

# St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

August 2023 • Volume 34 • Issue 8

## Pastoral Devotion for August - Rely on God

*Jesus said, "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."*

Read Matthew 6:25-34

How often do you wake up today and you are already worried about tomorrow? If that is the case, it is likely you went to bed already feeling the pressure of a certain circumstance or the ill effects of something you perceive to be a looming problem. And so it goes for so many in our world.

Our Lord Jesus teaches us that we should not worry. We should not worry about clothing, food, drink or anything else under the sun. When we worry or become anxious about things we have or don't have, we rely upon ourselves to alleviate the problem.

Yet, truthfully, we are to put our trust in God who provides all we will ever need for life. As our Lord Jesus says, it is the Father's good pleasure to give us his kingdom.

Worrying about tomorrow's problems today only causes them to become stumbling blocks for today's opportunities. Lift up your worries and cares to God in prayer. Commend them to the Lord. As you do, you will soon realize his presence in your life each day, and the anxiousness for tomorrow will be replaced with the joy of Christ today.

*Prayer: Lord, I put my trust in you, knowing you will provide all I need. Amen.*

## NALC Lutheran Week 2023 - Mission Dei (The Mission of God)

This year's NALC Lutheran Week completes a six-year focus on the Holy Trinity, concluding now with "God the Father Creates...in His Image," as the theme for the Braaten-Benne Theological Lectures. However, it seems appropriate to conclude this cycle with the theme, Mission Dei, as we celebrate the fact that everything we do as a mission-driven Lutheran body comes from God and His mission—that we are to go into all the world, empowered by the Holy Spirit, preaching the good news of salvation in and through Jesus Christ—to the whole creation!

This year's Mission Convocation will indeed be a mission-oriented and mission-driven gathering! While there will be necessary times dedicated to reports, actions and elections—including the election of a bishop—highlights will be the several "On Fire for Mission" sessions, focusing on domestic mission, international mission and mission related to congregational life. These will begin with brief

Bible study and devotional periods, followed by presentations on the theme, with extended time for table talk, reflection, breakouts, and strategies for "taking it home!"

There will also be a Faith Formation Festival ("Everything You Want to Know About Youth & Family Ministry") and the Gathering of the Women of the NALC ("Using Our Gifts to Serve") earlier in the week.

The hope and prayer of all involved is that this will light a spark or fan the flame for mission, that we return home inspired and excited about Mission Dei—the work and mission of God in our local congregations, in North America and throughout the whole creation!

Larry Shull will serve as St. Jacob's lay delegate to the convocation.

# From the Pastor's Heart

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Well, here we are at the beginning of August, the month that signals a change in the lives of people. With the impending conclusion of summertime, plans are being made for children to return to the classroom, vacation times are drawing to an end, and even for the church, we plan for the coming autumn months.

At St. Jacob's, we find ourselves in the same pattern of life as so many other congregations. We have had a wonderful summer season. Our volunteers planned and hosted an amazing Vacation Bible School. Several of our children participated in the Solid Rock Day Camp. Sunday school attendance and participation has greatly increased. The Journey Sunday School class worked diligently in completing improvements to our church office building. Angela led another great time of Musical Mondays for our youth hand bell group. And on a personal note, I was able to participate in an amazing mission trip to Congo.

All in all, the 2023 Summer season at St. Jacob's found our congregation quite actively engaged in the mission God has set before us. But now, it is time for a change in seasons. The author of Ecclesiastes, in his wisdom, reminds the people of God that there is a time and a season for every matter under heaven. Even as congregations conclude their summer programs, there are still many opportunities to serve our loving God. In the pattern of Christian life, there truly is a time and a season for everything.

Many of us enjoy hearing the words of Ecclesiastes 3 that speak of the times and seasons. Perhaps this is so because we remember the song that came out of the 1960's that quoted these verses. But keeping the passage in context, the real blessing of the wisdom shared by King David's son (also identified as "the Preacher") comes to us in the verses following the identification of the times and seasons for all matters under heaven.

In Ecclesiastes 3:9-12 we read further: "What gain has the worker from his toil? <sup>10</sup> I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. <sup>11</sup> He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. <sup>12</sup> I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live."

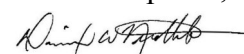
The Preacher's observations on life convinced him that "the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to the men of skill; but time and chance happen to them all" (Ecc. 9:11). Man's fate, the Preacher maintains, does not depend on righteous or wicked conduct but is a mystery that remains hidden in God (Ecc. 9:1). All attempts to unravel this mystery and thereby gain the wisdom necessary to secure one's fate are "vanity," or futile. In the face of such uncertainty, the author's counsel is to enjoy the good things that God provides while one has them to enjoy, for man does not know his own time.

So what does this mean for the people of God today. Well, the same thing it meant for God's people of all time. We are to live lives of thanks and praise to the God who supplies all that is needed for daily life. We are to love God with our whole being, and our neighbor as ourselves. All the worries and cares of this life are placed well within the hands of the One who created and sustains humanity and all that is captured within this world. Living as thankful people, we can find joy in learning from God's Word together, while exploring the richness and blessing of the relationship we share together in Christ Jesus.

For everything there truly is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. There is a time for us to worship together, a time for us to laugh and cry as a family of faith; a time for us to play, and a time for us to work in mission and ministry for the sake of others. There is a time to cherish our life together and a time to grow and share all these blessings with the community around us.

As the season of summer draws to its eventual close and the autumn of 2023 breaks in upon us, let us all give thanks to God for the times and seasons we have together in this place, and let us pray that God would continue to bless our congregation well into the future with a vibrant life together, inviting and welcoming others to become members of the family of St. Jacob's here in Chapin.

Grace and peace,



Pastor David Nuottila

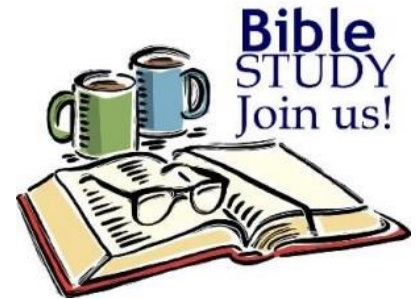


## Open House and Dedication

On August 13, immediately following worship, the congregation is invited to an “Open House” to come and see the improvements to our Church Office Building. We will also have a brief blessing of the building as we re-dedicate it to the service of the Lord. Come and see all the improvements and the wonderful job our volunteers from the Journey Sunday School Class have done. It has been a tremendous example of what God’s people can do as stewards of that which God has provided.

## Mid-Week Bible Study

Our Wednesday Morning Bible study will resume on Wednesday, August 23 at 9:30a.m. The Bible study will meet in the newly renovated Church Office. The topic of study will be announced at least one week prior to the beginning. All are welcome to join in. Please invite others who may enjoy reading and learning more about the Scriptures while discussing them in fellowship with others. No special materials are needed, just you, your Bible, and a desire to meet with others while hearing of God’s promises and love for his people.



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## August Birthdays

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02 – Marlene Gray  
04 – Maddie Wicker  
05 – Eddie Eargle  
07 – Blake McDuffie  
08 – Lynn Shealy  
09 – Brenda Shealy  
13 – Cody Lambeth  
13 – Stanley Slice  
13 – Neal Stuck  
14 – Michael Corley  
15 – Ann Slice  
15 – Rae Truesell  
16 – Joanie Ballentine  
16 – Mary Katherine Eargle

16 – Manton Matthews  
17 – Deryl Metze  
17 – John Wallace  
18 – Michael Fulmer  
18 – Riley Kleckley



19 – Katie Nuottila  
21 – Brittany Byars  
21 – Kaylin Smith Robinton  
23 – Cora Byars  
23 – Christina Metze  
25 – Robbie Cumalander  
25 – Paul Lindler, Sr.  
26 – Tyler Kibler  
26 – Logan Lambeth  
26 – Albert Lindler  
28 – Wesley Boland  
30 – Ginny Sightler  
31 – Lucy Slice

## Church Office Renovation and Dedication

The Journey Sunday School class is very proud to report that the church office renovation is complete! We cannot wait to show it off. The transformation is truly wonderful. Please join us on Sunday, August 13, after church for an open house and dedication of the renovated building.

The original scope of the renovation included new flooring, lighting, paint, furnishings (except offices), interior doors, blinds, and trim for windows and doors. The approved budget was just \$59,000. The Journey Sunday School class provided the sweat equity throughout the project to keep the cost down. This work is estimated to have saved over \$24,000 in labor costs. No one can believe the amount of dirt, mold, furniture, and box after box of stuff that had to be cleaned out before we could even begin to renovate the space. Contractors were hired for the big jobs and where expertise was required. When the project was nearing completion, it was well under budget. This allowed for additional items to be included in scope, such as updates to the hall bath (removing wallpaper, painting, new light fixtures, and accessories), the purchase of two new office desks, office chairs for the staff, a new refrigerator, and additional lighting throughout.

The church office is now clean, bright, and welcoming for the staff to work and a place for church members and community groups to gather in His name. Special features throughout the space include a conference room with new tables that connect or can be separated and used in other rooms or in different configurations, new chairs, a smart TV and lighting. A favorite room for members will likely be the library, painted a deep green color, this room offers tranquility with stately seating, modern lighting and adorned by a selection of books. The kitchen now has a table and chairs, new refrigerator, the cabinets were cleaned and new hardware was added. The large meeting room was updated with a coffee bar, new comfortable seating, smart TV, and lighting. The fireplace is now a focal point of the room.

There are so many people to thank for participating in this project and making it such a success. Julie Stuck, Susan Shealy and Nicki Peeples were instrumental in creating the project plan and managing every detail to create this beautiful space. Other members of the Journey Sunday School class that gave so much of their time and to whom we are truly thankful are AJ Peeples, David and Tina Kibler, Wayne Stuck, Carroll Lindler, and Nate and Kristen Nickel. Sincere thanks and appreciation also go to several church members who offered their support and skills in a variety of ways, particularly Lynn Shealy, Barry Rice and Billy McTeer. A huge thank you to Frances Slice and Alice Rice for sorting through piles of books. It was amazing to see the young members also giving their time and energy. A special thanks to Isabelle and Copeland Peeples, Tyler Kibler and Ethan Ballentine.

Thanks be to God for stirring our hearts to tackle this project and for guiding us along the way. To God we give the glory!

Blessings,  
Melissa Lindler



# 2023 Congo Mission Trip

With Pastor David and Pastor Stephane Kalonji's return from Africa, the Most recent Congo Mission Trip is now complete. This year's trip was a successful mission of the Gospel. With God's help and the support of so many people, we were able to feed well over 400 children, and free nearly two dozen mothers and their babies from detention in hospitals. We distributed will over 200 pairs of eyeglasses, led Christian education seminars in three locations, and worshipped with the people of Kinshasa and Mbuji-Mayi. Thank you to all who supported our mission with your donations and prayers. Plans are already being made for our 2024 trip. We pray that God will continue to bless the Congo Mission as we take Christ's great commission seriously and go into the world sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ.





# Because We Care



## A Note from We Care

Our inventory is at a critically low level! The new August Needs List is to the left, and we SO appreciate your help to get the word out to the community.

We are seeing more clients in need, but our supplies remain critically low. Thank you for helping us let our generous neighbors know what they can do to help!

Bless you!  
Alecia

## REMEMBERING IN OUR PRAYERS

### St. JACOB'S MEMBERS SICK/RECOVERING

Janet Lindler    Richard Shealy    Dan Frick  
Lorene Cannon    Alice Morefield    Tommy Slice  
Steve Slice                      Miriam Metze

### HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Letha Sites    Michael Lindler  
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

Stanley & Lucy Slice  
431 East Boundary St.  
Room 205  
Chapin, SC 29036  
Ph: 803-807-8321

# UP AND GOING

Up and Going met on July 13th with Helen L. Lindler giving the devotions. Devotions were written by Emily E. Ryan and scripture was Ephesians 3:19. Devotions was based on our need to stop and rewind and reminds us to stop and "check my bobbin". This relates our lives to the craft of sewing. When our bobbin runs out, we simply cannot sew anymore. To rewind our bobbins, we rewind by spending time with Jesus and reflecting on how much He loves us through prayer and Bible reading, listening to God and singing His praises. Only with Him do our efforts have staying power once again.

Twelve members and guests gathered in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy a delicious covered dish meal and program presented by Davis Brown and Sandra Brown. Davis using a book entitled "A History of South Carolina BARBEQUE" written by Lake E. High, Jr. Davis gave the most interesting program on BBQ or as we know it - Southern BBQ. BBQ originated on the SC coast area of Port Royal. Indians roasted meat in holes in the ground with the meat wrapped in heavy green leaves. Sauce was later added by the Spanish people. Sauce was mostly wine vinegar with spices later added.

Today there are 4 types of BBQ sauces: Red, Light Red, Vinegar based or Mustard. SC is the BBQ Capital of America with North Carolina running second.

SC's favorite sauce is vinegar on the coast, mustard in mid-state and red sauce in the Up State.

Davis talked about he and his cousins participating in BBQ cook-off events and their placing #1 in competitions. Later he and Sandra competed in many events and brought home several #1 winners.

We enjoyed this informative and interesting program. This was a learning experience for all attending. Thank you so much Davis and Sandra for this enlightening and fun program. We enjoyed learning about the history of BBQ and how to cook delicious BBQ at our homes.

A short business meeting followed by discussions and definite plans for the 4 Churches meeting in August.

The next meeting will be held on August 10th at 11am in the Fellowship Hall. This will be the annual meeting of Holy Trinity, Mt. Tabor, Macedonia and St. Jacob's senior groups. There will be entertainment by the Chapin Chirpers, food, gifts and wonderful fellowship together.

We will decorate on Wednesday, August 9 at 1pm. The annual apple run will be on September 14th.

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## FINANCIAL INFORMATION for the week of July 31, 2023

	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual Giving	\$4,335	\$29,966	\$159,353
Budget Requirement	\$5,993	\$23,972	\$179,790

### MEMORIALS received July 2 – July 31, 2023

LUTHEREN MEN:

In Honor of St. Jacob's Lutheran Men – By: Bob and Lucyle Copeland

MEMORIAL FUND:

In Memory of Steve Meetze – By: Faye M. Haltiwanger

## Council Briefs for July Meeting

Good Things at St. Jacobs:

- Church Office Renovation
- Vacation Bible School
- Adult attendance at VBS was up and encouraging

Bob Ziemer noted that the church is doing well on this year's budget and are meeting expenses for 2023.

Council extended a thank you to the Journey Sunday School Class for their efforts in renovating the church office. A drop-in after church service one Sunday will be planned for the congregation.

A congregational workday will be scheduled in September to work on various items around the church and church grounds. Specific tasks will be identified prior to the workday.

Report of Ministry Teams:

- Safety – Don Dease thanked the Safety Team for the work they are doing to make our church a safe environment.
- Christian Education – Vacation Bible School was a great success. Lots of people in attendance.
- Congregation Care – Planning for Homecoming on October 15 continues.

Old Business:

- Fresh Eyes Update: Ongoing focus on Mercy Bag ministry, card ministry, and property and renovations.

New Business:

- On July 30, a representative from the NALC will give a temple talk before worship about the NALC Disaster Response. Council will be looking at assisting the NALC by using a portion of the bus shed as a storage area.

### LUTHERAN WOMEN

We will be having an important meeting on August 20th at 4:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Hope all of you will be able to attend this meeting. All ladies of the church are welcome!

### LUTHERAN MEN

The Lutheran Men will resume its regular meeting on August 20th at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.





# Choir Notes

## **Musical Mondays**

It's hard to believe, but our musical Mondays are about to come to an end. Our youth handbell choir has worked hard this summer, building their music reading and bell playing skills.

We are celebrating our hard work with a trip to see the Raleigh Ringers in Albemarle, NC on August 27. We will leave the morning of August 26 and travel to Union Lutheran Church in Salisbury, NC. We will have a handbell clinic with the youth handbell choir at Union on the Saturday, staying overnight at the church, and playing in worship on Sunday morning. After lunch Sunday we will head to Albemarle for a Raleigh Ringers concert. This is such an amazing opportunity for our youth ringers.

Thank you to everyone who provided meals this summer for Musical Mondays. Your help is so appreciated.

## **Chancel Choir**

Chancel choir rehearsals will begin Wednesday August 30. Please check upcoming bulletins for more information. It is never too late to join the choir. Please come add your voice to ours as we sing praises to God. No prior experience needed!

# Worship Assistants for August

## August 6

Ushers: Leon Lindler, Lynn Shealy, Bob Ziemer, Davis Brown  
Lector: Carroll Lindler  
Communion: Angela Nuottila, Nicki Peeples  
Acolyte: Bryliegh Prosser  
Crucifer: Tommy Faulk

## August 13

Ushers: Robert Wessinger, Arthur Langley, Leon Lindler, Eddie Eargle  
Lector: Tina Kibler  
Communion: A.J. Peeples, Marie Slice  
Acolyte: Samantha Monts  
Crucifer: Angela Nuottila

## August 20

Ushers: Carroll Lindler, Sherrie McTeer, Tracey Eargle, David Kibler  
Lector: Angela Nuottila  
Communion: Judy Dease, Susan Shealy  
Acolyte: Copeland Peeples  
Crucifer: Isabelle Peeples

## August 27

Ushers: Robert Wessinger, Arthur Langley, Leon Lindler, Eddie Eargle  
Lector: A.J. Peeples  
Communion: Carroll Lindler, Patricia Woodard  
Acolyte: Mackenzie Raines  
Crucifer: A.J. Peeples

## September 3

Ushers: Carroll Lindler, Sherrie McTeer, Tracey Eargle, David Kibler  
Lector: Gary Marco  
Communion: Angela Nuottila, Marie Slice  
Acolyte: Copeland Peeples  
Crucifer: Tommy Faulk

## Grounds Crew for August

Gerald Lindler (Co Chair) Robert Lindler (Co Chair)

Jeremy Lindler, Chad Lindler, Billy Hardin, Paul Lindler Sr.,

Paul Lindler Jr., Michael Shealy, Michael Corley, Barry Rice,

Tracy Lindler, Albert Lindler, Claude Michael Lindler

## Safety Team for August

Aug. 6: Robert Wessinger, June Lindler, Arthur Langley

Aug. 13: Jeff Kleckley, Gerald Lindler, David Kibler

Aug. 20: Kristen Nickel, Barry Rice, Tina Kibler

Aug. 27: Robert Wessinger, June Lindler, Arthur Langley