

From Pastor Kleinschmidt

The Twelve Days of Christmas begin the day after Christmas and end on Epiphany, January 6th. It's a common misconception that the 12 days of Christmas are the 12 days that lead up to Christmas, but they are actually the 12 days in between two major Christian holy days; Christmas and Epiphany.

The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation." The day and season of Epiphany is about the way that God reveals himself in Jesus Christ. Originally the holy day and season of Epiphany focused on all the ways that our Lord revealed his glory. It gathered into one celebration our Lord's birth, the visit of the Magi and the mysterious star, Jesus' Baptism, and the miracle at Cana of turning water into wine. Gradually over the centuries, the other events spun off into their own celebrations leaving for the day of Epiphany just the Wise Men and the Star.

The only place in Scripture that the wise men are mentioned is in Matthew 2:1-12. It says they came from the East to Jerusalem. The Greek word used to refer to them is Magi. This is translated as wise men or just left untranslated as magi. There's nothing in the text that would lead us to believe that they are kings. The belief that they are kings comes from Psalm 72:11 that says, "May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!" and Isaiah 60 that talks about the coming of the Messiah. Isaiah 60:3, in particular says, "And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."

These men bring three gifts with them. We aren't told how many wise men there are but the assumption is that there are three because there are three gifts. In the text it only says that they are plural, meaning there is more than one wise man.

As gifts, they bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. There have been lots of interpretations of what these gifts might mean. Probably the most common meaning attached to these gifts is that the gold is a kingly gift and so points out that Jesus is the King in the line of David. The frankincense is burned and creates smell and smoke. It can be connected with the idea that Jesus is God because he is worthy of receiving prayer. The myrrh was a spice that was used to anoint bodies (as an embalming oil) and so would point to the idea that Jesus is going to suffer and be killed.

The celebration of Epiphany is also an opportunity to focus on missions. The wise men were certainly Gentiles and not Jews. Jesus came to save not just Jews but he died for Gentiles also. These Gentiles came seeking "he who has been born king of the Jews." I would encourage you to be like a wise man to some of the people in your life. During or after Christmas you can invite your family and friends to church to hear about Jesus who is the Messiah and shows his glory in many and various ways.

During the season of Epiphany we will be praying for those who are without faith or who have strayed from the faith. We will also be praying for those members of our congregation who haven't attended church in a long time. Like the Lord, we care and love those who are separated from us.

During the Epiphany season, may you revel in all the ways that the Lord manifests his glory and uses you to bring others into this eternal Christian faith.

In the manifested Lord,
-Pastor



ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2017

President: Steve Gueths

Vice President: *Darryl Prodell*

Financial Secretary: Joan Stoehr

Treasurer: Donna Ward

Secretary: *Judi Raddant*

Board of Elders: Don Bublitz, Tom Tuma, Jon Wesenberg, *Chuck Stoehr, Mike Kroenke*

Board of Trustees: Darwin Drake, Rob McDowell, *Jeff Buettner*

Board of Christian Education: Jenny Murdock, Lori Wendorff, *Jamie Popp*

Board of Stewardship: Nancy Marcell, Dennis Fonger, *Dawn Wesenberg*

**Italicized names are newly elected*

The installation for the new church officers will take place on January 8th during church.

VOTER MEETING

The regular January Voter Meeting will be held on January 29th after Church. Watch the bulletin for an announcement of the agenda.

THANK YOU

There are numerous Thank You cards on the bulletin board from schools that received donations of hats and mittens. Take a minute to read them.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to sign up to provide flowers for the Altar, you can do so on the bulletin board in the hallway at church. The flowers should be here before church on Saturday evening. You can provide them in memory of someone, in honor of someone or some event, or just because. Thanks for beautifying church in this way!

VOICES OF PRAISE - CHOIR

Many thanks to the members of the Voices of Praise for all of the beautiful music they provided over the Christmas Season. We thank you for the time you spend in practice and all of the beautiful sounds and words which lead us to the wonderful celebration of our Savior's birth. We appreciate and thank all of you!

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.



DEVOTIONS IN THE NEW YEAR

Do you want to start the New Year out right by becoming more regular in your devotions and reading of the Bible? A resource you may try is Around the Word. These daily devotions are emailed out once a week.



They contain a Psalm, Verse, Prayer, and Hymn for the week as well as the order of devotion from the Small Catechism. Download the most recent copy at www.whatdoesthismean.org/devotions and you can also sign up for a weekly email.

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship is staying close to home on Friday, January 13th. We will be going to Launching Pad. It seems that everyone can get there in any kind of weather, so we will eat there at 6:30. Don't forget to sign up so Jon knows how much "apple pie" to have ready! See you there!

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The Ladies Bible Study on the 1st Wednesday of the month will no longer meet since it is just as convenient for the women to attend the weekly Bible Study on Thursdays at the same time. The Word of the Lord Endures Forever!

FUNERAL - MELVIN OPPERMAN

Melvin "Breezy" Opperman passed away on December 1st and his funeral was December 10th at St. Jakobi. We give thanks to God that He called him to faith and blessed him in his earthly life and that he now rests from his labors.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Upcoming lessons at Sunday School:

- 1/1 No Class
- 1/8 David and Jonathan
- 1/15 David Becomes King
- 1/22 God Forgives David
- 1/29 Jesus and Zacchaeus



UPCOMING READINGS AT CHURCH

- January 1st:** Numbers 6:22-27
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 2:21
- January 8th:** Isaiah 42: 1-9
Romans 6:1-11
Matthew 3:13-17
- January 15th:** Isaiah 49:1-7
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42a
- January 22nd:** Isaiah 9:1-4
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-25
- January 29th:** Micah 6: 1-8
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-22

CONSIDERING A LUTHERAN SCHOOL?

St. Jakobi has funds available to help pay or



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.



ISSUES, ETC

TALK RADIO FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON...You can listen to teachings on: The Christmas Hymn "Let All Together Praise Our God," The Virgin Birth, The 12 Days of Christmas, 19th Century Lutheran Theologian C.F.W. Walther on Jesus' Birth, The Circumcision & Name of Jesus, The Hymn "Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year" and more. Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. You can listen at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

On Wednesday evening beginning January 18th we will be studying how God uses numbers in the Bible to communicate His message to His people.

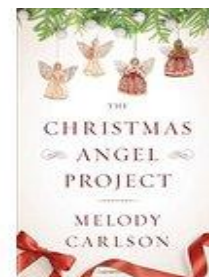
LIBRARY NEWS

PLANTING SEEDS

(Book Section 1) Five women from different walks of life have become close friends through their book club--enjoying one another's company even more than they enjoy the books. So when the leader of the book club unexpectedly passes away on the cusp of the Christmas season, the four remaining friends are stunned. They relied on Abby for inspiration and motivation. She was the glue that held them together, and they're sure that without her the group can't continue.



When the group gathers "one last time" to open a bag Abby's husband gives them, they find Abby had made each of them an angel ornament for Christmas, crafted especially for each woman and accompanied by a sweet and personal note. Inspired by their beloved friend, together Cassidy, Louisa, Grace, and Belinda decide to commit themselves to becoming Christmas Angels to others in need. Each woman will use her life situation and talents to reach out and help others in her own unique way--little knowing that her own life and her relationships will be changed forever.



DISTRICT LEADERSHIP MEETINGS

On Wednesday, January 11th at St. John, Tigerton, District President Rev. Dwayne Lueck and other District staff will be having a meeting from 7-9pm.



These are being held throughout the District in January and February. This meeting is for leaders in congregations looking for information to assist them in carrying out the ministry of their congregation. Resources and ideas will be shared in various workshops. Participants can listen and share ideas with others. There will be workshops on effective meetings, whole-life stewardship, health and wellness of church workers and leaders, and understanding conflict. More information about the workshops can be found on the Church bulletin board. Talk to Pastor if you have any questions.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

4 - Tony Szucs
4 - Marjorie McGahan
4 - Arvin Bahr
5 - Riley Tuma
5 - Elmer Ackermann Jr.
5 - Samantha Tonn
6 - Colton Peters
6 - Tony Bisterfeldt
6 - Khloe Giese
7 - Stephanie Hoffman
8 - Lori (Steve) Buettner
8 - Doug Gast
9 - William Grab
9 - Kaci Wendorff
11 - Heidi Teetzen
11 - Geraldine Gueths
13 - Randy Opperman
15 - Adam Kleinschmidt
16 - Jayden West
16 - Phyllis Habeck
17 - Isaiah McDowell
17 - Emma Ladwig
18 - Layla Sperberg
18 - Joyce Hogan
21 - Gage Skalitzky
22 - Shawn Stueck
22 - Debbie Schroeder
24 - Kelsie Buettner
24 - Jamie Popp
26 - Bill Teetzen
26 - Khloe Wendorff
26 - Joanne Bartz
27 - Marsha Opperman
27 - Benjamin Sperberg
30 - Donna Ward
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
17, 2014 - Nathaniel & Angela Gueths
24, 2004 - Jeremy & Melanie Buenning
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 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>New Year's day</i> 9:00 Service (HC) Acolyte: Tristan Szucs	2	3	4 3:30 Catechism	5 1:00 Bible Study	6 <i>Epiphany</i>	7 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Alec Raddant
8 <i>Installation of Church Officers</i> 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: Payten Thompson	9 6:15 Choir Practice 7:00 Altar Guild	10	11 3:30 Catechism 7:00 District Leadership Meeting	12 1:00 Bible Study	13 6:30 Fellowship @ Launching Pad	14 8:00 Men's Breakfast 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Gabriella Wendorff
15 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: Kloie Boyles	16 6:15 Choir Practice	17 7:00 Council Meeting	18 3:30 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	19 1:00 Bible Study	20	21 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Isaiah Gueths
22 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: Kaden Marcell	23 6:15 Choir Practice	24	25 3:30 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	26 1:00 Bible Study	27	28 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Jacob Nevins
29 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Voter Mtg after Service Acolyte: Ally Popp	30 6:15 Choir Practice	31	Altar Guild: Carol Magee Roxy Martzke Laura Prodell Betty Szucs	Elders: <u>Sat</u> : Tom Tuma <u>Sun</u> : Jon Wesenberg & Chuck Stoehr <u>Spec</u> : Don Bublitz		

Listen to WTCH 960AM or check www.stjakobi.org or www.facebook.com/lcmsJakobi for weather 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 6:30pm, Thursday at 1:00pm, and Sunday at 10:30am.

Sunday School:

Sunday at 10:30am

