

From Pastor Kleinschmidt

MIDWEEK SERVICES IN ADVENT AND LENT

In the seasons of the Church Year when the weight of sin and death are most emphasized and we are most poignantly called to penitence, the Church would have us receive even more of Christ and His gifts.

The question can be asked, "How much Jesus is too much Jesus?" It is the question that a seminary professor at Concordia Seminary is famous for asking. It is a question worthy of our consideration.

In Scripture, the Church is called the "Body of Christ." Paul uses such imagery many times. And anyone who's taken not more than a middle-school level biology class knows the basics of how all the parts and processes of the body are equally needed to keep the body healthy, strong and functional. They also know that if any part of the body is denied the nutrients that come from breathing and blood-flow, that part of the body will die. And when the body becomes sick, those systems which deliver such nutrients work all the harder in the areas affected by illness or injury in order to bring healing.

So it is that the Body of Christ, in seasons such as Lent and Advent, which are often called "The Penitential Seasons," is right to keep the tradition of mid-week Church services as an extra dose of the holy-healing medicine of Christ and His Word.

Granted, there is no biblical mandate for midweek services in Advent or Lent, or any time for that matter. In fact, the tradition of holding midweek services is a very new practice which was inherited by Lutherans from American Protestants. But given that the penitential seasons are designed to remind us of our sickness in sin, it is indeed "good, right, and salutary" that the Church create more time for us to ponder the source of our healing.

Advent reflects upon the darkness of the world apart from Christ even as it looks back upon the time of waiting for the Messiah's first coming, and looks forward to Christ's Second Advent. Thus Advent themes are focused upon Scripture

which point to Christ's imminent arrival, both as a babe in Bethlehem two thousand years ago, and in glory on the last day for which we wait in joyful hope.

Lent reflects upon the darkness of our sin, and so Lenten themes tend to focus upon Christ's Passion and move us toward the observance in Holy Week of his betrayal, suffering, and death. As a people sick with sin, Lent points us to the one by whose wounds we are healed (Isaiah 53:5). As the

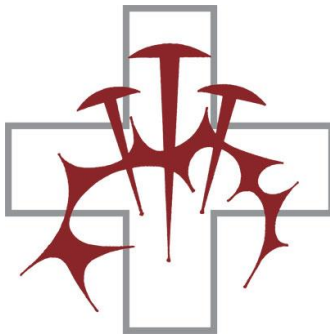
human body receives special medicines and activates certain processes (such as the work of white blood cells) to aid in healing when part or all of the body is ill or injured, so too it is good that the Church sees to it that the Body of

Christ is given even more of the good gifts of Christ and His Word in such seasons of the Church year as Lent and Advent.

The question is often asked, "How often MUST I go to Church?" But this is a question asked from a desire to meet some minimum requirement for being a Christian and misses the whole point of Christianity. It isn't a formula for getting right with God. It is all about Christ for us who makes us right with God by His death and resurrection. So how often should the Christian go to Church? As often as he is able and as often as the opportunity is present. It goes back to that same great question, "How much Jesus is too much Jesus?" You can never receive too much Jesus.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at Church on Wednesdays this Lent season. **Ash Wednesday is March 5th.**

In Christ,
+Pastor Kleinschmidt



ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

LENT – THE CRUCIFIED KING

The season of Lent begins on March 5th with Ash Wednesday. The theme this year will be *The Crucified King*. Each Wednesday during Lent there will be a reflection



on how Jesus is the unexpected King who isn't served, but comes to serve others by suffering and finally being crucified. Each Wednesday during Lent the services will be at 10:30am and 6:30pm. There is a Lent Dinner in the Parish Hall that begins at 5:00 and ends serving at about 6:00. This year during Lent there will be a rotation of Pastors who will be at St. Jakobi to preach.

March 5th – Pastor Kleinschmidt *The King's Wisdom*

March 12th – Pastor Eyer *The King Mocked*

March 19th – Vicar Conradt *The King on the Cross*

March 26th – Pastor Palmer *The King Betrayed*

April 2nd – Pastor Andrada *The King Denied*

April 9th – Pastor Kleinschmidt *The King Condemned*

May the season of Lent be for you a time of spiritual growth and renewal when your faith is strengthened in the King who is crucified for you.

SPRING FORWARD!

Daylight Savings Time begins on March 9th. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour so you will be at church on time Sunday morning.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Upcoming lessons at Sunday School:

3/2/14 Jesus and the Samaritan Woman

3/9/14 Jesus Heals a Blind Man

3/16/14 Jesus Raises Lazarus

3/23/14 The Passion of Christ

3/30/14 Resurrection of Jesus



LADIES OF ST. JAKOBI!

The Ladies of the Congregation meet every month for Bible Study. We have great discussion about the Bible topic assigned. In March we will meet on the 5th at 1pm in the Church Library.

FELLOWSHIP

FELLOWSHIP for MARCH is trying something new. The date is SUNDAY, MARCH 9. We will meet at the PARISH HALL at 3:00 PM to play BUNCO. Then we will go on to MAX'S for supper at 5:30. Please join us....for one or for both. There will be a sign-up sheet when we get closer to the date. Save that date now!!!

LWML PRAYER SERVICE

On March 2nd at 2pm the LWML Prayer Service will be held at St. John Lutheran Church, Hermansfort. The theme is *This is what we are Baptized For*. The prayer service is based upon a story of a dying woman. Into her story is woven the story of our baptism. It includes prayers of thanksgiving to God for this marvelous gift. Hymns from LSB are included. Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall after the service. A plate offering will be available for the support of LWML projects. There will be an opportunity for you to bring any special prayer requests to be offered during the service.

CEMETERY LOTS

Sometime in 2014 the price of the cemetery lots at St. Jakobi will be increasing. It has not yet been determined what the new price will be. Currently they are \$15 per lot. This is far below any comparable cemeteries. If you would like to buy a lot at the current price, contact Warren Gueths at 715-526-5636

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.

FUNERAL

Sally Felckowski passed away on January 28th and her funeral was February 3rd. We give thanks to God that He called her to faith and blessed her in her earthly life and that she now rests from her labors. Thank you to those who helped serve or prepared food for the funeral dinner.

LIBRARY NEWS **PLANTING SEEDS**

AND THE WINNER IS:

We've gotten some feedback on several of the movies that are available to be checked out from the church library.

SECOND CHANCE: ★★★★★

UNCONDITIONAL ★★★★★

CHRISTMAS ANGEL ★★★★★

Thank you for sharing your opinions. This helps us determine what will and what will not work.

We are looking at updating the Fiction section of the library in order to make it more appealing. It's a difficult job trying to find books that are a good fit. We would like to stock the shelves with books that may not be on the Best Seller List, or located at the local public library, but do include content that is not offensive to the reader. Do you have a favorite author that you enjoy? Do you have any suggestions? If so, please reach out to Nancy Thelen, and she will look at obtaining copies. There are a number of new books on display, but we are looking to add even more.

NEWS ABOUT THRIVENT

In late December it came to light that Thrivent had made Planned Parenthood eligible to receive Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Subsequently it was made known that employees of Thrivent gave money to Planned Parenthood that was then matched by the company. The troubling news here is that Planned Parenthood is the largest abortion provider in the United States.

There was a statement by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod calling for action on this. Thrivent then suspended all Choice Dollars to Pro-life and Pro-Abortion organizations pending an internal review of the Choice Dollars program. On February 6th **Thrivent released a new "Financial Neutrality Policy."** It says, *"Thrivent Financial is a membership organization of Christians and works with many different members who hold a variety of – and at times divergent – views and beliefs. It respects the differences of its members and does not independently or on behalf of its members, advisors or employees provide outreach funding or support to organizations and issues that distract, or have the*



Thrivent Financial
for Lutherans®

potential to distract, from its common purpose, which is to guide its members and society to be wise with money and live generously.

Under this policy, certain organizations are not eligible to receive outreach support or funding. This includes, but is not limited to, organizations with a primary purpose of providing services for or advocating positions either supporting or opposing certain social, politically partisan, or health and human services causes and issues, such as abortion, sexual orientation, or guns. Decisions regarding the application of this policy and the eligibility of specific organizations to receive outreach funding or support are made at the sole discretion of Thrivent's management team and are subject to change."

What does this mean? Thrivent has eliminated the possibility of directing Choice Dollars to Planned Parenthood. However, if you had previously designated your Choice dollars to Pro-life groups, you can no longer do that. As a parish pastor and member of Thrivent, I am deeply concerned about this entire matter. Frankly, the fact that there is even a question about supporting Planned Parenthood and other pro-abortion organizations is itself troubling. However, removing the support for pro-life organizations is unbelievable.

Please feel free to talk to me about this if you are looking for more information
-Pastor Kleinschmidt

You can read more about this whole situation at the following websites:

<https://service.thrivent.com/forms/thriventchoice/response.html>

<http://blogs.lcms.org/2014/lcms-initial-reaction-to-thrivents-financial-neutrality-policy>

<http://daringlutheran.net/thrivent-pro-choice-controversy/>

ONE-LINERS

Don't let your worries get the best of you;
Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Many folks want to serve God; but only as advisers
People are funny; they want the front of the bus,
middle of the road, and back of the church.

Forbidden fruits create many jams.

We don't change the message, the message changes us.

CAMP LUTHER NEWS

CAMP LUTHER SUMMER
REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

An exciting summer is planned for ALL AGES at Camp Luther.

There are a few special camps designed for even preschoolers and kindergartners. KinderCamp and GrandKids Camp are special weekend opportunities for a parent, grandparent, or another special adult to experience Camp Luther with their child. Our staff will lead activities designed for the adult and child to enjoy together. (Both of these camps are open to 4 and 5 year-olds and those who have completed kindergarten.) We are now accepting registrations at www.campluther.com. Check out our website to register or to see our entire list of summer camps.



ABOUT THE SERVICE

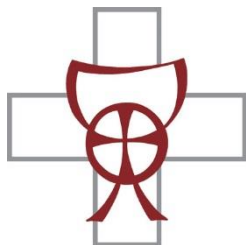
Each month in the newsletter there will be a short explanation of an item from the Service.

Offering

Our Offerings to the Lord are received in the midst of the Divine Service as a response to the Word of the Gospel that was just heard, and in anticipation of the Lord's Supper to be received. Our offerings are a fruit of faith. They reflect the truth that all blessings are from God. We return to God in proportion to how he has blessed us. We return to the Lord first fruits rather than leftovers. We bring our gifts with joyful hearts. Finally, we return to the Lord sacrificially – remembering Jesus' sacrifice for us at the cross.

Preface

All of the elements of rite in the Service of the Sacrament reinforce the Gospel reality that our Lord is present at the altar through His Body and Blood for the forgiveness of our sins. The Preface prepares us for our Lord's presence by drawing our attention to the Lord who is coming among us. "Lift up your hearts – We lift them to the Lord". It also proclaims our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord for his gifts to us, "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God – It is right to give Him thanks and praise". We are thus prepared to receive him who comes to us in His Body and Blood.



ARE YOU THINKING OF SENDING YOUR CHILD TO A LUTHERAN SCHOOL?

St. Jakobi has funds available to help pay for tuition at [St. James](#)



Elementary School, [Wolf River Lutheran High School](#), or at Concordia University if your student is majoring in a church-work field. Don't let tuition be a stumbling block to a Lutheran school education. Talk to Pastor if you need assistance or have questions.



RELAY FOR LIFE

Join the fight against cancer! The American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Shawano-Menominee County is March 22nd from 9am-2pm at Shawano Community High School. There is more information on the bulletin board at church or call 715-526-2724 or go to

www.relayforlife.org/shawano-menominee

UPCOMING READINGS AT CHURCH

- March 2nd:** Exodus 24:8-18
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9
- March 9th:** Genesis 3:1-21
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11
- March 16th:** Genesis 12:1-9
Romans 4:1-8, 13-17
John 3:1-17
- March 23rd:** Exodus 17:1-7
Romans 5:1-8
John 4:5-26
- March 30th:** Isaiah 42:14-21
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

LETTER FROM VICAR ALEX LANGE

Dear members of St. Jakobi,

I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas and that you are having a blessed Epiphany. My Christmas and Epiphany have been quite busy. During the month of December I preached six sermons. I know this is nothing compared to the amount of sermons most pastors preach in December. Nevertheless, it was an exciting time for me, because I have never preached that many times in one month before.

I began my Evangelism Module during the first week of January. An Evangelism Module is an evangelism project we have to do during vicarage. Originally I planned on starting a Life Team (i.e. a group of people that helps the congregation and community with affirming life) at St. John's. Unfortunately, those who signed up had to back out the last minute. Instead, I decided to work with St. John's preschool. The Director of Christian Education and I have been meeting with the parents of our preschool students. Many of them are unchurched or belong to a different religion. We have been discussing with them how they feel about our Christ-centered curriculum and talk with them about who we are at St. John's.

I have also started an adult Bible study on the God of the Old Testament. It may surprise some of you, but many unbelievers and many Christians dislike God as he is presented in the Old Testament. They think Yahweh (that is God's name in the Old Testament) is angry, malevolent, capricious, unforgiving, legalistic, sexist, and racist. I guess you could say Yahweh has a bad reputation in our culture. So, we are discussing some of the difficult passages in the Old Testament in order to determine whether or not Yahweh is as bad as people think. People are really enjoying it, although it has been keeping me really busy!

In whatever spare time I manage to find, I try to visit our members regularly. I also try to keep up my studies. I have read two very educational and enlightening commentaries: one on Paul's letter to the Philippians and the other on Paul's two letters to the Thessalonians. I have also been translating the Gospel of Matthew slowly in order to prepare for my sermons. I don't know if other areas of study are like this, but it seems like the more theology one learns the more he realizes how much he has yet to learn.

I hope the weather has been tolerable where you are. Here in the Quad Cities it has been unbelievably cold. No matter how many layers I put on, I cannot seem to keep warm. Driving in all the snow and ice has been an exciting (and sometimes scary) experience. I went to school in Wisconsin, but I never drove there. So, this is my first time having to drive in such harsh conditions. Don't worry; I have managed to avoid accidents so far.

It is hard to believe, but I am half way through my vicarage. It feels like I just got here, and yet, Rachel and I are making preparations to move back to the seminary. As I file housing applications and sign up for financial aid, I can't help but feel that my time here has been too short.

I suppose that just means that Rachel and I have enjoyed our time here. We have learned a lot and have enjoyed meeting new people. Of course, none of this would be possible without your gifts, support

and prayers. I am certain that God will shape me into the pastor his people needs through vicarage and seminary as a whole. Without you, I could not experience this important formation and would never become a pastor. Thank you so much for your generosity.

In Christ,
Vicar Alexander Lange

ST. JAKOBI DAY AT CAMP LUTHER!

On **June 19** St. Jakobi will be taking the Sunday School children and their families to Camp Luther for the day. This is for kids, parents, grandparents, and other family to enjoy the trip and activities of Camp Luther. We have already done some fundraising to reduce the cost of \$18/person and pay towards the rental of a bus or some other transportation. There will be more information forthcoming in the coming months, but for now put that date on your calendar and we will look forward to having at least 50 people from St. Jakobi attend.

2014 Camp Luther Family Fun Days

What: A one-day Camp Luther adventure that can be integrated into your VBS program.

Who: All kids Grades K-6

Cost: \$18/person (\$25 deposit required)*
One adult comes free with every 5 children!

June 12, 19, 26
Aug. 4, 5, 6, 7

Here We Grow

Tentative Schedule

9:00	Welcome to Camp Luther
9:15	Earth Ball/Parachute Games
10:15	Archery or Canoeing
11:15	Bathroom & Drink Break
11:30	Cookout Lunch
12:45	Swim Time!
1:45	Canteen
2:15	Closing Devotions
3:00	It's Time To Say Good-Bye

*You are not considered registered until we receive the completed registration form.

www.campluther.com **877-264-CAMP**

Camp Luther
Lutheran Church, Wisconsin

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

1 - Molly Buettner
2 - Marcia Buettner
2 - Mark Buettner
2 - Michael Waldvogel
2 - Alexis Dobberstein
4 - Darlene Wendorff
6 - Sabrina West
6 - Jennifer Murdock
8 - Mary VanScoik
8 - Jeremy Buenning
9 - David Buettner
10 - Lucas Schoenike
10 - Jeff Opperman
10 - Ethan Pleshek
11 - Tabb Magee
11 - Ella Stuber
12 - Jesse Waldvogel
12 - Kadence Meyers
13 - Jessica McDowell
13 - Joel Buettner
14 - Patti Burr
14 - Sandy Wendorff
14 - Sara Steinke
15 - Kelsie Wendorff
15 - Darwin Drake
15 - Payten Thompson
17 - Braden Teetzen
17 - Payton Skalitzky
18 - Robert Buettner
19 - Carson Popp
19 - Allison Popp
20 - Betty Lemke
20 - Lindsey Teetzen
20 - Ethan Magee
21 - Doug Berkhahn
21 - Luella Selle
23 - Emily Pleshek
24 - Emma Prodell
25 - Melanie Buenning
25 - Scott Kosnicki
25 - Rebecca Blumreich
25 - Connor Stuber
27 - Luke Lindner
29 - Michael Bohm

A BIRTHDAY PRAYER

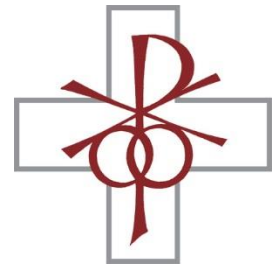
Heavenly Father, our times are in Your hands. Look with favor on name as he/she celebrates his/her birthday. Grant that he/she may continue to grow in wisdom and grace. Strengthen his/her trust in Your goodness and bless him/her with Your abiding love all the days of his/her life; through Jesus Christ,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

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES:

01, 2008 - Justin & Sarah Engel
02, 1996 - Chris & Jamie Popp
03, 1973 - Wilbur & Connie Steinke
08, 2006 - Brian & Deana Edelberg
11, 1994 - Carl & Holly Montoure
26, 2010 - Art & Kris Bahr

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.

March 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 6:30 Service Acolytes: Kayla Szucs
2 9:00 Service(HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolytes: Brittney Angeli 2:00 LWML Prayer Service @ Hermansfort	3 6:15 Choir Practice 7:00 Altar Guild	4	5 Ash Wednesday 10:30 Lent Service (HC) 1:00 Ladies Bible Study 3:30 Catechism 5:00 Supper 6:30 Lent Service (HC) Acolyte: Bryce Bohl	6 1:00 Bible Study 6:00 Elder Meeting	7	8 8:00 Men's Breakfast 6:30 Service (HC) Acolytes: Megan Gebert
9 Daylight Savings 9:00Service 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolytes: Sommer McDowell 3:00 Fellowship - Bunco 5:30 Fellowship - Max's	10 9:30-5:00 Volunteer @ LCFS Thrift Store 6:15 Choir Practice	11	12 10:30 Lent Service 3:30 Catechism 5:00 Supper 6:30 Lent Service Acolyte: Eli Magee	13 1:00 Bible Study	14	15 6:30 Service Acolytes: Lucas Gast
16 9:00Service(HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolytes: Gunnar Hein	17 6:15 Choir Practice	18	19 10:30 Lent Service 3:30 Catechism 5:00 Supper 6:30 Lent Service Acolyte: Taylor Johnson	20 1:00 Bible Study	21	22 6:30 Service (HC) Acolytes: Garrett Wendorff
23 9:00Service 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolytes: Hunter Hawkinson	24 6:15 Choir Practice	25	26 10:30 Lent Service 3:30 Catechism 5:00 Supper 6:30 Lent Service Acolyte: Alex Owen	27 1:00 Bible Study	28	29 6:30 Service (HC) Acolytes: Alec Raddant
30 9:00Service(HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolytes: Tristan Szucs	31 6:15 Choir Practice			Elders: Sat: Rich Raddant Sun: Darryl Prodell Spec: Brian Sperberg	Altar Guild: Laura Prodell Barb Teetzen Mary Theis	

For weather related cancellations listen to WTCH AM960 or check www.stjakobi.org or www.facebook.com/lcmsjakobi.

St. Jakobi Lutheran Church

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

Sunday School:

Sunday at 10:30am

