



St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

MARCH
Newsletter

Volume 31, Issue 3

PASTORAL DEVOTION FOR MARCH

No Secrets

Read - 1 John 1:5-10

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open; all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. These words are very familiar to a great number of Christians. Each week, Christians bear their souls, confessing their sins to our almighty God. Yet, God is not the only one who is to hear our confession.

Day by day, people sin against one another. All too often, we sin against our neighbor even without them knowing about it. Gossip, harmful remarks and breaking confidences are all ways in which we sin against our brothers and sisters. Such sins are those which we do our best to keep hidden from the one who is the object of our misgiving. After all, what they don't know won't hurt them right?

Even if we are able to keep knowledge our sins from others, God sees them. Our Father knows our hearts and minds better than we know them ourselves. Failing to recognize our sin leads us away from our God and drives a wedge in the midst of the community of faith. Yet, as we acknowledge and confess our sin in the presence of God and one another, we are assured of our forgiveness.

Prayer: Almighty God, create in me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me. Amen.

ALTAR FLOWERS MARCH SCHEDULE

7-Mar	Gary and Joan Marco
14-Mar	Lisa Amick
21-Mar	Davis and Sandra Brown
28-Mar	Open

** You still have time to sign up.



ST. JACOB'S ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP

You can still sign up for Altar Flowers. The chart is hanging in the Narthex. NOTE: During Advent/Christmas Seasons only one vase of flowers is needed. Also, artificial flowers are never 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.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Altar Flowers
- Monthly Birthdays
- Members Shut-In or in Facilities
- Memorials and Acknowledgements
- Letters to the Congregation from Water Missions, We Care Center, and Sola Publishing
- Financial Information
- Coloring Page

BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 02 – Robert Slice | 20 – Derald Edwards |
| 03 – Kiersten Mack | 22 – Sandra Brown |
| 04 – Gary Marco | 22 – Eddie Zeigler |
| 04 – David Kibler | 22 – Margaret Eargle |
| 05 – Blaine McCaslin | 26 – Doug Sullivan |
| 06 – Kristen Nickel | 29 – Tim Slice |
| 08 – Jake Warner | 30 – Frances Shealy |
| 09 – Angela Barras | 30 – Jason Slice |
| 09 – Adrian Meetze | 30 – Blake Turney |
| 11 – Jennifer Stopher | 31 – Rachel Lindler |
| 12 – Mattie Jane Lindler | |
| 12 – Joe Lindler | |
| 13 – Elizabeth Shealy | |
| 14 – Scott Sightler | |
| 15 – Derriel Amick | |
| 16 – Jeremy Shealy | |
| 16 – Ashton Lindler | |
| 19 – Johnny Wessinger | |



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

YOUTH DIRECTOR & FAMILY MINISTRIES

"Following the season of Lent, we will begin allowing new teachers into our children's Sunday school class. For the time being, we offer one class for all ages beginning at 9:40 AM and ending at 10:20 AM. All materials will be given to you two weeks prior to your scheduled day. This is a great way to build multigenerational relationships within the church. If this is something you would feel comfortable doing, the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. We are currently scheduling through the end of the year so go ahead and grab a spot to serve!"

Rachel

EASTER EGG HUNT



Bring your own basket! Easter is on the way! Join St. Jacob's for our annual egg hunt on March 27th from 10:30 AM — 12 PM. There will be snacks, crafts, and plenty of eggs! All ages are welcome to join in on the fun!

MEMORIALS

Cemetery

- In memory of Fred Shealy by Donald and Judy Turner

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday morning Bible study has resumed at 10 AM each week. Our topic of study is an in-depth reading of The Lord's prayer. As with prior online studies, we will meet via zoom.com. It's not too late to join us. Log in information for Bible study will be sent to by email the day before each session.

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERIES

Our mid-week series is now in full swing. This series include a set of dramatic readings from characters from the Passion of our Lord Jesus. From the widow who donated her two pennies to the temple treasury to the man who provided Jesus with a donkey to ride on Palm Sunday these unique readings are presented in such a way that we might ponder the "Gifts of Lent." We look forward to your attending our mid-week Lenten series.

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

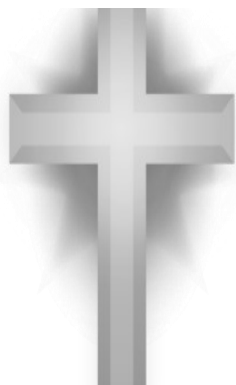
Where there is no prophetic vision the people perish but blessed is he who keeps the law. Proverbs 29:18 KJV

During the most recent NALC Convocation, Bishop Dan Selbo shared his vision for the future of the North American Lutheran Church. The 2020 Vision, as he called it, is a ten-point vision of what and where he sees as the next set of building blocks for the NALC as we grow into the future of our mission and ministry.

Reflecting upon Bishop Dan's vision, I spent time in prayer and study concerning a vision of what and where I believe God is calling us at St. Jacobs to be as we grow into the future of our mission and ministry here. What follows is the fruit of this prayerful study. I hope and pray that our church family is willing and able to embrace this six-point vision for our future so that we truly become faithful participants in God's mission for the sake of the world. I am convinced that each point within this vision is central to the future growth and ministry of St. Jacob's. As with the bishop's 2020 vision, each vision point carries with it an associated goal for the future.

Point #1 – That St. Jacob's develops an intentional Disciple Making Culture.

Being a disciple of Jesus Christ is more than simply calling yourself a disciple. Disciples continually learn from their teacher. They embrace a way of life where one lives in the world but not of the world. It is my hope that St. Jacob's develops a culture where our church family members learn the importance and benefit of living as disciples of Jesus Christ. Becoming students of God's Word through reading Scripture daily, engaging in Christian education opportunities of the church on a regular basis. This vision includes helping people develop an intentional prayer life, teaching church family members how it is they might share their faith with others outside St. Jacob's, and growing in a deeper, more personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. The Goal: That



St. Jacob's would develop a small group ministry dedicated to assist members as they grow in discipleship and relationship with Jesus Christ.

Point #2 – Growing the Christian Education Ministries of our Congregation.

It is becoming more and more common that children do not know the great stories of the Bible. This is an issue that has not just popped up overnight, it has happened because all too often parents have not stressed the importance of Sunday school and Christian education. It has been increasingly difficult to provide Christian

Education for people of all ages due to a lack of willingness of adults to serve as Sunday school teachers for our young people. My vision for St. Jacob's Christian Education includes classes where I might help equip and empower adult members of our Congregation to become faith leaders for our children. This is why I have begun the St. Jacob's Online campus. Learning more about the Biblical narrative will provide others with the confidence needed to relate the biblical story to our life today and help our children to grow in faithfulness and love for the Lord. The Goal: That the majority of church family members embrace Christian learning and become active participants in studying the Scriptures together in Bible studies and Sunday school.

Point #3 – Raising up Leaders for the Church.

While St. Jacob's does support our NALC Seminary system through benevolent giving, I believe we are well equipped to help the NALC raise up the next generation of Pastors. The evidence for this is how the congregation welcomed and provided a place for NALC Candidate Philip Sandi to come and begin developing skills and confidence as he discerns his call to ministry. St. Jacob's has previously served as an internship site and would provide an excellent contextual education opportunity for an intern of the NALC to come and learn and grow

into the vocation of pastoral ministry. The Goal: That St. Jacob's would discern the importance of this ministry and become an internship site for the NALC.

Point #4 – That St. Jacob's would Grow in our Focus on Mission and Outreach.

One of the CORE Values of the NALC is that the NALC is a Mission Driven Church. Since its founding by the apostles, the Church of Jesus Christ has existed for the sake of her neighbor. In Matthew 25, Jesus calls his followers to minister to the poor, the needy, hungry, sick and marginalized. The North American Lutheran Church calls upon congregations to engage this mission by participating in Local ministries, NALC mission partnerships, and at least one global ministry. Certainly, we do these things through our benevolent giving, but participating through "hands on" projects will help us grow in our sense of mission and ministry. We have plenty of resources at our disposal for use in active participation within several ministries such as NALC disaster response, WE CARE of Chapin and, Congo Mission International. The Goal: That St. Jacob's church family members would lend their talents to working on mission projects regularly and the Outreach Team would become leaders in Mission projects throughout the year.

Point #5 – That St. Jacob's develops a Welcoming and Inviting Culture through which the surrounding community is able to come and hear the Gospel and find a community of believers that shares their life together in Christ Jesus.

So many studies have been conducted in recent years that point to the fact that most people come to a new church because they were personally invited by its members. Another study by the Barna group points to the issue that average Christian today only invites 1.2 people annually to their church for Sunday worship. As Chapin continues to grow in population and diversity, I believe we are uniquely situated to provide a community for worship for so many who do not have a church home of their own. When is the last time you invited someone to come to worship at St. Jacob's? You might just want to begin with those family members who have been missing for a number of months or years. The Goal: That St. Jacob's becomes known as an inviting congregation throughout Chapin and the surrounding community.

Point #6 – That St. Jacob's grows in our Sense of Christian Fellowship.

When I first came to St. Jacob's, I was told that I shouldn't go hungry because we are a congregation that likes to eat. This is music to the ears of those who enjoy a robust time of fellowship with family and friends. Sadly, even before the pandemic, fellowship opportunities at St. Jacob's have been fewer and farther between. I'm not sure why this is the case, but it goes without saying that a congregation that enjoys lively Christian fellowship also enjoys a healthy relationship and life together.

The Goal: As we emerge from the global pandemic, St. Jacob's schedules frequent events during which we would enjoy fellowship among our church family.

I believe these vision points are central to the mission and ministry of St. Jacob's future. With God's help we will grow and become a house of prayer for many to call their church home. As the proverb says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." I believe living as a disciple of Jesus Christ is the key. If we attempt to build our ministry on our own, we will surely stumble. This vision for our congregation is not something That I offer on my own, but it is offered to you as I have prayed for God's guidance in leading St. Jacob's into the future of our life together in Christ. Having a vision for ministry is crucial to any congregation. We need to understand the direction in which we are traveling, that is if we are traveling at all. The desire here is to help us move forward. If we don't know what it is that we are moving toward, it will be increasingly difficult to recognize the destination when we finally arrive.

Thank you for indulging me in this rather lengthy installment of my monthly column. I ask you all to prayerfully consider each of these ministry points and discern your role within them.

Grace and peace,



Pastor David Nuottila

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR FEBRUARY 2, 2021 MEETING

Council approved Church Office Closing/Holiday Schedule for 2021:

January 1	New Year's Day
January 18	Martin Luther King's Day
February 15	President's Day
April 5	Easter Monday
May 31	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 6	Labor Day
November 25	Thanksgiving Day
December 23-31	Christmas Break

- Drawings are completed and ready to request bids for Parking Lot Project
- AA Group now meeting at St. Jacob's
- Only one service on February 21st, 2021 for Congregational Meeting (Reports meeting)

2021 COUNCIL TEAM MEMBERS

Chris Doyle—President — cmdoyle75@gmail.com

**Michael Corley—Vice President —
mcorley0814@icloud.com**

Kayla Pharis – kaylarepting@gmail.com

Larry Shull – larryshull@att.net

Lynn Shealy – lynnshaley55@gmail.com

Judy Dease – deasejudy@bellsouth.net

Helen L. Lindler – Helen.Lindler@aol.com

Nate Nickel – nnickel12@gmail.com

Brandon Slice – Brandons@prtcom.com

Johanne Sullivan – jrmart53@gmail.com

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

First Communion Instruction will be held for those Baptized children of St. Jacob's whose parents feel that they are ready to begin receiving the Sacrament of the Altar. While there is no hard and fast age requirement for receiving Holy Communion, parents should speak with their children concerning their participation in the Sacrament. If your child has expressed an interest or has asked question with regards to Holy Communion, he or she may be ready to receive their Lord in this new way.

Pastor David will offer classes on three successive Sundays in March, March 7th, 14th, and 21st during the Sunday school hour. A parent or guardian is asked to accompany their child in order to share experiences with them. Children participating in this instruction will receive their first Holy Communion on Palm Sunday, March 28th at the 10:30 AM. Service. Please contact Pastor David with any questions you might have.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Unlike last year, this Spring St. Jacob's will offer our traditional Holy Week and Easter Services. Holy Week will begin with our Palm Sunday services on March 28th. For the 10:30 AM service we will begin outside in front of the church entrance for our call to worship and Palm Procession. Members will be invited to lay their palm branches down at the foot of the chancel near the Paschal candle and then make their way to their seats using the side aisles.

There will be no Wednesday evening service during Holy Week since we will gather again on Maundy Thursday (April 1st) for worship with Holy Communion and the stripping of the altar. On Good Friday (April 2nd) we will gather in silence at 7 PM for our evening worship.

On Easter Sunday (April 4th) we will hold our Easter Sunrise service beginning at 7 AM. Sadly, as things stand right now we will not be offering our annual Easter breakfast for the congregation. Sunday school will be held at its regular time of 9:15 AM with worship following at 10:30 AM. We look forward to the celebration of Easter with our church family, especially since public worship was cancelled last year. Please plan to attend all of our Holy Week and Easter services as you are able.

CONTINUING COVID RESPONSE

In our continuing effort to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, St. Jacob's will continue our current protocols for social distancing and protection. Please remember these simple steps.

- Entrance to the church on Sunday morning is through the Fellowship Hall doors. This is to prevent groups from gathering in the narthex as others come in to find their seat.
- Use hand sanitizer as you enter the church nave. Sanitizer is provided on the table at the narthex doors.

- Although masks are not required to enter the building, they are required when the congregations sing liturgy or hymns. It is also a best practice to wear your mask while sitting in the pews. For this reason, everyone is to have a mask in their possession.
- Please remember to fill out a record of worship card and place it in the tray on the table at the narthex doors.
- Upon conclusion of the worship service, everyone is to depart the building. The aisle and hallways are to be kept clear. Conversations may be held outside.

These protocols are in place to ensure the health and well-being of our church family and visitors. The Pastor and Church Council will revise them as necessary to ensure the safety of everyone in attendance.



Letter to St. Jacob's from the Water Mission

January 28, 2021

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 your congregation, 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, and all that you are making possible—thank you so much.

Gift Information 1/13/21
Gift Amount \$250
Designation Where Most Needed

Blessings,

George C. Green IV,
PE Chief Executive Office



St. Jacob Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your donations of 340 pounds of food for the month of January.

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!

God Bless you,
Alicia Klauk
Executive Director

Letter from We Care to St. Jacob's

January 21, 2021

We are so very thankful for your generous donation of \$250! We are incredibly grateful to begin the new year with such faithful donors. **You are a blessing!**

Like so many others, we too are thankful to turn the page on 2020 and hope for a better 2021, especially for our clients. We anticipated the pandemic would hit them the hardest. They are the least capable of absorbing but still had to endure health crises, job losses, school disruptions, etc. We are so thankful that we were able to continue to serve them without interruption, which we will continue to do no matter what comes! We are only able to do so with strong support—thank you!

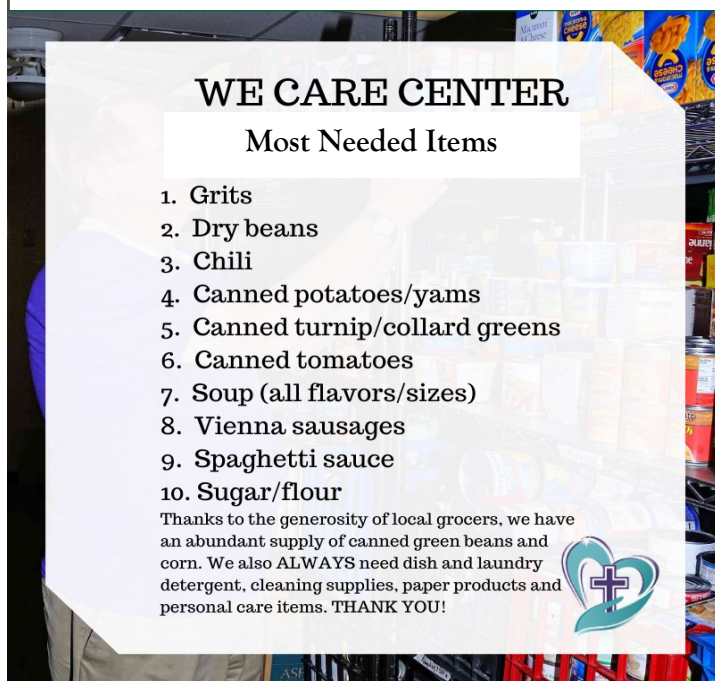
2020 taught us that by working together with dedicated friends such as yourself, we can persevere regardless of circumstances to ensure that our clients'

needs are met. Not every helping agency enjoyed that same confidence of support, and for it, we sincerely thank you!

We look forward with great anticipation. We will continue to serve clients food and assist with utility bills and vouchers for gasoline, kerosene, and thrift stores. We will provide scholarships again this year for clients' children pursuing academic and trade education and training. We will operate mobile pantry distributions in Newberry County to serve those in highest need areas. We hope to again host pet care clinics and perhaps we can even return clients to service in our building. However we serve, we are dedicated to serving our clients with care and compassion.

Sincerely,
Alecia Klauk, Executive Director

Gift \$250 Received 1/13/21



SOLA
www.solapublishing.com

Letter to St. Jacob's from SOLA PUBLISHING

February 10, 2021

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21)

Dear Friends of St. Jacob's Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the staff and Board of Sola Publishing, thank you for your gift of \$250 that we received in January 2021.

You have blessed our hearts with your support of our ministry to provide solid, biblical resources for use in preaching and teaching God's Word. Because of your gifts, we are able to keep the cost of our materials low for those churches struggling to keep their ministries viable.

We are deeply thankful for your gracious gift.

Yours in Christ,
Steven King, Managing Editor

GROUND'S TEAM FOR MARCH SCHEDULE

Co-Chairs—Billy McTeer and Lynn Shealy
Walt Shealy, Danny Shealy, Davis Brown,
Donald Turner, Jeff Kleckley, Arthur Langley,
AJ Peeples, Josh Monts, Jason Wicker,
Bryan Metze,

FINANCIAL INFORMATION WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Weekly Giving: \$3,717

MTD Actual Giving: \$15,826.74

YTD Actual Giving: \$40,710.98

Budget Requirements: \$ 5,726

MTD Budget Requirements: \$17,178

YTD Budget Requirements: \$45,808

JANUARY GIVING FROM WALT SHEALY

Month to date: \$24,889.24

Year to date: \$24,889.24

Year to date budget: \$28,630

It's Time to Order Easter Lilies



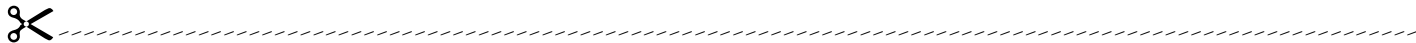
The Worship and Music Team will once again be accepting orders for Easter Lilies to be placed in the church for our Easter services in honor and/or memory of loved ones. This year the cost per lily will be **\$13.50** each.

Order forms will be available on the "Offering Table" or at the church office. If you would like to order a lily, please submit your completed order form AND payment to Robin Lindler. If it is more con-ven-ient, you may mail your completed order form and payment to:

Robin Lindler, 805 Crooked Creek Rd, Chapin SC 29036.

The deadline for placing your order is **Sunday, March 14th**. Please turn your completed order form & payment in early, NO orders can be accepted after the deadline.

As in the past, each lily will be labeled with the name of the person purchasing the plant.
Please remove YOUR plant(s) from the church following the last Easter Service.
The Worship and Music will discard ALL lilies not removed as of Wednesday, April 7, 2021.



2021 Easter Lily Order Form

_____ Easter Lilies @ **\$13.50** each \$_____ Enclosed _____ Check _____ Cash

(Make checks payable to St. Jacob's Lutheran Church)

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

IN HONOR OF _____

GIVEN BY: _____

* * * * *

IN MEMORY OF _____

GIVEN BY: _____

* * * * *

IN HONOR OF _____

AND

IN MEMORY OF _____

GIVEN BY: _____

ST. JACOB'S NEWSLETTER—MARCH 2021 ISSUE 3



BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH

*Whoever believes in Him is not condemned.
John 3:18*

(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

Sunday School—9:40 AM

St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

844 Columbia Avenue

Chapin, SC 29036