

From Pastor Kleinschmidt

The time of Christmas is a joyous occasion for celebration. We can think of all that our God has done for us in the birth of our Savior and we can be overwhelmed by all he has done.

Something to think about this Christmas season is what we are celebrating. We are celebrating the Nativity of Jesus. That is, we are celebrating his birth. So we hear the story of Joseph and Mary, the manger, the shepherds, and the angels. Our children will act some of this out during the Children's Christmas Program on December 23rd.



Just as we celebrate a birthday only one day a year, we celebrate Christmas one day a year. Of course the celebration of Christmas gets elongated every year and the world would have us celebrate by shopping and adding undue stress to our lives.

And mixed in with the celebration of the birth of Jesus we are also celebrating the Incarnation of Jesus. The Incarnation of Jesus is that he took on human flesh. The incarnation didn't happen in Bethlehem in a cattle stall, instead it happened in the womb of Mary nine months earlier as Jesus



takes on human flesh and shares in it with us. The angel Gabriel tells Mary, "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus" (Luke 1:31).

The incarnation begins there at the conception of Jesus and it continues, not just for a day, but for all of eternity. The incarnation continues as Jesus grows into maturity and is baptized by John in the Jordan River. The incarnation continues even as Jesus gives up his

life on the cross. In fact, the incarnation continues even as Jesus ascends up into heaven forty days after Easter.

As Jesus takes on our human flesh it is his sharing in our humanity that is so significant. Jesus comes to save us from our sins. That demands that he pay the price that our sins have earned and that price is death. In order to die for us and in our place, he must share in our human flesh. Thus, the incarnation means that in His humanity, Jesus is able to die for us and be raised from the dead.

And since He has ascended to heaven, he has gone to prepare a place for us. Jesus is there in his flesh where we will be also.

And the incarnation is something to be celebrated not just one day a year like a birthday, but it is to be celebrated every day because every day his incarnation is significant.

The Nativity of Jesus is truly a result of the Incarnation of Jesus. And the Incarnation is so that you can be saved from your sins.

Last year as we were putting up a Fisher-Price Nativity set in Joseph's room, Joe pointed to the manger and told Nolan, "Baby Jesus died in here." Perhaps he didn't quite have the place and the timing right, but they are all intimately tied together.

The Incarnation, the Nativity, the Cross, the Resurrection. Baby Jesus



truly was born so that he could die.

This Christmas Season may that be on your minds. Not only is Jesus the reason for the season, but the reason for his birth is to save you from death. Jesus took on our human flesh to save us from our sins.

A blessed Christmas to you.

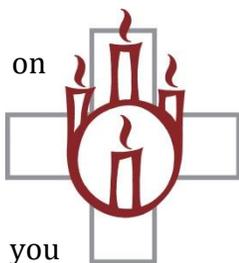
In the Incarnate Jesus,

-Pastor

ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

ADVENT SERVICES

Midweek Advent Services will be on December 5th, 12th, and 19th. They are at 10:30am and 6:30pm. Every week there will be a meal in the Parish Hall at 5pm. 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.



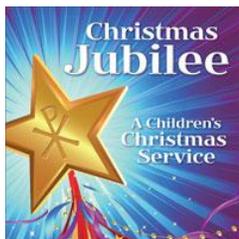
CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

There are two services on Christmas Eve. The early one at 6:30 will be a Communion Service and the Candlelight service at 11pm will emphasize the light of Jesus Christ who has come into this dark world. On Christmas Day there is one service, at 9am with Communion.



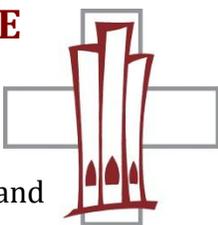
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Children's Christmas Service will be on the Sunday before Christmas, December 23rd. It will be at the regular time of worship at 9am. Practice will be during the Sunday School hour and it will continue every week and also two Saturday mornings, December 15th and 22nd.



MUSICAL GIFT TO THE CHRIST CHILD

The Advent Service on December 12th at 6:30 will be the annual Choral Service. Our choir will sing and the handbells from St. James will play.



NEWLY ELECTED CHURCH OFFICERS

President: Brad Teetzen

Financial Secretary: Phyllis Habeck

Treasurer: Dennis Wendorff

Board of Elders: Chuck Stoehr

Board of Trustees: Dale Magee

Board of Christian Ed: Heather Pyatskowitz

Board of Stewardship: Donna Lopez

The installation for the new church officers will take place on January 6th during church.

HIGHER THINGS YOUTH CONFERENCE



From Above
HIGHER THINGS 2013 CONFERENCES

The High School Youth from St. Jakobi will be attending the Higher Things Youth Conference at Purdue University on July 9th-12th. Higher Things is a Registered Service Organization of the LCMS and have been organizing youth conferences for over 10 years. The deadline to turn in your registration forms is December 23rd. Registration forms were sent to all eligible youth in our congregation. You can find out more information at www.fromabove2013.org. Once we find out the number of youth who are going we'll have a better idea of how much it will cost; but it is hoped that all or a majority of the cost will be paid by the Youth Group. If you have questions, then please don't hesitate to talk to Pastor.

LADIES OF ST. JAKOBI!

If you haven't come to the Ladies Bible Study, put it on your calendar now! We have great discussion about the Bible topic assigned. In December we will meet on December 5th at 1pm in the Church Library.

ALTAR GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Altar Guild Christmas party will be held on December 4th at 6:30pm at the Launching Pad. Call Betty Szucs (526-6355) to make your reservation.

LCFS THRIFT STORE

DONATIONS WELCOME: As you do your Fall house cleaning or have items remaining from your yard sale, please don't forget that **The LCFS Thrift Shop** located at 2324 E. Richmond Street in Shawano. They are accepting and would welcome donations of items that are in good repair - clothing, shoes, household goods, etc. Please call 715-526-9092 for times when donations can be dropped off. Funds generated at **The LCFS Thrift Shop** are used to support the work of Lutheran Counseling & Family Services in the Shawano area. Remember that your donated items are tax deductible. Thank you.

UPCOMING READINGS AT CHURCH

- December 2nd:** Jeremiah 33:14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 19:28-40
- December 9th:** Malachi 3:1-7b
Philippians 1:2-11
Luke 3:1-14
- December 16th:** Zephaniah 3:14-20
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 7:18-28
- December 23rd:** Micah 5:2-5a
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45
- December 30th:** Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2:22-40

LUTHERAN WITNESS

The *Lutheran Witness* is a monthly magazine published by the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. As your Pastor I cannot recommend it highly enough. In October the issue was entitled, "Questions" It addressed various questions that people ask. It covered a wide range of topics including Closed Communion, Depression and Christian Faith, Bored in Church, Women's Ordination, Skipping Church, Gun Control, Pornography, Living Together without Marriage, and many more. The Church subscribes to several copies that you can pick up in the Narthex on the table with the Bulletins. You can also subscribe for yourself through the church. Sign your name and address on the sheet by the guest book in the Narthex. The yearly cost is \$21.65.



ISSUES, ETC

Issues, Etc. is an internet radio program hosted by LCMS pastor, Todd Wilken. They address topics in the news from an intentionally Lutheran Christian perspective and interview guests about other issues within the church. Topics include: The Prosperity Gospel, The Advent Season, Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, Noah and more. You can listen on-demand at www.issuesetc.org. You can also download the episodes to your iPod or smartphone.



SCRIP PROGRAM NEWS

Are you looking to buy gift cards for Christmas presents? Then 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, Aeropostale, GameStop, Toys'RUs, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Cold Stone Creamery, Panera, Gap, Gander Mountain, Cabela's and many more!

LIBRARY NEWS

PLANTING SEEDS



An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. Luke 2:9

Did you know that angels are mentioned 273 times in the NIV Bible? What do you picture when you think about angels? Do you see them robed and winged, floating through the air? Maybe you picture them sitting on your shoulder, guiding you safely through life.

Perhaps angels bring to mind the many Christmas hymns, such as: Angels We Have Heard On High; Hark the Herald Angels Sing; Angels from the Realms of Glory.

What about the TV shows and movies about angels? Are they real or just fiction, created in someone's mind? Will an angel appear before you in human form?

You can find two tracts in the Narthex that talk about angels.

CAMP LUTHER NEWS

FAMILY FLURRY RETREAT-February 1-3!! Bundle up the family for an exciting weekend of winter activities and growing together in faith at Camp Luther. The schedule and choices abound for activities with the group or for you as a family. Choose from tubing, broomball and much more, or just relax together away from it all. A guest pastor will lead adult/family Bible study, while camp staff will lead youth and children in age-appropriate studies as well. The maximum family cost is \$485! Register at www.campluther.com.

CAMP LUTHER GIFT CERTIFICATES!! Give a gift that your children or grandchildren will benefit from for their whole lives. These certificates can be purchased for any amount and may be used for Camp Luther programs and at our canteen. It's an easy gift and one that is always appreciated.

HARVEST DISPLAY

All the food that was collected and then donated to the Shawano Food Pantry on Thanksgiving Day.



MITTEN TREE

All the mitten, hats, and scarves that were collected; many were handmade. They were donated to area schools.



NEW MEMBERS

On All Saints' Day, November 4th, St. Jakobi welcomed new members into the congregation.



Elmer and Joanne Ackermann



Joyce Hogan



Paul and Marilyn Picard



Josh and Corine Krueger (children Jacob & Brooklyn are already members through Baptism)



Roy and Phyllis Habeck

LETTER FROM OUR ADOPTED SEMINARIAN

We have been financially supporting Seminarian Alex Lange. He is in his first year at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. We received this letter October 29th.

Dear members of St. Jakobi Lutheran Church,

What an exciting year this has been already! I cannot believe that I have only a few more weeks to finish up this quarter. I will be sad to see this quarter go. I just finished my first week of teaching a 7th grade class at Christ Community Lutheran School in Kirkwood for my *Pastor as educator class*. I will teach them for three weeks in order to get practical experience. I have 22 students, including a young boy from China whose family does not believe in Jesus (what an opportunity!). I absolutely love my kids! They are very eager to learn and they behave so well! Their teacher, who is observing me, is a wonderful lady. She has been very helpful getting me situated in the classroom. I can tell that these next few weeks will be fun and will fly by too fast.

I am looking forward to going home for a while though. It will be nice to see my family. I especially look forward to the home cooking, especially on Thanksgiving. I have to make my own dinners while at school. I get by just fine, but I'm no chef. Most of my evening meals are pretty simple. It will be nice to eat food other than sandwiches, hamburger helper, and soup for a couple of weeks.

I don't know if I've told you this, but this quarter I started working in our cafeteria. I clean up the dining hall and kitchen every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evening. It usually takes me a couple of hours. It is not a lot of money, but every little bit helps! I like my job, because the people in the kitchen are really nice. Sometimes they let me take extra food back with me to my dorm for dinner the next night!

I just signed up for winter quarter classes. In the winter I am taking *Homiletics II* with Dr. Lessing. In this class I'll learn how to preach Old Testament lessons, miracle and parable texts, wedding sermons, and funeral sermons. I also signed up for *Exodus and the Torah* also with Dr. Lessing and the *Gospel of Mark* with Dr. Voelz. I'm also taking *Systematics II* with Dr. Okomoto, which covers who Jesus is and how he has saved us, and *Religious Bodies in America* with Dr. Biermann. I'm

especially looking forward to that last class. Dr. Biermann is one of my favorite professors here. He is excellent at explaining the faith in a simple and straight forward fashion.

I have decided that I am going to stay in seminary an extra year to earn a Masters of Sacred Theology (S.T.M). I think an S.T.M will open new possibilities for me such as giving me the chance to teach at one of our Synod's colleges, and it will make me better prepared for the ministry. For the past few years Concordia has offered a Dual Credit Program, which allows M. Div. students to earn S.T.M credits by doing extra work in their M. Div. electives. I am proud to say I was accepted into the Dual Credit Program and will be earning some extra credit in my class on Mark. I plan on majoring in Systematics and minoring in Exegesis for my S.T.M.

This Sunday I preached at my field work church for the first time. I preached on the second half of the story of the rich young man (Mark 10:23-31). In my sermon I explained how money and possessions easily become idols. When we cling to our wealth, we are not clinging to Christ. Therefore, Christ concludes that the rich can't be saved. However, Christ became a beggar for us and did not cling to his riches. He gave us his Spirit, so that we can stop clinging to our wealth and cling to him alone.

Seminary has been such a blessing for me. My classes and field work have challenged me and given me life altering experiences. I am glad to see my classmates learning from and enjoying their education as well. You know, getting to know so many courageous, faithful, compassionate men training to be pastors has given me such great hope for our church. I'm glad that we can experience seminary together and I know that they will be a great support to me in my future ministry as my colleagues.

Again, thank you so much for your support, gifts, and prayers. I hope that everything is well with you. I pray that you have a blessed Reformation Day. May our Father bless you until our Lord returns in glory!

In Christ,
Alexander J. Lange

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

1 - Greg Stezenski
1 - Mark Hartmann
2 - Gretchen Russell
3 - Eric Wendorff
3 - Lori Wendorff
5 - Garrett Wendorff
5 - Gabrielle Wendorff
5 - DeLila Clark
6 - Dan Bahr
6 - Fred Opperman
6 - Maria Kriewaldt
7 - Jeff Ludolph
7 - Mike Wendorff
8 - Deana Edelberg
9 - Jessy Clark
9 - Gabrielle Tuma
10 - Kathy Buettner
12 - Rich Teetzen
12 - Madeline Pyatskowitz
13 - Samatha Cotter
13 - Scott Steinke
14 - Tracie Popp
15 - Carol Cieslak
16 - Carol Magee
17 - Carol Verstoppen
19 - Emmali McDowell
19 - Noelle Buettner
20 - Bradley Sperberg
20 - Vicki Buettner
21 - Gladys Schroeder
21 - Dorothea Lindner
21 - Shirley Krueger
22 - Reynolds Buettner
23 - Andrew Schneider
25 - Albert Schroeder Jr.
25 - Lisa Lange
26 - Tina Hartman
27 - Dale Hawkinson
27 - Karen Ross
27 - Michael Peters
29 - Terry Watzlawick
29 - Kris Bahr
28 - Kay Marquardt
30 - Bonnie Sperberg
31 - Ashley Teetzen

A BIRTHDAY PRAYER

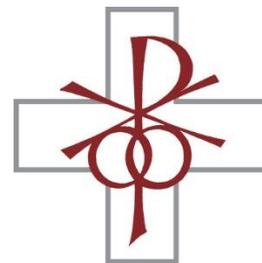
Heavenly Father, our times are in Your hands. Look with favor on name as he/she celebrates his/her birthday. Grant that he/she may continue to grow in wisdom and grace. Strengthen his/her trust in Your goodness and bless him/her with Your abiding love all the days of his/her life; through Jesus Christ, 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, 1992 - Fred & Betty Lemke
27, 2001 - Michael & Sabrina Kriewaldt
29, 2001 - Virgil & Jacqueline Gueths
29, 1973 - Bill & Deb Laehn
30, 1978 - Charles & Joan Stoehr
30, 2006 - Paul & Amy Kroenke
31, 2006 - Randy & Dawn Giese

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 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 6:30 Service Acolyte: Gunnar Hein
2 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: CJ Anderson	3 6:15 Choir Practice	4 6:30 Altar Guild Party @ Launching Pad	5 10:30 Advent Service 1:00 Ladies Bible Study 3:30 Catechism 5:00 Advent Dinner 6:30 Advent Service Acolyte: Keonna Lindner	6 1:00 Bible Study	7	8 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Lucas Gast
9 9:00 Service 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: Hannah Hein	10 6:15 Choir Practice	11	12 10:30 Advent Service 3:30 Catechism 5:00 Advent Dinner 6:30 Choral Service Acolyte: Mackenzie Boyles	13 1:00 Bible Study	14	15 9:00 Children's Christmas Service Practice 6:30 Service Acolyte: Emma Magee
16 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: Dylan Wolf	17 6:15 Choir Practice	18 6:30 Elders	19 10:30 Advent Service 3:30 Catechism 5:00 Advent Dinner 6:30 Advent Service Acolyte: Dayton Davis	20 1:00 Bible Study	21	22 9:00 Children's Christmas Service Practice 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Lucas Schoenike
23 9:00 Children's Christmas Service	24 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Dayton Davis 11:00 Candlelight Service Acolyte: Connor Angeli	25 9:00 Service (HC) Acolyte: Brandi Gueths	26	27	28	29 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Kayla Szucs
30 9:00 Service (HC) Acolyte: Brittney Angeli	31 6:30 Service Acolyte:	Notes: Elders: Sat: Darryl Prodell Sun: Rich Raddant Spec: Don Bublitz Altar Guild: Joan Stoehr, Tracie Popp, Judi Raddant, Donna Lopez				

Listen to WTCH 960AM or check www.stjakobi.org for weather related cancellations.

St. Jakobi Lutheran Church

W 8089 County Rd. A
Shawano, WI 54166
715-524-4347
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 7:00pm, Thursday at 1:00pm, and Sunday at 10:30am.

Sunday School:

Sunday at 10:30am

