

PARISH THREE

Immanuel and St. Johns Lutheran Churches

January Worship Schedule

Jan 5th 9am at St. John's

Jan 12th 9am at Immanuel

Jan 19th 9am at St. John's - Annual Meeting

Jan. 26th - 10:30 am Mission Festival at Good
Hope with Bishop Halaas

Feb. 2nd 9am at Immanuel - Annual Meeting

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 19th at St. John's and February 2nd at Immanuel.

Thank you to all who helped with the sharing tree this year at St. John's! We helped out 33 children and provided food for ten families. Thank you! Val



*Thank you for the many blessings you have shared with me
for Christmas.*

*For all of the cards, The Gifts, and the love of Christ you
share with me*

May God bless and keep all of you.

Pastor Kim

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

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



Dear Friends In Christ,

I can think of no better way to jump into the New Year than by saying *Thank You*. Thank you for your concerns for me and your love. Thank You for the many Christmas Cards and gifts. I enjoy reading the cards and looking at your family pictures. I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness.

One of my favorite activities for a warm summer evening is washing and detailing my car. My brother-in-law and I spent an evening cleaning a car and then we delighted in sitting back in lawn chairs, doing nothing but admiring our work. A dirty car became a shiny thing of beauty.

Wouldn't it be nice if life were like that? If the turning of a calendar page to a new year would clean our lives, even shine them up to be like new? How incredible it would be to step outside the door on January 1st with our heads held high and all worries gone, like driving a shiny, clean car down the road.

Unfortunately, life does not work that way. Even though there is that little something in the back of our minds that hopes life will work the way we dream of it being, we know it won't. We know that January 1st will

be the same as December 31st. And January 2nd the same as January 1st and so on to the next December 31st.

The troubles of yesterday will be there today, even if it is a New Year. The question to consider is "how do we deal with our troubles?" Do we lie awake at night worrying or do we learn to pray and trust God to give us the strength we need and perhaps to show us the way.

There is yet another view of how we view each new day and each new year. Psalm 143:8 gives us the perspective we can use.

*Let the morning bring me word of your
unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you.
Show me the way I should go,
for to you I entrust my life.*

We say, "remember your Baptism." Remember that you are a child of God claiming God's promises. Remember this every morning as you rise. This will give you proper perspective on the day as you face the troubles and as you rejoice at the good things.

Arise in the morning to hear God's Word of unfailing love. Hearing God's Word gives us the strength to put our trust in Him with your life, and even your soul.

In this prayer of Psalm 143, we ask God to show us the way. However, trusting God's Word of unfailing love, means God may

show us down paths we may not choose on our own.

Entering into a New Year fills us with some hopes and dreams of a better life with the turn of a page of the calendar.

Rather than trusting in yourself, your abilities, and maybe just plain luck, turn to our Lord. Remember your baptism, arise in the morning to hear His Word of unfailing love and then be ready to go where God guides you.

May God bless this New Year with faith and trust in Him and His Word.

Pastor Kim Peterson

MINUTE BIBLE STUDY

Psalm 51:10-12

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.*

*¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.*

*¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.*

Consider making these words your prayer as you turn the calendar to the New Year.

1. What is a clean heart to the Psalmist? To you?
2. If God creates a right spirit within you, what will your attitude to the New Year be?

3. Verse 11, what is the desire of the Psalmist?
4. How will your life be different if your desire is to be in the presence of God?

In Galatians 5 we read of the gifts of the Spirit. One gift we lift with baptism is the gift of faith with the Holy Spirit working faith in each of us.

5. What are we praying when we ask God not to take His Holy Spirit from us?
6. Our sinfulness turns us from our salvation. What are you praying when you speak Vs. 12?
7. Does your salvation bring you joy? (explain)
8. "A willing spirit". Restored to our salvation, what are we asking when we pray "Uphold me with a willing spirit?"

Turning to the New Year we have our hopes and dreams for this world. Try turning to the New Year from a spiritual standpoint. Turn to the New Year reflecting on your life with God and with your neighbor around the world.

Consider how you might grow as a Christian. Begin with "baby steps" by reading a simple devotion with a small prayer with the goal of eventually reading a bit from the Bible and praying more than a simple prayer, finishing your prayers with the Lord's Prayer.

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 Alphs
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



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 Alphs
Jan 17 - Sharon Hoffmann
Jan 17 - Tyson Ricklefs
Jan 18 - Delores Franzen
Jan 20 Nicholas Kardoes
Jan 30 - Scott Gjerde
Jan 30 - Ronald Schmidt
Jan 30 - Emily Ullmann
Jan 31 - Ethan Boyken



St. John's Annual Meeting will follow church on Sunday, January 19th. There will be a brunch served by the council.



Immanuel Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, February 2nd following church service.



Immanuel News

Servant Schedule

Communion/Dossal/ Banners
Doug & Lisa Swingen

Readers

January 12– David Post
January 27 -Wendy Harms

Mission Festival will be on
Sunday, January 26th at
Good Hope at 10:30 am.

Bishop Lorna Halaas will be
the speaker.

Parish Three Council Meeting

January 7th 7:00pm at St. John's with
all three churches.

St. John's News

Servant Schedule

Ushers - Eric Larson & Daryl
Beenken

Communion - Lisa Steffen

Bulletin Board - Olivia & Kyra
Gibbs

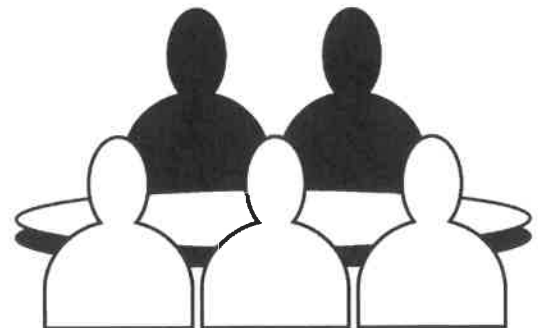
Altar Cloths & Flowers
Julie Larson

Readers

January 5 -Doris Haugland
January 19 - Ron Dahle

Acolytes

January 5 - Dylan Miller
January 19 - Levi Brandt



COUNCIL MEETING