



St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

October 2022 • Volume 33 • Issue 10

Pastoral Devotion for October

Faithful Teachers

Read James 3:1-13

From the earliest of ages, even the most prolific pastors, theologians and Christian authors were first taught the faith by others. Parents, grandparents taught the faith in their homes. In churches, it is volunteer Sunday school teachers who engage in the faith formation of our youngest Christians. In my formative years, it was a teacher nurtured my faith and convinced me I should explore a career in ministry. Certainly, there is power and influence in the words of teachers.

James warns teachers concerning the power of words. Like the small rudder of a ship, the tongue has the power to steer the course of peoples' lives. Especially in Church, the tongue can do insurmountable damage. A word misspoken from the pulpit can lead a congregation down the wrong path. Words spoken in confidence can wreak havoc if shared with others. Even words meant for encouragement can be misunderstood if spoken carelessly.

It goes without saying, even teachers of faith have their shortcomings; we are all sinners in need of God's grace. All Christians, especially pastors and people in lay ministry are called to speak the truth concerning our lives as God's children. Again, we all sin and fall short of God's glory. Therefore, we must pray that our words remain true and that we speak this truth in love.

Prayer: God of mercy and grace; bless the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, that they may be fruitful in your sight. Amen.

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Blessing of the Animals - Saturday, October 1st.

Our pets are a part of our family and a gift from our Father in heaven. They provide love and companionship all while asking little in return.

Join members of your church family on Oct. 1st at 10:00A.M. for a special time together on the front lawn at St. Jacob's as Pastor David leads a service of blessing our pets.

The blessing of the animals is traditionally observed on or just prior to the Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct 4) whom the Christian Church has recognized for his compassion for animals and the natural environment ever since the 1200's



*Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old, he will not depart from
it. Proverbs 22:6*

The Bible verse above is one that many of us grew up with. We grew up with it because our parents and grandparents believed it and implemented it as often as they could. Now that I am a grandparent, this verse means a lot more to me than it did years ago. Not only as a grandparent, but as a parent, and especially as a pastor, I have gained a deep appreciation for this particular proverb.

Recently in a discussion with several other pastors, we were comparing notes with what has worked as far as catechetical instruction goes. I reminisced with them for a while and remembered a little book written by one of my professors. The Rev. Dr. Jim Nestingen wrote this book way back in the mid-70's in partnership with another professor, The Rev. Dr. Gerhard Forde. The book is an exposition on Luther's Small Catechism and is entitled, Free to Be.

Free to Be is a handbook that unpacks the Small Catechism in such a way that all people, young and old alike, can learn more about what it means to be free to grow as a child of the One True God. The opening chapter begins with these words: *"God has made a decision about you. He hasn't waited to find out how sincere you are, how devout or religious you might be, or how well you understand the Bible or Catechism. He hasn't even waited to find out if you are interested or willing to take his decision seriously. He has simply decided."*

The gist of Free to Be is that since God has decided to love us even though we are sinners, through Christ we are freed from the eternal consequences of our sin. As forgiven people, we are free to love God and neighbor even though original sin once stood as a barrier between God and man. Through Christ the barrier is overcome by God's love. The free gift of God's salvation is the most precious gift anyone could ever hope to receive. With the devil's grip upon our lives broken by the power of God's love, we are free to be children of God's light in Christ.

So why bring this up now? Well, as I look around St. Jacob's, and indeed the broader Church in general, I see so many young people opting out of worship, Sunday school and many things religious. The George Barna group, a research think tank that studies trends within the Christian Church, has well documented the current trend of young people abandoning the church and instead opting for a life outside well established faith communities. If we are to take the proverb seriously, we need to find a way to re-present the Christian faith to our young people in such a way that they can realize the love our Almighty God has for his people, and just how valuable each person is in the eyes of God.



Of particular note is a study I read lifting up the seismic shift in our society that has occurred in just the last 25 years or so. Generation Z (those born between 1990-2015) is the most ethnically diverse generation in American history. They are individualistic, social justice oriented, and lonely. They were raised on technology, not on relationships. And their lives are often built around the online world.

These young people are becoming activists and volunteers who want to make an impact on the world. The oldest members of Generation Z have entered their twenties and stepped into either the workforce or the world of higher education. And they will change the landscape of our society with their ideas and values – many of which omit the idea of Christian faith and the prospect of church membership. In layman's terms, to a large extent, our young people are being shaped by the world rather than by faith. So, as those who vowed at the baptism of so many Gen Z babies, that we would raise them in the faith, what do we do to train up the children in the way that they should go?

The answer is fairly simple, just four words actually; "dwell in God's Word." Dwell in the Word and grow in our relationship with Christ. Then share the joy of that relationship with our young people. They will soon see the joy we have in being freed from the burden of sin, and living as dwellers of God's eternal kingdom rather than as dwellers of this fallen and broken world.

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Pastor's Heart (*continued*)

For the sake of our young people, we must know God's Word. We must know the story. We must help our young people answer the question: "Who is Jesus and why does he matter?" We must live it out and share it in such a way that, through our shared joy and fellowship, our young people will experience Christian relationships and become Free to Be excited about the love they have through the person of Christ our Savior. Imagine a faith community in which everyone, young and old finds themselves on the path that leads to eternal joy. Yes, that's what it means to be "Free to Be."

Grace to you and peace,
Pastor David Nuottila

Youth and Family Ministry

Dear Church Family,

As we look forward to the rest of 2022. We look forward to what our heavenly Father has planned for our continual growth in Him. With the summer over, we will have exciting new plans for the rest of the year.

The Children's Sunday school class will start a new Bible curriculum focused on seeing Jesus Christ through the entire Bible. The youth Sunday school class will dive into their relationship with our Savior, asking the question, "Why does Jesus Christ matter to me?" Anyone who would like to participate in this ministry would be more than welcome!

Regarding the youth and family program: We are starting a new discipleship ministry with parents as they seek to be equipped for God's calling through scripture. And will be starting to have fun Christian events for the youth and their families to fellowship with one another, creating a safe environment for an authentic kingdom community for the glory of God.

We would love for families and the whole congregation to get involved in this ministry; please feel free to reach out to get plugged in!

Thank you, and please continue to pray for the Family ministry here at St. Jacobs; if you have any questions or would like to get involved, please reach out!

Blessings,
Matt Burt
Youth and Family Director



Our Wednesday morning Bible study is in full swing with a study of the Parables of Jesus.

Everyone who is able is invited to join the group. We have wonderful conversations while exploring the richness of God's mercy and grace. Come be a part of our learning and fellowship. Mid-week Bible study meets at 9:30 A.M. in the fellowship Hall each Wednesday Morning.



The Men of St. Jacob's are invited to participate in our new "Every Man Bible study." The Men's Bible study meets in the church office conference room each Monday at 7:00A.M. Each participant will receive a copy of the "Every Man's Bible in the New Living Translation (NLT)." The Bible is provided at no cost and is a wonderful addition to Every Man's Bible collection.

Currently we are exploring the lives of men we read about in the bible and finding out more about their life and struggle to become faithful believers in a world fallen into sin. Please join us. Encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same. We are looking forward to the growth of this ministry.



Choir Notes

The days are cooling, everything pumpkin spice is on the menu and that means all our choirs are back in practice. This year there are a few changes to our St. Jacob's choirs. Our youth in grades 4 and above are rehearsing handbells each Sunday afternoon at 4 pm. We have started a new choir for our youngest St. Jacobs family members. Children in kindergarten through 3rd grade are meeting at 3 pm on Sunday afternoons for Children's Choir. There are even changes for our adult choir. The Wednesday evening service will be held at 6:30 each Wednesday starting the first of October which allows our adult choir to practice from 7-8 pm starting immediately following the service. Please come and join us.

I've seen Christmas merchandise being put on the shelves in stores, so it is not too soon to be thinking about our Christmas music. If you would be willing to participate in special Christmas music for the season, please let me know. I would love to have a small handbell group, and this would be a great time for you to participate in choir on a limited basis. Come learn the music for Christmas with us.

Council Briefs for September 2022

Good Things at St. Jacob's in August 2022
Reception for Sherry Floyd
Trees removed in front of Administration Offices and stumps ground down
Sale of Church bus for \$8800

Pastor provided a handout to the Council about "NALC Fresh Eyes for Mission Summit". The Council was asked to review the program for discussion at the October meeting. The Pastor has stepped down as the leader of the Carolina Region Mission team. Pastor David plans to use this time to focus on the growth of St. Jacobs. The Council interviewed and offered the

Council Briefs *continued*

Administrative Assistant position to a qualified candidate; however, she declined the offer due to personal reasons. The Administrative Assistant position remains open. If anyone in the congregation is aware of a qualified and interested candidate, please contact a member of Staff Support or a Council Member.

Staff Support Policy and Procedures draft was reviewed and approved by the Council. The Congregational Care team provided an excellent reception for Sherry Floyd. The team will be meeting for revision on the Bereavement Groups.

The Stewardship team met to complete plans for the upcoming Yard Sale on September 24, 2022, and to determine a date for the distribution of Time and Talent sheets.

The Church bus was sold on August 27, 2022, for \$8,800. Many thanks to Nate Nickel for his work on the completion of this sale.

A copy of the 2022 Budget was distributed to the Council. The Council will be working on the 2023 budget at the upcoming meeting in October.

In lieu of Homecoming, it was decided to celebrate a "Golden-Agers" Sunday on October 23, 2022. A meal is planned to follow the service, with the church providing fried chicken, b-b-q, hash, and rice. The congregation will be asked to bring covered dishes for sides and desserts.

The Up and Going Apple Run was planned for September 15, 2022. The Church will pay for the rental of 2 passenger vans, with the cost not to exceed \$800. (The trip was completed at a cost of approximately \$600) The Safe Sanctuary Policy was reviewed by the Council with a lot of discussion and was tabled for later review.

Pastor David received a request from a local AA Women's group, requesting space to meet on Sunday evenings. The Council approved the request, allowing the group to meet in the Church Administrative Building.

Up and Going Apple Run

On Thursday, September 15, the Up and Going got up and going to the mountains in Hendersonville, NC. We shared a very nice lunch at Harry's BBQ and Grille before heading out to Granddad's Apple Orchard. Several of our members enjoyed fried apple pies and apple cider slushies while stocking up on delicious apples. Thank you to our van drivers, Davis Brown, and Michael Corley. A splendid time of fellowship was certainly enjoyed by all.



St. Jacob's Lutheran Men

Our St. Jacob's Lutheran Men welcomed Travis Bennet, Biologist for the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, who gave a very interesting presentation on the various species of wildlife found in South Carolina.

Covering animals ranging from turtles to black bears, Travis provided information on the challenges concerning protection of wildlife in our state. As many would guess, the biggest challenge to numbers of many animals is the loss of their natural habitat due to development.

Prior to Mr. Bennett's presentation, the men enjoyed a delicious meal of lasagna, salad, garlic bread, and dessert. Thank you to all who helped prepare our meal and thank you especially to Travis for his very informative program.



Lutheran Men's Sunday

St. Jacob's Lutheran men led the congregation in worship on Sunday, September 25th. Thank you to all our men who participated and lent their gifts to the service of the church and sharing God's Word among his people. Thank you also to St. Jacob's Choir Director, Angela Nuottila for assisting the men in their planning and participating in this service.

We are very thankful for the ministry of our St. Jacob's men and pray that God would continue to bless them in their ministry among us.

OCTOBER
28TH



YOUTH
LOCK-IN



Candy, games food prizes and
more

St. Jacobs Lutheran Church
844 Columbia Avenue, Chapin, SC, 29036
Trunk or Treat - Friday October 28th 5-7:00 pm
SJLY Halloween Party 7:30 - 9:30pm
all ages and family's welcome!

Lock-In - Friday October 28th 9:30pm - Saturday 29th 8:00 am
5th - 12th grade Youth and friends

For questions contact:
Matthew Burt
Youth and Family Director
matt@st-jacobs.org
856-685-6316

Worship Assistants for October

Date	Time	Usher	Lay Reader	Communion	Acolyte
2-Oct		Leon Lindler Eddie Eargle	Angela Nuottila	Nicki Peeples Marie Slice	Jackson Wallace
9-Oct		Lynn Shealy Bob Ziemer	Gary Marco	Carroll Lindler Angela Nuottila	Bryleigh Prosser
16-Oct		Robert Wessinger Tracy Eargle	A.J. Peeples	Nate Nickel Susan Shealy	Copeland Peeples
23-Oct		Leon Lindler Davis Brown	Carroll Lindler	Kristen Nickel Judy Dease	Isabelle Peeples
30-Oct		Carroll Lindler Eddie Eargle	Tina Kibler	Sherrie McTeer David Kibler	Samantha Monts

October Birthdays

01 – Judy Long-Riesner
 02 – Eileen Richardson
 02 – Kristen Slice
 03 – Rion Williams
 05 – Gail Epting
 05 – Dixon Wallace
 09 – Brenda Smith
 09 – Kevin Shields
 09 – Anna Grace Zeigler
 11 – Addy Stuck
 11 – Stephen Wise
 12 – Leon Lindler
 14 – James Russell Slice
 14 – Jason Johnson



17 – Bob Ziemer
 17 – Ann Corley
 18 – Miriam Metze
 18 – Alex Rushe
 19 – Sharon Walker
 20 – Mandy Rushe
 21 – Linda Smith
 25 – Gena Shields
 30 – Cameron Lindler
 30 – Jacob Kibler
 31 – Jo Anne Lindler
 31 – Wendy Lindler
 31 – Audrey Doyle

FINANCIAL INFORMATION WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

Weekly Giving: \$5,349.44
MTD Actual Giving: \$20,894.63
YTD Actual Giving: \$254,429.49

Budget Requirements: \$5,703.00
MTD Budget Requirements: \$22,812.00
YTD Budget Requirements: \$222,417.00

MEMORIALS GIVEN SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

GENERAL FUND: In memory of Jim Haack – By: Doug, Johanne and Brian Sullivan
LUTHERAN MEN: In Memory of Jim Haack – By: Margaret Eargle
UP & GOING: In Memory of Jim Haack – By: Leon and Helen Lindler
MEMORIAL FUND: In Memory of Jim Haack – By: Miriam Metze AND Frances Shealy

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Michael Corley— *President*-mcorley0814@icloud.com
Billy McTeer— Vice President-wsmcteer@gmail.com
Brenda Smith— Secretary-brendaedsmith@gmail.com
Donna Fulmer— donnafulmer2@gmail.com
Johanne Sullivan— jrmart53@gmail.com

Helen L. Lindler— helen.lindler@aol.com
Don Dease — Deaserus@bellsouth.net
Nate Nickel— nnickel12@gmail.com
Brandon Slice— Brandons@prtcom.com
Gloria Ziemer— snoggyfrog@aol.com

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR OCTOBER

October 2	Miriam Metze
October 9	Johanne Sullivan
October 16	Open
October 23	Sherrie McTeer
October 30	Gary and Joan Marco

HOMEBOUND MEMBER AND RESIDENCE FACILITIES

Michael Lindler 250 Leaning Pines Trail Lexington, SC 29072 Ph: 803-356-4100	Shirley Nuottila 431 East Boundary St. Room 306 Chapin, SC 29036
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Letha Sites 1024 Freshly Mill Rd. Irmo, SC 29063 Ph: 803-345-2300	Mary Lou Haddox 200 Brook Court Chapin, SC 29036 Ph: 803-707-3614
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Stanley & Lucy Slice
431 East Boundary St.
Room 205
Chapin, SC 29036
Ph: 803-807-8321



2022 Ministry-Mission Update #9 – 9/19/22

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.” - Jeremiah 29:11

God has good plans for Joy! Thank you for being a part of all that He is doing!

Worship - Attendance is up. We have several families active in worship and fellowship and hope they will soon join us officially as member missionary-disciples. Please pray for their discernment. We are also in talks regarding the possible purchase of a church property on Midway Road. Keep this process in your prayers as well. These are exciting times!

Fellowship – Sunday school and Wednesday Bible study continue our Bible overview study with the *Egermeier Bible Story Book*. This has been a very fruitful study, and everyone is enjoying it. Monday Bible study started up again last week. We are studying *1 Thessalonians*. Prayer ministry continues to meet monthly. We have started a nursery during the sermon time and, so far, have four volunteers. We have also started a men’s group called Lutheran Men of Joy. They meet monthly to focus on Bible study and service within the congregation and community. Our next fellowship meal will be on Thanksgiving Eve. The last one was very well attended, and we assembled twenty-five flood buckets.

Discipleship - Senior Ministry now meets on the first Sunday at Lakeside. Our August Ministry of the Month (MoM) was NALC Disaster Response. The September MoM is financial support for flood survivors in Kentucky through Appalachian Project with matching donations from Thrivent. The October MoM will be preparing, serving, and sharing a meal with the residents of Chris Myers Home. We will also enjoy play time with the children and Bible study with the mothers.

Please keep our congregation and New Hope, Irmo, in your prayers. Thank you for your support in sharing the ministry and mission of Christ.

In His service and to His glory,

Pastor Paulette D. McHugh

Pastor, Joy Mission Church (803)767-7231 pdmchugh@mac.com, www.joymission.church