



St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

June 2023 • Volume 34 • Issue 6

Pastoral Devotion for June - Sanctuary

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7

When we think of sanctuary, we think of safe space; one where we might find peace. Sanctuary is a place where we can take refuge from all that surrounds us. Within the church, we have several perceptions of sanctuary and where it can be realized. For some, sanctuary is that place near or at the altar. It is the Holy of Holies, the place where God resides. Others speak of sanctuary as being that place where God meets us for worship. No matter your definition, and regardless whether you are taking refuge from some source of anxiety or seeking peace, sanctuary is always found upon holy ground.

Think of sanctuary as being that quiet place where we draw close to God. It's the most intimate setting, found deep within the safe confines of our heart. Through scripture and prayer we are able to retreat to this safe space. In our mind, quieted by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can begin to envision a room filled with holy relics and images.

Imagine the walls of your safe space decorated with images such as Christ our Good Shepherd, Jesus welcoming the little children and Jesus calming the storm. Fill this room within your heart with visions of stained glass and icons of faith. Soon you will feel the peace and power of God's presence. Such is the comforting hope of sanctuary.

Our world is filled with powers that defy God, temptations that work against all that we believe is good and proper. As we continue the struggle of living faithfully within a broken world, it is good to take refuge in Christ our Lord. Continually seeking the richness of God's kingdom, soon we ourselves become a living sanctuary for those who do not know the power of God. Invite them in. Help them find rest and respite from all the world's distractions. Assist them also in seeking the peaceful sanctuary of God's love. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard the hearts and minds of the faithful in Christ Jesus.

Prayer: *Holy God, bring me your peace and quiet my anxious heart through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Solid Rock Day Camp

This June, St. Jacob's is partnering with St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Chapin, and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Little Mountain to bring summer camp to Chapin. The Solid Rock Day Camp (June 11-16) is for elementary school aged children (grades 1-5). They will have the full camp experience of games, fun, and food, while making plenty of new friends, all in a Christian atmosphere. This is a great experience and blessing for our families. Please take advantage of this day camp opportunity which is sponsored by the NALC Carolinas Mission Region. Cost of the camp is \$50.00 per

child payable at St. Jacob's. Anyone requiring assistance to cover registration fees should contact Pastor David Nuottila to make these confidential arrangements. By the way, the Solid Rock Camp Counselors will be worshipping with us at St. Jacob's on June 11, so your camper will be able to meet them. Contact Pastor David for registration information as it is done via email. Hurry, the camp is filling up quickly.

From the Pastor's Heart

[Jesus said] You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. ”

Acts 1:8

I'm sure some of you have felt the frustration of a slow-moving line at the checkout in a grocery store. No matter how hard I try to check out quickly, I often find myself in a line that takes forever to move through. One particular evening, I was at the super market, standing in line at one of the few registers that were open, and there was a problem with the scanner. As I waited, I struck up a conversation with the woman standing in line ahead of me.

After a few moments of sharing small talk, I asked her what she did for a living. She told me that she was a police officer. Soon, much to her surprise, we had even more to talk about. Finally, she asked me what I did for a living. When I told her I was a pastor she smiled then turned her head and focused her attention elsewhere. In the few seconds following my answer, I realized this was the reaction I had anticipated. When folks ask me my profession, my answer often becomes a conversation killer. Comments usually range from “Oh, that's nice.” to “uh huh.” This instance seemed no different, so I just waited for the cashier to begin ringing up my groceries.

A few seconds later a woman standing behind me asked, “Where is your church?” I told her where St. Jacob's was located, and again, this woman turned away. Finally, the officer ahead of me looked at me and asked, “Do you know of a church in Lexington where I might attend? I'm new in town and when people find out I'm a cop they usually find someone else to talk to.” She went on to say that she really didn't know anyone in town but that she would love to find a church near her home. “Sure” I told her, “Go see my friends at St. Peter's.” Now, to be honest, I'm not really sure if she indeed went over to St. Peter's, but I did recognize that this young woman had a hunger for the gospel.

As is the case of so many people, the world is filled with problems, issues and distractions that grab their attention and fill their hearts and minds with worry, doubt and anxiety. It is so easy to focus on the headlines of our lives and forget that we do in fact have good news that satisfies the hunger deep within our hearts and souls. Everywhere we go there are

people who are hungry and thirsting for the gospel of Christ Jesus. As children of God, we are called to proclaim this good news, even when we think people don't want to listen. The power of the gospel is such that once the seed is planted, growth will occur. We may not realize how or when the good news takes root, but God assures us that even as we plant the seed of his Word, the Holy Spirit will most certainly cause it to grow.

Sharing our faith with others, especially those who have not heard the gospel of Christ, is the calling of every Christian. God gathers us in worship, shares his Word through song, reading and preaching, and then feeds us from his table of grace so that we are enabled and equipped to tell others of Christ. God sends us out as witnesses to the power of God's love and the abundance of his grace.

It doesn't matter if one turns away when you share your faith with them. The seed is still planted. It doesn't matter if another shuns you as you bring God's message of salvation. What matters is that each one of us takes up the cross of Christ, serves our neighbors out of love, and bears witness to God whose mercy and forgiveness through Christ Jesus is eternal and meant for all people. Only when we do this will we bring the good news to those who long to be a part of God's eternal kingdom.

As you ponder this message, think about those instances when you might share the gospel with a stranger. Then pray for confidence and clarity in your proclamation. Pray for those with whom you share your faith. God's word will not come back empty of this you can be sure.

Grace and peace,



Pastor David Nuottila

Confirmed in the Faith

On Pentecost Sunday, May 28th, Isabelle Peeples publicly affirmed her Baptism and received the Rite of Confirmation. We rejoice with Isabelle and her family upon this milestone faith event and look forward to Isabelle's greater participation in the life of St. Jacob's.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Office Renovations Underway

As most church family members know, the renovation of the Church Office has begun. Thank you to the Journey Sunday School Class members who have pitched in and provided labor to remove the old carpet, tear out old doors and frames, sand the trim that will need to be painted and so much more.

It won't be long and we will have a brand new office facility for our church staff to work in, our ministry teams and council to meet in, and groups to enjoy Bible study and other functions. Keep up the good work Journey class!



June Birthdays

01 – Brittany Amick
02 – Walter Slice
03 – Chris Lambeth, Jr.
03 – Austin Miller
03 – Hank Shealy
04 – Paul E. Lindler, Jr.
04 – Betty Ann Shealy
04 – Martin Wessinger
06 – Scott Raines
06 – Mitchell Martin
07 – Jason Wicker
09 – David Duke
10 – Susan C. Shealy
11 – Samantha Monts
12 – Drew Meetze
12 – Mary White-Epting
12 – Julie Zeigler



13 – Robert Lindler
15 – Isabelle Peeples
15 – Andy Turner
16 – Judy Mueller
18 – Judy Dease
18 – Karla Griggs
19 – DeAndria Amick
20 – Jasmine Bise
21 – Samantha B. Furr
22 – Larry Shull
23 – Susan McCaslin
23 – Gloria Ziemer
24 – Theodore McClain
26 – Allan Mack
26 – Linda Mostiler
27 – Tracy Lindler

Carolinas Mission Region Event

The Carolinas Mission Region Mission Team sponsored a “Flood Bucket Build” on Saturday, May 20 at Advent Lutheran Church in Kings Mountain, NC. The goal was to assemble 400 flood buckets to stock the Disaster Response warehouse. With the generosity of donors, and the volunteers who helped assemble flood buckets, the event was a rousing success. A grand total of 500 flood buckets were assembled! Thank you to St. Jacob’s volunteers Janice Shealy, Gloria Ziemer, Bob Ziemer, Tommy Faulk, and Pastor David Nuottila who helped assemble the flood buckets. Also thank you to those who donated scrub brushes and dish washing gloves at St. Jacob’s.



Worship at Generations

In May, worship at Generations Assisted Living Care included a Mother's day treat. All the women in attendance received carnations from Pastor David Nuottila. All the mothers at Generations were very happy to receive this gift and as always, the residents and staff were very appreciative for the opportunity to worship and receive Holy Communion. Pastor David and Angela Nuottila lead worship at Generations every other Sunday afternoon beginning at 1:00P.M. Being that St. Jacob's has church family members living at Generations, as well as many friends, congregation members are encouraged to worship with the folks at Generations any time when Pastor David is leading worship there. Several St. Jacob's members have already done so. If you have, thank you and please do come again. If you have not, please consider doing so. For more information just ask Pastor David or Angela Nuottila.



Because We Care

VBS - 2023



We are celebrating how following Jesus changes the game. Spin the spinner, beat the clock, skip ahead, and play to win! We will journey with Peter and his relationship with Jesus. Don't miss the fun. It will be Monday, June 19 thru Thursday, June 22. Meals will be served at 5:45 and VBS will be from 6:30-8:00 PM. An adult class will meet in the church nave from 6:30—8:00. Please join us and invite your friends and neighbors.



WE CARE CENTER June Most Needed

1. Vienna sausages
2. Canned potatoes
3. Spaghetti sauce
4. Soup, all sizes and flavors
5. Corn muffin mix
6. Instant potatoes
7. Ramen noodles/soup
8. Canned tomatoes
9. Syrup
10. Kids snacks

Paper products, cleaning supplies and toiletries are ALWAYS needed as well!



REMEMBERING IN OUR PRAYERS

JACOB'S MEMBERS SICK/RECOVERING

Janet Lindler	Richard Shealy	Dan Frick
Lorene Cannon	Ken Mostiler	Tommy Slice
Steve Slice	Miriam Metze	Gerald Lindler

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Letha Sites	Michael Lindler	Alice Moorfield
Shirley Nuottila	Lucy Slice	Stanley Slice

FRIENDS OF ST. JACOB'S

Pr. Derald Edwards	Jessica Mack	
Fr. Glynn Diggins	Danny Campbell	Bert Slice

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS 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

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

Stanley & Lucy Slice
431 East Boundary St.
Room 205
Chapin, SC 29036

Worship Assistants for June

June 4

Ushers: Leon Lindler, Lynn Shealy, Bob Ziemer, Davis Brown
Lector: Angela Nuottila
Communion: Susan Shealy, Nicki Peeples
Acolyte: Samantha Monts
Crucifer: Tommy Faulk

June 11

Ushers: Carroll Lindler, Sherrie McTeer, Tracey Eargle, David Kibler
Lector: A.J. Peeples
Communion: Kristen Nickel, Angela Nuottila
Acolyte: Copeland Peeples
Crucifer: Isabelle Peeples

June 18

Ushers: Robert Wessinger, Arthur Langley, Leon Lindler, Eddie Eargle
Lector: Tina Kibler
Communion: Judy Dease, Marie Slice
Acolyte: Bryliegh Prosser
Crucifer: Angela Nuottila

June 25

Ushers: Leon Lindler, Lynn Shealy, Bob Ziemer, Davis Brown
Lector: Gary Marco
Communion: A.J. Peeples, Carroll Lindler
Acolyte: Makenzie Raines
Crucifer: Tommy Faulk

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Updated financial and attendance information has not been published in weekly worship bulletins due to the office being temporarily relocated to the fellowship hall. Anticipating this move, worship bulletins have been created weeks in advance. The most current monthly figures will be published in the newsletter in July while the office is temporarily relocated.

Information for the week of May 21, 2023

		Weekly	MTD	YTD
Actual Giving	\$2,583	\$13,266	\$109,208	
Budget Requirement	\$5,993	\$17,979	\$125,853	

MEMORIALS received April 30 – May 21, 2023

BUILDING FUND:

In Memory of Joey R. Brooks – By: Gerald and Robin Lindler

In honor of Jennings McTeer's 1st Birthday – By: Billy and Sherrie McTeer