



## February Worship Schedule

Feb 2nd 9am at Immanuel - Annual Meeting

Feb 9th 9 am at St. John's

Feb 16th 9 am at Immanuel

Feb 23rd 9 am at St. John's

Feb 26th - Ash Wednesday 7:00 pm St. John's

## Annual Reports

If you were not in attendance but would like a copy of the annual report from either church, you can email the office and a digital copy will be sent to you, or you can pick up a paper copy at each of the churches.

## Lenten Schedule

Feb. 26th - Ash Wednesday 7:00 pm St. John's

March 4th - 7:00 pm Immanuel      March 11th 7:00 pm Good Hope

March 18th 7:00 pm St. John's      March 25th 7:00 pm Immanuel

April 1st 7:00 pm Good Hope      April 9th 7:00 pm St. John's

April 10th Good Friday 7:00 pm Good Hope (Community Service)

Parish Information:  
Office Phone: 641-926-5798  
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Pr. Kim Cell: 605-759-5415  
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# Pastor's COLUMN

February 2020

You are dust and to dust you shall return. We hear these words every year at Ash Wednesday, but what does this mean.

Think of when it is time to clean out the family home. Tempting as it is to keep everything, there is not enough space to keep it all. We must clean out the old to make room for the new. Things will have to go into the burn pile.

Before our eyes are the old notebooks filled with familiar handwriting. The carefully filed receipts tell the story of life from generations past. Sorting through old calendars memories come back. "Remember the winter when it was below zero for a month?" Digging further we find old photos of people long forgotten.

So many memories. There is not enough space to keep everything. Things will have to go into the burn pile.

The story of a life from which we have come goes into the hot fire.

The papers, the receipts, the calendars become ash before eyes.

As we watch the pile black pieces of burnt paper float into the air, gently floating on the breeze.

In the ashes, the memories of a life past are gone forever. The glories of youth, of love, of life and family have become ashes, mere dust. They were the stories of those long gone.

Gone in the burn pile. How quickly and easily those papers, the life of another have become ashes and dust. With the slightest puff of breath they blow away, never to return.

As sad as it is to burn the past memories it is necessary to make room for new memories. Yet at the same time we know that one day our children will be staring at a similar burn pile watching our treasured memories burn.

You are dust and to dust you shall return.



In the beginning God created Adam out of dust. However, Adam and Eve fell to the temptation of Satan and sin entered the world. Because of that sin we all face death.

We leave the burn pile we make that walk to the cemetery, to the grave. Saying good-bye is like burning those papers filled with memories. We become the keepers of the memories. We long to talk to our loved ones again. What did you do when you were a kid? What was great grandma's recipe? Tell me that funny story again.

But the final breaths were like burning that paper with the memories. Seems like life is like that, too soon becoming only ashes and dust, disappearing before a breath.

The familiar words are spoken. "We commit our brother/sister to the ground, Earth to earth, Ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

We know the old family home will no longer be needed. The memories have turned to ash.

Our beloved has returned to the dust.

It is necessary to burn the old in order to make room for the new. But too soon it will be our turn. Future generations will look at our memories, thinking we cannot keep it all. It will have to go to the burn pile.

And the words will be spoken over us, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

As we face the ashes we remember that Christ is the new that will never be burned. Christ has made a new covenant that spares us from the burn pile in the fiery pits of hell.

Ash Wednesday reminds us of our need for a savior, "You are dust and to dust you shall return." As we journey with Christ towards the cross let us think about what needs to go onto the burn pile now. Is there room for Christ in our hearts and homes or are we clinging so tightly to the earthly memories that we forget that our true treasures are waiting for us with Christ in heaven.

**February**  
BIRTHDAYS

**Feb 1 - Levi Brandt**  
**Feb 2 - Janessa Brandt**  
**Feb 2 - Becky Crone**  
**Feb 3 - Phillip Johnson**  
**Feb 4 - Denny Buns**  
**Feb 7 - Pat Hobbs**  
**Feb 7 - Pam Juhl**  
**Feb 7 - Alyssa Wood**  
**Feb 11 - Degan Juenger**  
**Feb 13 - Jason Krull**  
**Feb 14 - Joseph Hanna**  
**Feb 21- Kassie Bartlett**  
**Feb 24 - Tracy Hanna**  
**Feb 26 - Steve Bartlett**

**Feb 1 - Tessa Brandt**  
**Feb 7 - Arliss Ullmann**  
**Feb 10 - Mary Ullmann**  
**Feb 13 - Steve Eden**  
**Feb 14 - Alexander White**  
**Feb 15 - Wayne Ebbers**  
**Feb 15 - Merle Ricklefs**  
**Feb 15 - Jenna Stohr**  
**Feb 16 - Weston Harms**  
**Feb 17 - Arvid Boyken**  
**Feb 19 - Charlotte Eden**  
**Feb 22 - Leona Schmidt**  
**Feb 23 - Daniel Rurup**  
**Feb 25 - Eric Eden**  
**Feb 26 - Ryan Finer**



**Feb 9 - Sherri & Brad Haugland**  
**Feb 9 - Carrie & Kelly Snieder**  
**Feb 22 - Nancy & Maurice Buns**  
**Feb 24 - Terry & Kathy Albers**

**Feb 3 - Jim & Karen Post**  
**Feb 4 - Beauford & Rozzie Stohr**  
**Feb 16 - Russ & Diane Bruns**

# Immanuel News

# St. John's News

## Servant Schedule

### Communion/Dossal/ Banners

Doug & Lisa Swingen

### Readers

Feb 2nd– Sheri Post  
Feb 16th -Susan Post -

Offering for Lenten Services will go to the food banks when services are at St. John's and Immanuel.

## Servant Schedule

**Ushers** - Pat Gibbs & Steve Gerdes

**Communion** - Wendy Harms

**Bulletin Board** - Olivia & Kyra Gibbs

### Altar Cloths & Flowers

Tjode Mickelson

### Readers

Feb 9th - Pat Gibbs  
Feb 23rd - Val Gibbs

### Acolytes

Feb 9th - Alyza Schimmelpfennig  
Feb 23rd - Hayden Nygaard

## St. John's 2020 Usher List

Jan	Eric Larson Daryl Beenken	July	Brad Buns Lyle Doege
Feb	Pat Gibbs Steve Gerdes	Aug	Bruce Schutjer Rusty Meyering
Mar	John Kurtzleben Paul Buns	Sep	Tracy Hanna Jim Steffen
Apr	Alan Larson Ryan Hobbs	Oct	Ron Dahle Ervin Tegtmeyer
May	Gary Hayungs Denny Buns	Nov	Tom Larson Daryl Brunsen
June	Denny Smith Rick Schutjer	Dec	Clay Hobbs Jason Doege

## Parish Three Council Meeting

February 11th, 6:30pm at  
Immanuel

Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp's Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 16, 2020. Registration begins at 2:15 pm and the meeting begins at 2:30 pm.. This will be held at the Riverside Dining Hall. Come to hear what is new!



St. John's Quilting Days in February are every Tuesday at 1:00pm and February 10th and 25th at 6:30pm.



When visiting any Titonka Care Center residents, make sure you sign in and out of the building in the guest book. This helps with their new emergency preparedness policy.

## **Understanding Grief and Loss Support Group**

### ***Sponsored by MercyOne North Iowa Hospice***

Understanding Grief and Loss is an adult support group that will provide grief education and support to individuals who've experienced the death of a family member or friend. Your loved one did not have to have died on hospice care for you to attend.

Our next scheduled group will be: 6 sessions on Sunday afternoons January 26 – March 1, 2020 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. MercyOne North Iowa Hospice Large Conference Room

There is no charge for this group, but space is limited. To register, please call: MercyOne North Iowa Hospice (641) 428-6208 or 1-800-297-4719



There will be a benefit for Travis Stohr on Saturday, March 28th. We are asking for donations of anyone to make bars for the event. The meal and silent auction will be from 4 - 7 pm and a live auction will follow. This will be held at the Woden Fire Station. Contact Phyllis Schutjer if you are willing to donate bars - 641-926-5247. More details will be announced in the March newsletter and around all area towns.

The Esther Circle of Ramsey Reformed Church is again making valentines for the residents and staff of the Titonka Care Center, or in memory of someone. They are \$5. each and there is a sign-up sheet in the back of church at Ramsey. The monies this year will be for equipment in the therapy room. The valentines may be purchased anytime up to Feb. 14. There are baskets at the Care Center, Grocery Store, Bank and Coffee shop in Titonka or talk to any Ramsey church member. Thank you for helping us with this fund raiser.

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St. John's Lutheran Church, Woden  
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February 2020 Newsletter

