firm foundation for our ministry and contribute more than \$400,000 each year.

Thanks to the generous compassion of individual donors, congregations such as yours, and our ministry partners at the three synods of the ELCA, we can be confident LSI will be here to meet the changing needs of Iowans for years to come.

You Can Make a Lasting Impact

A longtime supporter of LSI turned an appreciated real estate asset into a charitable remainder unitrust agreement with the ELCA foundation. Because of this agreement, they will receive income from the trust for the remainder of their two lives, and subsequently to their two adult children for a twenty-year term. According to the actuarial tables, this gift will finally terminate in about forty years, leaving a very strong and greatly appreciated impact on LSI's future.

Another LSI donor elected to share their investment by directing a required minimum distribution (RMD) from their IRA directly to LSI. The donor used this contribution to match new or increased gifts during the annual matching gift campaign.

We ask you to consider how you can make a lasting impact and leave a legacy. To learn more about planned giving opportunities, go to LSIowa.org/leave-a-legacy/ or contact Deb Whitford, LSI senior 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.

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