

SAVED

By Grace,

CALLED

To Serve.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 55
Atwater, MN 56209

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit Number 2

Address Service Requested

S'Mores Night!
AUGUST 13
6 P.M.

Rev. Christa Forsythe, Pastor
christaforsythe@gmail.com
Cell: 320.535.0641

Janelle Eisenbacher
Office Administrator

Melissa Rossell
Office Administrator

Church Contact Information




Phone: 320.974.8695

Fax: 320.974.8687

email: imman@frontiernet.net

Website: www.immanuelatwater.com

Facebook: Immanuel Lutheran - Atwater, MN

If you confess with your
 **MOUTH**
"Jesus is Lord"
and believe in your
HEART 
that God raised him
from the dead, you will be
SAVED! 

Volume XXXIV - Number VIII - August 2014

The **OUTREACH**

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

August 3 - 8th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m.Worship/Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.Fellowship

August 10 - 9th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m.Worship

10:00 a.m.Fellowship

August 17 - 10th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m.Worship

10:00 a.m.Fellowship

August 24 - 11th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m.Worship/Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.Fellowship

August 31 - 12th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m.Worship/Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.Fellowship

SAVE THE DATES!

As we approach the end of summer, we are looking ahead to lots of special Sundays in September.

Here is a list of events coming up:

- Sunday, September 7Backpack Blessing
- Sunday, September 14Rally Sunday
- Sunday School Starts
- Confirmation Classes Start
- Roast Beef Dinner
- Sunday, September 213-Year-Olds Receive Bibles
- 7th Graders Receive Bibles

Holy Communion will be celebrated September 7 and 28.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Find us at [Immanuel Lutheran - Atwater, MN](https://www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheran-Atwater-MN/). We hope to use this site as a valuable outreach tool, and to post announcements and information. There are lots of great photos to see, and it is a great way to stay in touch with church events.

WORSHIP SERVICE BROADCAST TIMES

Our Sunday Worship is broadcast on Channel #8 every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m.

If you have a special request for a church service broadcast, please call 320.974.3388.

Immanuel's Website is New & Improved!

Visit the church website to view The Outreach, Weekly Bulletins & The Monthly Calendar.

www.immanuelatwater.com
email: imman@frontiernet.net

Other Helpful Internet Links:

Prayer Ventures:

<http://archive.elca.org/prayerventures/>

Synod Update:

<http://www.swmnelca.org/html/Synod%20Update.html>

GLLM Retreats: www.gllm.org

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Turning our "NOT YET..." into "NOW..."

In the sixth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

My heart is a little unsettled this month – my baby, Jennica – starts preschool in a month, and is it possible that my oldest, Marcus, is old enough to start second grade in a month? Can't be! As my husband, Jon, says --- we don't have any babies any more. True, but in many ways it doesn't matter how old our children get, they are always our babies.

So, as the summer has flown by, I've found myself thinking... "Not yet..." Not, yet, I'm not ready for June to be done. Not yet, I'm not ready for vacation to be over. Not yet, where did July go? Not yet, is it really August already? Not yet, how can it already be Fair time? Not yet, is it really time to be shopping for school supplies? Not yet, God – I'm not ready for my babies to be growing up.

Now, intellectually, I recognize that my son and daughter are ready for these next steps and can't wait. It is exactly what they need, and they will thrive. In that sense, I am excited and overjoyed for them. But, it's my heart that looks and says --- their time is no longer mine

anymore. Once school starts, they continue on that road to growing up. Sure, he will thrive and learn and grow --- all things parents desire for their children. But, it also means – they will grow up and as they mature and grow up, we prepare them to spread their wings and fly. Which means, they leave the nest.

Now, there may be many of you (like my husband) who are smiling or laughing right now at a mom who is over-reacting or a little too sentimental. Which may very well be true. However, we all do this in one way or another. Whether every year, we say "not yet" to the approach of Christmas. Not yet to a child who is actually heading off to college, the military or a new job. Not yet to taxes due. Not yet to a health problem. Not yet to a fracture or stress in your relationship with a loved one. Not yet to a work project that has to be finished now. Not yet to the failing health of a loved one. NOT YET. We all think it or say it at one time or another.

So, how about you? In what ways are you saying, "Not yet..."? In what ways do you feel time is not on your side, and you are whispering or yelling "not yet," at your life circumstances or a relationship? In what way might you be saying, "not yet" to God?

And then... it happens. God's grace rushes in and you meet a God who NEVER SAYS, "NOT YET;" TO YOU. God in Christ Jesus meets you and takes you just as you are. The Living God of

Pastor - to page 8

SEPTEMBER OUTREACH DEADLINE

September Outreach **articles are due** in the church office on **Sunday, August 17.**

We will be **folding** the September Outreach Wednesday, **August 27**, at 9:00 a.m. Helping hands are needed.

WELCA NEWS

Thanks again to all the people that helped in some way for the Hog Roast Dinner. The

bakers, set up and takedown people, cooks, mixers, watchers, eaters, and to the people that came to work a shift. We raised approximately \$1000.00 for the Christian Education program.



We have received our new coffee maker. Some of you have maybe had a cup or two of coffee from it. It looks like our next major purchase may have to be a refrigerator for the kitchen. There are a lot of unclaimed items left in the fridge, maybe from Bible School or Youth Events. The point is, the fridge is full. To my surprise it even holds items that have gone over the hill. SOOOO, we are going to have to do a better job deciding what should go and what should stay, or maybe find a new home for it. It has gotten to the point that there is barely room for juice and whatever we may need for a funeral or coffee time. If we need another fridge, maybe we would have to share funds with other groups for this purchase. The only money WELCA gets for expenses is from Sunday coffee time or funerals. So kitchen supplies need to be purchased with care to keep the expenses to a minimum. Most of the money WELCA raises goes out to a charitable event; it is not kept in the bank.

Thank you to anyone that donates to the kitchen and especially those that help keep the kitchen clean.

Group 4 is still on to help keep the kitchen sparkle, We hope we can trust people to help out in whatever way they can. Thanks.

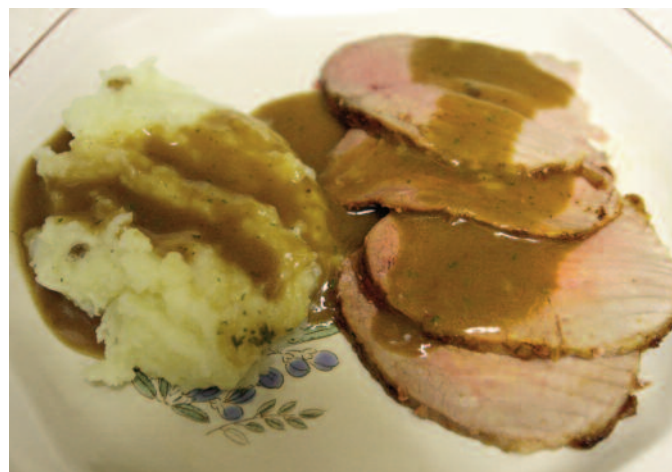
***Sisters in Christ,
Linda Burns, WELCA President***

P.S. Special thanks to Lee, Deb, Robin, Gayla, Danita, and Janet!

WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY



The Women's Morning Bible Study meets at Peaceful Thymes at 9:00 a.m. Thursday mornings.



ROAST BEEF DINNER INFORMATION

Immanuel's Annual Roast Beef Dinner is Sunday, September 14 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.! Sign-up sheets for workers will be posted in the Narthex in August. We will be having a planning meeting soon, and anyone wanting to help can contact Lee or Deb at 974-3320.

We will again be having a Farmer's Market during the dinner, so if you have any extra produce you are growing in your gardens, keep that in mind. Also, jellies, jams, etc. can be sold.

We will be asking for either pies or pan desserts for the dessert table. If your family is not available to assist with this event, we are asking for a \$25.00 donation to help purchase the beef.

LWR SCHOOL KITS



Time to start thinking about back to school! Immanuel will be collecting items to make School Kits to donate to Lutheran World Relief. Our Sunday School students will be assembling the kits in September, but with many families beginning to purchase supplies now, we wanted to get the information out so many of you can purchase extra supplies while they are readily available and often times sale-priced.

Why school supplies? To the children who receive School Kits, these supplies mean the difference between getting an education or not. Public school is usually free, but in the places where LWR works, even a few required supplies, like pens and paper, may be more than many families can afford. And when parents can only afford to send one of their children to school, girls rarely get priority...yet the education level of mothers has the biggest impact on development.

Here are a few guidelines for donating:

- Please give new items only, except where otherwise noted
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your congregation's name
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage

Detailed lists of needed supplies are available at church, or go to <http://lwr.org/getinvolved/schoolkits>. For anyone who enjoys sewing, there is a pattern available for the drawstring backpacks that are on the supply list.

This is a great service project for the whole family...we hope everyone at Immanuel will get involved! Our goal is to provide 50 kits, which is approximately the number of Sunday School children we have in grades K-6.

Here is the list of supplies needed for the kits:

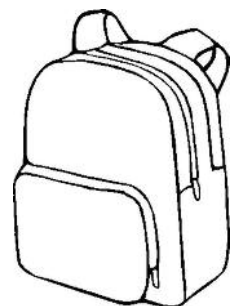
- Four 70-sheet notebooks (280-300 sheets total) of wide or college-ruled paper (no loose-leaf paper)
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One pair of blunt scissors
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2-1/2" eraser

\$2.50 to help cover the cost of the backpacks (Immanuel will be purchasing the backpacks in bulk)

SPECIAL MILESTONE EVENT FOR STUDENTS!

“Blessing of the Backpacks”

Sunday, September 7 - 9:00 a.m. Worship
Students of all ages...bring your backpack/school bag to worship. Our Backpack Blessing is a special time for our congregation to encourage students with spiritual, emotional, and communal support as they begin the school year. Please join us!



corner

Christian Education

1x1 pastor Time

6th-12th graders, Pastor Christa wants to connect with you and take you for coffee, ice cream – or whatever. So call or text her at #320-535-0641.

sunday School

Classes begin Rally Sunday, September 14, at 10:15 a.m.

There will be a Sunday School Teacher meeting September 7 at 10 a.m. Materials will be distributed that day.

confirmation Notes/Classes

Confirmation students: remember your yearly requirement of sermon notes (20), service hours (25), & activity points (4). You can keep working on this requirement all summer long!

CONFIRMATION CLASS - Each student should plan to meet with Pastor Christa 1 time during this summer.

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION - Wednesday, September 3, will be a confirmation bonfire/meal and orientation for BOTH parents and students at 6 p.m. This is a required event.

Confirmation classes will resume September 14 for 7th-9th graders.

Confirmation Guides Needed - We are looking for a few adults who would be interested in being Sunday morning confirmation guides. Please talk to Pastor Christa for more information about this opportunity.

Christian Education Ministry Team Members

Harold Eisenbacher (*council rep*) ♦ Jaylen Rossell (*council rep*)
Barb Everson ♦ Janelle Eisenbacher ♦ Nick Rossell ♦ Shane Hagstrom

bible Camp

Campers, as soon as your camp week is done, please submit a few sentences telling us about your camp experience, as well as a picture or two, if you have some. This is a great way to encourage new campers to explore Bible Camp opportunities.

bible camp Fundraisers

The "Book Sale" Bible Camp Fundraiser continues. Anyone who has gently used books that you are finished with (including children's books) is encouraged to donate books for our sale. **Cost: \$1/hardcover, \$.50/softcover.** Thanks for supporting our campers, and thanks to all those who have donated and purchased books. We plan to continue this fundraiser as long as we have books to sell, so please check out the selection of books regularly!

rally Sunday

Sunday, September 14, is Rally Sunday! Please plan to join us for 9 a.m. worship as we celebrate the beginning of another Sunday School year.

During worship, we will be installing our education staff. Following worship, kids can go to their classrooms for Sunday School and they will finish with closing music at 11:30 a.m.

backpack Blessing

Sunday, September 7, we will have a special "Backpack Blessing" during our 9 a.m. worship. All students are encouraged to bring in their backpacks/school bags that day as we celebrate the beginning of another school year and pray for God's guidance in our learning. Get your backpacks ready!

christian education Calendar of Events

(watch for monthly updates!)

DATE	TIME - PLACE	EVENT
August 13	6 p.m./Immanuel	S'mores Night
September 3	6 p.m./Immanuel	Bonfire/Confirmation Orientation for 7th-9th Grade Students & Parents
September 7	9 a.m./Immanuel	Backpack Blessing
September 7	10 a.m./Immanuel	Sunday School Teacher/Staff Meeting
September 14	9 a.m./Immanuel	Rally Sunday
September 14	10:15 a.m./Immanuel	Sunday School/Confirmation Classes Begin
September 21	9 a.m.	3-Year-Olds & 7th Graders Receive Bibles

"I have **SET** an **EXAMPLE**
that **YOU** should **DO**
AS I have **DONE** for **YOU**."
--JOHN 13:15--



Chicago - 2014 YouthWorks Mission Trip



JUNE OFFERING

General Fund

Misc.	\$1987.00
First Sunday	3260.00
Second Sunday	2614.00
Third Sunday	2235.00
Fourth Sunday	183.00
Fifth Sunday	2438.00
Total	\$12,717.00

Building Fund

First Sunday	\$100.00
Second Sunday	0.00
Third Sunday	0.00
Fourth Sunday	0.00
Fifth Sunday	0.00
Total	\$100.00

Organ Replacement Project

Misc.	\$170.00
First Sunday	10.00
Second Sunday	20.00
Third Sunday	30.00
Fourth Sunday	0.00
Fifth Sunday	20.00
Total	\$250.00

Per Sunday

Average Attendance (per Sunday)83
Avg. General Giving (per service) ...	\$2146.00
Avg. Building Fund Giving (per service) ..	\$20.00

Offering Needed

Per Sunday	\$3417.00
Per Month	\$14,807.00

Income for 2014 (excluding Organ Project)

Thru June	\$67,334.00
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2014 Total Budget\$177,685.00

**please note that these figures do not reflect all financial transactions*

Pastor - from page 3

this world is here with you right now and in any and all circumstances. And, God hears you. God hears the over-sentimental reactions of a mother of a soon-to-be Preschooler and Second grader. God hears the true heartache and sorrow of a grieving heart. God hears the stress and anxiety of someone under a deadline. God hears the joy, the sorrow, the worry --- God hears all of it and meets you with his presence. His presence that never tells you, not yet --- his presence that always tells you, "NOW."

Now, I am here with you. Now, I will help you. Now, I will work to heal you. Now, I will comfort you. Now, I will give you strength. Now, I love you. Now, I will bring light to you. Now, I will bring new life to you. Now, I give you hope.

Now...

With a God who meets all of our "not yet"s with His "now"s --- He makes our hearts able to say, "yes." Or as my kids would say, "Ready. Set. Go!" May the God of all our "not yet"s and "now"s bring you strength with the end of summer, the change of the seasons, and all the new chapters in your days and months ahead.

Blessings on the Journey
Pastor Christa

PS: Sometimes, God is the one we say "not yet" to the most. With the good news that God always says NOW to you and me, in what ways do you hear God calling you to connect with Him more deeply and intimately? Look ahead in the September newsletter and throughout Sundays in August for great opportunities for adult faith growth. As September approaches, we prepare for children and youth to resume Sunday School, Confirmation, and faith formation.

However, faith formation is a lifelong pursuit – it never ends. Check out the narthex sign-up sheet for information on Adult Faith growth opportunities. Why not now? Blessings!

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - July 9, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jaylen Rossell, John Hagstrom, Melissa Litzau, Dean Nelson, Pat Walsh, Jacklyn Frericks, and Pastor Christa.

Meeting called to order by John Hagstrom.
Devotions led by John Hagstrom. Motion made by Dean to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Melissa. Approve.

Treasurer's report given by Jacklyn Frericks. Motion made by Pat to file subject to audit, seconded by Melissa. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Family Promise discussed. No further action required until more information has been gathered.
Tabled until future meetings.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS: *Full reports, if available, can be found in the Church Office.*

Christian Education: Report read by John Hagstrom.

1. Curriculum and class breakdowns are being discussed.
2. Backpack Blessing and Rally Sunday dates discussed.
3. Planning to add 6th graders to acolyting rotation and 9th-10th graders to lector/communion assisting rotation.
4. VBS - need total expenses so we can send bill to Bethlehem.
5. Need to schedule confirmation banquet and photographer.
6. Plans for Bibles to be given to 3-year-olds, 7th graders, Kindergarteners, and 3rd graders.

Building/Property:

1. Maintenance continues around the church structure.
2. Looking into painting doorframes soon.

Finance/Stewardship: Will schedule meeting at the end of July, beginning of August.

Worship & Music: No report given.

Evangelism/Faith in Action: Report read by John Hagstrom.

1. S'mores night planned again for August.
2. Immanuel serving as Project Hope food pick-up site during summer.
3. Health kits were delivered to LWR in St. Paul.
4. Start work on planning Fall Festival.

PASTOR'S REPORT: *Full report is available in the Church Office.*

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS: None.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Council & Ministry Team Schedule

Council Meets: August 13, 7 p.m.

Devotions: TBD

*Worship & Music: TBD**

*Christian Ed.: TBD**

*Finance/Stewardship: TBD**

*Property: TBD**

*Evangelism/Faith in Action: TBD**

**Team Leaders, please notify the church office of your monthly meeting date and time so that information can be included in the Outreach.*

**Respectfully Submitted,
Jacklyn Frericks, Acting Secretary**

Join us for S'mores Night!



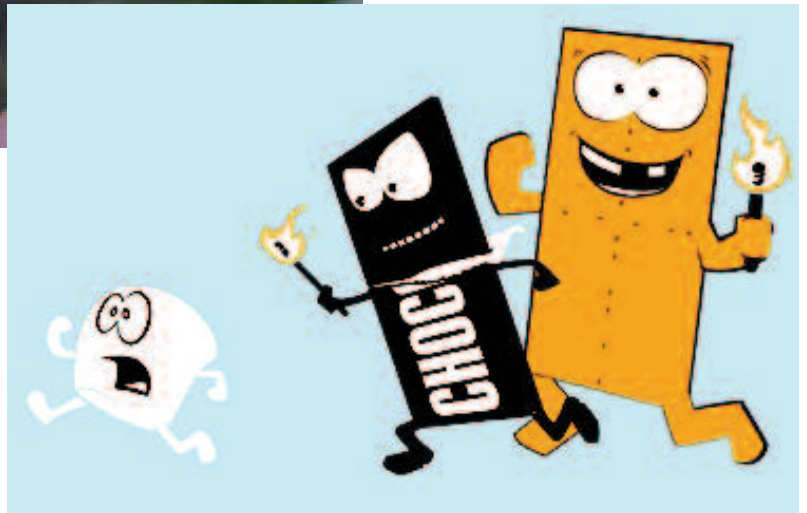
Wednesday,
August 13
6 p.m.

(Plenty of time for council members to make s'mores before the council meeting! :-)

Immanuel
Lutheran Church
Backyard Firepit

**Graham Crackers,
Marshmallows, Chocolate,
and Juice Are Provided!**

We will also have ketchup, mustard, and relish available if anyone wants to bring hot dogs from home to roast.



**Everyone Welcome!
Invite family, friends, & neighbors!**

There will be lawn games set up for anyone wanting to burn off the s'more calories, and the guitar will be nearby in case there is a request for a camp song!

GOOD LUCK & BEST WISHES

Good luck to all those students who head to college or other post-secondary program soon, especially to all the first-year students. May God give you wisdom on your journey!



ONLINE NEWSLETTER

Just a reminder that the Outreach can be accessed through the church website www.immanuelatwater.com

This is a great option for any students heading back to college in the fall. Keep in touch with our Immanuel family during your school year.

WITH SYMPATHY

Bill Hutchinson

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Bill Hutchinson, who passed away July 2. His funeral was July 7 at Immanuel.

Chet Johnson

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Chet Johnson, who passed away July 12. His funeral was July 15 at Immanuel.

Dale Kragenbring

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Dale Kragenbring, who passed away July 28. Funeral arrangements were pending at the time the Outreach was printed.

May God bring comfort and hope during this time of grieving.



SAVED By Grace, CALLED To Serve.



DIRTY CAR??

The Immanuel Youth Group is having a car wash the morning of Saturday, August 16. Exact Time & Place will be announced soon. This will be a fundraiser for the 2015 Mission Trip!

AUGUST

dates to remember

Please remember to notify the church office of any corrections that should be made to birthdays, anniversaries, names, addresses, etc., so we can keep our files updated. Thanks!

Celebrating

An Anniversary This Month

- 8-11 Dan & Cheryl Rouser
- 8-15 Dale & Elvern Bomstad
- 8-16 Pat & Sandy Walsh
- 8-17 Bruce & Elaine Wothe
Bill & Debra Bergstrom
- 8-18 Jason & Stacey Schwartz
- 8-21 Blake & Lori Schroeder
- 8-23 Brad & Jill Bengtson
- 8-25 Justin & Staci Sing
- 8-31 Brent & Jolene Garberich

- 8-1 Joel Edwards
Michelle Johnson
- 8-2 Macy Saue
- 8-5 John Hagstrom
- 8-6 Wayne Smith
Todd Saue
Rylan Summerlet
- 8-7 Sandy Edwards
Jessica Christensen



- 8-10 Blair Fredrick
- 8-12 Corey Wallin
- 8-14 Derrick Johnson
- 8-15 Kelly Wittman
- 8-17 Arlys Winkelman
- 8-18 Robin Kragenbring
- 8-19 Dorothy Anderson
- 8-20 Blake Bolton
- 8-21 Jennifer Bingaman
- 8-22 Gabriel Eisenbacher
- 8-24 Loren Yungk
Sherri Kelbing
Chelsey Ahl
- 8-25 Gary Davenport
Kim Holm
Ryan Mahn
- 8-26 Marie Nelson
- 8-28 Beth Nelson
Ryan Ahl
Jason Rosenquist
- 8-29 D.J. Skillings

HOMEBOUND LIST

Please remember these homebound people with a visit, a card, or a special prayer to bring a little added sunshine into their lives.

Mark S. Berscheid
Sunnyview Room #1
316 Sunrise Lane
P.O. Box 686
Atwater, MN 56209

Lucille Carlson
Bethesda Heritage
1012 3rd St. SE
Room 360
Willmar, MN 56201

Robert & Darlene Kirk
20277 105th Ave. SE
Atwater, MN 56209

Grace Peterson
11055 180th St. NE
Atwater, MN 56209
974-8273



Rocile Sokolosky
322 Sunrise Lane
Atwater, MN 56209
974-8217

Dennis Wallin
441 Williams Ave. E.
Apt. 207
Dassel, MN 55325

August *Assisting Schedule*

Ushers John Hagstrom,
Chuck Stranberg

Communion Assistants

Aug 3 Linda Burns
24 John Hagstrom

Lectors

Aug 3 Jaylen Rossell
10 Shane Hagstrom
17 Chuck Stranberg
24 Julie Madsen
31 Gabriel Eisenbacher

Greeters

Aug 3 Don & Kristy Anderson
10 Bruce & Elaine Wothe
17 Rolayne Beerman
24 Erick & Pam Narragon
31 TBD

Acolytes

Aug 3 Kobe Holtz
10 Gabby Lawver
17 Emily Naber
24 Jeremy Nelson
31 TBD

Altar Guild

Sandy Edwards & Deb Mickle

Offering Counter

TBD

Coffee Hour Servers

Aug 3 Connie Halvorson &
Val Carlson
10 Rasmussen &
Madsen Families
17 Elaine, Mark, Jason &
Tiffany Johnson
24 Lila Snavely, Rhonda
Garcia, James Schwartz
31 Nick & Melissa Rossell

September *Assisting Schedule*

Ushers Roger & Jo Holm

Communion Assistants

Sept 7 Sue Bohn
28 Melissa Rossell

Lectors

Sept 7 Lee Mickle
14 Denise Kragenbring
21 Dennis Goehring
28 Veda Stockland

Greeters

Sept 7 Sue Bohn/Holly Hoekstra
14 Jeff Blom family
21 Trevor & Kate Berger
28 Veda Stockland

Acolytes

Sept 7 Kiara Rosenquist
14 Taylor Bengtson
21 Gabriel Eisenbacher
28 Jeremy Nelson

Altar Guild

Sandy Edwards & Deb Mickle

Offering Counter

TBD

Coffee Hour Servers

Sept 7 Roger & Jo Holm
Marty Kragenbring
14 ROAST BEEF DINNER
*There will be treats and
juice available for Sunday
School kids
21 Harlan & Julie Madsen
Dennis & Sharon Goehring
28 Pat & Sandy Walsh
Veda Stockland