

## From Pastor Kleinschmidt

Some words you say in church and in prayers and you have never given them a second thought. In fact, you may not even be sure what they mean. You say them so often that they have lost any original meaning and now they are just filler. More than likely the word 'Amen' is like that.

Amen is typically added to the end of prayers or blessings. It is a Hebrew word that means faith or faithfulness. Amen is one of those unique Hebrew words that has followed the Gospel into every language in which it has been preached. It is not translated; it is just transliterated. Of this word that ends the Lord's Prayer, Martin Luther wrote in the Small Catechism, "This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means 'Yes, yes, it shall be so.'"

Jesus uses this word also. In John's Gospel he uses a double amen. In the ESV translation this is translated as "Truly, truly..." What Jesus is teaching is that what he will say next is a truth that will confront those who do not understand His message or doubt him. It is way of saying that he is the truth and what he speaks is the truth...whether we think it is or not.

When amen is added to the end of the prayer it is you saying that you are sure that God will hear you and answer you according to His Divine will.

Another way amen is used is at the end of prayers or blessings at church. I speak some words at church by myself and the congregation adds their amen to those words. For example, the Invocation is like this. "In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit." The congregation then adds, "Amen." What you are doing is claiming those words as your own and saying they belong to you and all the blessings they bestow are yours. Your amen is like your hand reaching out to God and

receiving all that He has to give. It grabs onto those words that are spoken by me and makes them your own.

There are other times that Amen is the appropriate response at the end of something I say. At the beginning of the sermon, "Grace, mercy, and peace... and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." Amen is the response of the congregation and not my response. Or another example would at Communion when I say, "The Body of Christ for your forgiveness", you say "Amen." This is your declaration that "Yes, yes, Jesus is for me!" Or at the dismissal, "Now the Body and Blood of your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you until life everlasting. Depart in His Peace with your sins forgiven." The response is a hearty and loud "Amen!" You are saying, "Yes, my sins are

forgiven and my faith is strengthened and I have been fed with the medicine of eternal life!"

Martin Chemnitz was a 16<sup>th</sup> Century Lutheran who helped to write the Book of Concord. He says a similar thing

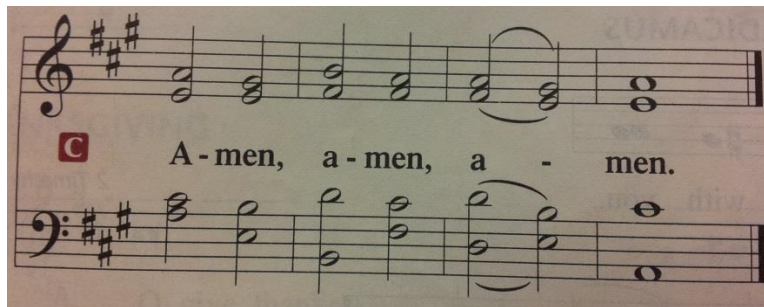
about Amen. "Prayers and invocations are ended with this expression, not only to show that in a general way we approve of the prayer but also that it may be applied to us personally."

Basically, the Amen at church is your opportunity to be an enthusiastic participant in the service and to apply the words that are being said to you and declaring them to be true.

When you come to church let your Amen be loud and hearty. Respond to the Word of the Lord and grab hold of the blessings, forgiveness, and mercy that the Lord Jesus bestows through that Word. In this way you are an active hearer of God's Word and ready to apply all of these great treasures and benefits to yourself.

Praying that your Amens ring out with the angels,

-Pastor Kleinschmidt



# ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

## CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2020

**President:** Jeff Theis

**Vice President:** *Darryl Prodel*

**Financial Secretary:** Marlene Weckwerth

**Treasurer:** Donna Ward

**Secretary:** *Judi Raddant*

**Board of Elders:** Bob Behrens, Rich Raddant, Jon Wesenberg, Jamison Yorton, *Mike Kroenke, & Mark Schuster*

**Board of Trustees:** Warren Gueths, Carl Montoure, & *Tyler Hoyer*

**Board of Christian Education:** Andrew Gueths, Sally Kroenke, & *Kim Wendorff*

**Board of Evangelism:** Cindy Winkler, Elizabeth McDowell, & *Dawn Wesenberg,*

*\*Italicized names are newly elected*

The installation of new church officers will take place on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>

## VOTER MEETING

The regular January Voter Meeting will be held on **January 26<sup>th</sup>** after Church. Watch the bulletin for an announcement of the agenda.

## ST. JAKOBI CEMETERY ASSOC.

The cemetery association will hold its annual meeting after the annual church meeting held on **January 26<sup>th</sup>**. We are looking for two new candidates for director positions. If you are interested please contact Betty Szucs @ 715-851-9821.

## PORTALS OF PRAYER

The Church purchases 125 Portals of Prayer and 5 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.

## FELLOWSHIP

January is our next get-together. It will be Studio Lounge, January 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm. Sign up by January 5<sup>th</sup>.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

There will be a service with Holy Communion at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, December 31st. As one year draws to a close and another begins, we recognize that the steadfast love of the Lord endures forever. Come hear of that steadfast love at church.

## THANK YOU

From Pastor Kleinschmidt & family: We received so many gifts this Christmas season that it is nearly impossible to thank all of you individually. The generosity that is borne out of love for Jesus Christ is amazing and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

## 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.



## 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!

## USHER SCHEDULE

January 5 <sup>th</sup> :	Troy & Marshal
January 12 <sup>th</sup> :	Donna & Dale
January 19 <sup>th</sup> :	Jim & Jeff
January 26 <sup>th</sup> :	Mike W & Mike D

## 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!

## 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



## SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Upcoming lessons at Sunday School:

- 1/5 Temptation of Jesus
- 1/12 Jesus Calls Philip & Nathaniel
- 1/19 God Sends the Holy Spirit
- 1/26 Peter and John Heal the Lame Man



## BAPTISMS

Baptized on December 7<sup>th</sup> was Huntleigh Marie Buettner, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Buettner. She was born on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Her baptismal sponsors are Krista Buettner, Eben Schmidt, Eric Jensen.

## NEWSLETTER IN COLOR

The pictures in the newsletter look great in color plus you can zoom in for more detail! You can receive a copy of the newsletter in color and save the church the printing cost by signing up for email delivery. You can sign up at

<http://www.bit.ly/Jakobisignup>

## READINGS AT CHURCH

- January 5<sup>th</sup>: 1 Kings 3:4-15  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
Luke 2:40-52
- January 12<sup>th</sup>: Isaiah 42:1-9  
Romans 6:1-11  
Matthew 3:13-17
- January 19<sup>th</sup>: Isaiah 49:1-7  
1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42a
- January 26<sup>th</sup>: Isaiah 9:1-4  
1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
Matthew 4:12-25

## PLANTING SEEDS

DVD – Identical twins Andy and Pete have always been close, but their lives are forever altered when aspiring preacher Pete is framed for murder. Revenge may seem sweet, but “Brother’s Keeper” is a powerful reminder that only forgiveness can heal.

## NO CHOIR PRACTICE

There will be no choir practice January 27<sup>th</sup>, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, and February 10<sup>th</sup>.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

On Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> the Children presented the program *God's Greatest Gift*. Thank you to the children, the teachers, the Board of Education, Mark Buettner, Patti Samson, and Noël Kleinschmidt. The Christmas message was a pleasure to hear from the lips of little children.



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

4 - Arvin Bahr  
4 - Marjorie McGahan  
4 - Tony Szucs  
5 - Elmer Ackermann  
5 - Samantha Tonn  
5 - Riley Tuma  
6 - Tony Bisterfeldt  
6 - Khloe Giese  
6 - Colton Peters  
6 - Lewis Popelka  
7 - Stephanie Hoffman  
8 - Lori (Steve) Buettner  
8 - Doug Gast  
9 - William Grab  
9 - Jackson Sperberg  
9 - Kaci Wendorff  
9 - Derek Wesenberg  
11 - Geraldine Gueths  
11 - Heidi Teetzen  
12 - Viola Verstoppen  
15 - Adam Kleinschmidt  
16 - Phyllis Habeck  
16 - Jayden West  
17 - Emma Ladwig  
17 - Isaiah McDowell  
18 - Jason Schmidt  
18 - Layla Sperberg  
21 - Gage Skalitzky  
22 - Shawn Stueck  
24 - Jamie Popp  
26 - Bill Teetzen  
26 - Khloe Wendorff  
27 - Marsha Opperman  
27 - Benjamin Sperberg  
30 - Donna Ward  
31 - Aubrey Allen  
31 - Miranda Hoyer  
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

01, 1994 - Martin & Connie Carlino  
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 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Elders:</b> <b>Sat:</b> Bob Beherns <b>Sun:</b> Rich Raddant Jon Wesenberg <b>Special:</b> Jamison Yorton	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Carrie Westphal Laura Prodell Brenda Gast Lorine Raddant		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>1:00 Bible Study</b> <b>7:30 Elders</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>6:30 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Karter Westphal
<b>5</b> <b>9:00 Service (HC)</b> <b>10:30 Ed. Hour</b> Acolyte: Hailey Hawkinson	<b>6</b> <b>6:15 Choir Practice</b> <b>7:00 Altar Guild</b>	<b>7</b> <b>6:30 Capital Campaign Mtg</b>	<b>8</b> <b>4:15 Catechism</b> <b>6:30 Bible Study</b>	<b>9</b> <b>1:00 Bible Study</b>	<b>10</b> <b>6:30 Fellowship @: Studio Lounge</b>	<b>11</b> <b>8:00 Men's Breakfast</b> <b>10:00 Building Committee Mtg</b> <b>6:30 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Tristan West
<b>12</b> <b>9:00 Service (HC)</b> <b>10:30 Ed. Hour</b> Acolyte: Colbie Reinke	<b>13</b> <b>6:15 Choir Practice</b> <b>7:00 Council</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>4:15 Catechism</b> <b>6:30 Bible Study</b>	<b>16</b> <b>1:00 Bible Study</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>6:30 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Samuel Gueths
<b>19</b> <b>9:00 Service (HC)</b> <b>10:30 Ed. Hour</b> Acolyte: Brynlie Boyles	<b>20</b> <b>6:15 Choir Practice</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>4:15 Catechism</b> <b>6:30 Bible Study</b>	<b>23</b> <b>1:00 Bible Study</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>6:30 Service (HC)</b> Acolyte: Darius Kelley
<b>26</b> <b>9:00 Service (HC)</b> <b>10:30 Ed. Hour</b> <b>Annual Meeting after service</b> Acolyte: Ali Johnson	<b>27</b> <b>7:00 Capital Campaign Mtg</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>4:15 Catechism</b> <b>6:30 Bible Study</b>	<b>30</b> <b>1:00 Bible Study</b>	<b>31</b>	

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

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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

