



JULY/AUGUST 2017



St. John's Lutheran Church
Burt, Iowa 50522
Phone: 515-924-3344
www.stjohnsburt.org

He remembers His **Testament** forever;
the **Word** he appointed for a thousand generations.
Psalm 105:8 (JP)

Rev. Thomas Cowell
Pastor
Phone: 515-924-3344

‘Telling the good News about Jesus-In Burt, Iowa, and the World’



Truly Blessed:

This past year and two months I have had the privilege to serve as your pastor here at St. John's. It seems like just a few weeks ago I was asked to be your Vacancy Pastor and look we are at the end of this journey. I remember that when I got the call to consider taking on this task, a lot of things went through my mind. I remember from days gone by all the support and love that had been shown to me and later my family as we took the journey all the way through school to become a Pastor. I know that I could not have done it without that support. I thought of the day that I stood before this altar and made my vow to the Lord to be faithful to His call to preach the Word and proclaim Christ as the only way to everlasting life. I also thought of Jesus words when He said that a prophet is not welcomed in his own home town. Yet with all of this I truly felt the call to serve you as your Pastor this past 14 months. I must truly say that I was humbled by your continued love shown to me and my family as we took this journey together. God truly is the one who has blessed our efforts together to take up His call in this community. To God be all the glory. I want to thank you for giving me this privilege to give back a little for all that you have given me. You will never fully understand the impact that you have on me and how that impact has shaped me in my ministry at Wilbert. I know that Pastor Cowell will do a great job with the same kind of support and love that you will show him as he now becomes your Pastor. What a great place to begin your call and to know that the people of God truly loves you as a Pastor.

God's Blessings Daily:

When we look in our lives, we all can find things that God has blessed us with at every turn of life. He has given us good health, a family to love and share our joys with, a job with income that will support and take care of our needs. God has truly blessed us with everything that is needed to sustain this life we live. It may not be all that we want, but it is all that we need. Daily we must take time out of our busy schedule to thank God each day for what we have received as a blessing from our God. This is very important that we remember that all things come from God and from God alone. Only when we understand that all that we have is from God, will we put into proper order the thanks and where it is due.

As God's people the greatest blessing that we have is the work that was done by His Son at the cross of Calvary. In that act of love and in the blood that was shed, each and everyone of us have been given the blessed joy of eternal life by faith. A faith that has been given to us by the power of the Holy Spirit, sustained by the Holy Spirit, and a faith that is kept safe by the power of the Holy Spirit. In fact we do nothing at all, not even one thing that makes this faith possible. Paul puts it best in Eph. 2:8 which said's: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." That is the greatest blessing that you and I have, the very Grace of God, His undeserved love. May we never take the things of life and more important the grace of God for granted. May each and every one of us thank God daily for His blessings and again "Thanks for All Your Support."

Pastor Reimers
Romans 1:16-17

P
A
R
I
S
H

M
E
S
S
E
N
G
E
R



JULY BIRTHDAYS

2- Bailey Marlow
 3 – Kali Karels
 3 – Justin Schuller
 4 – Irene Miller
 6 – John Cherland
 6 – Joel Smith
 6 – Debra Steven
 7 – Michael Person
 9 – Caradene Parsons
 10 – Colten Bengs
 11 – Jordan Blocker
 12 - Kristin Faber
 12 – Patricia Lavrenz
 12 – Craig Steven
 13 – Del Reutzel
 15 – Pat Eimers
 20 – Barb Meyer
 20 –Halie Reimers
 22 – Marcia Hanna
 22 – Kenna Rae Hatten
 22 – Jeff Schutjer
 24 – Alex Feuring
 24 – Melvin Haase
 24 – Wilma Smith
 27 - Alexandra Gifford
 28 - Lindsay Storvik
 29 – Joseph Heyes
 31 – Janice Schaeller

13 – Chris Heyes
 14 – Stan Eimers
 14 – Linda Huber
 14 – Linda Kerkove
 14 – Mary Schmidt
 15 – Mary Steven
 16 – Stacey Schutjer
 19 – Pam Crosser
 20 – Denise Shipler
 21 – Randy Reimers
 23 – JoHanna Boyle
 23 – Micah Lavrenz
 23 - Vickie Madsen
 23 – Kendra Person
 25 – Julia Bowman
 25 – Rachel Feuring
 25 – Vernal Koestler
 25 – Merlin Madsen
 26 – Sylvia Loken
 26 - Ryder Parsons
 27 - Alexandra Faith Gifford
 28 – Connie Aaron
 28 – Doris Nutt Gifford
 28 - Euclare Meyer
 29 – Nick Symonds
 30 – Michelle Feuring
 31 – Linda Peter



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 – Wade Briggs
 1 – Corey Shipler
 4 – Andrew Bernett
 4 – Esther Lavrenz
 8 – Joseph Culbertson
 9 – Tessa Schmidt
 10 – Paul Jahnke
 11 – Brandon Koestler

Special Seniors

Pat Eimers – July 15
Barb Meyer - July 20
Melvin Haase – July 24
Caradene Parsons – July 9
Doris Nutt Gifford - August 28
EuClaire Meyer - August 28

Kids Of the Kingdom Preschool

Burt Summer Celebration Cobbler and Ice Cream Social

When: July 8, during the
noon meal

Where: Burt Activity
Complex

Please come support St. John's
preschool. We are only able to do
what we do because of your
generous support!

2017-2018 Preschool

Kids of the Kingdom Preschool is still
accepting students for the next school
year. If you know anyone or have a child
who is 3 or 4 years old, please contact the
church office or Jess Parsons, teacher.

Our New Pastor



Pastor-elect Thomas Cowell was born and raised in Reinbeck Iowa. His parents, Nick and Kathy, still live near Waterloo. His oldest brother and sister-in-law, Nathan and Amanda, and their two boys, Mason and Ryder, live in Glenwood. His second older brother, Charlie, lives in Des Moines.

Hannah's parents, the Rev. Duane and Tammy Miesner, live in Kingsley where Duane is the pastor of First Lutheran Church. Her older sister and fiancé, Sarah and Tyler, live in Des Moines as does her older brother and his wife, Kenny and Abby.

Thomas and Hannah both attended the University of Northern Iowa. They first met while attending services and activities at College-Hill Lutheran Church. Thomas graduated in May of 2013 and Hannah will be graduating this summer. He began his seminary studies at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne the summer of 2013.

Thomas and Hannah were married May 30, 2015. A few weeks later Thomas began his vicarage year at St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton, Illinois. Shortly after vicarage ended, on August 5, 2016, their daughter Penelope was born. Penelope (Penny) was baptized by her grandfather Pastor Miesner on August 28.

Thomas graduated seminary on May 19. Thomas is grateful for the invaluable education he received from the professors at seminary. He is excited to put his pastoral training to use as he begins his service to Christ's people at St. John's and Trinity Lutheran Churches.