



**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN, ROCKWELL CITY, IOWA
&
TRINITY LUTHERAN, KNIERIM, IOWA
CONGREGATIONS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD**

“CHURCHES IN THE COUNTRY”

“UNITED TOGETHER WITH CHRIST IN THE
LIKENESS OF HIS DEATH AND HIS RESURRECTION.”
[ROMANS 6:5]

DUAL PARISH ESTABLISHED IN 2003

Members of “Churches in the Country”

As we begin a new year, the year of our Lord 2012, many of us will adopt new year’s resolutions. We promise to lose those pesky 20 pounds. We vow to work on our marriages. We pledge the desire to balance our checkbook and refrain from using credit cards, all for the purpose of getting ourselves out of debt. With the new year, the world realizes that it gets a new start, a new beginning; you just have to have the will, the desire, the right mind set.

But as children of the heavenly Father, we don’t have to wait until January 1st to begin anew. In the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, every day is a new beginning, Jesus makes sure of that. Saint Paul writes in Romans chapter 6: “We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.”

In baptism, daily Jesus puts us to death and daily He raises us to new life. Daily, through repentance, Jesus puts to death all our sins and evil desires, and daily Jesus forgives us, that we would live before Him in righteousness and purity forever. Baptism is like starting over every day anew, there is no waiting; in Christ, we have a new beginning every day. In our Baptism, every day is a Good Friday, where Jesus died on the cross; and every day is an Easter, where we rise and live in the peace of God which surpasses all human understanding.

Those who have been baptized into Christ have had the unclean spirit, the devil Himself, cast out of them. Because of this, our Lord Jesus calls us to return to our baptism daily and hear the preaching of repentance and forgiveness, that the unclean Spirit may not return to us and have power over us. When we die with Christ, as we do in Baptism, sin, death and the power of the devil are removed from us, we shall not be in want, we shall not fear. In Jesus Holy Word and Blessed Sacraments of Baptism, Confession and Absolution, and Communion, the Holy Spirit preserves us, keeps us and strengthens us, for the day of our resurrection from the dead to eternal life. In these gifts of grace alone do we have life, because they connect us to Jesus who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. In Baptism, every day is a new beginning, pointing us to Jesus second coming, where we will be seated with Him at the right hand of the Father, where there is no more suffering, no more debt to be paid, no more work to be done.

As we celebrate the new year’s coming, may every day of the year be lived with our eyes fixed on Jesus and His gifts of grace, mercy and peace. God comes to us, born of a Virgin, born to die on a cross, that we might live with Him. That is the true gift that is ours, having been washed clean in the waters of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Thanks be to God that this is so.

JANUARY 2012 CALENDAR

Sunday, January 1 8:45 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Immanuel
10:00 a.m. Sunday School at Immanuel
10:15 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Trinity

Monday, January 2 6:30 p.m. Working Women's Group at Immanuel

Wednesday, January 4 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study at Trinity
5:00 p.m. Midweek at Trinity
6:00 p.m. 5th and 6th grade Confirmation at Trinity
7:00 p.m. 7th & 8th grade Confirmation at Trinity

Thursday, January 5 12:30 p.m. Ladies Aid at Trinity

Saturday, January 7 5:00 p.m. Saturday Evening Service at Immanuel

Sunday, January 8 8:45 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Immanuel
10:00 a.m. Sunday School at Immanuel
10:15 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Trinity

Tuesday, January 10 10:00 a.m. Bible Study at Sunny View
6:30 p.m. Elder's Meeting at Immanuel
7:30 p.m. Council Meeting at Immanuel

Wednesday, January 11 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study at Trinity
5:00 p.m. Midweek at Trinity
6:00 p.m. 5th and 6th grade Confirmation at Trinity
7:00 p.m. 7th & 8th grade Confirmation at Trinity

Sunday, January 15 8:45 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Immanuel
10:00 a.m. Sunday School at Immanuel
10:15 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Trinity

Monday, January 16 to Friday, January 20 Pastor gone to Fort Wayne, Indiana

Sunday, January 22 8:45 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Immanuel
10:00 a.m. Sunday School at Immanuel
10:15 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Trinity

Wednesday, January 25 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study at Immanuel
5:00 p.m. Midweek at Trinity
6:00 p.m. 5th and 6th grade Confirmation at Trinity
7:00 p.m. 7th & 8th grade Confirmation at Trinity

Thursday, January 26 1:30 p.m. LWML at Immanuel

Sunday, January 29 8:45 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Immanuel
10:00 a.m. Sunday School at Immanuel
10:15 a.m. Worship / Holy Communion at Trinity

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 – Hollie Hogrefe
3 – Marci Swank
4 – Lyle Busse
5 – Coral Jud
6 – Janice Kretlow
7 – Miranda Jud
7 – Sarah Weiss
10 – Karen Blaas
11 – Micah Ramthun
11 – Shelly Keiser
12 – Samantha Griffin
13 – Ashlee Grady
14 – David Weiss
18 – Dailyn Marine
19 – Holden Jud
20 – Kendra Martin
21 – Morley Alpers
21 – Mark Bauer
22 – Patti Klocko
23 – Neil Morenz
24 – Charlotte Ludwig
26 – John Hepp
27 – Beverly Martin
28 – Mary Jane Alpers
28 – Jeanine Lowry
29 – Darrell Schoepke
30 – Dorothy Zierke



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

15 – John and Joni Hepp
22 – Ken and Judy Egli
30 – Mark and Patricia Essing