



JACOB'S LADDER

St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

Pastoral Devotion for December

Read John 1:1-14

Since the beginning, light has been a sign of life and hope. As God spoke, light burst forth and shattered the darkness. Throughout John's account of the gospel of Christ, a theme of darkness and light winds its way through each chapter.

Imagine the first Christmas morning, the first hint of sunlight breaking through the dawn of a new day. Its warm rays illumine the form of the new family; the father and mother huddled close, gazing upon their child born during the night. Those first beams of light shine upon the child who is wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Yet even brilliant rays of sunlight cannot compare to the splendor of his radiance. For this child is light for the world.

In these days of uncertainty, in the midst of doubt and fear, darkness often falls upon the human family. Yet, through the babe born unto Mary and Joseph, light shines. In Christ there is hope; in him there is peace, through him only is light, and the light is life for all people.

In the beginning, God said, "Let there be light." Today, this same light shines in the hearts of God's people, a light that no darkness can overcome. Ours is to testify to the light of Christ. Through him only, is there hope for life without end.

Prayer: We thank you, O God, for the light that shatters the darkness, the light of your Christ. Amen.



Pastor Nuottila's sermons are posted on our church website. Please pass this word along to anyone who cannot worship with us on Sundays.

Items of Interest in this Issue

Birthdays for the Month / Worship and Music	Page 2	Memorials and Acknowledgements.....	Page 7
From the Pastor's Heart.....	Page 3	Serving Assistants / Members Shut-in or in Care Facility / Council Members / Thank You.....	Page 8
Council Briefs.....	Page 4	December Calendar of Events.....	Page 9
Upcoming Information	Page 5 & 6	Up & Going.....	Page 10



Birthday's of the Month



03 – Brandon Lindler
 04 – Olivia Lambeth
 05 – Cooper Rister
 06 – Donald Turner
 07 – Tracy Eargle
 07 – Carroll Lindler, Jr.
 07 – Ashley Slice
 08 – Ed Walker
 09 – Lisa Amick

09 – Rhea Matthews
 09 – Joshua Mack
 10 – Chrissy Slice
 11 – Wayne Stuck
 13 – Ken Smith
 16 – Copeland Peeples
 17 – Heather Slice
 18 – Johanne Sullivan
 19 – Randy Rushe

19 – Matt Bowers
 19 – Ethan Ballentine
 20 – Erika Pierce
 20 – Elaine Pierce
 22 – Richard Shealy
 23 – Angela Nuottila
 25 – Carla Lindler
 26 – Lauren Wise
 29 – Ann Lindler

29 – Chris Doyle
 30 – Emma Sightler
 30 – Ethan McDuffie
 31 – Denise Mack



Worship and Music

December 1st is the beginning of Advent. It's hard to believe 2018 is nearly over; I'm sure I only blinked a couple of times! There are many worship opportunities in the coming weeks, including:

- Sunday services
- Wednesday evening Advent services, including a Longest Night service on December 19th (keep reading for information on this special service)
- the Children's Christmas program on December 16th (reception following)
- Christmas Eve Service at 7 pm
- Christmas Day Service at 10 AM
- a Service of Lessons and Carols on December 30th
- a Feast of the Epiphany special musical presentation by the combined choirs of St. Jacob's and New Hope on January 6th

From Sola Publishing – Service for the Longest Night: *The Seasons of Advent and Christmas can be a terribly lonely and difficult time for those who have lost loved ones. This service of the word and prayer is meant to provide a safe place to grieve and be comforted by God's eternal love and light. It is often used on the night of the Winter Solstice, December 21st, the longest night of the year.*

While the Children's Program isn't a worship service in the traditional sense, it is a time which allows the youngsters of the congregation to share the story of Christmas. "Come, Let Us Adore Him" promises to be a wonderful evening.

On Christmas Eve, you're invited to arrive early – we will be singing carols starting at 6:45 as the pre-service music this year. The Children's Choir will also be singing during the service. The Sunday after Christmas, December 30th, will feature even more carols as we respond to scripture with song.

And finally, we are very excited to partner with the choir from New Hope Lutheran to present a mini-cantata for the Feast of the Epiphany. It's not often that the Day of Epiphany (January 6th, 12 days after Christmas and the commemoration of the visit of the Magi) falls on a Sunday, so we hope that you will plan to join us for this special gift from our two choirs. Please join us as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior this Advent and Christmas season.

Soli Deo Gloria,
 Laurie

From the Pastor's Heart

Recognizing newsletter deadlines, once again, I have the peculiar task of writing a Christmas message even before I've worked up an appetite for Thanksgiving turkey. So, to get in the mood for the season I'm playing Christmas music on the computer as I write. Most of us have our favorite Christmas song and I am no different. My favorite is *O Holy Night*. I love this song and it never gets old.

Many of my favorite artists have recorded *O Holy Night*. There are dozens of renditions that will literally bring a tear to my eye. Like so many, I get caught up in the emotional response to beautiful music played by amazing musicians or sung by gifted vocalists. Throughout my years as pastor, members of previous congregations have given their renditions of this beloved song, only to reduce their pastor to tears of joy as they offered their gift. You may wonder what it is about this song that solicits such a reaction for me. Truly, beautiful as it is, it is not the melody. *O Holy Night* captivates me so because of its message. The words speak so strongly to the power of God's love.

In 1847, a priest commissioned Frenchman Placide Cappeau to write a poem for the Christmas mass. He knew this poem would be central to the priest's proclamation so it must be scriptural and reverent. The poem would have to speak to the struggle of our human condition and at the same time declare the hope of God's people fulfilled through the birth of the Christ child. Turning to Luke's gospel, Cappeau imagined what it might have been like to witness the birth of Christ on the holiest of nights.

Cappeau's poem speaks of a night extraordinarily different than most. The sky was so clear that the stars seemed to shine brighter than ever before. The opening of the song leads us into this same vision:

*O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
this is the night, of our dear Savior's birth!*

We've all witnessed Christmas nights such as this. Yet, we realize that even at Christmas, the world is still filled with difficulties and challenges. There is a reason God came to earth in human form. Our world is one bent on disobedience, selfishness, and anger. Each week, as we

confess our sins we admit our part in the world's calamity.

We cannot pretend that God is not privy to the instances where we have not kept his commandments. We cannot live as though he has not seen the wrongs we've done toward one another. Even the most faithful among us has sinned against God and against a neighbor. Yet, there is hope, and this is where *O Holy Night* gets my full and complete attention. Cappeau writes:

*Long lay the world, in sin and error pining;
Till he appeared and the soul felt his worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary soul rejoices;
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!*

God has kept his promise to save his people; he has sent his Son, the child of Mary to be Savior and Lord.

Cappeau offered his congregation a declaration of God's grace and forgiveness made possible through the life, death and resurrection of a single child born on that holy night.

Just as he was born in humility, Jesus would also humbly endure the burden of shame brought about the world's sin. The message of *O Holy Night* proclaims the powerful truth of God's salvation made known as the King of Glory makes his entrance into the world for the sake of all humanity. This is no ordinary child. This is no ordinary night.

This Christmas, as I have and always will, I invite you all to worship with me and the rest of your church family on the holiest of nights. Come hear the message of God's grace as we remember how our Savior and Lord breaks into our time a space yet once more. Hear the words of the gospel and realize the thrill of God's saving grace.

*Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, O holy night; O night divine!*

Grace to you and peace, this Christmas,

Pastor David Nuottila



Council Briefs

St. Jacob's Lutheran Church Congregational
Council Briefs for November 6, 2018 Meeting

Council noted Good Things at St. Jacob's this month included that the Hannah Coker Blood Drive was a huge success. There were 50 units of blood collected and the goal was met. Thanks to everyone that helped with this Blood Drive effort! Thank you to A.J. Peeples for delivering the Sunday message on Lutheran Men Sunday! The Youth Choir did a great job singing on October 28th. Thank you to Frances Slice for covering the church office duties while Sherry Floyd was away.

Pastor Report - Pastor David thanked Gerald Lindler for handling several important church situations while he was away on vacation. Also, thanks to the other Pastors for their Pastoral Care while he was away, especially Pastor Dave Tholstrup.

Staff Support - The Staff Support Team is advertising the position for Director of Youth and Family Ministries. The position is also listed on the St. Jacob's website. St. Jacob's has received numerous resumes for Director of Youth and Family Ministries. The Interview Team is to meet on November 11, 2018 to review all received resumes. Pastor David is to setup a time for the Interview Team to meet with the 3 strongest candidates. Acknowledged Laurie Lackey's birthday on November 6, 2018.

Spiritual Life - A master list of the "Time & Talents" sheets for St. Jacob's Church was created by Brenda Smith. This list was forwarded to each Council member and each associated team category is to be distributed into every Team Leader's respective box. The choir workshop was rescheduled for Saturday, November 17th. The Worship and Music Team are finalizing plans for the special Day of Epiphany Service on January 6, 2019.

Short Term - Council unanimously approved the proposal for upgrading the Fellowship Hall kitchen from the Building and Property Teams. This recommendation will be brought to the Congregation on December 2, 2018 at the Congregational Meeting.

Witness - The Publicity Team worked together with Don Dease on getting the publicity out to the public for the Hannah Coker Blood Drive.

Support of Ministries - Membership Secretary reported the following statistics:
353 - Total church Membership as of 11/05/2018, 308 -Baptized confirmed, 45 -Baptized only

Old Business

- Council unanimously approved to accept the St. Jacob's proposed 2019 yearly budget of \$286,747.00 with a weekly contribution needed of \$5,514. 00. This is compared to our 2018 yearly budget of \$272,097.00 and weekly needed contribution of \$5,233.00. This will be brought to the Congregational Meeting on December 2, 2018.
- Video/Record/YouTube options for Church Service for shut-ins-status—Brandon Slice is gathering various quotes for phone and internet service for St. Jacob's. Brandon is also in the process of setting up a place in the nursery to view the weekly sermons.
- Digital Sign—There has been \$15,110.00 currently donated for the purchase of a digital sign as of November 4, 2018. Council unanimously approved to present a recommendation to the congregation on December 2, 2018 during the congregational meeting.
- Windows—Council unanimously approved to have maintenance completed on the Church's stain glass windows.

New Business

Council nominees for 2019-2020 to be presented to the Congregation on December 2, 2018 are listed below. Other qualified nominees (who agree to serve) can be received from the floor. We will need to elect five from this list of nominees. 1. David Kibler, 2. A.J. Peeples, 3. Johanne Sullivan, 4. Marie Slice, 5. Robert Lindler, 6. Karla Griggs, 7. Sherrie McTeer, 8. Leon Lindler, 9. Kayla Pharis, 10. John Riser

UPCOMING INFORMATION

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP– We will not be having a Coffee Fellowship in December due to the Christmas Congregational Dinner.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR CHRISTMAS MESSAGE – The children's choir is working hard learning music to help lead worship. We are talking a lot about Jesus as the light of the world. In Advent the children will call to Jesus, Prince of Peace, Messiah, to come show us the light that we might follow. At Christmas the children will ask us if we are ready for this light. Will we see Jesus as he comes to us? Will we see the person who needs our help? Will we reach out to those who are hurting? Will we be ready to follow wherever God leads us? And finally during Epiphany the children will announce, "Arise and shine, your light has come!" As we celebrate the seasons ahead we pray we will all be ready to let Jesus's light shine through us. I encourage you all to talk to our children about ways in which you see Jesus in your day to day life and ways that we can all shine Jesus's light on others. Merry Christmas from the children's choir.

IT'S TIME TO PRINT A NEW ROSTER – Our current membership roster will be in the Narthex window until Sunday, December 30, 2018. Please take a few minutes to check your household entry and indicate changes, corrections and/or additions that need to be made. We especially need to know if you no longer have a land line and if your cell number and email addresses are correct. You can make changes in the posted roster, indicate changes on the Friendship Register sheet, complete a change of address card or call the church office. Our Ministry Teams and Auxiliary Groups use the information from the roster to ensure everyone is made aware of important happenings at St. Jacob's. **Thank you** for taking the time to help keep our church roster and membership records accurate and up-to-date.

ALTAR GUILD IS GETTING READY FOR 2019 - Many times, members wish to provide the altar flowers in memory of loved ones or in honor of anniversaries, birthdays and other special occasions. As in the past, a flower chart sign-up sheet will be posted in the Narthex on Sunday December 2nd and will remain until Sunday, December 30th. If there is a particular Sunday YOU would like to furnish the altar flowers for the worship service, please indicate your choice by signing up for that Sunday. The Altar Guild will assign all open dates to other members of the congregation. NOTE: Remember artificial flowers **are not** to be used in the altar vases and pot plants are to be used to enhance services on Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday, Pentecost Sunday and Christmas Services - not as altar flowers.

MORNING BIBLE STUDY– Our Wednesday Morning Bible study is in full swing as we continue taking a close look at the history and theology of many beloved hymns. In December, we will focus our attention on several favorite hymns for Advent and Christmas. If you have not yet attended this study, you need not worry about being behind. There are new hymns for study each week, so every meeting begins with a fresh start on a new topic. Wednesday morning Bible study meets at 9:30 in the fellowship hall. Please join members of your church family and come learn with us. We look forward to seeing you there.

TRASHY CLUB – Please make plans to meet on Saturday, December 1st at 7:45 AM to pick up trash and clean up around our church grounds. Meet us in the Fellowship Hall.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – Our Annual Congregational meeting will be held next Sunday, December 2nd to elect members to serve on Church Council for 2019-2020, (Nominees are Karla Griggs, David Kibler, Leon Lindler, Robert Lindler, Sherrie McTeer, A.J. Peeples, Kayla Pharis, John Riser, Marie Slice, and Johanne Sullivan), and approve the 2019 Budget (Copies of the proposed budget are available in the Narthex). We will have a recommendation from Church Council regarding a digital sign and kitchen renovations.

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONGREGATIONAL DINNER – The Annual Christmas Congregational Dinner is December 2nd following the service in the Fellowship Hall. This event is sponsored by our Lutheran Men and Lutheran Women. Cost is \$5.00 per plate (children 6 and under and adults 80 and over are free). Be here to fellowship and enjoy a great meal.

COUNCIL MEETING - The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, December 4th at 6:30 PM in the Church Office.

ADVENT AT ST. JACOB'S - The season of expectation and waiting is finally upon us. Advent invites Christians into the time of longing for our Savior's return in glory, to take us unto himself and the place which he has prepared. In this faithful waiting, we express our joy and wonder, marveling once more at the miracle of Jesus's birth. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Services of Advent here at St. Jacob's and hear once more the foretelling of God's gift of salvation through Christ the Lord. The following is a schedule of our Advent observance.

- 7:00 p.m. Wed., Dec. 5th – The Prophecy of John the Baptist
- 7:00 p.m. Wed., Dec. 12th – The Annunciation unto Mary
- 7:00 p.m. – wed. Dec 19th – The Annunciation unto Joseph; Worship on the Longest Night

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR CHILDREN'S CHOIR & CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS – Pastor David and Angela are hosting a Christmas party for the children's choir and Christmas program participants. We will gather in the fellowship hall after rehearsal on December 9th. All those participating in the Christmas program please join us for pizza, cookie decorating and Christmas fun.

UP AND GOING MEETING FOR DECEMBER – We will meet December 13, 2018, in the Fellowship Hall. Joan and Gary Marco have devotions, the program, and entertainment. Please bring Holiday finger foods to share for lunch, drinks will be provided, and 1 white elephant gift per person (a gift you have at home and would like to get rid of) for fun exchanging. Our Christmas Party is always so much fun. Look forward to seeing you there.

O COME LET US ADORE HIM—CHRISTMAS AT ST. JACOB'S - Our celebration of the Nativity of our Lord will be held on Monday, December 24th, Christmas Eve beginning at 7:00 p.m. Invite your friends, neighbors and family members to join us for Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion on this holiest of nights. All are welcome to come sing praises unto the New Born King.

CHRISTMAS MORNING WORSHIP AT ST. JACOB'S - On Tuesday, December 25th, we will be having a Christmas Service at 10 AM. All are welcome to come and celebrate the birth of our Lord.

MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT - If you have been wondering about attending our Married Couples Retreat but thought you missed the deadline you are in luck. There is still time to get your name on the list and reserve your place. This retreat will offer time for married couples to relax at a beautiful camp along the beach while learning more about God's blessings in marriage. *The retreat will begin at 7:00 pm. Friday, January 25th and continue through 11:00 am. Sunday, January 27th. Participants may check-in on Friday as early as 3:00 p.m. and enjoy some of the sights and sounds of the Carolina coast. Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday is included, as well as supper on Saturday evening. Supper on Friday and lunch on Saturday are on your own. Registration fee is \$300.00 per couple. Registration forms are available in the Narthex. Please contact Pastor David Nuottila if you have any questions.*

ANNUAL REPORT INFORMATION – If you are responsible for a team schedule or report for the annual report book, please be sure and get it to Sherry in the Church Office no later than December 31st. If you submit your schedule or report to Sherry and do not get a reply that she has received it, please give her a call at the church office 803-345-2309. Yearly reports will be printed in the report book but teams that do not provide this information will not be reflected.

2018 YEAR END CLOSING – Financial Year End information is due by December 31st. If you have any paperwork (reimbursement requests, receipts to back cash advances, and any leftover cash, etc.) for 2018, please turn your information in to Caroline so she can close out the year. If you have any questions, please see Caroline.

FAMILY FUN FELLOWSHIP – We will not have a 5th Family Fun Fellowship Event in December.

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION – The Church Office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year Holiday beginning December 24, 2018 and returning on Wednesday, January 2, 2019. Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!!!

Memorials & Acknowledgements

October 28, 2018 - November 18, 2018

- In memory of Walter Metze to Current by Claude and Elizabeth Lindler, Albert and Elvia Lindler and Anonymous
- In memory of Walter Metze to Lutheran Men by Henry and Erlene Clark, Danny and Brenda Shealy, Lynn and Susan Shealy, Frances Slice and Richard and Earline Shealy
- In memory of Walter Metze to Building Fund by Eddie and Gail Epting, Terry and Barbara Metze, and Betty Ann Shealy
- In memory of Walter Metze to Digital Sign by Gerald and Robin Lindler, Don and Judy Dease, and Billy, Sherrie, Lauren and Parker McTeer
- In memory of Walter Metze to Current by Claude and JoAnne Lindler
- In memory of Veterie Slice to Building Fund by Eddie and Gail Epting and Danny and Brenda Shealy
- In memory of Veterie Slice to Current by Gerald and Robin Lindler and Anonymous
- In memory of Morris Creps to Digital Sign by Gerald and Robin Lindler
- In memory of Walter Metze to Lutheran Men by Robert and June Lindler, Chad and Caroline Lindler and Terry R. Metze Jr
- In memory of Walter Metze to Current by Gary and Gwynne Bedenbaugh, Betty Roof, Nancy McKinney, Bill and Meverta Sandel, and Martha B. Allision
- In memory of Walter Metze to Lutheran Women by Anne Langley, Dr. and Mrs. Al Hartgraves, and C. Richard Lindler
- To Congo Missions by Holy Trinity Lutheran
- In memory of Veterie Slice and Walter Metze to Building Fund by Donald and Judy Turner
- In memory of Walter Metze to Cemetery Fund by Minnie Lee Shealy
- In memory of Veterie Slice to Lutheran Women by Henry and Erlene Clark, Richard and Earline Shealy, Joe and Eilene Richardson, Leon and Helen Lindler
- In memory of Veterie Slice and Walter Metze to Lutheran Women by Buddy and Phyllis Bickley
- In memory of Veterie Slice to Current by Ann Slice and Family, Albert and Elvia Lindler, Barr-Price Funeral Homes
- In memory of Walter Metze to Lutheran Men by Joe and Eileen Richardson, Patricia Woodard
- In memory of Veterie Slice to Building Fund by Terry and Barbara Metze, Gary and Joan Marco and Alane and Alan
- In memory of Walter Metze to Building Fund by Gary and Joan Marco
- In memory of Emily Ballentine to Current by Gerald and Robin Lindler and Billy, Sherrie, Lauren and Parker McTeer
- In memory of Reba Fort, Dot Amick and Lionell Amick to Building Fund by Derriel and Lynne Amick
- In memory of Veterie Slice to Digital Sign by Billy, Sherrie, Lauren and Parker McTeer
- In memory of Walter Metze to current by Peggy Moates
- In memory of Walter Metze to Current by Dean and Reba Stromwall
- In memory of Veterie Slice to Current by Jerald and Ann Hancock, Jerry and Janna Davis, Mary Margaret Judd, Peggy Moates, Byron and Gail Parker, Norma Zwart, and Piedmont Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
- In honor of Gerald Lindler for another safe and entertaining bus ride to Digital Sign by Up and Going
- In memory of Walter Metze to Building Fund by Leon and Helen Lindler
- In memory of Veterie Slice to Lutheran Women by James Haack and Patricia Woodard
- In memory of Morris Creps to We Care by Robert and June Lindler



Serving Assistants for December 2018

Ushers— Dec 2, 9, 16—Jason Jones, Sherrie McTeer, Mark Slice, Davis Brown

Dec 23, 30—Terry Metzke, John Riser, Danny Shealy, Eddie Eargle

Acolyte — Dec 2, 9, 16, 23, 30—Dixon Wallace

Lay Reader— Dec 2, 9, 16—Bob & Gloria Ziemer
Dec 23, 30—Phyllis Bickley

Date Communion Assistants

Dec 02 — Carroll Lindler, Phyllis Bickley, AJ Peeples, John Wallace

Dec 09 — Melissa Lindler, Judy Dease, Don Dease

Dec 16 — David Kibler, Eddie Ziegler, Randy Rushe

Dec 23 — Micky Johnson, Cheryl Johnson, Bob Ziemer

Dec 24 — Phyllis Bickley, Tracy Riser, John Riser

Dec 30— Carroll Lindler, Phyllis Bickley, AJ Peeples

Kitchen Contact Person — Robert Lindler

Lay Communion Teams Homebound — Carroll Lindler

Preschool Sunday School— Dec 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 — TBD

Elementary Sunday School— Dec 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 —
AJ & Nicky Peeples

Middle & High Sunday School — Dec 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 —
Don Dease, David Kibler,

Nursery—December

Dec 02 — Melissa Lindler

Dec 09 — Christina Metzke

Dec 16 — Julie Shealy

Dec 23 — Sandra Brown

Dec 30 — Gail Epting

Flowers—December

Dec 02 — Pastor David Nuottila

Dec 09 — Ed & Sharon Walker

Dec 16 — Marie Slice

Dec 23 — Pastor David Nuottila

Dec 30 — Davis & Sandra Brown

Cemetery Grass Cutting for Dec —Support from Ministries Teams and volunteers from the congregation as needed.

Church/Office Grass Cutting for Dec —Support from Ministries Teams and volunteers from the congregation as needed.

2018 Council Members

Gerald Lindler—*President*—GTL55@sc.rr.com

Danny Shealy—*Vice President*— shealydr@netscape.com

Julie Shealy—*Secretary*—julieshealy3@gmail.com

Kathleen Pierce—kpierce@scda.sc.gov

John Wallace—wallygator447@hotmail.com

June Lindler—junelindler@gmail.com

Brandon Slice—bslice@backroads.net

Don Dease—Deaserus@bellsouth.net

Barry Rice—wbarryrice@gmail.com

Frances Slice—No Email Address

Members that are Shut-in or in Health Care Facilities

Michael Lindler, 250 Leaning Pines Trail, Lexington, SC 29072
Ph: 803-356-4100

Letha Sites, 1024 Freshly Mill Road, Irmo, SC 29063
Ph: 803-345-2300

Pearl Cribb, 220 Fox Lake Drive, West Columbia, SC 29170
Ph 803-957-4663

Frances Bowers, 756 Haltiwanger Rd, Chapin, SC 29036
Ph: 803-345-5802

Janet Lindler, 221 Crooked Creek Road, Chapin, SC 29036
Ph: 803-345-5640



Our family would like to thank each of our St. Jacob's family for the prayers, texts, calls, cards and hugs given during the past year of my mother's and father's illness and father's passing. It was amazing seeing God's hand working in our lives and His love holding us close through each of you. Thank you for your encouragement and support during this difficult time.

John and Tracy Riser

To our friends at St. Jacob's:

We would like to thank all of you for your prayers, words of encouragement and assistance you have provided to our family during our time of need. Our faith has been strengthened by your love and concern. We are beyond blessed to be part of such a wonderful church family.

Sincerely and with much love to you all,
Bob Shields and Family

Thank you so much for all the prayers, calls and visits following my recent surgery. We are blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Leon and Helen R. Lindler

Thanks to all of you; it has been another awesome year here at St. Jacob's. I am truly blessed to be able to serve our Savior with such an awesome church family. Looking forward to working with you in the coming year.

Love in Christ,
Sherry Floyd

REMINDERS:

Worship Folder Information due by 2 PM each Tuesday.

Newsletter Information due on the 15th of each month.

DECEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7:45 AM Trashy Club (FH) Chrismon Trees Go Up (S) 12-6 PM Johanne Sullivan Birthday (FH)
2 Congregational Meeting After the Service The Annual Christmas Dinner (FH) 1:15 PM Children's Choir (S) 1:15 PM Confirmation (Yth Rm) 2 PM Children's Program Practice (S)	3	4 6:30 PM Council (O)	5 9:30 AM Bible Study (FH) 7 PM Advent Service Choir Practice Following (FH)	6 6:30 Bells (FH)	7	8 9-12 PM Choir Workshop (FH) (S)
9 3 PM Children's Choir (S) 3 PM Confirmation (Yth Rm) 4-4:45 PM Christmas Program Practice 5 PM Children's Choir Christmas Party (FH)	10	11	12 9:30 AM Bible Study (FH) 7 PM Advent Service Choir Practice Following (FH)	13 11 AM Up & Going Christmas Party (FH) 6:30 Bells (S)	14	15 10 AM Children's Christmas Program Practice (S)
16 Bells Playing 3 PM Confirmation (Yth Rm) 6:00 PM Children's Christmas Program (S) with Reception Following (FH)	17	18	19 9:30 AM Bible Study (FH) Final Class on Hymns 7 PM Longest Night Service (S)	20	21	22
23 Christ the King 3 PM Children's Choir (S) No Confirmation (Yth Rm)	24 Christmas Eve Church Office Closed 7 PM Christmas Eve Service (S) Pastor on Vacation	25 Christmas Day 10 AM Christmas Service (S)	26	27	28	29
30 No Confirmation No Children's Choir Practice	31 Church Office Closed					

ST. JACOB'S FACILITIES CALENDAR DEFINITIONS (FH) Fellowship Hall; (O) Office; (S) Sanctuary; (K) Kitchen; (AR) Activity Room; (MR) Music Room; (PR) Purple Room; (OR) Orange Room; (LR) Lesson Room

ST. JACOBS LUTHERAN CHURCH
844 COLUMBIA AVENUE
CHAPIN, SC 29036

(803) 345-2309
stjacobschurch@hotmail.com
www.st-jacobs.org
Office Hours:
Monday thru Thursday 9AM-2PM
Sunday School: 9:15AM
Worship Time: 10:30AM

Non Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Chapin, SC
Permit #47

December 2018 Issue

JACOB'S LADDER

Ministry Teams for Spiritual Life
Staff Support Ministries
Support of Ministry Teams
Ministry Teams for Parish Life
Ministry Teams for Witness
Short Term Ministries

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED!

Up and Going



The rain stopped around 9 am on Thursday, Nov 15th, just in time for 17 of the Up and Going members to board the St. Jacob's Express, driven by Gerald Lindler, and headed to Shealy's Bar-B-Q in Batesburg, SC to enjoy an early Thanksgiving meal. Helen Lindler gave the devotions from a 1971 Upper Room Devotional entitled "Give Thanks unto the Lord"! One sentence reads "We are so deluged with marvels of scientific invention and the miracles of the medical sciences that our eyes are blinded to the silent, creative power of God." Things have certainly changed since 1971 but this truth remains. We all agreed that God's blessings often come in small packages, wrapped in ordinary events; one of which is the Up and Going group and our times together. We arrived early but our tables were reserved and ready for us. The buffet was loaded with enticing food and we filled our plates to capacity. After Gerald offered the blessing for us, we enjoyed a tremendous array of meats, vegetables, breads, salads, condiments and desserts, and of course sweet tea (or whatever you desired). We talked, ate, laughed, greeted friends from Mt. Tabor, ate some more and moved about trying to speak to all in our group. 23 members and guests enjoyed our Thanksgiving Fellowship together. The long tables reserved for us allowed seating for all of our group; it was so nice to all be together. This prelude to Thanksgiving was a wonderful time of good food and fellowship with our members and friends. Those who were interested, walked across the parking lot to Shealy's Gift Shop to do some shopping. The beautiful items, both Thanksgiving and Christmas, really put you in the holiday shopping mood. We then boarded the bus with our treasures and headed back through the country side for home.

The rain stopped around 9 am on Thursday, Nov 15th, just in time for 17 of the Up and Going members to board the St. Jacob's Express, driven by Gerald Lindler, and headed to Shealy's Bar-B-Q in Batesburg, SC to enjoy an early Thanksgiving meal. Helen Lindler gave the devotions from a 1971 Upper Room Devotional entitled "Give Thanks unto the Lord"! One sentence reads "We are so deluged with marvels of scientific invention and the miracles of the medical sciences that our eyes are blinded to the silent,

