

St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

January 2025 • Volume 36 • Issue 01

Prayer for the New Year

God of our yesterdays, our todays, and our tomorrows.

We praise you for your unequaled greatness.

Thank you for the year behind us and for the year ahead.

Help us in this new year, Father, to fret less and laugh more.

To teach our children to laugh by laughing with them.

To teach others to love by loving them.

Help us, Father, to hear your love song in every sunrise,

in the chirping of birds in our backyards,

in the stories of our old folks,

and the fantasies of our children.

Help us to stop and listen to your love songs,

so that we may know you better and better.

We rejoice in the world you called into being.

Thank you for another new year and for new chances every day.

We pray for peace, for light, and for hope,

that we might spread them to others.

Forgive us for falling short this past year.

We leave the irreparable past in your hands, and step out into the
future of an unknown new year knowing you will go with us.

We accept your gift of a new year and we rejoice in what's ahead,
depending on you to help us to love others as you have loved us.

In Jesus's name we pray,

Amen.

From Your Pastor's Heart

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." Matthew 2:1-2

I recall hearing a story about a family embarking on summer vacation. After driving for many hours, everyone in the car, except for the father, began to wonder if they were indeed lost. It seemed they were traveling in wide circles, noticing some of the same landmarks over and over again. Finally, his wife suggested they stop and ask directions. Of course, the man balked at the idea but noticed a car passing them by at a high rate of speed. "Let's follow that person," said the father, "he seems to know where he's going." The trouble is, where he was headed might not be a place where the family wanted to be.

How easy it is to be led astray when one simply follows along. When we are lost, it is good to have someone to follow. But unless we know something about the person we are following, we could be led down a path from which there is no good outcome.

As we begin a new year in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we do so as the Holy Spirit and the tradition of our faith inspires us. We look to the account of the Magi visiting the boy Jesus. They came to pay him homage. They came to worship him. They came bearing gifts fitting for a king. Having completed their two-year journey, they reached the place where God would have them go.

There were no road maps, no GPS, no handy cell phone app to guide their way. They simply followed a star. Called by the Holy Spirit, they followed the star faithfully. Nearing the end of their journey, and not being members of the Jewish faith, it became necessary to ask for directions. "Where is he who

has been born King of the Jews?" With clarity and knowledge of the direction they must go, these three wise men finally beheld the glory and wonder of the boy child who would grow to be a man and save humanity from sin, death, and the power of the devil.

Like the wise men, we too, upon our Baptism into Christ, have embarked on a journey of faith. But unlike the Magi, we have directions. This year, the Gospel according to Luke serves as our road map which will lead us to the destination of Christ our Lord. We will learn more of his public ministry, his teaching, and his compassion for those whom Jesus said "are wandering as sheep without a shepherd."

In the months to come, I invite you to worship regularly, to join in on the several learning opportunities provided here at St. Jacob's, and to share the Good News of Christ, beginning with those who are nearest to you, and extending outward. Truly, the light of Christ shines in this darkened world and there are many who continue to wander like sheep without a shepherd.

As our Lord calls us to be his disciples and to grow his Church, we can offer clarity and point those who wander in the direction of Christ our Lord. For as sure as someone notices the difference faith in Christ makes in this fallen and broken world, they will begin to follow you along the path of faithfulness. For be certain, where this path leads is surely a place where others will want to be.

Grace to you and peace,



Pastor David Nuottila



St. Jacob's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Briefs - December 3, 2024

Good Things at St. Jacob's for November

- 300+ pieces of pound cake for The Hub for Thanksgiving
- Angel Tree
- Successful surgery results for Pastor David
- Pastor Rawl leading worship
- Chrismon Trees and being ready for Advent
- Two new doors in the Fellowship Hall
- Thank you to AJ for hanging the TVs downstairs

Pastor's Report

- Pastor is recovering from surgery, but returned to lead worship on December 1st.
- Pastor expressed his thanks to our elders who led worship in his absence, as well as Pastor Leon Rawl for his availability to serve as supply pastor.
- Pastor thanks everyone who sent get well cards and messages and to those who brought over delicious suppers following his return home from the hospital.

Ministry Teams

Staff Support: Susan Shealy

- Staff Support will meet with each staff member in early January, 2025, to sign annual employment agreements.

Safety: Robert Wessinger / Kevin Pharis

- January, 2025, install the emergency phone numbers inside the main entrance to the church.
- January, 2025, plan to install security cameras as discussed by Council in 2024 and approved in the 2025 budget.

Christian Education: Sherrie McTeer

- Women's Bible Study meets the second Monday of each month and will begin a new study in January.
- Pastor has moved the Men's Bible Study to 6:30 PM on the first Monday of each month and will start back up in 2025.
- Planning a birthday party for Jesus for the children's Sunday school class on December 22nd.

Congregational Care: Billy McTeer / David Kibler

- Assisting families with various travel needs.
- Provided 300 slices of pound cake along with half and whole cakes for the Hub's Thanksgiving Community Meal. Many thanks to our bakers!
- Provided meal for the family of Letha Sites.
- Assisting with Lutheran Men Christmas Congregation Meal on December 8th.

Discipleship: Lynn Shealy / Julie Stuck

- Delivered 8 Mercy Bags to We Care.
- 1200+ people were served a Thanksgiving Meal by We Care on November 26th.
- Angel Tree: St. Jacob's provided toys and clothes for 30 children.

Property: Barry Rice

- Replaced two exit doors: one in the kitchen hallway and one in the Fellowship Hall.

Stewardship: Doug Sullivan

- Doug requested information about contacting the NALC website team. Brandon Slice will assist Doug with the website project.

Council Meeting Briefs cont.

Worship and Music: Marie Slice

- Purple paraments have been ordered and will arrive mid-January.

Old Business

- Church Sanctuary: Susan Shealy / Julie Stuck
- Consultant currently working on color and fabric selections.
- 2025 Budget accepted.

New Business

- Designate Memorial Fund: Currently \$1015.00.
- AJ strongly suggested that we need to replace the Latin Processional Cross.
- The Stewardship Ministry Team needs a Team Leader.
- All other ministry teams have a Team Leader in place for 2025.

Staff Support: Susan Shealy

Safety: Robert Wessinger

Christian Education: Sherrie McTeer

Congregational Care: Billy McTeer

Discipleship: Lynn Shealy

Property: Gerald Lindler and Danny Shealy

Stewardship: OPEN

Worship and Music: Marie Slice and Julie Stuck



MERRY CHRISTMAS
From the Water Mission Family

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” — John 1:14

I pray that everyone at St. Jacob's has a blessed Christmas season!

—Ken



“Shout and be glad, O Daughter Zion. For I am coming, and I will live among you,” declares the LORD. “Many nations will be joined with the LORD in that day and will become my people. I will live among you and you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you. Be still before the LORD, all mankind, because he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.”

— Zechariah 2:10-11.13 NIV

Dear Friends,

In this holy season, we celebrate the fulfillment of God's promise in the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who is God with us. May His presence fill you with peace, joy, and hope that endures forever. Rejoice! To us a Savior has been born!

Bishop Dan Selbo & Staff

North American Lutheran Church



Youth Bible Study

The Youth Bible Study learned about the Church Year that begins with Advent. We spent some time in the sanctuary and learned about the significance of the Chrismos and other Christian symbols found throughout the church. During Advent, the youth are reading an Advent devotion together that Cora Wallace is sharing with them daily via their text group. Please encourage these youth as they continue to grow in their faith and enjoy time spent together!



Youth Christmas Party

On December 8th the youth had a Christmas party. In addition to lots of pizza, snacks and Christmas movies, they baked cookies and made treat bags for Christmas caroling.





Music Notes

Christmas Caroling

Christmas caroling was lots of fun this year. We had 26 carolers! We filled J.L. and Janet Lindler's house. What fun. The youth baked cookies and made treat bags to take to each person we visited. We gathered for a soup lunch after church on Sunday and set out to sing to 9 people. We were all a little hoarse by the time we arrived at Todd and Joanie Ballentine's house to sing to Papa Joe and enjoy a delicious spread of Christmas treats and fellowship. Maybe next year we can have 36 carolers!





Christmas Caroling



Up and Going

Nineteen members and guests gathered in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate Christmas and enjoy our annual Christmas Party. Helen Lindler, Team Leader, welcomed everyone. She read an article on the history of the candy cane. Each person had a candy cane at their place. She also read a Christmas message entitled "A Christmas Bicycle". Both articles were from *Our Town* magazine.

Devotions came from Luke 2, The Christmas Story. We then prayed together The Lord's Prayer. Elf Tommy Faulk played his guitar and led us in singing some of our favorite Christmas hymns and songs.

The group presented Helen with a lovely Christmas wreath in appreciation for all she does for the Up and Going. Thank you all for this very special and gracious gift!

Gerald Lindler offered grace for our meal. We then enjoyed a delicious meal of party foods and desserts.

After the meal, lead by Leon Lindler, we sorted and packed more than 30 complete meals for the Mercy Bags Project. Special thanks to everyone who brought food items for our contribution. Extra special thanks to all who so willingly clean up and leave everything in its proper place.



The January meeting will be on Thursday, January 9th at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. This is our annual Soup Pot Lunch and BINGO party. Please bring an item

for the soup pot and 3 Bingo prizes. Helen and Ann will cook the pot of soup. Please sign up on the sheet on our bulletin board.



Helen O'Neal Lindler
Team Leader for
Up and Going



Worship Assistants for January

January 05

Ushers: Robert Wessinger, Helen Lindler, Arthur Langley, James Kibler
Lector: Tina Kibler
Communion: Susan Shealy and AJ Peeples
Acolyte: Bryleigh Prosser
Crucifer: Angela Nuottila

January 12

Ushers: Leon Lindler, Tracy Eargle, Eddie Eargle, David Kibler
Lector: Gary Marco
Communion: Carroll Lindler and Sherrie McTeer
Acolyte: Samantha Monts
Crucifer: Emma Covalt

January 19

Ushers: Carroll Lindler, Davis Brown, Lynn Shealy, Sherrie McTeer
Lector: Angela Nuottila
Communion: Judy Dease and Nicki Peeples
Acolyte: Copeland Peeples
Crucifer: David Kibler

January 26

Ushers: Gerald Lindler, Robert Wessinger, Bob Ziemer, Arthur Landley
Lector: Brandon Slice
Communion: Isabelle Peeples and David Kibler
Acolyte: MacKenzie Raines
Crucifer: Tommy Faulk

Safety Teams for January

January 05 — Kristen Nickel, Barry Rice, Tina Kibler
January 12 — Jeff Kleckley, Gerald Lindler, David Kibler
January 19 — Robert Wessinger, June Lindler, Arthur Langley
January 26 — Kristen Nickel, Barry Rice, Tina Kibler

Grounds Crew for January

Don Dease (co-chair) and John Riser (co-chair), Tracy Eargle, Wayne Stuck, Robert Wessinger, Nate Nickel, Kevin Pharis, Ken Smith, Eddie Eargle, John Wallace, Dixon Wallace, Mitchel Martin, Chuck Shobert, Tommy Faulk

2025 Church Council Members

AJ Peeples - (Pres) AndrewJPeebles@gmail.com
Lynn Shealy - (VP) lynnshealy55@gmail.com
Sherrie McTeer - (Sec, Christian Education) mcteer1208@hotmail.com
Judy Dease - (Discipleship) deasejudy@bellsouth.net
Ann Lindler - (Congregational Care) annlindler96@gmail.com
Adrian Meetze - (Property)
Kristen Nickel - (Safety) kristen.bradfield@gmail.com
Kevin Pharis - (Staff Support) kaylarepting@gmail.com
Julie Stuck - (Worship and Music) juliestuck62@gmail.com
Doug Sullivan - (Stewardship) dsulli318@yahoo.com



Altar Flowers for January

January 05 — *Available*
January 12 — *Available*
January 19 — Angela Nuottila
January 26 — *Available*



January Birthdays

02 – Carroll T. Lindler
03 – Jackson Wallace
04 – Jack Howard Ballentine
08 – Frances Bowers
09 – Brilyn Amick
09 – Wendy Rauch
12 – Todd Ballentine
13 – Samantha Dietrich
13 – Brian Dietrich
13 – Allen Lindler
13 – Brandon Slice
16 – Tori Lambeth
17 – Lorene Cannon



17 – David Nuottila
18 – David Ellisor
18 – Gage Shealy
21 – Anna Layton
21 – Sherrie McTeer
25 – David McClain
27 – Henry Clark
27 – Aubrey Lindler
27 – Kim Meetze
27 – Bryson Metze
28 – Brantley Bise
30 – Joshua Monts
31 – Nate Nickel

Financial Information

Reporting for December 22, 2024

	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Weekly Receipts	\$6,255	\$21,416	\$270,230
Budget Requirement	\$5,616	\$22,464	\$286,416

Memorials Received December 1 – December 22, 2024

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Letha Sites – By: Buddy and Phyllis Bickley

In Memory of John Pat and Mable Lindler AND Boyd and Lola Farr – By: Henry and Erline Clark

In Memory of Randy Morefield, John Pat and Mable Lindler AND Boyd and Lola Farr

By: Alice Morefield AND Lora, Scott, Landon and Peyton Whittle

BUILDING FUND

In Memory of Letha Sites and Lunell Lipsey – By: Gerald and Robin Lindler

In Memory of Letha Sites – By: Billy and Sherrie McTeer; Terry and Barbara Metze; Lynn and Susan Shealy AND Doug, Johanne and Brian Sullivan

CEMETERY FUND

In Memory of Susan M. Lindler – By: Gerald and Robin Lindler

MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of Richard Shealy – By: Jo David

In Memory of Letha Sites – By: CHS Class of 1971 (Henry's graduating class) AND Gary and Joan Marco

LUTHERAN MEN

In Memory of John Pat and Mable Lindler; Boyd and Lola Farr; AND

In Honor of our Children, Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren

By: Leon and Helen Lindler

LUTHERAN WOMEN

In Memory of Letha Sites – By: Earline Shealy

In Memory of Henson and Myrtis Roof – By: Leon and Helen Lindler

In Memory of Jennifer Gregory – By: Henry and Erline Clark

MERCY BAGS

In Memory of Bert Riser and Letha Sites – By: Robert and June Lindler

Tithing Envelopes

Tithing envelopes for 2025 will be available in the Narthex until January 26, 2025. Please make plans to pick up your envelopes and those for any other family member, friend or neighbor who may be unable to get to the church. Following the January 26th service, the envelopes will be removed from the Narthex and you will need to contact Robin Lindler (robinlindler54@gmail.com or text 803-622-9247) or the church office to schedule a time to pick up your envelopes.

Thank You

St. Jacob's Choir,

Thank y'all so much for learning a new song for Mama's Funeral. All of you went above and beyond to learn it. Thank you so much.

*God Bless all of you,
Marlene Gray*

Dear Church Family,

With heartfelt gratitude I would like to say thank you to you all for your prayers, cards, messages and the meals provided while I was recovering from surgery. Your get-well wishes and timely meals were certainly uplifting and a huge help to Angela as she tended to my recovery. Thank you again and may God continue to bless you all!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor David Nuottila

Dear St. Jacobs Congregation:

Thank you for the gift and recognition of the Senior Members of the Church. I am grateful to be a member of such a caring community of believers in God and his work. I pray that God will continue to bless our church and its members.

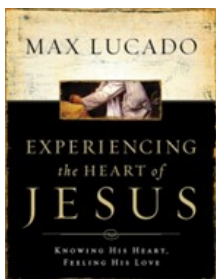
Ann Slice

Dear St. Jacob's Church Family,

Thank you all so much for the Christmas gift. I am so blessed to work for such a caring and thoughtful congregation. I can't imagine working for a better group of people. May the miracle of Christmas bring you all hope, faith, and joy that lasts throughout the new year.

*With gratitude,
Laurie Shacker*

New Congregational Bible Study



Throughout 2025, Pastor David is inviting the congregation to join him and Angela in a new Bible Study. This particular study is written by prominent Christian author Max Lucado. The study is called Experiencing the Heart of Jesus for 52 Weeks. The study is meant for people to grow in their knowledge, understanding, and relationship of our Lord. Anyone who would like to participate can do so by first purchasing the book. It is available online from Amazon for less than \$15. The plan will be for each person to participate in this study on their own, or with a friend. The group will meet with Pastor David once per month to simply discuss what they have discovered along the way. Again, all are invited. Youth members of our congregation are also encouraged to make the journey with us. Everyone who joins in should contact Pastor David to let him know they will be part of the group. Once the group is established, everyone will be contacted and alerted as to when to begin.

Remember your Prayer Partners!



The NALC Carolinas Mission Region invites you for our annual

Youth Retreat at the Beach "Legacy"

March 14-16, 2025

**Garden City Chapel and Retreat
Murrells Inlet, SC
6th- 12th graders**

Cost is \$120 per person. Send at least 1 adult leader (over age 25) for every 5 students. College age students are invited to apply to serve as leaders-in-training. Register in January. Contact Melanie Corn, mcorn@stplchapin.com, for more information!

Remembering In Our Prayers

ST. JACOB'S MEMBERS SICK/RECOVERING

Dan Frick Lorene Cannon Eddie Epting
J. L. Lindler

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Michael Lindler Alice Morefield
Janet Lindler

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS IN RESIDENCE FACILITES

Generations of Chapin: Shirley Nuottila, Stanley & Lucy
Slice, Ramonia Lindler
Fairforest Grove Senior Living: Frances Slice

FRIENDS OF ST. JACOB'S

Jessica Mack Zachary Slice Jeff Britton
Charlotte Simmons Yvette Glenn Chad Westhart
Chris Turner Terry Carpenter Landon Whittle
James Williams Pat Redmond Megan Frick



January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Church Office Closed	2 Courage 7:00pm (CO)	3 AA Mtg 7:30pm (FH)	4
5 Generations 1:00pm Confirmation Classes 3:00pm (CO) Children's Choir 3:00pm (Music Rm) Youth Handbell 4:00pm (Music Rm)	6 Men's Bible Study 6:30pm (CO) AA Mtg 7:30pm (FH)	7 Church Council 6:45pm (CO)	8 Choir 6:00pm	9 Up & Going 11:00am (FH) Courage 7:00pm (CO)	10 AA Mtg 7:30pm (FH)	11
12 Confirmation Classes 3:00pm (CO) Children's Choir 3:00pm (Music Rm) Youth Handbell 4:00pm (Music Rm)	13 Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm (CO) AA Mtg 7:30pm (FH)	14	15 Choir 6:00pm Youth Bible Study 7:00pm (Susan Shealy's House)	16 Courage 7:00pm (CO)	17 AA Mtg 7:30pm (FH)	18
19 Generations 1:00pm Confirmation Classes 3:00pm (CO) Children's Choir 3:00pm (Music Rm) Youth Handbell 4:00pm (Music Rm) LW 4:00pm (FH) LM 6:00pm (FH)	20 AA Mtg 7:30pm (FH)	21	22 Choir 6:00pm	23 Courage 7:00pm (CO)	24 AA Mtg 7:30pm (FH)	25
26 Confirmation Classes 3:00pm (CO) Children's Choir 3:00pm (Music Rm) Youth Handbell 4:00pm (Music Rm) Youth Group 5:30pm (FH)	27 AA Mtg 7:30pm (FH)	28 Executive Team 6:45pm (CO)	29 Choir 6:00pm	30 Courage 7:00pm (CO)	31 AA Mtg 7:30pm (FH)	