



St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

JACOB'S LADDER

May 2020

Volume 31, Issue 5

PASTORAL DEVOTION FOR MAY

COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

Read Acts 2:42-47

Each year, the National Geographic Channel airs a series in which ten competitors are deposited in a wild and desolate location somewhere around the globe. The purpose of the journey is to find out which of them is able to survive the longest in the wild while being totally, as the title would describe, Alone. The competitors have no contact with anyone. Only if they radio for assistance would they hear another human voice, but such a call means their odyssey comes to an end.

Being alone is contrary to the life God would have for his people. In the beginning, God created Adam but soon afterward made for him a helper and companion. Throughout the ages, God has blessed the human family that people may live in community with one another. In his book, "Life Together", Dietrich Bonhoeffer explains that, for believers, community is a gift of God's grace.

Not all live in such community. Many believers are dispersed throughout the world and live among those who have not believed Christ is the way, the truth and the life. Yet, our God calls some Christians to love and even live among their enemies. Speaking the Gospel of Christ to those who do not believe provides the building blocks of faith, which in turn serve as the seeds that sprout and grow into the fellowship of faith.

God does not intend for his people to live alone. Filled with the presence of the Holy Spirit, believers have what is needed to introduce others to Christ. Hearing the Gospel bring others to faith, and through faith, Christ establishes the community of believers.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, we thank you for the community of your people and the faithful relationships we share with others. Amen.

MEMBERS SHUT-IN OR IN FACILITIES

- Michael Lindler, 250 Leaning Pines Trail, Lexington, SC 29072 Ph: 803-356-4100
- Dewey Clark, 159 Chapin Road, Chapin, SC 29036 Phone: 803-345-3365
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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Members Shut-in or in Facilities
- Monthly Birthdays
- Senior Adult Prom To Be Rescheduled
- Easter Sunday Pictures and Announcement
- Remember Your Tithes
- Memorials and Acknowledgements
- Phone Scam
- Bible Word Searches and a Coloring Page



BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY



01 – Mallory Lindler	17 – Carolene Floyd
02 – Patricia Woodard	19 – Helen L. Lindler
02 – June Lindler	19 – Jo David
02 – Michael Shealy	19 – Blake Bise
03 – John Smith III	21 – Joe Richardson
04 – Joyce Ellisor	21 – Isabelle Robinton
06 – Kristen Johnson	22 – Shirley Nuottila
07 – Raine Lindler	22 – M. O’Neal Lindler
09 – Owen Jones	22 – Don Dease
10 – Gloria Dugan	22 – Randy Coker
10 – Steve Epting	22 – Harper Monts
10 – Tommy Bowers	22 – Emma Ballentine
11 – Lou Addy	27 – Ryan Slice
11 – Davis Brown	27 – Christopher Stanton
12 – J. L. Lindler	29 – Steve Slice
12 – Parker McTeer	29 – Andrew Kibler
14 – John J. Stroke	29 – Jolene Amick
14 – North Hollingsworth	30 – William Morris
14 – Nicholas Barras	
16 – Donna Fulmer	



YOUTH DIRECTOR & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Many of you know the hymn "It Is Well With My Soul." It has always been one of my favorites- as I was listening to it the other day, the story behind it came up and I would love to share it with you. The song was written by a successful Christian lawyer, Heratio Spafford. His only son died at age 4 in 1871. In 1872, the great Chicago fire wiped out his vast estate, made from a successful legal career. In 1873, he sent his wife & four daughters over to Europe on a summer trip on the ill-fated SS Ville du Havre. Since he had a lot of work to do, he planned to follow them later. The Ship sank and he lost his 4 daughters with the wife being the only survivor. She sent him a famous telegram which simply read, "SAVED ALONE...." On his return home, his law firm was burned down and the insurance company refused to pay him. He had no money to pay for his house and no work, so he lost his home. Then one

day while sitting peacefully and thinking about what's happening to him, he wrote a song - "Whatever, my Lord, You have taught me to say - It is well, it is well with my soul."

My dear friends, a good attitude will determine your attitude. When you look at your soul, your life, career, family life, what do you say? Do you praise God? Do you feel the need to blame someone when things go wrong? I want to challenge you to sit down today and say, "Today, God, it is well with my soul. I am thankful I had a peaceful sleep. I am thankful I am alive with possibilities. I am thankful I have a roof over me. I am thankful I have a job. I am thankful that I have family and friends. Above all, I am thankful that I have the Lord Jesus Christ on my side." Thank God for what you have. Thank God when you have little and when you have an abundance. I know we are all in a season of uncertainty and maybe feeling a little negativity because of it. We long for this season to be over and to return to our 'normal lives' but we can use this period for good, for purpose. I have a sign in my office that says 'Today is a good day to have a good day' and that's what I have chosen to preach to myself lately. Just like Heratio did when things were rocky, we too should praise God in the midst. We have the eternal hope of Jesus. That doesn't make every day easy or stop tribulations from coming. We know that He is good, He is on our side, and we have so much to be thankful for even on our worst days. *"What, then, shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31*

Little is much when God is in it.
It Is Well With My Soul!
Rachel

SENIOR ADULT PROM

To Be Rescheduled

The Senior Adult Prom that was scheduled for May 2nd will be rescheduled at another date. Please continue to watch your newsletter and worship bulletins for updates.

From the Pastor's Heart *by Pastor David Nuottila*

At the time of this writing, we are in the midst of stay at home orders, social distancing and the closure of many other public places. Sporting events are cancelled; concerts, theaters and many other forms of entertainment are also shut down. Even our houses of worship are affected by government guidelines for gathering in large crowds. All of this due to the novel coronavirus outbreak that has caused a world-wide pandemic.

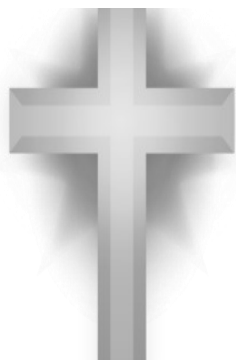
It should go without saying, but I'll say it anyway; in all of this I miss my church family. As a pastor, I thrive on the personal interaction we all share here at St. Jacob's. I suppose I should consider myself blessed in that, from time to time, I do get to see and speak with members of our congregation, albeit at a distance. Still, it is no substitute for the conversation, smiles, handshakes and hugs we would normally share on a frequent basis. Perhaps this is why I am choosing to focus on community as a theme for my writing this month.

Our God is one who has always gathered his people into community with one another. Ever since his creating of the first human beings, our Father has called his people into relationships to be shared among the faithful. Our Lord Jesus even assures us that as even two or three gather in his name, there he is among them. Our God is close to his people. God's people are to be close with one another. The community in which we live is a gathering in the mystical body of Christ himself.

Who among us has not missed the gathering of our church family? Who is it that has enjoyed this time of separation between family members, friends and loved ones? No one, no not one. Just as a pastor thrives on the social interaction of his flock, so too does the flock thrive as we share in our life together. I have heard from several that they cannot wait until this current crisis passes so that we can all gather again. I have heard from several others that they didn't realize just how much they

have taken our Sunday morning gatherings for granted. Yet, for the time being, we will have to endure as we have been doing.

I am very thankful for those who have helped during our online worship services. Certainly, our worship is enhanced by the addition of music and the presence of those who have participated as readers, singers and musicians. We worship as we are able in a way that I hope is reaching beyond our congregation. I pray that as we continue to seek ways in which to strengthen the sense of community among our church family members, we strengthen the relationships we share as well.



Until we are able to gather as one congregation in worship, I will continue to pray for God's guidance and inspiration as I seek ways to foster the relationship we all share as family members of St. Jacob's. Yes, this will mean continued morning and evening check-ins and devotions. It will mean the posting of jigsaw puzzles on our Facebook page for families to work on together. And most certainly, it will mean a continued effort to hold each one of you in prayer as we remain separated by state and federal guidelines.

I pray that you all remain safe and healthy. I pray that you take the time to enjoy the relationships you share with those who are closest to you. And I pray, most of all, that in this season of Easter, the joy of Christ's resurrection, the power of God's love for his people, and the love that binds us together in faith remains first and foremost in your hearts and minds. God bless you and keep you in his grace.

Blessings,

Pastor David Nuottila

EASTER SUNDAY

On April 12th, St. Jacob's celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. What an awesome price he paid so that we can be with him. Below are some pictures of individuals that assisted Pastor David during the service. We are so thankful for all that each of you do, especially the ones providing their gifts and talents at this time. Thanks so much!



He is
RISEN

LUTHERAN WOMEN

Mother/Daughter Brunch

Due to social distancing, the Lutheran Women are cancelling the Mother/Daughter Brunch scheduled for May 23rd.

Also, please remember to pick up some items for We Care. We Care sent us a card in the mail thanking us for the 690 pounds of food we supplied for the month of February. Please see the listing of their food needs below.



- Peanut butter/ Jelly
- Chili, Soup
- Dried Beans
- Grits, Rice
- Mac & Cheese
- Canned Tuna/Salmon
- Pork & Beans
- Spam
- Canned Chicken
- Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce
- Turnip/Collard Greens
- Laundry Detergent
- Personal Hygiene Items, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste



UPON OUR RETURN

The following is a list of things, I (Pastor David) will be working on and suggesting upon our return to activity at St. Jacob's.

Continued live streaming of our worship services - This will require St. Jacob's to purchase further licensing so that we can have permission to include music and liturgies in their fullest form for our live and recorded services.

Online Bible studies - I will be looking for ways to share a more interactive Bible study once a week. Possibilities include internet services such a Zoom™ or possibly conference calls.

Safer and healthier practices for worship - I will be working with the Worship and Music Team to explore ways of keeping our congregation safe by limiting the possibility for transmitting coronavirus, flu and other germs.

More congregational focus on our homebound members - This could include the development of a lay visitation team made up of volunteers who check-in on our shut-in members frequently.

Daily video check-in and devotions - This will likely take place in the morning sometime around 9:00 AM on our Facebook page.

These are just a few of the things that have been running through my mind during our time of social distancing. The goal is to strengthen our sense of community among our church family and to begin providing a more consistent witness to the Gospel to Chapin and the surrounding area.

IT'S TIME TO COME HOME

Have you been away from St. Jacob's for a while? Has it been weeks, months, or even years? Well, now is the time to consider your return. Thanks to COVID-19, everyone has been away. No one has been in worship on Sunday except for watching in their own homes. Perhaps you too have been watching. If so, that means you have been a part of the community gathered around the Gospel each

week. Or perhaps you have been watching the morning or evening devotions, and Pastor's check-in. If that's the case, I am very grateful for your presence online; and I hope to see you in person when we can open our doors to everyone.

Now is the time to come home. No matter the reason you have been away, now is the time to re-connect. You don't have to worry about questions about your absence. You don't need to be concerned about having been away for any specific period of time. Like I said, we have all been away. When we resume our regular worship activities just come be a part of them. Come home to St. Jacob's. Come and hear the Gospel and enjoy our shared life together.

COMMUNITY CARE

St. Jacob's is blessed to be a part of the community of Chapin. In communities such as ours, people have relationships that go way back in time. Families have put down deep roots and truly have grown up with the surrounding area. Even as new people are welcomed into the community, they experience all the small town qualities that have been central to the lives of so many. This closeness, this sense of togetherness is something that should draw St. Jacob's into greater mission and ministry among our neighbors.

Even before the COVID-19 crisis, food pantries such as We Care have faced many challenges. There are many families that depend on their services just so they might have enough food to last throughout the week or month. As a member of the community, and especially as a member of Christ's church, St. Jacob's, can and should consider becoming a stronger supporter of We Care. Why? Because as disciples of Jesus Christ, "we care."

Our Lutheran Women have been supporters of We Care. Beginning today, I would like to invite all of our church family members to begin supporting our local food pantry. Canned food and other non-perishable items can be brought to the church and collected in the Fellowship Hall. For now, donations can be made by contacting the church office and we can open the Fellowship Hall for

you. Perhaps two or three folks could volunteer once or twice a month to help deliver these goods to We Care. Providing food for those who are hungry is but one way we can grow in partnership with those who provide for others. It is also a way we can grow in relationship with those whom God has placed within our midst. Remember, as we do it for the least of these, we do it also unto Christ our Lord.

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, Council did not have any briefs for the month of April.

2020 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Sherrie McTeer— *President* —
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REMEMBER YOUR TITHES

While church activities are suspended, it is important that you remember to send in your tithes and offerings to the church office so there is no interruption in church ministries. You may also drop them in the box by the front office door Monday - Thursday between 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

MEMORIALS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS MARCH 8, 2020—APRIL 14, 2020

MEMORIAL FUND

- In memory of Landon Monts—By: Joyce O’Sheal and Love Automotive
- In memory of Landon Monts—By: Desirae, Bill, Jacob, and Capers Holman and John M. O’Sheal

LUTHERAN MEN

- In memory of precious little Landon Monts—By: Henry and Earline Clark and Leon and Helen Lindler

BUILDING FUND

- In memory of Landon Monts and Betty Moseley—By: Billy, Sherrie, Lauren and Parker McTeer

GENERAL FUND

- In memory of Landon Monts, Betty Moseley, and Kathy Havird—By: Gerald and Robin Lindler

LUTHERAN WOMEN

- In memory of Henson and Myrtis Roof—By: Leon and Helen Lindler

BIBLE STUDY

Pastor David AND Rachel Shelton will be hosting an online Bible study at our regular time of 9:30 AM, on Wednesday mornings. You may follow along on our St. Jacob’s Facebook page for this live and interactive study. You may participate by making comments in the comments section. Please, even if you are new to Facebook or have not used it before, give it a try. We might just find that there is room for online Bible study as a part of our future ministries.

VIDEO AND PHONE UPDATES

Pastor David continues to post morning and evening video updates and church information each week day at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM (approximately) on Facebook live. The church staff also continues to reach out by telephone and U.S. Mail to our church family members, especially those whom we know do not use the internet.

2020 Easter Lilies

- Given in HONOR of ... Tracy, Raine, Joe, Ashton, Damon, Loretta, Ashleigh, Chrissy & Ryan – By: O’Neal & Helen Lindler
- All the bell choir players who participated in the last 20 years of active bell playing in church services, festivals and local concerts – By: Joan Marco, Founding Director of St. Jacob’s Bell Choir
- Betty Ann Shealy – By: Jay, Hank and Gage
- Given in MEMORY of ... Erskin & Melvera Livingston, Murry Lindler AND Annie Julia & Lawrence Wessinger By: O’Neal and Helen Lindler
- Precious and Noni Driver, Carl and Polly Shealy AND Doug and Alice McTeer By: Billy, Sherrie, Lauren and Parker
- Our parents: Dr. John & Ms. Virginia Slice AND Clayton & Bessie Marco – By: Gary & Joan Marco
- James Carroll Lindler and Kelly Lindler Watts – By: Ramonia Lindler
- John Pat and Mable Lindler AND Our Grandparents By: Henry and Erline Clark, Alice Morefield; AND Leon and Helen Lindler
- Randy Morefield - By: Alice Morefield; Scott, Lora, Landon and Peyton Whittle
- PaPa and Granny - By: Allen, Lora, Kathy, Ronald, Blake, Chandler, Jonathon, Landon, Peyton, Rachel, Brandon, Mallory and Luke
- Libbie Shealy – By: Walt, Julie, Jay, Hank and Gage
- Rothell and Martha Martin AND Ammon and Mavis Sullivan - By: Doug, Johanne & Brian Sullivan
- Walter Metze, Jr. AND Baby “Russ” – By: Miriam Metze
- Annie and Boots Epting – By: David and Angie Russell
- Mr. and Mrs. Henry O. Clark; Lewis, Ray and Bobby Clark; Dorothy Black; Janie Meetze; Rose Richardson; Georgie Bailey and Lena Hammond By: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clark AND Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Clark
- Ben and Eula Whittington – By: Bobbie W. Clark
- Given in HONOR and MEMORY ... In honor of Ramonia F. Lindler AND In loving memory of James C. Lindler; N. Ray and Jonnie H. Sites; Susan Sites and Sallee Sites - By: Gerald and Robin Lindler Family
- In honor of Our Children and Grandchildren: Dawn, Jill, Gracie, Lauren and Tommy AND In loving memory of our daughter, Kelly Michelle Lindler Watts – By: Gerald and Robin Lindler
- In honor of Miriam Metze AND In memory of Walter F. Metze, Jr. – By: Ann and Michael Corley

PHONE SCAM UPDATE

Dear Family of St. Jacob's,
The following is a message I shared on our Facebook page but I believe it needs to be shared through our newsletter as well.

ATTENTION ST. JACOB'S: If you received a text from someone saying it is me needing gift cards, IT IS A SCAM. I DO NOT need "EBay gift cards for women battling cancer in the hospital." PLEASE KNOW, I would never send out a text asking for such a favor. The scammer is using my name and title and texting individuals by name. I have no idea how they might connect me to anyone. Please private message me if you get a strange text from someone claiming to be me and let me know the phone number that texted you.

I am sorry this is happening, but several other pastors have been dealing with this same issue. Hopefully, it can be resolved quickly.

Blessings,
Pastor David

ST. JACOB'S NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

St. Jacob's is in the process of distributing "Jacob's Ladder" by email instead of bulk mailings. The newsletter will be placed on the church website, and Facebook as well. Email addresses can be forwarded to ChurchOffice@StJacobs.org to be added to the listing. **(VERY IMPORTANT)** - Those members that do not have a computer and wish to continue receiving the newsletter each month needs to notify Sherry in the church office, and she will arrange for you to continue to receive a copy through the US Mail each month.

CALENDAR & SERVING ASSISTANTS

No Calendar or Serving Assistants are posted in this months newsletter. Once we are able to see how our services will be handled, we will update those who serve. By the way, thanks everyone for all you do to support the ministry of the church.

BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

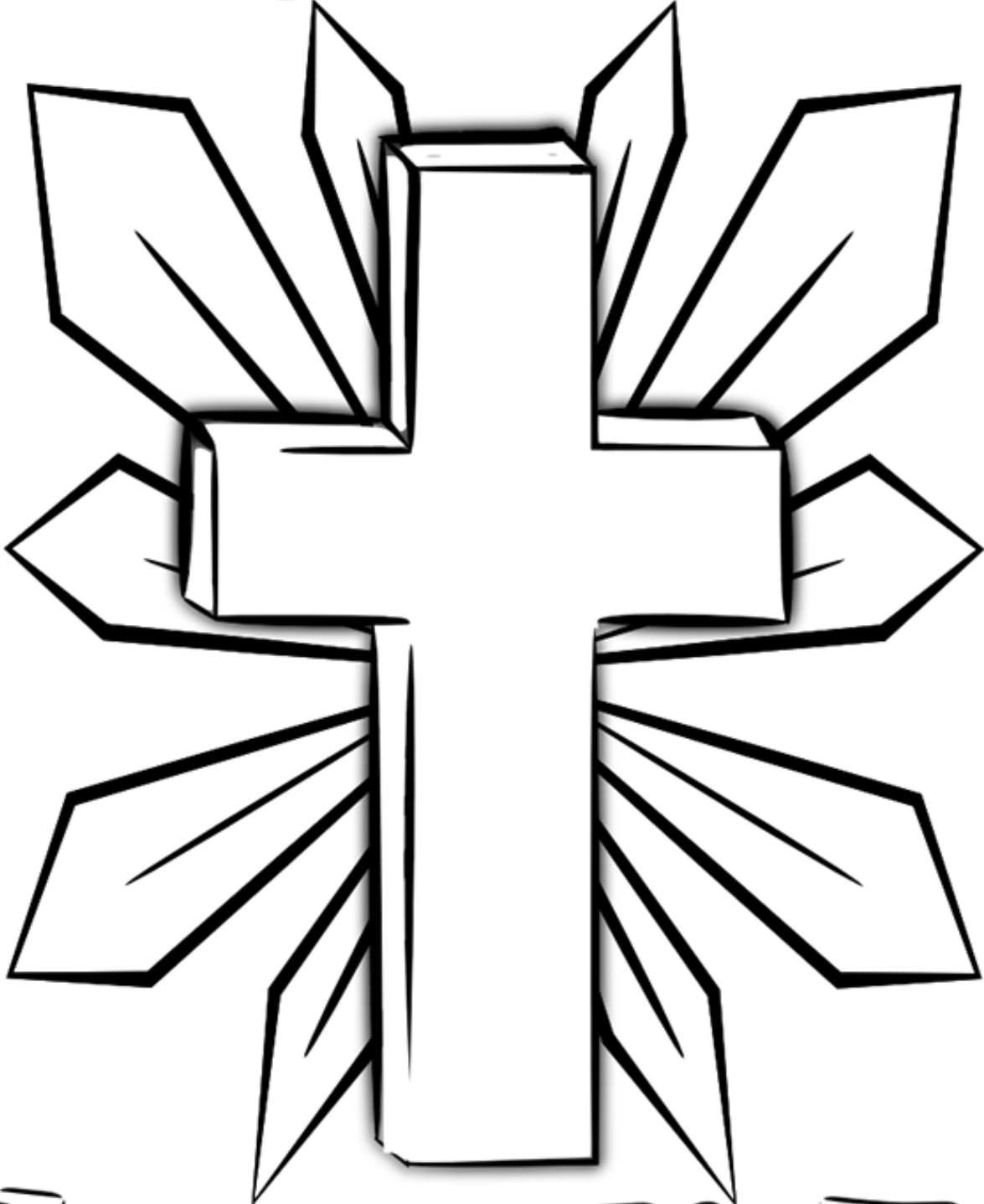
BASIC WORDS OF THE BIBLE



- | | | |
|----------------|-----------|------------|
| JESUS CHRIST | PRAY | MIRACLE |
| SALVATION | TITHE | NAZARETH |
| JEW | MINISTRY | BETHLEHEM |
| GENTILE | BIBLE | JERUSALEM |
| HOLY SPIRIT | HOLY | BAPTIZE |
| GOD THE FATHER | SACRIFICE | TEMPTATION |
| PERSECUTE | FAITH | SIN |

COLORING PAGE

JESUS



LOVES ME

ST. JACOB'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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CHAPIN, SC 29036

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www.st-jacobs.org

Office Hours:
Monday thru Thursday 9AM-2PM
Sunday School: 9:15AM
Worship Time: 10:30AM

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MAY 2020 Issue

JACOB'S LADDER

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED!

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Gifts of the Holy Spirit are not presents that we could see or touch, but special power to do God's work. Find the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

L B O U Z L Z O S I A U R G E I L Q W A
Q A S C Y Q H U E N Z P Z F U E V M U Z
D P S E C R R E V V L K W D A T V D R X
Z Q R N U L D V A E S T O D E I Q I N M
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- SERVE
- SHARE
- PASTORS
- HEALING
- EVANGELISE

- FAITH
- TEACH
- DISCERNMENT
- LEADERSHIP
- MIRACLES

- WISDOM
- KNOWLEDGE
- APOSTLES
- ENCOURAGE