

# PARISH THREE

Immanuel and St. Johns Lutheran Churches

Summer



## WORSHIP TIMES

9 am Worship

August 4<sup>th</sup> at Good Hope

August 11<sup>th</sup> at St. John's

August 18<sup>th</sup> at Immanuel

August 25<sup>th</sup> at the Woden South Park at **10:30** am

September 1st at Good Hope



### Picnic Plans



If you have had a change of address or are not receiving the newsletter and would like to, please contact the office at 641-926-5798 or at [parishthre@wctatel.net](mailto:parishthre@wctatel.net).

Parish Information:  
Office Phone: 641-926-5798  
Office email: [Parishthre@wctatel.net](mailto:Parishthre@wctatel.net)

Pr. Kim Cell: 605-759-5415  
Pr. Kim Home: 515-928-2552  
Pr. Kim EMAIL: [ktkso2@netins.net](mailto:ktkso2@netins.net)  
Mailing: PO Box 95, Woden, Iowa 50484

Dear Friends In Christ,

*Lord, help me to focus on what is important today.*

Some days it seems like our feet are running before they ever hit the floor in the morning. Arising from our beds we face a day of demands, some of our own making while others are because of jobs, school, even marriage and family.

We may see all of those demands as just the way life is. Those demands may even give us a feeling of importance because so many need us. However, that way of life can become rather exhausting. Those demands become more than demands as they pull us here and there. Prayers for strength seem to go unanswered. We might even find ourselves a bit irritable.

Do all of those demands ever leave you frustrated, even angry?

Martha welcomed Jesus into her home. She began working, and working, and working. She was doing what was expected when entertaining guests. As she worked hard to make sure Jesus and his disciples were cared for she felt overwhelmed. Meanwhile, her sister sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to him.

Martha had too much to do. As she was being dragged in so many directions trying to care for those she loved she became angry that her sister was not helping her.

"Jesus, tell her to get in here and help me!"

Jesus' response was not to tell Mary to get to work but to speak ever so gently saying, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her" Mary was focused on the right thing, on Jesus, while Martha was being dragged this way and that by all the tasks she thought were important but in reality distracted her from what was truly important.

Have you ever prayed for the strength to get everything done that needs to be completed?

When the demands of life become too much we no longer have time for God. We may justify our life with God by thinking such things as, "I pray all of the time" or "I don't need to go to church to pray." While such statements may be true, they attempt to slip Jesus into our lives in between the demands rather than making him the most important.

I have found that when I let myself become too busy, pulled in this direction and that direction, my body gives out in exhaustion and illness. Everything that was so important is no longer urgent. I discover that I am not so important in keeping things going as I am forced to take time to rest. When this happens to any of us, we have the time to listen to God answer our prayers as He tells us what is important. Does God give us the strength to do more or does God speak to us like He spoke to Martha, "you are distracted by too many things." Jesus told Martha, "Mary has chosen the right thing."

We must take time each day to stop for awhile to listen to Jesus. Each week, it is important for us to stop from all of the busyness to go to worship and sit at the feet of Jesus. The deliberate break from everything to sit quietly, sing hymns, listen to the Bible read and explained, to participate in the prayers. Changing our clothes, taking a deliberate break from everything, travelling to church are all an important break from the demands of life that remind us what is the most important thing in life.

If you are not taking that break, try it. At first it might seem like another demand but as worship becomes a routine part of your week you will find that sitting at the feet of Jesus will become most important. Like Mary, you will chose the better part, which will not be taken from you.

Based on Luke 10:38-42

*Lord, help me to not become lost in the demands of life.*

*Help me to choose the better part, which will not be taken from me.*



# Immanuel News

## Servant Schedule

Communion/Dossal/ Banners  
Doug & Lisa Swingen

## Readers

August 18– Arvid Boyken

## Acolytes

August 18 Laura Stohr

## Parish Three Council Meeting

August 13 at Good Hope at  
7:00pm

The St. John's WELCA ladies will take any donations for their quilting. We will use old sheets, blankets, old jeans, material old or new. Your donations help a great deal for us to be able to make quilts during the year. Thank you!

# St. John's News

## Servant Schedule

Ushers - Denny Buns & Rusty Meyering  
Communion - Emogene Kurtz-leben

Bulletin Board - Diana Hayungs

Altar Cloths & Flowers  
Thelma Meyering & Bev Nielsen

## Readers

August 11 Doris Haugland

August 25 Pat Gibbs

## Acolytes

August 11 Kyra Gibbs

Annual Church Cleaning  
August 12th– 16th  
Group 1 - Upstairs  
Group 2 - Downstairs

**WELCA Bible Study**  
No Meeting in August

# WOW

Again this year we are collecting school supplies for the school bag kits for WOW at St. John's. We ask for you to have the supplies to the church by Sunday, September 1st. The following is a list of supplies needed: ruler - in inches and centimeters, large erasers, notebook lined paper, pencils (not sharpened), pens (black or blue - no gel pens), colors (16 or 24 count) pencil sharpener, safety scissors. There will be boxes at St. John's and Immanuel for you to drop off the supplies

Please join us on August 18, 2019, to honor Rev. Ted Ager for his 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his ordination.

A program will be held at the Old East Paint Creek Lutheran Church, Waterville, IA at 3 p.m. with a reception following. We would like anyone who Pastor Ted baptized, confirmed, or married to stand and be recognized at the program. If you have a special story that you wish to have shared during the program, please send to:

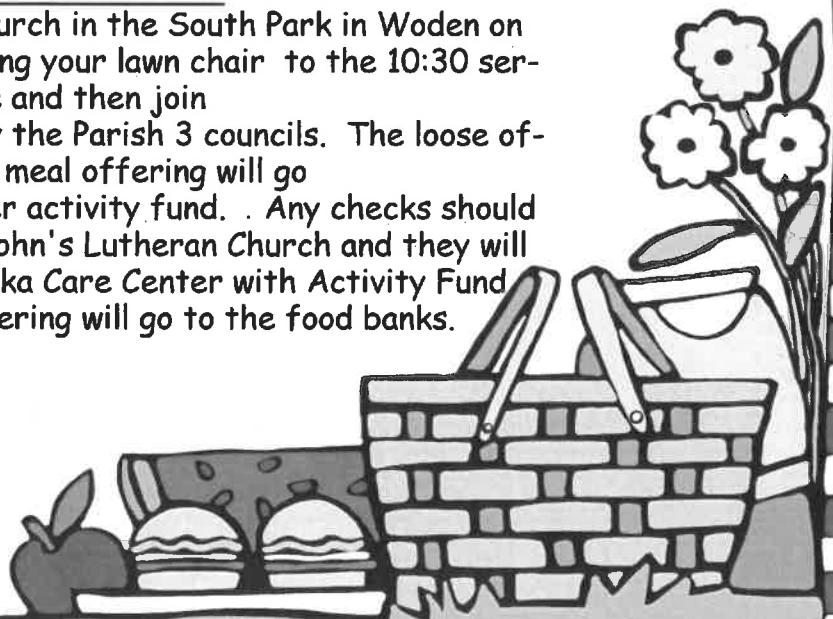
Rev. Ken Kimball  
1783 Elon Dr.  
Waterville, IA 52170

We hope that you can join us for this special occasion, but if you are unable and wish to send a note, please send to:

Rev. Ted Ager  
1675 Elon Dr.  
Waterville, IA 52170

## Church in the Park

Everyone is invited to church in the South Park in Woden on Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. Bring your lawn chair to the 10:30 service and then join us for a meal sponsored by the Parish 3 councils. The loose offering and meal offering will go to the Titonka Care Center activity fund. Any checks should be made payable to St. John's Lutheran Church and they will get sent on to the Titonka Care Center with Activity Fund noted. The noisy offering will go to the food banks.



# ST. JOHN'S

# IMMANUEL

**August 3 - Julie Pigman**

**August 4—Caleb Gerdes**

**August 6—Val Gibs**

**August 7 — Ryan Hobbs**

**August 9—Kathy Krull**

**August 9—Ervin Tegtmeyer**

**August 10—Pam Kloser**

**August 13- Thomas Buns**

**August 13—Ron Dahle**

**August 13- Ruth Haugland**

**August 13—Doug Hanna**

**August 14- Brandy Juenger**

**August 15- Logan Kunkel**

**August 15—Jacob Schim-  
melfennig**

**August 17- Melissa Brandt**

**August 17 Marie Stohr**

**August 17—Jeanne Tollagson**

**August 19—Terry Albers**

**August 21—Parker Feuring**

**August 21—Wayne Tollagson**

**August 22—Daryl Beenken**

**August 25—Bruce Schutjer**



**August 1—David Post**

**August 1—Laura Stohr**

**August 2—Diane Bruns**

**August 3—Ellie Eden**

**August 5—Deborah Poyzer**

**August 5—Landon Sexton**

**August 11—Beuford Stohr**

**August 16—Rozzie Stohr**

**August 17- Marlin Brandt**

**August 17- Meaghan Schmidt**

**August 20—Emily Cox**

**August 26—Kandice Beenken**

**August 26—William Brandt**

**August 31—Lynda Krause**



**August 2—Don & Kathy Krull**

**August 5—Clay & Pat Hobbs**

**August 6—Alan & Lynne Larson**

**August 9—Jordan & Jessica Wellik**

**August 15— Dylan & Aleysha Brandt**

**August 18—Lyle & Janice Doege**

**August 1—Greg & Ann Brandt**

**August 7—Gerald & Karen Rurup**

**August 8—Travis & Roxanne Stohr**

**August 13—Allen & Susan Post**

**August 14—Scott & Amy Luedke**

**August 19 Michael & Kathleen Ubben**

**August 21—Cliff & Nancy Axness**

**August 30—David & Sherri Post**

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**August 31—Kim & Trudy Peterson**