

## *From Pastor Kleinschmidt*

When kids are dropped off at school or seen to the bus stop it is never imagined that this could be the last time they are seen alive. But yet that is what many parents went through in Newtown, Connecticut.



The emotions felt in a tragedy of this scale can be wide-ranging. Perhaps there is despair, sadness, outrage, anger, compassion, fear, or heartache. No matter

the feelings that this school shooting causes, there is nothing wrong with feeling them.

When we as Christians are faced with a tragedy like this we are called upon to receive God's grace and trust him more and more.

But yet we still have questions. First and foremost the question of "Why?" comes to our minds. Why did this happen? Why would the shooter think this was the answer? Why didn't someone stop him? And the list could go on and on. And there may be answers to many of those questions but some we will never know the answers to.

But why didn't God do something to stop it? This is a question that needs to be answered. We don't need to defend God, but we must also say without hesitation that God did not cause the shooting in Newtown. In just the same way, God didn't cause Adam and Eve to sin in the Garden of Eden. God is not the cause and root of sin in this world. For the cause of sin we can look to ourselves and the sinful nature that all people are born with.

But even though we live in a world plagued by sin and death, God continues to be our ever-present help. Just because God didn't cause the shooting doesn't mean that he won't work his gracious will in the lives of the survivors and others.

We are faced with death all the time; the death of others or maybe even our own. We need to hear the word of Jesus, "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the

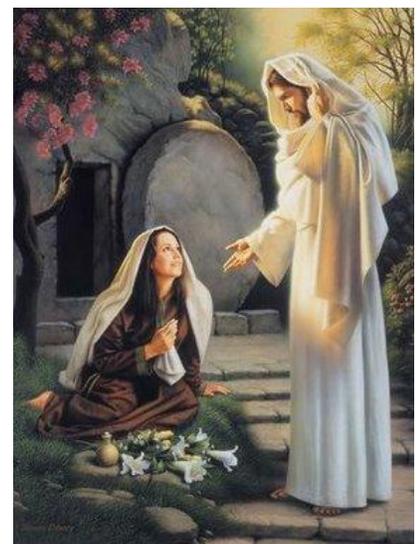
world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." In the midst of death there is peace through Jesus. And this peace isn't given to us by eliminating pain and suffering but instead it is given to us by Jesus Christ enduring pain and suffering for us and even giving himself up into death.

And then in His own death, death is destroyed; death is defeated. Jesus Christ is the answer to pain, suffering, and even death.

However, that doesn't mean the pain will go away. It also doesn't mean that we will never go through a tragedy like this...maybe even closer to home for us. What it means is that in the face of such tragedy we cling to Jesus because he is the anchor of our faith and in him we have the solid foundation that enables us to endure. Without Christ we can be like a reed blown about in the wind. We will be flung about by the news and emotions of the time and we will go from emotion to emotion with no solid grounding in what it means to have a Savior who knows our emotions.

Instead, with our faith firmly in Jesus and trusting his promise to deliver us from this valley of the shadow of death, we look death in the eye and rejoice that in Jesus we have life everlasting.

May God bring comfort and peace to those who lost children, family, and loved ones at the Sandy Hook School. But we also remember in our prayers those affected by the shootings in Colorado, Oregon, and elsewhere. May Jesus lead them through the grave to



life everlasting to be with him for all of eternity.

Trusting in His Promises,

-Pastor Kleinschmidt

# ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

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## CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2013

**President:** *Brad Teetzen*

**Vice President:** Dave Hoffman

**Financial Secretary:** *Phyllis Habeck*

**Treasurer:** *Dennis Wendorff*

**Secretary:** Patti Samson

**Board of Elders:** Darryl Prodell, Tom Tuma, Rich Raddant, *Chuck Stoehr*

**Board of Trustees:** Robbie Buettner, Marshal Giese, *Dale Magee*

**Board of Christian Ed:** Brenda Gast, Melissa Teetzen, *Heather Pyatskowitz*

**Board of Stewardship:** Andrew Theis, Steve Gueths, *Donna Lopez*

*\*Italicized names are newly elected*

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

## ASK THE PASTOR

**Q:** What are the robes called that you wear during worship service?

**A:** On Non-Communion services the black robe that I wear is called a *cassock* and the white robe that goes over that is a *surplice*. At a Communion service I wear a white *alb*. The colored cloth around my neck is called a *stole* and it is a symbol of the Pastoral Office. Pastors are yoked to Christ and the stole is a reminder that pastors are to say and do what Christ tells them to do through His Word. The stole is different colors based on the season of the Church Year.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

The second Saturday of every month, the men of the congregation are invited to have breakfast in the Parish Hall. Each month we have a discussion of things going on the news and looking at them from a Christian perspective.

## FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship will be on Friday, January 11th. We eat at 6:30, but come early for drinks and socializing. We will go to Wolf's Road House in Thornton. Call Joanne Bublitz (526-5315) if you plan on coming so she can make the appropriate reservations. You can also sign up on the sheet found in the Narthex at church.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Catechism class begins in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders learn the stories of the Bible and the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders study the Small Catechism. There are a total of 25 kids in the four grades and of those; five will be confirmed in the Spring on Pentecost Sunday (May 19<sup>th</sup>).

## 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 January we will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1pm in the Church Library. There will be a mite collection for LWML missions, so please bring your mite boxes.

## FUNERAL COORDINATOR

We are looking for someone to help coordinate funeral dinners. This would include ordering food, calling people to ask if they can bring a dish, and making sure there are people to help serve. We have extensive notes so you wouldn't be reinventing the wheel. Call Barb Teetzen (526-5505) if you have questions or would like to volunteer to do this.

## PORTALS OF PRAYER

The Church purchases 100 Portals of Prayer and 5 copies that are in Large Print. They are free for you to take. This little daily devotional book has a Bible reading and Psalm with a devotion that ties to the reading. There are also prayers in the back that are tied to the Church Year and for each day of the week. You can pick up your copy by the Guest Book or on the Bulletin table. Your old Portals of Prayer can be placed in the basket and they will be donated to Christians who need devotional material.

## THANK YOU

Thank you so much for your generous donation of hats and mittens to our students. They will keep them warm and happy outdoors this season!

-Hillcrest Primary School

## THANK YOU

Dear Members of St. Jakobi Church,  
I would like to take this time to thank the members of your congregation for the wonderful donation of hats and mittens. What a wonderful, useful gift to the little ones here at St. James ECC. They will be such a great comfort to the little ones when they forget to bring theirs from home. We also have a needy family who will certainly be able to use them this season. Please let your members know how much these items are appreciated. May God Bless you and your congregation during this joyous Season! Love in Christ! -Joan Urban, Director of Early Childhood Ministeries at St. James

## CAMP LUTHER NEWS

**SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION ARE OPEN JANUARY 1!!** Ring in the new year with a visit to [www.campluther.com/summer](http://www.campluther.com/summer) to register online or watch our video!! Camp Luther has an exciting summer planned for children K-12. Register now to get the village you want on the week you want. Summer brochures should be in homes by early January. Register early - online, by fax or US mail! If there's a need, don't forget to ask about our Campership program.

**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.

## LETTER FROM OUR ADOPTED SEMINARIAN

*We have been financially supporting Seminarian Alex Lange. He is in his second year at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. We received this Christmas Card on December 12<sup>th</sup>.*

Dear members of St. Jakobi Lutheran Church,

I hope you had a wonderful thanksgiving. I know I did! It was great to spend time with family and to eat some home cooked food. I am a long way from home and the seminary does not provide us students with dinners. So, you can imagine how special the holidays are for me.

I have started my winter quarter and I love all of my classes. I am excited to see what the Lord plans to teach me this quarter!

I will be going on Christmas break on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> and I will be visiting my girlfriend Rachel. I am

very excited to see her since she lives in Oklahoma and I don't see her very often. I pray that you are all doing well and that you have a very merry Christmas.

In Christ,

Alexander J. Lange

## UPCOMING READINGS AT CHURCH

- January 6<sup>th</sup>:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12
- January 13<sup>th</sup>:** Isaiah 43:1-7  
Romans 6:1-11  
Luke 3:15-22
- January 20<sup>th</sup>:** Isaiah 62:1-5  
1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
John 2:1-11
- January 27<sup>th</sup>:** Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10  
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a  
Luke 4:16-30

## LIBRARY NEWS

### PLANTING SEEDS



*For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother's womb . . . My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. Psalm 139:13, 15- 16*

"As the curtain rises, Hannah hesitantly steps onto the stage for her theatrical debut in college. Yet before she can utter her first lines, Hannah-unsigned-collapses in front of the stunned audience. After countless medical tests, all signs point to one underlying factor: Hannah's difficult birth. This revelation is nothing compared to what she then learns from her parents: she was actually adopted ... after a failed abortion attempt. Bewildered, angered, and confused, Hannah turns for support to Jason, her oldest friend. Encouraged by his adventurous spirit, Hannah joins his group of friends on a Spring Break road trip, embarking on a journey to discover her hidden past ... and find hope for her unknown future. In the midst of her incredible journey, Hannah finds that life can be so much more than what you have planned."

**This DVD is a new addition to our church library.**

## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:**

1 - Jordan Opperman  
4 - Tony Szucs  
4 - Marjorie McGahan  
4 - Arvin Bahr  
5 - Riley Tuma  
5 - Elmer Ackermann  
6 - Colton Peters  
7 - Stephanie Hoffman  
8 - Lori (Steve) Buettner  
8 - Doug Gast  
9 - William Grab  
9 - Kaci Wendorff  
11 - Heidi Teetzen  
11 - Geraldine Gueths  
13 - Reynold Buettner  
13 - Randy Opperman  
16 - Jayden West  
16 - Phyllis Habeck  
17 - Isaiah McDowell  
17 - Emily Jo Hanke  
18 - Layla Sperberg  
21 - Gage Skalitsky  
22 - Shawn Stueck  
22 - Debbie Schroeder  
24 - Kelsie Buettner  
24 - Jamie Popp  
26 - Bill Teetzen  
26 - Khloe Wendorff  
27 - Marsha Opperman  
27 - Benjamin Sperberg  
30 - Donna Ward  
30 - Kurt Zuleger  
31 - Miranda Montoure  
31 - Kaitlin Phillips-Grassl

## **A BIRTHDAY PRAYER**

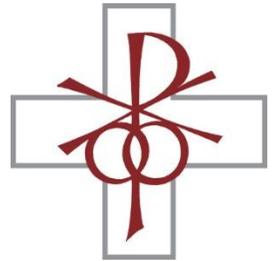
Heavenly Father, our times are in Your hands. Look with favor on name as he/she celebrates his/her birthday. Grant that he/she may continue to grow in wisdom and grace. Strengthen his/her trust in Your goodness and bless him/her with Your abiding love all the days of his/her life; through Jesus Christ,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

## **JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES:**

10, 1954 - Charles & Shirley Glock  
20, 1973- Gary & Sally Felckowski  
28, 2006 - Chad & Lori Wendorff  
29, 1984 - Carl & Martha Gebert

## **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.*

# January 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 1:00 Ladies Bible Study	3 1:00 Bible Study	4	5 6:30 Service Acolyte: Garrett Wendorff
6 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: CJ Anderson	7 6:15 Choir Practice 7:00 Altar Guild	8	9 3:30 Catechism 7:00 Bible Study	10 1:00 Bible Study	11 6:30 Fellowship @ Wolf's Road House	12 8:00 Men's Breakfast 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Hannah Hein
13 9:00 Service 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: Mackenzie Boyles	14 6:15 Choir Practice 7:00 Council Meeting	15 6:30 Elders	16 3:30 Catechism 7:00 Bible Study	17 1:00 Bible Study	18	19 6:30 Service Acolyte: Alyxis Paiser
20 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: Emma Magee	21 6:15 Choir Practice	22	23 3:30 Catechism 7:00 Bible Study	24 1:00 Bible Study	25	26 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Callie Boyles
27 9:00 Service (Choir Sings) Quarterly meeting after church Acolyte: Alyssa Wendorff	28 6:15 Choir Practice	29	30 3:30 Catechism 7:00 Bible Study	31 1:00 Bible Study	Notes:	

Listen to WTCH 960AM or check [www.stjakobi.org](http://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

