



St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

JACOB'S LADDER

October 2020

Volume 31, Issue 10

PASTORAL DEVOTION FOR OCTOBER

Hear Our Prayer

There is one thing that is fairly certain, we all, at one time or another, ask people to keep us in their prayers. Another thing that is certain is that others have asked us to do the same. Prayer is a central part of Christian living. We pray for healing, comfort, peace and happiness. We pray for so many things, but what happens when we do not immediately recognize God's answer?

Some, although they believe, begin to have doubts. The man, whose son was possessed, believed one of Jesus' followers could cast out the demon. When this did not happen, doubt crept into the situation. The word "if" is pursed upon his lips; "If you can...help us."

Jesus teaches us the power of prayer. "Ask and it will be given. Seek and you will find." (*Matt. 7:7-8*) Our Lord teaches that as you pray, do so believing that you have already received that for which you pray. It is no small task; because of doubt, we often need visible proof that our prayers are truly answered. Still, God is faithful. As we pray in faith, the Holy Spirit provides us with confidence that God indeed hears our prayers and provides all we need.

Prayer: *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. 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
- 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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BIRTHDAYS FOR OCTOBER

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 01 – Judy Long-Riesner | 14 – Jason Johnson |
| 02 – Eileen Richardson | 17 – Ann Corley |
| 02 – Kristen Slice | 18 – Miriam Metze |
| 03 – Rion Williams | 18 – Alex Rushe |
| 05 – Gail Epting | 19 – Sharon Walker |
| 05 – Dixon Wallace | 20 – Mandy Rushe |
| 09 – Brenda Smith | 21 – Linda Smith |
| 09 – Kevin Shields | 25 – Gena Shields |
| 09 – Anna Grace Zeigler | 30 – Cameron Lindler |
| 11 – Bob Ziemer | 30 – Jacob Kibler |
| 11 – Addy Stuck | 31 – Jo Anne Lindler |
| 11 – Stephen Wise | 31 – Wendy Lindler |
| 12 – Leon Lindler | 31 – Audrey Doyle |
| 14 – James Russell Slice | |

happy birthday!

YOUTH DIRECTOR & FAMILY MINISTRIES

WELCOME SARAH MASTERSON

I'm excited to announce our first fellowship event post COVID-19. As you all know, we will be welcoming our new Organist, Sarah, on October 4th. In order to welcome her to our Church family, please join us for a cookout following the 10:30 AM service. We will all have the opportunity to meet Sarah and fellowship with one another after being apart for so long. All food and drinks will be provided and social distancing will be observed. Thank you for joining me in welcoming Sarah to St. Jacob's. I look forward to seeing you there!

TRUNK OR TREAT

Our new youth committee met together for the first time in September. Moving forward, we will work together to plan events and share ideas for the advancement of our youth and family ministries. While planning for the remainder of the year, we have decided that October would be a great time to start meeting again as a church family! I would love to invite you to join us on October 31st from 5—7 PM for TRUNK OR TREAT at ST. JACOB'S! Anyone participating needs to be at the bus shed parking lot between 4 and 4:30 PM. Come, decorate your car, and fill it with candy.

Grace & Peace,
Rachel

Children's Choir Pictures



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

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

October is a month that brings along several seasonal changes. Most notably, the hot temperatures of summer give way to more comfortable days and cooler nights. Leaves on the trees begin turning color and even animals begin the work of winter's preparation. Look around you. The season is changing.

October is also a month that brings opportunity, and dare I say the word "change" here at St. Jacob's. For once, I can put away language of the coronavirus and not even mention Covid-19. No, the opportunity and possible change I speak of is something that happens every October. Yet, this year it is more noticeable than most.

Each October, the Stewardship Team wrestles with helping to build a budget, inspire everyone to be cheerful givers and look out for the financial well-being of our congregation for the coming year. They also wrestle with building ministry teams and seeking volunteers in the hopes of rekindling the flames of ministries that were once vibrant but now seem somewhat stalled. This is a concern I share, especially this year.

As it is with many congregations, we have ministry team leaders that have been at their post for quite a while. Most of our team leaders are ready for relief. Others have completed their "tour of duty" so to speak and are ready to "step down." For this to happen, they need someone to "step up." Here is where my concern enters the picture.

Now is the opportune time for St. Jacob's to earnestly become involved within our community and greater church. Now is the opportune time for us to take the Word of God to those who do not

have a home church but need to hear a word from God. Now is the time for more workers to enter the vineyard, plant the seeds and nurture those that sprout. However, as I read over the list of those who actively engage in this sort of ministry, Jesus's words ring true. "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few."

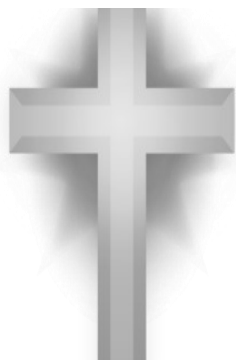
Now is the opportune time for our ministry teams to be refreshed with new ideas and dare I say younger leaders. God has blessed St. Jacob's with many talented and gifted people. Yes, several work hard as they make a living and provide for their families. But the same is true of those who have served so well and for so long. As disciples of Jesus, we all are to be aware of our giftedness. We are all to be made aware of our calling from Christ to take up our cross and follow him. We all are to be good stewards of the time and talent God provides.

Each one of us is gifted by the Holy Spirit. Each one of us is enabled and empowered to grow the body of Christ using the gifts of the Spirit. My prayer for St. Jacob's is that we don't miss this opportune time. I will be intentional in my prayers for our church family. I will be intentional in my assisting the Stewardship Team in seeking team leaders. I will be intentional in helping team leaders build vibrant and enthusiastic ministry teams ready to begin working toward the harvest. Will you be intentional in your prayers? Will you be willing to use your spiritual gift? Will you be willing to enter the vineyard and work alongside other disciples as they plant the seeds of God's word? Now is the opportune time. Let's not let it go by.

Grace to you and peace,



Pastor David Nuottila



COUNCIL

St. Jacob's Church Council met for its regular meeting on September 8, 2020.

Good Things at St. Jacob's for August:

- Attendance is improving
- Online Bible studies and devotions
- We Care Food Drive is going well
- School Supply Drive is also going really well

Important Notes and Dates:

- New A/V system was approved for installation for the sanctuary
- Building Team has met with engineers to get updated plans for new parking lot (s)
- New Organist Sarah Masterson has been hired for 1 year to fill vacancy
- All team budget requests for FY2021 are due no later than September 30, 2020
- Please check Facebook page and/or Website for updates to church activities and functions

Next regularly scheduled Council meeting is October 6, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

2020 COUNCIL TEAM MEMBERS

Sherrie McTeer— *President* —
mcteer1208@hotmail.com

Chris Doyle— *Vice President* —
cmdoyle75@gmail.com

A.J. Peebles — *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

ADDITIONAL NEWS FROM COUNCIL

Have you noticed anything different with our streaming services? Can you see the full altar? Is the view larger than a phone size view? Is the picture clearer? Is the sound better? Hopefully, you answered yes to all of these questions? Council approved the installation of a new audio/visual system which was installed September 10th and 11th.

We have installed two new fixed cameras that allow us to zoom in on activities in the front of the church and also to follow any church processions from the back of the church. The new system is also hard wired (not wireless) which will provide uninterrupted streaming. Our streaming ministry service is one that we will continue in the future. We want to provide all of our streaming watchers a clear uninterrupted worship experience as if they were in the church. If you are not able to join us in person, join us online!

THE CONGO MISSION

It has been a while since I provided an update on the mission work in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Of course, the world wide COVID-19 pandemic has touched many lives in the Congo, just as it has around the world. In a place where medicine and medical services are much more difficult to receive, you can imagine the impact such viruses can have on a community. Pastor Stephane Kalonji and I remain dedicated to the ministry to which God has called us, and we are committed to leading Congo Mission International in order to support our sisters and brothers in Christ. Please be in prayer for our mission and especially for those to whom we minister. God's love knows no borders. Sharing God's love with those even so far away is a joy and a privilege. I thank God for this opportunity and also for your support.

THE BLESSING BASKET

Before the COVID-19 virus caused us to suspend in person worship, children would come forward for a brief children's sermon with me. As they came, they would bring their offerings and put them in what you have known as the "Pickle Jar." The premise was that the monies collected could be used for people who find themselves "in a pickle." During the past several months, I have thought about what we might be teaching our children concerning providing for those in need. To make this more memorable and to apply bible teaching for our children, I have retired the Pickle Jar and replaced it with the "Blessing Basket."

You will recall that as Jesus fed the 5000 multiplying the loaves and fishes, twelve baskets full were collected after everyone had eaten their fill. These baskets teach us about the abundance God provides even through the smallest of gifts.

Our children's offerings resemble those loaves and fish. They are modest offerings to be sure. To think such a small amount can make a difference in someone's life just doesn't add up. But you know what? God's math never adds up...it multiplies!

On October 4th, we will resume children's sermons during the 10:30 AM service. I will use the Blessing Basket to collect the children's offering as they come forward. Each month there will be a specific ministry that the children's offering will support. At the end of the month, we will add it all up and see just what God has multiplied. October's ministry will be We Care. Together, we can teach our children how God provides loaves and fishes and how his disciples distribute them to those in need of God's blessing.

WE CARE

As our Lord Jesus traveled the countryside of Galilee, he had compassion for so many people in their time of need and never failed to share God's love with them. As disciples of Jesus, we have had that same opportunity here in Chapin. The response to our support for We Care has been very positive. Over the last few months, we have become regular donors of food and other personal items for those who are in need. As summer fades into autumn, the one thing that doesn't fade is the fact that there are still so many in need. Please continue to provide your donations of non perishable foods and personal hygiene items. Thank you again for all you provide in the name of Christ. Truly, St. Jacob's is a congregation Serving Jesus, Loving Community. Supply listing is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

WELCOME OUR NEW ORGANIST

October 1st is a wonderful day in the life of our church as we welcome Dr. Sarah Masterson to St. Jacob's. Sarah is on the faculty of Newberry College serving as Associate Professor of Piano and Music Theory. She also is the Director of the Department of Social Media and the W. Darr Wise Piano Competition. Please be sure to introduce yourself to her as you are able. We look forward to Sarah sharing her musical gifts with us in worship.

ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

In order to provide Christian education for our children and families during this time of pandemic,

several of our church family members have begun producing recorded video lessons to be used as an online Sunday School. These lessons are uploaded to our church website weekly and are also shared on our St. Jacob's Facebook page. The current list of lessons focuses on several familiar Bible stories of the Old Testament. Please enjoy these and other St. Jacob's online offerings such as Bible studies and devotions as you are able.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM

Bible study continues to be held each Wednesday morning at 9:30 AM on Zoom.com. We are continuing our study of the book of James. There are no special materials that you must purchase. All you need is a computer and access to the internet to join in the conversation. Weekly study guides are emailed to the congregation on Tuesday afternoon. Even if you have not provided an email address our study is such that you can join in and participate in the conversation. Why not make Bible study a part of your week? If you have any questions, please contact Pastor David or Rachel Shelton.

FELLOWSHIP IN THE SHADE

Christian fellowship is an important aspect of congregational life. Yet during this time of pandemic, fellowship has been difficult. As a way of making time for this important part of our life, everyone is invited to a time of visiting each Sunday following our 10:30 AM worship service. Bring your lawn chairs and gather underneath the shade trees in the lawn in front of the church office. While social distance must be observed, we can meet and share.

MEMORIALS — SEPT 20, 2020

General Fund

- In memory of Glenn Addy – By: Gerald and Robin Lindler
- In memory of Chevis Ballentine – By: Gerald and Robin Lindler
- In memory of Jamie Lynn Lindler – By: Billy and Sherrie McTeer
- In honor of our Granddaughter, Gracie Daniels' 20th Birthday – By: Gerald and Robin Lindler
- In honor of Tim Slice – By: Don and Judy Dease

Building Fund

- In memory of Glenn Addy – By: Terry and Barbara Metz

MEMORIALS — SEPT 20, 2020

Lutheran Men

- In honor of Danny Shealy – By: W.B. Tillery
- In memory of Chevis Ballentine – By: Billy and Sherrie McTeer

Lutheran Women

- In memory of Jamie Lindler – By: Henry and Erlene Clark

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Glenn Addy – By: Carl and Bonnie Derrick
- In memory of O’Neita Lindler – By: S. Turner
- In memory of O’Neita B. Lindler – By: Dale and Missy McCawley
- In memory of Gloria Dugan – By: Up and Going

A.V. Project

- In memory of Chevis Ballentine – By: Lynn and Susan Shealy

Youth

- In memory of Glenn Addy – By: Joe and Eileen Richardson

THE LUTHERAN WOMEN

There will be a meeting on Oct. 18th at 4:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall with social distancing. Devotions to be presented by Joan Marco. Several items to be discussed. Please bring an item or items for We Care. Looking forward to seeing each of you again.

STEWARDSHIP MONTH AT ST. JACOB’S

Well, what a strange year this has turned out to be. Who would have ever thought that we would be forced to remain in our homes and not be allowed to come to St. Jacob’s each Sunday to worship our Lord and fellowship together? If anyone would have told you that this could happen, would you have ever believed them? After all, we live in a country that cherishes freedom in every aspect of our lives. That is especially true of our freedom to worship freely.

That loss of freedom also extended to our workplaces, hindering our ability to work and be paid in order to feed and care for our families. But it did happen! And thanks be to God, we are now slowly being allowed back to our places of work,

and back to our places of worship, and back to at least some feeling of normalcy in our lives. We are all profoundly grateful.

October is Stewardship Month at St. Jacob’s, and your Stewardship Team has been considering how we might approach Stewardship Month in such a strange time. We still need to consider the how to serve with our *Time, Talents, and Treasures*, and making a commitment to serve by filling out a Time and Talent sheet, checking off the areas of service where we feel called and comfortable to serve. And we will do that, just as we always do. But we feel that there is something special that we need to do for this strange and trying time.

Our congregation has been stepping up during these trying months with extra effort to support the “We Care” ministry in the community of Chapin. After some discussion within the Stewardship Team, we all agree that we should make our theme for this year, “We Care,” and put our stewardship emphasis on just that, because we care.

John 21:15-17 (NIV)

15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.” 16 Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.” 17 The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “feed my sheep.”

We have chosen *John 21:15-17* as our guiding Scripture during Stewardship Month. In these verses, Jesus asks Peter a simple question, “do you love me?” He asks Peter this three times, and each time Peter responds, and Jesus says to him, “Feed my lambs.” “Take care of my sheep. “Feed my sheep.”

The message is clear. One who loves Jesus is expected to care for His sheep, for they are His children. Let us show our community how much Jesus loves them by being good stewards of His kingdom. Let us show them that “we care.”

FINANCIAL INFORMATION WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

Weekly Giving: \$ 5,979.25

Budget Requirements: \$ 5,634

MTD Actual Giving: \$ 19,298.99

MTD Budget Requirements: \$ 16,902

YTD Actual Giving: \$ 200,281.65

YTD Budget Requirements: \$ 214,092

SERVING ASSISTANTS FOR OCTOBER

Date	Time	Usher	Lay Reader	Communion Assistant
4-Oct	8:30	Lynn Shealy	Helen Lindler	Melissa Lindler
	10:30	Leon Lindler	Phyllis Bickley	Angela Nuottila
11-Oct	8:30	Don Dease	Carroll Lindler	Judy Dease
	10:30	Chris Doyle	Angela Nuottila	A. J. Peeples
18-Oct	8:30	Billy McTeer	Sherrie McTeer	Sherrie McTeer
	10:30	Leon Lindler	Bob Ziemer	Angela Nuottila
25-Oct	8:30	Billy McTeer	Helen Lindler	Carroll Lindler
	10:30	Chris Doyle	Angela Nuottila	A.J. Peeples

GROUNDS TEAM FOR OCTOBER

Co-Chairs—Eddie Eargle and Buddy Bickley

John Riser, Wayne Stuck, Robert Wessinger, Chuck Shobert, Nate Nickel, Claude Michael Lindler, Ken Smith, Tracy Eargle, John Wallace, Dixon Wallace, Mitchell Martin

If you abide
in my words.
you are truly
my disciples.

JOHN 8:31



IT'S TIME TO ORDER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

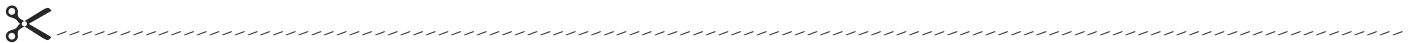


The Altar Guild will once again be accepting orders for Christmas Poinsettias to be placed in the church for our Christmas services in honor and/or memory of loved ones. This year the cost per poinsettias will be **\$10.00**; checks should be made payable to **St. Jacob's Altar Guild**.

If you would like to order a poinsettia, please submit your completed order form AND payment to Robin Lindler. If it is more convenient, completed order forms and payment can be mailed to Robin Lindler, 805 Crooked Creek Rd, Chapin SC 29036. Order forms will also be available in the sanctuary (on the offering table) or at the church office Monday-Thursday between the hours of 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM.

The deadline for placing your order is **Sunday, November 1, 2020**. In order to guarantee delivery of the poinsettias, the Altar Guild must place the order for St. Jacob's on the deadline date. The team asks that you turn your orders in early as NO orders can be accepted after the deadline.

Poinsettias may be removed from the sanctuary following the Christmas Eve Service. As in the past, each poinsettia will be labeled with the name of the person purchasing the plant. The plants will be moved to the Fellowship Hall on December 26th. ALL poinsettias not picked up before Wednesday, December 30th will be discarded.



2020 Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

_____ Christmas Poinsettias @ **\$10.00** each \$ _____ Enclosed _____ Check _____ Cash
(Make checks payable to St. Jacob's Altar Guild)

PLEASE PRINT -This form is used to compile the remembrance list - Please DO NOT put "same as last year"

IN HONOR OF _____

GIVEN BY: _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

GIVEN BY: _____

IN HONOR OF _____

_____ **AND**

IN MEMORY OF _____

GIVEN BY: _____

JACOB'S LADDER—OCTOBER 2020 ISSUE 10

Letter to St. Jacob's from We Care Center

September 15, 2020

Your generous donation of \$250 comes at such a special time for We Care! September is a month of great celebration for us as we celebrate 34 years of ministry, especially meaningful as September is National Hunger Action Month! Thank you for ACTING to combat hunger in our community!

September 30, 1986 was the beginning of a beautiful vision for those in need in Chapin. Local churches came together to serve those needs in a collaborative effort rather than each church working on its own. The result was a thriving ministry that would eventually launch both We Care and Good Works, each serving a specific need for the community.

The years have seen us expand radically, especially in the last handful of years. We serve an average of 800 people a month and distribute over \$1,000,000 worth of food a year! In addition to food, we provide utility assistance and vouchers for gasoline and household needs through local thrift stores. We are thrilled to host Good Samaritan Medical Clinic, providing free medical care for the most vulnerable in our community. We have been able to host free flu shot clinics, pet care clinics, and special holiday programming and will continue these programs as Covid restrictions allow. And just last month, we were delighted to award our first scholarship to a client's family member!

All that we have been able to add to client services has been made possible because of strong community support! We do not receive any government funding, with all of our support coming from local grantors, churches, businesses, civic groups and individuals. We could not impact the needs of the community without this collaborative effort, and YOU are an integral part of that vision!

So we celebrate God's faithfulness for 34 years with deep gratitude for our dear supports! YOU make the work possible. On behalf of all the clients we have served all these years: THANK YOU!

Sincerely,
Alecia Klauk, Executive Director

BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH

*If you abide in my words. You are truly my disciples.
John 8:31*

(803) 345-2309

ChurchOffice@st-jacobs.org

www.st-jacobs.org

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday—9 AM-2 PM

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

St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

844 Columbia Avenue

Chapin, SC 29036