



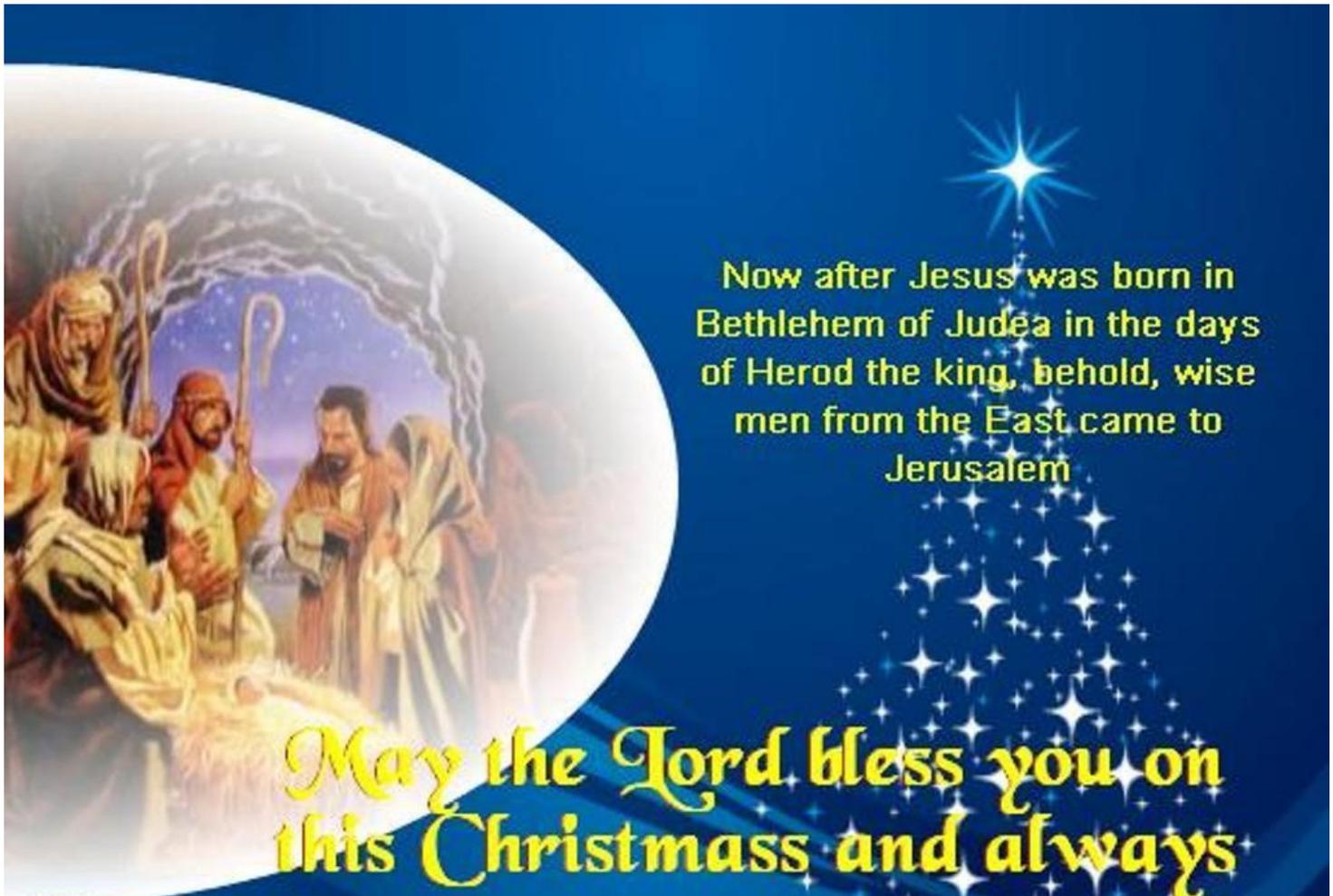
# St. John & Immanuel Lutheran Churches Tecumseh / Sterling

**Newsletter  
December 2021**

Rev. Marcel Kohlmeyer,  
Pastor

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# Advent / Christmas Schedule



## Advent / Christmas Worship Schedule

### Advent Theme

*"Apostles' Creed in Advent"*

Advent and Lent are particular times which are often used for teaching. Luther used these times to more thoroughly teach the faith. If Advent has to do with God's gracious condescension to humanity, then the Apostles' Creed as Luther has taught us to confess it in the Catechisms makes perfect sense. Luther writes: *"For in all three articles God himself has revealed and opened to us the most profound depths of his fatherly heart and his pure, unutterable love. For this very purpose he created us, so that he might redeem us and make us holy, and moreover, having granted and bestowed upon us everything in heaven and on earth, he has also given us his Son and the Holy Spirit, through whom he brings us to himself. For, as explained above, we could never come to recognize the Father's favor and grace were it not for the Lord Christ, who is a mirror of the Father's heart. Apart from him we see nothing but an angry and terrible judge. But neither could we know anything of Christ, had it not been revealed by the Holy Spirit"* (LC II:64-66, K-W, 439-440).

December 1	"Out of His Fatherly Divine Goodness and Mercy"	Galatians 4:4-7
December 8	"That I May Be His Own"	Romans 15:7-13
December 15	"Sanctified and Kept in the True Faith"	John 15:24-16:15



**Soup Supper**  
(December 1 & 15) at St. John (Tecumseh)  
5:30-6:45pm

**Advent Services**  
(December 1 & 15) at St. John (Tecumseh)  
(December 8) at Immanuel (Sterling)

Hymn Sing – 7:00pm  
Evening Prayer – 7:15pm

### Christmas Schedule

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Immanuel	December 24	5:30 pm
St. John	December 24	7:30 pm

**Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion**

Immanuel	December 25	8:30 am
St. John	December 25	10:30 am

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas**

Immanuel	December 26	8:30 am
St. John	December 26	10:30 am

## From the Pastor

### Not in the Nick of Time But in the Fullness of Time

Do you like watching action shows on TV or in the movies? Usually, the hero of the story is asked to help someone who is in danger. Over the years, these shows have been consistently popular although a bit predictable – the hero eventually defeats the bad guy and helps the person in need.

They are popular because the typical person at home can relate to the characters and place themselves into the story. I think that we usually imagine ourselves as the hero who saves the day.

But does anyone imagine themselves to be the person who needs rescuing? In our American culture today – a culture that tells us that we are independent and don't need anyone to help us, the thought of being the person who needs rescuing is not very popular. Yet our situation is actually worse. We are in need of help because of sin and we don't know enough to even ask for help as the apostle Paul says, ***"None is righteous, no, not one; <sup>11</sup> no one understands; no one seeks for God."*** (Rom 3:10-11 ESV).

As we celebrate Christmas and continue in the 12 days of Christmas, we hear of a God that comes to us without our asking to our rescue us from our sins, not just in the nick of time but rather in the fullness of time. ***"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup> And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God."*** (Gal 4:4-7 ESV).

***"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."*** (2 Corinthians 5:21).

***"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."*** (John 3:16-17).

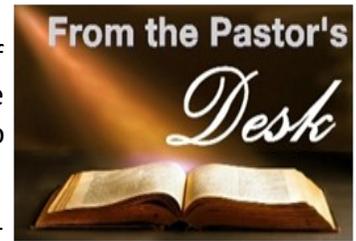
And this was God's plan from eternity. ***"[Christ] was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you <sup>21</sup> who through him are believers in God"*** (1 Peter 1:20-21). And He chose ***"us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him."*** (Ephesians 1:4).

And this is why the angels proclaimed, ***"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.' <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!'"*** (Luke 2:10-14).

And He did all of that, not just in the nick of time but in the fullness of time!

A Blessed Christmas!

Pastor Kohlmeyer



## ST. JOHN AND IMMANUEL NEWSLETTER

### Hey, Parents...

Parents, please make sure the Church office knows when your graduate is going off to college. We would like to have their address and email to we can keep them in touch with what is going on in Church.



Hi everyone! Here we are at December already. There are so many things we are learning here in Preschool. This month our themes are Gingerbread and Christmas. We will be doing the gingerbread five senses for some science during this time. We will have smell jars, sound jars, and mystery bags where we will have to try to guess what's inside all of these. There will be a mini sensory bin with items to build a gingerbread for the I can see sense. We will also have an activity as a group where we will do a taste test.

Our new letters this month are G, S, and J. We will be learning number 10 and then taking the last two weeks before break to practice the numbers we have learned so far.

We had a grocery store in our pretend center the last few weeks of November. Now we will have a bakery where the kids will have play food bakery items to sell and will also have props to pretend that they are baking goodies.

In Jesus time we have been super busy practicing for our Christmas Program which will be on Sunday, December 12th during Church. We also continue to learn and practice our verses that go with each letter of the alphabet.

We will have our Christmas Party on Friday, December 17th which is our last Preschool day before Christmas break. I hope everyone has a very blessed Christmas and New Year!

Mrs. Walters

# Trunk or Treat



St. John's Trunk or Treat was a huge success!! We had over 250 children come and visit. They enjoyed lots of treats as well as hot chocolate & hot dogs. It was a Great Afternoon!



## District Synod & Mission Central News

### LCMS churches in Norfolk to host drive through Nativity

LCMS churches in Norfolk are hosting a Drive Thru Live Nativity on December 11th from 10-4 at Memorial Field in Norfolk (715 S 1st St, Norfolk). Congregations are encouraged to share this event info with their members. [Posters are available at this link.](#)

### Get \$23,000 to become a church worker in the LCMS!

Is God calling someone you know into church work in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod? At Concordia University Irvine we value the formation of future leaders for our church. Therefore we are pleased to announce that, for the 2022-2023 school year, we are offering qualified LCMS church work students a guaranteed total of **\$23,000 per year** in institutional aid and an on-campus housing grant.

To learn more about the church vocations scholarship, who is qualified, and additional application requirements for church work programs, go to [www.cui.edu/churchworkscholarship](http://www.cui.edu/churchworkscholarship).

Ready to begin? To start the application process, go to [www.cui.edu/app](http://www.cui.edu/app). *Enrollment deposits must be received by May 1, 2022.*

Questions? Contact Carrie Donohoe at [carrie.donohoe@cui.edu](mailto:carrie.donohoe@cui.edu) or 949.214.3389.

### MISSION CENTRAL

Plan now to take a group from your congregation out to visit [Mission Central](#) 2 miles east of Mapleton, Iowa to hear from these missionaries. [What in the world is Mission Central? Click here to read about this not normal place.](#)

Missionary visits:

December 1, 2021, 1:00, Rev. Kip and Ivy Hoech, Asia

--2022--

January 8, 2022, 1:00, [Rev. James Sharp and family](#), Uruguay

January 18, 2022, 1:00, [Missionary nurse Tirzah Krey](#), Latin America and Caribbean Region

February 26, 2022, 1:00, [Jamielynn Tinkey Flores](#) and Vicar Rafael Flores, Latin America  
and Caribbean Region

March 29, 2022, 1:00, [Cindy Wrucke](#), Czech Republic

June 18, 2022, 1:00, [Rev. Steve Oliver and family](#), Taiwan

July 9, 2022, 1:00, [Barbara Rebentisch](#), Taiwan

# ANNIVERSARIES, BIRTHDAYS, BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS & GREETERS

## Birthday Celebrations

- 3 Billy Borrenpohl
- 4 **Donna Rathe**
- 6 Betty Krause,  
**Duane Sugden**
- 8 Raymond Borrenpohl,  
Bobette Gottula, Rue Kuhl,  
**Natalie Dean**
- 10 Presley Juilfs
- 12 Owen Miller
- 13 Sharon Lintz
- 14 Steven Nolte
- 15 Cameron Lowther
- 16 Larry Carmine
- 17 **Linda Eis**
- 18 **Lauren Weyers**
- 21 Jolyne Borrenpohl,  
Madalyn Kohlmeyer
- 24 Miles Laver
- 27 William Frye
- 29 Dwayne Bartels, Treyton  
Holthus, Jonathan Schmid
- 30 Michelle Van Winkle

## Anniversary Celebrations

- 20 Ken & Deb Brinkman (36 yrs)
- 21 Dave & Paula Carnagey (30 yrs)

## Baptismal Birthdays

- 3 Lowell Nolte
- 11 Joyce Rathe
- 12 **Duane Sugden**
- 13 **Gina Doose**
- 22 Bobette Gottula
- 24 Raymond Borrenpohl
- 25 Billy Borrenpohl
- 29 Betty Kruase
- 31 Jennifer Bartels, Saylor Howell,  
Rue Kuhl

*Immanuel Members in **Bold***

## Greeters

- Dec 5 Steve & Jennifer Bartels  
**Hannah Thies**
- Dec 12 Glen & Sharon Bohling  
**Shirley Bartels**
- Dec 19 Kirk & Lisa Bartels  
**Ron Boden**
- Dec 26 Dave Borrenpohl  
**Rick & Joyce Thies**



# MONTHLY SERVANTS OF GOD

## St. John's

### Altar Guild

Luann Carme

### Elder of the Month

Kevin McKinney  
(402) 335-82

### Trustee of the Month

Marcus Griess  
(402) 335-209-2283

## Immanuel

### Flower Committee

Gina Doose & Elaine Harms

### Elder of the Month

Galyn Bartz  
(402) 866-1057

## Acolytes

- Dec 1 Wesley Schmid & Sophia Schmid
- Dec 5 Andrew Kohlmeier & Jackson Haugton
- Dec 12 Logan Barras & Blayzen Kress
- Dec 15 Gabrielle Kohlmeier & Madalyn Kohlmeier
- Dec 19 Reese McDonald & Cadyn McDonald
- Dec 24 Wesley Schmid & Sophia Schmid
- Dec 25 Dani Lundgren & Treyton Holthus
- Dec 26 Melissa Lowther & Cameron Lowther

## Acolytes

Emma Thies  
&  
Seth Dean



Pastor office hours: Please call for appointment  
Secretary office hours: Monday—Friday: 8:30 am—12:30 pm

# December 2021

(C) = Services with Holy Communion

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> Midweek / Confirmation (St. John's) 4:30 pm Soup Supper 5:30 (St. John's) Advent Service 7:00 pm (St. John's) Special Council Meeting 8:00 pm (St. John's)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Second Sunday in Advent (C) Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study [St. John's] 9:30 am (C) Divine Service [St. John's] 10:30am Special Voter's Meeting [St. John] 11:30 am	<b>6</b> Pastor's Family Day	<b>7</b> Quilting (St. John's) 9 - 3	<b>8</b> Midweek / Confirmation (St. John's) 4:30 pm Advent Service 7:00 pm (Immanuel) Board of Elders Meeting 8:00 pm (Immanuel)	<b>9</b> Orphan Grain Train Volunteering (Lincoln) 1:00 - 3:30 Praise Team Practice 7:00 pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Third Sunday in Advent Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study [St. John's] 9:30 am Contemporary Service [St. John's] 10:30 am	<b>13</b> Pastor's Family Day	<b>14</b> Newsletter Deadline Quilting (St. John's) 9 - 3 Circuit Meeting (Falls City) 9:00 am	<b>15</b> Midweek / Confirmation (St. John's) 4:30 pm Soup Supper 5:30 (St. John's) Advent Service 7:00 pm (St. John's)	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Fourth Sunday in Advent (C) Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study [St. John's] 9:30 am (C) Divine Service [St. John's] 10:30am <b>Children's Christmas Program at beginning of each Church Service</b> Christmas Cantata [St. John's] 7:00 pm	<b>20</b> Pastor's Family Day	<b>21</b> Quilting (St. John's) 9 - 3	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Divine Service [Immanuel] 5:30 pm Divine Service [St. John's] 7:30 pm	<b>25</b> Christmas Day (C) Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am (C) Divine Service [St. John's] 10:30am
<b>26</b> First Sunday After Christmas Divine Service [Immanuel] 8:30am Divine Service [St. John's] 10:30 am	<b>27</b> Pastor's Family Day	<b>28</b> Pastor on vacation	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	Office: 335-3816 Parsonage: 335-9117

No Preschool Dec 20<sup>th</sup> thru Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>

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**Saint John's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church and  
Preschool**

1260 Webster St.  
Tecumseh, NE 68450

Phone: 402-335-3816

Secretary email:  
secretary\_stjohnlutherantec  
@outlook.com

Pastor's email:  
revkohlmeyer@hotmail.com

[YouTube](#)

St. John [Facebook](#)  
Immanuel [Facebook](#)

Website: [www.2gatherinchrist.org](http://www.2gatherinchrist.org)



**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod**

**Address Correction Requested**

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