



St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

JACOB'S LADDER
SEPTEMBER 2020

Volume 31, Issue 9

PASTORAL DEVOTION FOR SEPTEMBER

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Read Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples, "A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket." God blesses the Church with the most precious treasure there is. The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Every Christian is therefore filled with the light of Christ and called to give witness to the wonders of God's mercy and grace.

Often, it is said to the newly baptized person, "Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Our light shines when we love God with all our heart, and love our neighbor as ourselves. Shining our light, we share the love of Christ Jesus with all whom we meet.

Jesus of Nazareth is the light and life for the world. Baptized into his death and resurrection, the light of Christ dwells within God's people. May you always feel the presence and power of our Lord Jesus. And may your light shine through the darkness of this world, that those within your midst may finally see the glory of the Father and enter the gates of our eternal home.

Prayer: Shine the light of your love, O Lord, and fill me with the power of your love. Amen.

Let Your Light



Matthew 5:16

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 Ph: 803-345-3365
- Letha Sites, 1024 Freshly Mill Road, Irmo, SC 29063 Ph: 803-345-2300
- Minnie Lee Shealy, 700 Haltiwanger Rd, Chapin, SC 29036 Ph: 803-345-2776

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Members Shut-In or in Facilities
- Monthly Birthdays
- Bible Study
- Memorials and Acknowledgements
- We Care Center Card & Supplies List
- Sola Publishing Letter
- Water Mission Letter
- Good Works Card
- Thank You

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

Acts 19:2 [Paul writes] *"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."*
³ *And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism."* ⁴ *And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus."* ⁵ *On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*
⁶ *And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying.*

I remember reading a devotion written by my friend and fellow NALC Pastor Gemechis Buba concerning the above scripture passage. Within his devotion, Pastor Buba describes the fullness and richness of a life lived in through the power of the Holy Spirit. This same Spirit God pours out upon his people through their Baptism. With regards to their Baptism, Paul puts forward a simple question to the people in Ephesus, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" The people of the church in Ephesus were quite honest in their answer. They informed Paul that they had not even heard of the Holy Spirit. As I read this passage once more, I wonder how we at St. Jacob's might address our receiving God's Holy Spirit.

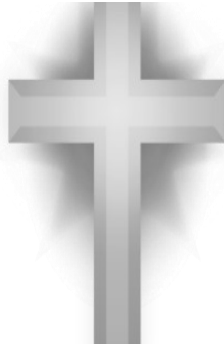
I don't think Lutherans talk enough about the Holy Spirit, much less talk about being blessed with spiritual gifts. Yet as baptized people of God, we truly are blessed with this same Spirit of God that Jesus' disciples, Paul and the saints at Ephesus received. Still, Lutherans tend to be more reserved when it comes to acting in what we perceive to be a "spiritual way." But Pastor Buba is right when he wrote in his devotion that "the Christian life becomes powerless, meaningless, and dull" without the power and presence of the Holy Spirit evident in our lives. The Holy Spirit fills the hearts and minds of Christian people with the joy and hope of God's amazing grace. Being filled with

the Holy Spirit is a tremendous blessing, a life giving blessing...a life SAVING blessing.

Think about it for a moment. As Lutherans, we have been taught that it is the Holy Spirit that brings us to faith. That faith enables us to believe in Jesus Christ. As sinful creatures we cannot, by our own power, come to believe, let alone have faith in the resurrected Lord. By its very nature, our sin seeks to drive us away from having a relationship with God. Yet, as we are baptized and the pastor lays hands on us (as Paul laid hands on the saints at Ephesus), God pours out his Holy Spirit upon us, cleanses us from the stains of our fallen humanity, and clothes us in the righteousness of Jesus Christ. This, my friends, should bring us to loud shouts of thanksgiving. It is at this particular moment in time when we are brought to new life in Christ. Through this gift of the Holy Spirit, God calls us to live differently; He calls us to live as children of God. Such a Spirit filled life is both joyous and exciting.

Friends, as baptized children of our loving God, we are invited into a deep and rich relationship with the One who created all there is. If we are honest with ourselves, we have to admit that each of us would always welcome more spiritual joy in our lives, especially in these times of the pandemic. Believe me, when you realize the presence of the Holy Spirit dwelling within you, your life will never be the same. Soon and very soon the joy of being redeemed by God in Christ Jesus and brought to faith by the power of the Holy Spirit will fill your heart.

Let us be honest with ourselves and admit we need to experience the love, hope, and peace the Holy Spirit brings to us. Let us all welcome the Holy Spirit into our lives and not be afraid to show others just how joyful we are to be God's children. I promise you that as you live in the power and love of the Holy Spirit, God will satisfy the hunger and thirst of your souls and pour out blessings



upon you. Express this joy as often as you can so that others can see how God changes the lives of people.

Grace to you and peace,



Pastor David Nuottila



BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER



01 – Stephanie McDuffie	19 – Dawn Daniels
01 – Nicki Peeples	20 – Judy Turner
03 – Phyllis Bickley	20 – Renee Doyle
03 – Susan S. Shealy	22 – Renee Shields
04 – Minnie Lee Shealy	22 – Jill Lindler
04 – Caleb Meetze	22 – Walt Shealy
05 – Evan Riser	23 – Earline Shealy
05 – Lia Clark	23 – Danny Shealy
06 – Les Sutphin	23 – Melissa Wicker
07 – Gracie Daniels	24 – Caroline Lindler
09 – Erline Clark	25 – Kayla Pharis
09 – Jason Jones	28 – Jim Foster
10 – Melissa Lindler	28 – Lily Wallace
11 – Barbara Metze	30 – Andrew Lindler
11 – Rachel Boland	
12 – Taylor Monts	
12 – Easton Amick	
13 – Jeff Kleckley	
13 – Julie Stuck	
13 – Anna Claire Lindler	
15 – Lynne Amick	
18 – Kayleigh Riser	
19 – Frances Slice	



YOUTH DIRECTOR & FAMILY MINISTRIES

As a church, we are proud to support Chapin Middle School as they provide their students the best education possible. As the school year begins, we want to ensure that all students have the tools and resources they need in order to succeed, as well as anything they may need to remain safe and healthy in the midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic. The theme

for the school year is “Shine Your Light” and what better way for us to show Jesus’ love in our community by shining our light and loving our neighbor. I am excited to announce SUPPLY SEPTEMBER, for the month of September. We will be collecting donations in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays or in the church office during the week from 9 AM-2 PM. All supplies will be delivered to CMS on September 27th. I have attached a list of supply items that students have been asked to bring this year. I am so excited to partner with you all in assisting students and their families, as we are able. Also, if you are unable to go make a purchase, we will have a box on the table for any monetary donations and we will gladly purchase more supplies.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

#2 Pencils	Composition Notebook
Colored Pencils	(Not spiral)
Dry Erase Markers	2-Pocket Folders
Earbuds/Headphones	8 ½ x 11 Spiral 3 Subject
Glue Sticks	Notebook
Pens	Tissues
Highlighters	Hand Sanitizer
3x3 Post It Notes	Lysol Spray
Calculators	Disinfectant Wipes
(Ti 30X & Ti 84 Plus)	Disposable Masks
Loose Leaf Paper	Mini Deodorant
Graph Paper 1 inch	Small Toiletry Kits
Poly Binders	Toothbrush Kits
3-Ring Binder with	\$5-\$10 Gift Cards
Dividers	(Fast food, Walmart,
Five Notebook Divider	etc.)
with Pockets	

On behalf of Chapin Middle School, we appreciate your continued support! Thank you for "Shining Your Light" on our students.
-Lacey Hallman, CMS School Counselor

Grace and Peace,
Rachel

COUNCIL BRIEFS

The St. Jacob's Church Council met August 4th for its regular meeting.

Good Things at St. Jacob's for February-July:

- Return to Sunday Worship in person
- Online Bible studies and devotions
- New members joining streaming services
- New and Reinstated Members to the Congregation
- Courage Center is utilizing our facility to help local families

Thanks to Joan Marco, Angela Nuottila and A.J. Peeples, for assistance with services.

Current Events/News:

Please check the churches Facebook page and/or Website for updates.

Ongoing Project Updates:

Parking lot expansion is still under review.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Regular meeting – September 8th, at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall

2020 COUNCIL MEMBERS

- **Sherrie McTeer**— *President* —
mcteer1208@hotmail.com
- **Chris Doyle**— *Vice President* —
cmdoyle75@gmail.com
- **A.J. Peeples** — *Secretary* —
AndrewJPeebles@gmail.com
- **David Kibler** —
james.kibler@dominionenergy.com
- **John Riser** — **johnriser@gmail.com**
- **Carroll Lindler, Jr.** — **clindler3@sc.rr.com**
- **Kayla Pharis**— **kaylarepting@gmail.com**
- **Larry Shull**—**larryshull@att.net**
- **Lynn Shealy**— **lynnshealy55@gmail.com**
- **Judy Dease**— **deasejudy@bellsouth.net**

THE BUD AND LOTTIE SITES SCHOLARSHIPS

The Bud and Lottie Sites Scholarships are for high school graduates and continuing higher education students who are members of St. Jacob's Lutheran Church. There are two types of scholarships being offered - \$1,000 and \$250 for the Fall semester. Continuing higher education includes college, technical college, trade school, etc.

Please contact Sherrie McTeer or Sherry Floyd in the church office for the application and requirements! Applications are due by October 1, 2020. Don't forget to apply!

THE COURAGE CENTER

Council voted to open our doors to The Courage Center (TCC) so that they could establish a meeting place in Chapin. What is The Courage Center? The Courage Center provides a safe, supportive, recovery-focused setting for young people and families on their journey to recover from substance misuse or substance use disorder. There was a need for a meeting location in the Chapin area. Many families in the Chapin/Newberry to Chapin/Dutch Fork/ Irmo vicinities were traveling to Lexington. During the midst of the COVID crisis and the civil unrest, The Courage Center saw some real, tangible signs that there are families in greater need of support and assistance.

- Overdose incidents in Lexington County are higher than the state average at 15 per week.
- The Lexington County Coroner's office shared that although there was a 40% reduction in fatal overdoses from March through May 2019 compared to 2018. During that same time period in 2020, there was a 200% increase.
- Fatal overdoses, of young people under 30 years old, have seen a 50% increase over 2019.

St. Jacob's is meeting this tremendous community need. The Courage Center meets in our Fellowship Hall each Thursday at 7:00 PM. As we have posted, no one with symptoms in the past 24 hours or knowingly been in contact with anyone who has a confirmed case of COVID-19, can enter into the building. They use a no-contact digital forehead thermometer, nitrile gloves, face masks, and hand sanitizers upon entrance into the fellowship hall. All

participants have to complete the Safety Precaution Form to attend the meeting. They have plenty of room to social distance. All PPE supplies are provided by TCC. After the meeting, they wipe down and sanitize the chairs, doorknobs, etc. in the Fellowship Hall before leaving. We ask that you lift The Courage Center and families in prayer.

Thanks,
Sherrie McTeer
Council President

WORSHIP AT ST. JACOB'S DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

September marks the fourth month of our return to in-person worship services at St. Jacob's. It is good to see the many faces of our church family members who are present each week. It is also good to know that those who are not yet to a point where they are ready to return have kept themselves healthy and safe during this pandemic. Thanks be to God that we are able to live stream and record our worship services for those who watch it from their homes. As time goes by, we continue to find ways to improve our online worship experience.

There is one thing that bears reminding. We do have a face mask policy that remains in effect. While masks are not required for entry into the building, they are required during those portions of our service that include singing. All persons in attendance should have a mask in their possession. Masks are available upon entry to the Fellowship Hall and Church Nave. Please pick one up if you did not bring your own to worship. We want to be respectful of others and keep a healthy environment, especially for our more senior church family members who are in attendance.

BIBLE STUDY

Don't forget our Wednesday Morning Bible Study that is being held each week. All information will be emailed to the congregational members no later than Tuesday afternoon. If you have trouble logging on to Zoom, please contact Rachel Shelton or Pastor David for assistance.

INTRODUCING THE NALC SOUTH CAROLINA MISSION DISTRICT

On Thursday, August 6, 2020, the Carolinas Mission District of the NALC met for its final convocation. As it was decided during the 2019 convocation, the Carolinas Mission District has become the NALC Carolinas Mission Region, made up of four smaller mission districts. Our SCMD dean is Pastor David Tholstrup from St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Chapin. Pastor David Nuottila and Larry Shull have been elected as members of the Mission Region Executive Council. We give thanks to God for the growth and mission of His church in the Carolinas.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for Sunday morning to serve as communion assistants, ushers and lay readers. We could also use a few volunteers who would help for a few minutes to wipe down and set-up the church for worship following the 8:30 AM service. Anyone who would like to help in this capacity should contact Pastor David.

MEMORIALS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS July 26, 2020—August 9, 2020

GENERAL FUND

- In memory of Ray Martin - By: Gerald and Robin Lindler
- In memory of Jamie Lindler—By: Gerald and Robin Lindler

LUTHERAN WOMEN

- In memory of Gloria Dugan and O'Neita Lindler—By: Henry and Erline Clark
- In memory of O'Neita Lindler—By: Ramonia Lindler; Robert and June Lindler; and Joe and Eileen Richardson

LUTHERAN MEN

- In memory of Robert L. Whittle—By: Henry and Erline Clark

MEMORIAL FUND

- In memory of O’Neita Lindler—By: Jim and Jean Counts
- In memory of Martha and Rothell Martin—By: Mitchell and Juliette Martin

BUILDING FUND

- In memory of George Rushe—By: J.L. and Janet Lindler



Thank you for your donation of 281 pounds of food for the month of July 2020.

Your continued support allows us to follow the lead set forth in *Proverbs 22:9*, “A generous man will himself be blessed, for He shares his food with the poor.” Thank you again! (See back page for needed items.)

God bless you,
Alicia Klauk,
Executive Director



July 31, 2020

Dear Members of St. Jacob’s Lutheran Church,

The staff and board of Sola Publishing thank you so much for your recent gift of \$250.

Sola Publishing materials reflect our faith in Jesus Christ, found in the integrity of the Scriptures as the Word of God and the theological perspective of the historical Lutheran Confessions. Sola Publishing is a non-profit educational ministry dedicated to serving those affiliated with LCMC, NALC, CALC, and Lutheran Core.

Consider the Years is a thirteen-session Bible Study written for mature Christians. That is, it bears in

mind the unique perspective of those who have seen many years in their relationship with God and may wonder how faith can speak anew to their daily lives. This study has been printed in a larger type-face than other Sola Bible studies.

Thank you for your continued support of Sola Publishing. We intentionally keep the cost of our materials low and rely on faithful donors and benevolence to develop and continue to release new materials reflecting our faith in Jesus Christ. We are dependent on the support of individuals—especially those that can provide sustained month to month support. We are deeply thankful for your gracious gift!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Steve King
Managing Editor



August 3, 2020

Dear Pastor Nuottila,

Your gift to Water Mission is making a significant difference in the lives of people who lack access to safe water. Together, we strive to be the hands and feet of Jesus as we serve those in need.

Thanks to the love and generosity of St. Jacob’s, women around the world no longer spend hours every day collecting contaminated water. Children attend school without waterborne illnesses holding them back. The hope of Jesus, the true Living Water, is shared with entire communities through the life-changing, physical gift of safe water.

Water Mission’s vision is that all people have safe water and an opportunity to experience God’s love. Your generosity is helping to make this vision a reality.

For your prayers, financial support of \$250, and all that you are making possible—thank you so much.

Blessings,
George C. Greene IV, PE
Chief Executive Office



July 27, 2020

To St. Jacob's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$250. Your support helps Good Works to reach out and lift up those in need in our community.

God bless you!
Mary Higginbotham

ONLINE DEVOTIONS

The following is the schedule for St. Jacob's online activities on our Facebook page:

- 10:30 AM Sunday - Live stream of worship service
- 9:30 AM Monday and Friday Mornings - Morning devotions and prayer
- 7:00 PM Tuesday and Friday Evenings - Evening devotions and prayer
- 7:PM Wednesday Evening - Vespers

THANK YOU



I want to thank my church family for the thoughts, prayers, cards, visits, and calls after the tragic death of my Granddaughter.

Love in Christ,
Frances Shealy

Thank you, St. Jacob's Family for all of the love, support, cards, calls, and prayers following Henry's recent surgery.

Blessings to each of you,
Henry and Erlene Clark



PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR

On September 6th we will have our first KFC meeting after Children's Choir practice enjoying pizza and fellowship with one another and talking about what's to come for the remainder of the year!

SEPTEMBER 2020 SERVING ASSISTANTS

Date	Time	Usher	Lay Reader	Communion Assistant
6-Sep	8:30	John Riser	Rachel Shelton	Carroll Lindler
	10:30	Leon Lindler	Chris Doyle	Angela Nuottila
13-Sep	8:30	Don Dease	David Kibler	Melissa Lindler
	10:30	Chris Doyle	Gloria Ziemer	A.J. Peeples
20-Sep	8:30	Billy McTeer	Carroll Lindler	Sherrie McTeer
	10:30	Leon Lindler	Angela Nuottila	Bob Ziemer
27-Sep	8:30	Don Dease	Rachel Shelton	David Kibler
	10:30	Chris Doyle	Angela Nuottila	A.J. Peeples

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WE CARE CENTER September Pantry Needs

1. Soup (all flavors and sizes)
2. Grits
3. Dry beans
4. Syrup
5. Canned potatoes/yams
6. Spam
7. Sugar
8. Canned greens/spinach
9. Jello
10. Flour

We are also low on personal products: shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothbrushes, razors, etc.



BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH

*Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
Matthew 18:4*

(803) 345-2309

ChurchOffice@st-jacobs.org

www.st-jacobs.org

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9AM—2PM

Worship Time: Sundays—8:30 AM & 10:30AM

ST. JACOB'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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CHAPIN, SC 29036