

But God has promised one final Divine intervention. God has promised that he will rend the heavens one final time and send down his Son to bring about resurrection and new life to all who are waiting for him. As a testament that this final heaven rendering is coming soon Jesus rips open heaven every Sunday to give you a taste of this final joy at the Lord's Table.

We observe the season of Advent, then, because we are still waiting for Jesus to come. We are waiting for Jesus to come to us in bread and wine at the Table, and we are waiting for Jesus to come to us on the last day of the old creation and the first day of the new creation. Advent teaches us to wait for this promised day with faith. It teaches us to pray and to repent and to prepare our hearts for Christ's return. Advent gives us hope in a life that is full of waiting for God to rescue us from our trials and brokenness. Advent teaches us the fullness of what it means to adore the little baby Jesus lying in a manger.

This Advent season I encourage you to stew and brew in your impatience. Hold off on "Merry Christmas" and practice saying "Come Lord Jesus" for a few weeks. Prepare your hearts not only to celebrate Jesus' first coming, but also his second. Take some time to show your neighbor in word and deed the merciful Savior for whom you wait. Pray with faithful impatience that our Lord come quickly to our aid, even as he first came to us in a manger at Bethlehem.

A Blessed Advent to You All,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Cowell".

Pastor Thomas Cowell
Advent, Anno Domini 2017



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Alexander Jahnke
- 2 - Wendell Christensen, Jr.
- 2 - Rolland Peyman
- 7 - Larry Behnkendorf
- 8 - Zachery Steven
- 9 - Mary Gifford
- 9 - Tess Reutzel
- 10 - Jenny Bengs
- 10 - Barb Schroeder
- 11 - Jim Redemske
- 14 - John Smith
- 16 - Megan Crosser
- 17 - Kim Reutzel
- 19 - Brynetta Lavrenz
- 22 - D.J. Harlan
- 23 - Alana Jahnke
- 23 - Gabrielle Kelly
- 24 - Donna Haase
- 26 - Bev Skadburg
- 28 - Molly Melick-Klinger
- 29 - Jason Christensen
- 29 - Kevin Koestler
- 30 - Eden Koestler
- 30 - Jerry Koestler



SPECIAL SENIORS

- November 14 - John Smith
- November 24 - Donna Haase
- November 26 - Bev Skadburg
- December 19 - Wendell Christensen, Sr.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Michael Bierstedt
- 1 - Nicolle Marlow
- 3 - Darrel Schmidt
- 3 - Derek Schutjer
- 4 - Gene Hanna
- 9 - Olivia Marlow
- 9 - Karla Schutter
- 10 - Barb Harms
- 10 - Larry Manus
- 18 - Vivian Lavrenz
- 19 - Wendell Christensen, Sr.
- 20 - Jalisa (JoJo) Bowman
- 22 - Lane Evenson
- 23 - Hayden Hutchinson
- 25 - Conrad Schmidt
- 25 - Christine Vogel
- 27 - Lisa Haase
- 27 - Chardonnay Lavrenz
- 28 - James Bowman
- 28 - Terry Tieman
- 28 - Wanda Tieman

Christmas Coffee

Join us for coffee and cookies after church on December 3 as we celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season.

St. John's Ladies Aid and Evening
LWML

Thank you

Kids of the Kingdom Preschool would like to say a **BIG** thank you for everyone's support of the soup dinner and bake sale. You are all **important to us**. Once again you have given us overwhelming support to continue our mission of providing a quality Christian education to our preschoolers. We are so blessed to have six students in the classroom and Jessie Parsons as teacher and Donna Haase as our aid. We are looking forward to another great year.

Kids of the Kingdom Preschool Board

Ladies Aid

St John's LWML met Sept. 7 at 1:30. Bev Skadburg opened the meeting with devotions, Matthew 18:20. Also, 'Together in Prayer', the LWML missions prayer.

Pastor Cowell led the Bible study, 'A Simple way to pray', by Martin Luther. this will be an ongoing series, examining The Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments and the Apostles Creed.

Roll call was answered by 3 members and pastor. Lavonne Boderius was a guest. The secretary and treasurers reports were read.

The Fall LWML Rally will be at Trinity, Thursday Sept 21, registration at 4:30.

Correspondence - a thank you from Marge Lavrenz family for memorial and plant. Motion carried to give \$10 memorial to IDW for Marge Lavrenz.

The birthday song was sung for Pastor.

The meeting closed with the Lords's Prayer and table prayer.

Caradene Parsons was hostess.

St John's LWML met on October 5th at 1:30.

President Janice Schaeller opened the meeting. Mary Gifford gave devotions, 'Spiritual Habits', Christian habits in our lives.

Pastor Cowell gave the Bible study, 'A simple way to pray', by Martin Luther - The Lords Prayer - Petitions 1 through 4.

Roll call was answered by 5 members and Pastor. Hannah Cowell was a guest.

The secretary and treasures reports were read.

Bev Skadburg suggested pictures of St. John's pastors be displayed. Pastor will bring this to the council meeting. Motion carried to send \$30 to IOWAY for supplies for their missions.

Nominations for 2018 will stay the same for officers.

Report was given on Fall Rally at Trinity.

Coorespondence - A thank you was read from Pastor Cowell, Hannah and Penny. A request from Camp Okaboji.

LWML Sunday was October 1 and a coffee held.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer and the table prayer.

Hostess was Bev Skadburg.

Caradene Parsons,
Secretary
