

## From Pastor Kleinschmidt

On December 6<sup>th</sup> the Church remembers a Christian from history named Nicholas. He is known as St. Nicholas of Myra. Below is an excerpt of the book *Celebrating the Saints* by William Weeden.

Nicholas was born in Patara (present-day Turkey). Orphaned at an early age, he was adopted by his uncle, the bishop of that city. His piety marked him as one who would serve well in the Church. About 317, he was elected bishop of the city of Myra in Lycia (also part of present-day Turkey).

Tradition states that he was among the fathers who gathered for the first council of Nicaea and was a staunch anti-Arian. Nicholas confessed boldly the full deity of the eternal Word. Much later tradition tells that at the council he actually struck the heretic Arius, but this is apparently a medieval fabrication.

The stories of Nicholas's kindness to the poor became well-known throughout Christendom. Perhaps the most famous was the account of a poor man who had three daughters but no dowry to give any of them. The girls would most likely have ended up in slavery or prostitution. But the kind bishop, hearing of their plight, used funds from the church to secure their freedom from such a cruel fate. Under cover of night, he dropped into the house small bags of gold coins. According to some accounts, all three bags were delivered at once; according to others, the bags were delivered to each the day before a given daughter came of age. Either way, the young ladies were able to marry and thus rescued from lives of disgrace and hardship.

Nicholas became beloved by sailors due to an account of a sea voyage he once took. He was on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land when the ship he was

traveling in fell into a fierce squall. The kindly bishop prayed to the Lord of wind and sea, the sea grew markedly calm, and the sailors rejoiced.

Because of the help given to the three daughters for their dowry, the saint came to be associated in many places with charitable giving and also with a special love for the Lord's little ones. His feast day is

thus observed in many lands as a time for gift giving, especially to children. In Germany, it is common for someone dressed up as the saint to arrive in full bishop's regalia and distribute small gifts to children on December 6. In North America, due to Clement Clark Moore's famous poem *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, the saint merged with certain other traditions to become the modern Santa Clause.

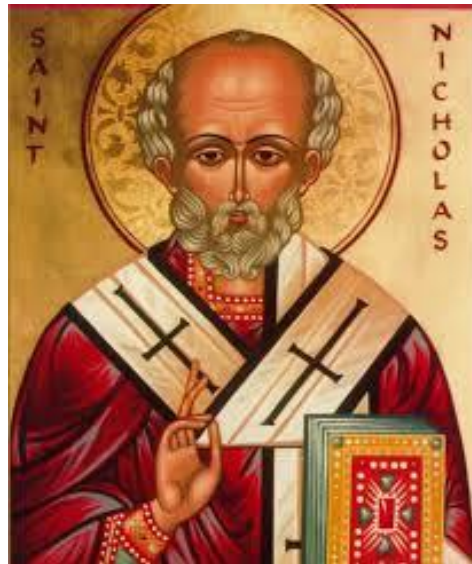
What lives on in the Church is a day to celebrate a man of orthodox faith and devout prayer, shaped by the love of Christ, who delighted to bestow gifts to bless children.

*Almighty God, You bestowed upon Your servant Nicholas of Myra the perpetual gift of charity. Grant Your Church the grace to deal in generosity and love with children and with all who are poor and distressed and to plead the cause of those who have no helper, especially those tossed by tempests of doubt or grief. We ask this for the sake of Him who gave His life for us, Your*

*son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

As you gather this Advent season to prepare for our Lord's birth and on Christmas to celebrate His birth, may your faith be strengthened to look to him in your times of need and of joy.

In our loving Lord,  
-Pastor Kleinschmidt



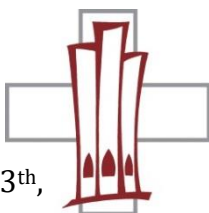
# ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Children's Christmas Service will be on the Sunday before Christmas, December 17<sup>th</sup>. It will be at the regular time of worship at 9am. Practice starts on November 26<sup>th</sup> during the Sunday School hour. It will continue every week on Sunday and also two Saturday mornings, December 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. **If your child will be unable to participate, please call the church office at 715-524-4347** so we can plan appropriately.

## MUSICAL GIFT TO THE CHRIST CHILD

A Musical Gift to the Christ Child will be given once again to enrich your real celebration of Christmas. It will be presented on Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm. The program will include religious selections by the St. Jakobi "Voices of Praise", St James Lutheran school hand chime choirs, Wolf River Lutheran High School Choir and Band, Bible readings of the Christmas story, individual musical selections, and congregational carols. There will be fellowship with refreshments and snacks after the service. Please join us in this annual celebration of Christ's birth.



## ST. JAKOBI CEMETERY ASSOC.

The cemetery association has updated and revised the St. Jakobi Cemetery Guidelines. Copies of the proposed guidelines will be available in the narthex of the church for you to review. We ask that you provide comments prior to December 5<sup>th</sup> to one of the Cemetery Association Board members. They are Tom Anderson, Joanne Bublitz, Warren Gueths, Rich Raddant, Betty Szucs, Marlyn Teetzen and Curt Wendorff.

## NEWLY ELECTED CHURCH OFFICERS

*Treasurer:* Donna Ward

*Board of Elders:* Bob Behrens & Rich Raddant

*Board of Trustees:* Warren Gueths

*Board of Christian Ed:* Andrew Gueths

*Board of Evangelism:* Cindy Winkler

The installation of new church officers will take place on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

## ADVENT SERVICES

Midweek Advent Services will be on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>. They are at 10:30am and 6:30pm. Every week there will be a meal in the Parish Hall at 5:00pm. Different groups are providing the meal so you don't have to cook after work or school. You can come, eat, and then stay for worship.

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The Christmas Schedule is as follows:

Dec. 23, Saturday: No Church

Dec. 24, Sunday: 9am Service

Dec. 24, Sunday: 4pm Service

Dec. 24, Sunday: 11pm Service

Dec. 25, Monday: 9am Service



## NEW YEAR'S EVE SCHEDULE

The New Year's Eve Schedule is as follows:

Dec. 30, Saturday: 6:30 Service

Dec. 31, Sunday: 9am Service

**No evening New Year's Eve Service!**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Upcoming lessons at Sunday School:

12/3 Christmas Program Practice

12/9 Christmas Program Practice (Sat)

12/10 Christmas Program Practice

12/16 Christmas Program Practice (Sat)

12/17 Christmas Program

12/24 No Class

12/31 No Class

## FELLOWSHIP

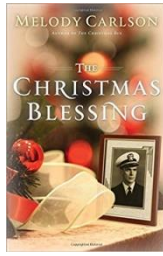
We always take a break in December because it's a very busy month. January is our next get-together. We'll go to The Main Event in Cecil on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, January 14<sup>th</sup>. Have a Blessed Christmas!

## THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to continue or be a new subscriber to *The Lutheran Witness* for 2018. Price for a 1-year subscription is \$22.01. Sign up by Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>.

## PLANTING SEEDS

When she receives the news in late 1944 that her baby's father was shot down in the South Pacific, Amelia Richards loses hope. Jobless and broke, she has nowhere to turn for help but her infant's paternal grandparents. The only problem is, they don't know that she--or their grandson--exists. When Amelia discovers that the family is wealthy and influential, dare she disclose the truth of her relationship with their son? Or could the celebration of the arrival of another unexpected baby nearly two thousand years ago be the answer to her dilemma?



Monday the 27<sup>th</sup>. We all look forward to going back to chapel when the breaks end! Jane and Eve are learning more of the liturgy and prayers thanks to these services.

We hope you know how nice it feels to receive a letter from St. Jakobi. Have a blessed Thanksgiving; and, if there are any hunters reading, we wish you a fruitful season!

Sincerely, Andrew, Elizabeth, Jane & Eve

## SCRIP PROGRAM NEWS

Are you looking to buy gift cards for Christmas presents? Scrip is your answer. You can look over the list of participating retailers at church. You will find great gift card ideas like Bath & Body Works, Target, Dick's, Home Depot, iTunes Store, GameStop, Toys'R Us, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Cold Stone Creamery, Gander Mountain, Cabela's and many more! You can see an entire list and shop online for cards at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). The last day to order scrip cards for Christmas is Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Donna Lopez at 715-851-5414.

## LETTER FROM SEMINARIAN:

The Altar Guild gave 1<sup>st</sup> year Seminarian Andrew Twietmeyer a monetary gift. His thank you note is on the bulletin board.

Dear Altar Guild Members,

Thank you for the extra Thanksgiving surprise! Elizabeth has served with the altar guild in the past and really enjoyed it. She hopes to do so again someday.

We will be travelling to Wisconsin briefly for Thanksgiving and then class starts again on

## NEW MEMBERS Welcome to St. Jakobi!



Troy & Danielle Kuhn  
Cienna & Kenzie



Austin & Kaitie Gueths



Liz Schmidt



Liz Kelley (Darius, Christopher, Marcus, Atiyah)  
Sandra Creapeau

Not Pictured:  
Lewis & Carol  
Popelka, Jim &  
Cathy Hoffman,  
and Donna  
Hawkinson

## HIGHER THINGS YOUTH CONFERENCE

We will begin planning for a Youth Group trip to the Higher Things Conference being held at Carleton College, Northfield, MN next summer, July 3<sup>rd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The theme is *Sanctified*. Please have registration forms in by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. **All 8<sup>th</sup> graders and high schoolers should have received a registration form.** If you are concerned about what your kids learn from the world and culture, then make sure they learn of the Word of God at the Higher Things Conference. You can get more information at [www.Sanctified2018.org](http://www.Sanctified2018.org)

## UPCOMING READINGS AT CHURCH

- December 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Isaiah 64: 1-9  
1 Corinthians 1: 3-9  
Mark 11:1-10
- December 10<sup>th</sup>:** Isaiah 40: 1-11  
2 Peter 3:8-14  
Mark 1:1-8
- December 17<sup>th</sup>:** Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1: 6-8, 19-28
- December 24<sup>th</sup>:** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38
- December 31<sup>st</sup>:** Isaiah 61:10-62:3  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:22-40

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 - Greg Stezenski  
1 - Mark Hartmann  
2 - Gretchen Russell  
3 - Eric Wendorff  
3 - Lori Wendorff (Chad)  
4 - Cienna Kuhn  
5 - Garrett Wendorff  
5 - DeLila Clark  
6 - Dan Bahr  
6 - Maria Kriewaldt  
7 - Jeff Ludolph  
7 - Mike Wendorff  
8 - Deana Edelberg  
8 - Connor Buenning  
9 - Jessy Clark  
9 - Gabrielle Tuma  
10 - Kathy Buettner  
10 - Reegan Clark  
11 - Art Nelson  
12 - Rich Teetzen  
12 - Madeline Pyatskowitz  
13 - Samatha Cotter  
13 - Scott Steinke  
14 - Tracie Popp  
14 - Kennedi Meyers  
15 - Carol Cieslak  
16 - Jacob Tonn  
16 - Carol Magee  
17 - Carol Verstoppen  
17 - Nora Stuber  
18 - Dawn Giese  
19 - Emmali McDowell  
19 - Noelle Buettner  
19 - Alyxis Paiser  
20 - Bradley Sperberg  
20 - Vicki Buettner  
21 - Dorothea Lindner  
21 - Shirley Krueger  
22 - Reynolds Buettner  
23 - Andrew Schneider  
24 - Donna Hawkinson  
25 - Albert Schroeder Jr.  
25 - Lisa Lange  
26 - Tina Hartman  
27 - Dale Hawkinson  
27 - Karen Ross  
27 - Michael Peters  
27 - Jon Wesenberg  
29 - Terry Watzlawick  
28 - Kay Marquardt  
30 - Bonnie Sperberg  
31 - Ashley Teetzen

## A BIRTHDAY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, our times are in Your hands. Look with favor on name as he/she celebrates his/her birthday. Grant that he/she may continue to grow in wisdom and grace. Strengthen his/her trust in Your goodness and bless him/her with Your abiding love all the days of his/her life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

8, 1991 - Jeff & Kathy Buettner  
14, 1974 - John & Tracie Popp  
20, 2003 - Jeremy and Heather Pyatskowitz  
23, 1967 - Rich & Faith Teetzen  
26, 1996 - Jamison & Jana Yorton  
27, 2001 - Michael & Sabrina Kriewaldt  
29, 2001 - Virgil & Jacqueline Gueths  
29, 1973 - Bill & Deb Laehn  
30, 1978 - Charles & Joan Stoehr  
31, 2006 - Randy & Dawn Giese  
31, 2015 - Matt & Jessica VanBuren  
31, 2015 - Steven & Ashley Damveld

## AN ANNIVERSARY OF MARRIAGE PRAYER

O Lord Jesus, Your mercies are new every morning. We thank You for another year of married life together for name and name. Open their hearts always to receive more of Your love that their love for each other may never grow weary but deepen and grow through every joy and sorrow shared; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



*Contact the Church Office if you find anything in need of correction to the Birthdays and Anniversaries.*

# December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Elders:</b> <b>Sat: Jon Wesenberg</b> <b>Sun: Don Bublitz</b> <b>Sun: Mike Kroenke</b> <b>Spec: Chuck Stoehr</b>	<b>Altar Guild:</b> <b>Lorine Raddant</b> <b>Carol Magee</b> <b>Joan Stoehr</b> <b>Betty Szucs</b> <b>Mary Theis</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>6:30 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Levi Wendorff
<b>3</b> <b>9:00 Service (HC)</b> <b>10:30 Ed. Hour</b> Acolyte: Kendra Westphal	<b>4</b> <b>6:15 Choir Practice</b> <b>7:00 Altar Guild</b>	<b>5</b> <b>6:30 Cemetery</b> <b>Assoc. Meeting</b>	<b>6</b> <b>10:30 Advent Service</b> <b>3:30 Catechism Class</b> <b>5:00 Advent Dinner</b> <b>6:30 Advent Service</b> Acolyte: Chloe Bohl	<b>7</b> <b>1:00 Bible Study</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>9:00-11:30</b> <b>Christmas Program</b> <b>Practice</b> <b>6:30 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Hannah Hoffman
<b>10</b> <b>9:00 Service (HC)</b> <b>10:30 Ed. Hour</b> Acolyte: Kennedy Meyers	<b>11</b> <b>6:15 Choir Practice</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>10:30 Advent Service</b> <b>3:30 Catechism Class</b> <b>5:00 Advent Dinner</b> <b>6:30 Choral Christmas</b> <b>Service</b> Acolyte: Lainey Peters	<b>14</b> <b>1:00 Bible Study</b> <b>6:30 Elders</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>9:00-11:30</b> <b>Christmas Program</b> <b>Practice</b> <b>6:30 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Tucker Reinke
<b>17</b> <b>9:00 Children's</b> <b>Christmas Service</b>	<b>18</b> <b>6:15 Choir Practice</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>10:30 Advent Service</b> <b>5:00 Advent Dinner</b> <b>6:30 Advent Service</b> Acolyte: Laci Sperberg	<b>21</b> <b>1:00 Bible Study</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <i>No Service</i>
<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> <b>9:00 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Carson Popp <b>4:00 Service (HC)</b> <b>11:00 Service</b> Acolyte: Kersten Stueck	<b>25 Christmas Day</b> <b>9:00 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte:	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>6:30 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Ella Stuber
<b>31 New Year's Eve</b> <b>9:00 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Jorden Thompson						

Listen to WTCH 960AM for weather cancellations or check <http://www.stjakobi.org> or [www.facebook.com/lcmsjakobi](http://www.facebook.com/lcmsjakobi)

# St. Jakobi Lutheran Church

W 8089 County Rd. A  
Shawano, WI 54166  
715-524-4347  
[www.stjakobi.org](http://www.stjakobi.org)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

“We Preach Christ Crucified”



## **Church Services:**

Saturday at 6:30pm and Sunday at 9:00am

## **Bible Study:**

Wednesday at 6:30pm, Thursday at 1:00pm, and Sunday at 10:30am.

## **Sunday School:**

Sunday at 10:30am

