

## From Pastor Kleinschmidt

It is the time of year that people consider how to make improvements in their life and that typically involves a New Year Resolution. I wouldn't want to discourage you from making one, but how well do they usually work out? Normally people do pretty well for a week or maybe even a couple months. Staying on the diet works for a little bit and then seeing some pounds drop off is some extra incentive. Exercising is good but you miss a couple sessions and it's hard to get back into it.

The normal New Year resolutions are practically doomed to fail because our goals are too big and we aren't realistic about what we plan to do.

I would offer you a challenge this coming year. Instead of making a resolution that has to do about your physical health or your mental health, make one that has to do with your spiritual health. But don't make it so big that it will be unrealistic.

Here are some things you might consider

for resolutions that will help your spiritual health. If you don't currently read the bible daily, then take just 5 minutes a day and begin reading the Gospel of Matthew and continue on with the rest of the New Testament. If you already read Scripture often, perhaps try to read the entire Bible in a year or maybe two years. If you miss a day, don't worry. Just pick up where you left off and then take a bit longer to finish.

If you are regular in your devotion reading with Portals of Prayer, consider using a book with a little bit more depth to it. There are lots of options; go ahead and ask me and I can point you in a helpful direction.

If you attend church only a couple times per month or maybe just once a month, consider trying to attend more often to hear God's Word and receive the Body and Blood of Jesus. You could also make a concerted effort to attend a Bible class or

make more of an effort to attend Mid-week services when they are offered.

As with any resolution you have to consider why you want to make this change. For these spiritual resolutions it is important to recognize their eternal benefit. Soaking in more and more of God's Word will strengthen your faith and give you comfort and hope in times of trouble. In addition, reading more of God's Word will give you insight into how you are to interact with people around you and how to live a holy and Christ-filled life. Your God knows you need this so he tells us to pray and he tells us to hear his Word.

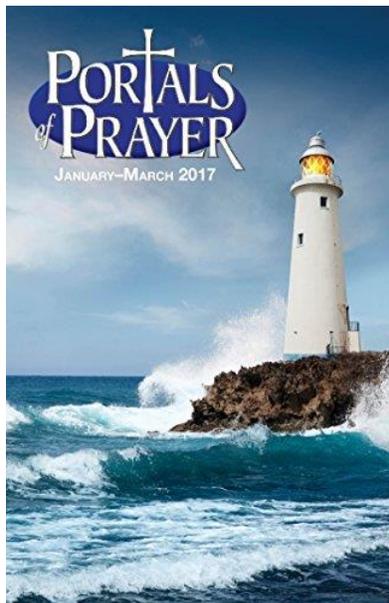
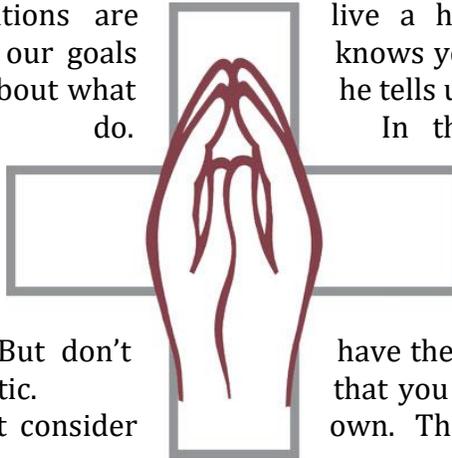
In that same vein, it is also good to recognize obstacles. Satan will try hard to pull you away from Christ and keep you from Scripture and a deepening prayer life. He will work on you and tell you that you don't have the time, that you are just fine without it, that you can make it through this life on your own. The answer to Satan's temptations is

always Jesus Christ. Christ has bought and paid for you with His very own blood. You have nothing to fear. Jesus and his Holy Spirit will strengthen you. If you do fail, you have a forgiving God who will pick you up and set you right back down onto the path of holiness.

Remember, don't bite off more than you can chew and the most effective spiritual resolutions will start off small so that you can achieve them and then set new goals. Don't try to do everything at once but just trust that God will continue to strengthen your faith each and every time you hear his Word.

If you want more suggestions or have questions about what might be a good spiritual resolution, don't hesitate to talk to me.

In Christ's love,  
-Pastor Kleinschmidt



# ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

## CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2018

**President:** Steve Gueths

**Vice President:** Darryl Prodell

**Financial Secretary:** Joan Stoehr

**Treasurer:** *Donna Ward*

**Secretary:** Judi Raddant

**Board of Elders:** Jon Wesenberg, Chuck Stoehr, Mike Kroenke, *Bob Behrens & Rich Raddant*

**Board of Trustees:** Rob McDowell, Jeff Buettner & *Warren Gueths*

**Board of Christian Education:** Lori Wendorff, Jamie Popp & *Andrew Gueths*

**Board of Evangelism:** Dennis Fonger, Dawn Wesenberg & *Cindy Winkler*

*\*Italicized names are newly elected*

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

## VOTER MEETING

The regular January Voter Meeting will be held on January 28<sup>th</sup> after Church. Watch the bulletin for an announcement of the agenda.

## 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. They are Tom Anderson, Joanne Bubiltz, Warren Gueths, Rich Raddant, Betty Szucs, Marlyn Teetzen and Curt Wendorff.

## 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.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Upcoming lessons at Sunday School:

1/7 Daniel in the Lion's Den

1/14 God's People Go Home

1/21 Esther

1/28 God Creates the World

## FELLOWSHIP

We'll go to The Main Event in Cecil on January 14<sup>th</sup> and eat at Noon.

## DEVOTIONS IN THE NEW YEAR

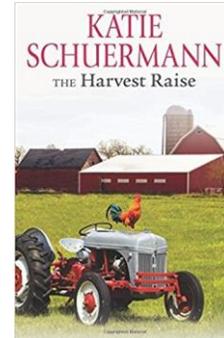
Do you want to start the New Year out right by becoming more regular in your devotions and reading of the Bible? A resource you may try is Around the Word. These daily devotions are emailed out once a week. They contain a Psalm, Verse, Prayer, and Hymn for the week as well as the order of devotion from the Small Catechism. Download the most recent copy at [www.whatdoesthismean.org/devotions](http://www.whatdoesthismean.org/devotions) and you can also sign up for a weekly email.



## PLANTING SEEDS

(Book Section 1) It's summer break in Bradbury-and that means cookouts, cornfields, and county fairs! But at Zion Lutheran Church, the changes and chances of life don't take a vacation. Pastor Fletcher must learn to share the parsonage bathroom.

Mrs. Scheinberg must face the fact that not every problem can be solved by pie. And when a beloved member makes a life-altering announcement, the entire congregation must trust more than their crops to the Lord of the harvest. Life is anything but idyllic in small-town Bradbury, but grace and mercy and potlucks abound. Join Emily, Robbie, Candice, and the rest of the dear people of Zion as they follow God's call into the scariest mission field of all: the very county where God has placed them.



## NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

On New Year's Eve weekend we will have our normal weekend schedule with services on Saturday night at 6:30 and Sunday morning at 9:00am.

## UPCOMING READINGS AT CHURCH

- January 7<sup>th</sup>:** Genesis 1:1-5  
Romans 6:1-11  
Mark 1:4-11
- January 14<sup>th</sup>:** 1 Samuel 3:1-10  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51
- January 21<sup>st</sup>:** Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20
- January 28<sup>th</sup>:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

## 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 words which lead us to the wonderful celebration 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 of our Savior's birth. We appreciate and thank all of you!

## 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.



## CHURCH CONSTITUTION

The changes to the church constitution done at the July 2017 voter meeting were approved by the North Wisconsin District and they are now in effect. You can pick up a new copy of the constitution later in January or an electronic copy will be distributed as well.

## LETTER FROM TWIETMEYERS

*From the Seminarian that St. Jakobi supports:*  
12-10-17

Dear Friends at St. Jakobi,

Hello again from Fort Wayne, where the first snow fell on December 7. It's funny how this was perceived by different people. For us, and for you in Central Wisconsin, this was late in coming. The southerners were in awe, and those from Southern Illinois said it was "too early for snow." It's certainly warmer here, and we can already tell the winter will not be nearly as long as the winters back home.

Before bed on December 5<sup>th</sup>, we lined up our shoes in our entry way in hopes of receiving a gift to celebrate Saint Nicholas' feast day on the sixth. We have done this since Jane was a baby, and this year was the most exciting for her yet. She then delivered extra toys to our shoes and asked when we could celebrate St. Nick again.

This quarter Andrew is studying Church History, which he loves. He studied History in undergrad and always hoped to teach it. This quarter class focuses on the early church starting in Acts.

We look forward to beginning a new year as we do every December. It was last year at this time that Andrew made the final decision to apply to seminary. We are sorry we couldn't visit you over Christmas as we celebrated in Michigan with Andrew's family. It is our intention to visit again so that we can worship with you and thank you again in person! It humbles and comforts us that you support us every month.

Sincerely,

Andrew, Elizabeth, Jane, and Eve Twietmeyer

## 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  
6 - Lewis Popelka  
7 - Stephanie Hoffman  
8 - Lori (Steve) Buettner  
8 - Doug Gast  
9 - William Grab  
9 - Kaci Wendorff  
9 - Jackson Sperberg  
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  
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.*

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

On Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> the Children presented *Christmas Jubilee!* Thank you to the children, the teachers, the Board of Education, and the director, Mark Buettner. The Christmas message was a pleasure to hear from the lips of little children.



# January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> <i>New Year's day</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 3:30 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	<b>4</b> 1:00 Bible Study	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Isaiah Gueths
<b>7</b> 9:00 Service(HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Usher Meeting after Church Acolyte: Kloie Boyles	<b>8</b> 6:15 Choir Practice 7:00 Altar Guild	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 3:30 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	<b>11</b> 1:00 Bible Study 6:30 Elders Meeting	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:00 Men's Breakfast 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Kaden Marcell
<b>14</b> 9:00 Service(HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour 12:00 Fellowship @ Main Event Acolyte: Jacob Nevins	<b>15</b> 6:15 Choir Practice	<b>16</b> 7:00 Council Meeting	<b>17</b> 3:30 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	<b>18</b> 1:00 Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Ally Popp
<b>21</b> 9:00 Service(HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Acolyte: Jorden Thompson	<b>22</b> 6:15 Choir Practice	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 3:30 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	<b>25</b> 1:00 Bible Study	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Kersten Stueck
<b>8</b> 9:00 Service(HC) 10:30 Ed. Hour Voter meeting after church Acolyte: Kylie Teetzen	<b>29</b> 6:15 Choir Practice	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 3:30 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	<b>Elders:</b> Sat: Chuck Stoehr Sun: Jon Wesenberg & Mike Kroenke Spec: Rich Raddant		<b>Altar Guild:</b> Judi Raddant Lorine Raddant Roxy Martzke Cindy Winker

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

