

The Messenger

SEPTEMBER 2026; Vol. 15, Issue 9

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JAKOBI LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SHAWANO, WI

From Pastor Kleinschmidt

We have been looking at Christian death and the funeral service the last three months of newsletter articles. This month I want to share what happens (or should) when a person dies. I will cover some of the practical tasks but then also how to deal with the emotions of the moment.

First, if someone is near death, call me! The pastor's responsibility, duty, and honor is to bring spiritual comfort to the dying and to the family and friends who gather. Don't hesitate to call or text me. I would love to make several visits in order to bring God's Word to the dying and their family. After a

person dies, please call me as well. This is an important time to hear the good news that Jesus is risen from the dead. I'll gather with you at your house, hospital, or nursing home. If you want, I will stay with you until the funeral home gets there

and help you through some of the process that will follow.

You will be asked which funeral home you want to use. They will come and respectfully take the body so it can be prepared for the funeral service. The next day or the day after I will meet with you at the funeral home to make plans. I want to be there at the funeral home so I can coordinate with the funeral director all the necessary plans. We will set a date for the visitation and the funeral service. I will ask for suggestions for Bible readings or hymns for the service. If you don't know, that's fine. Especially if I know the deceased well, I will have ideas of directions I want to go and beautiful hymns that will fit the person and be a comfort to sing.

We will also plan the funeral meal. We'll guess on the number of people and what type of food you want. I take care for contacting the meal coordinators and work with the organist and church secretary to take care of everything at church. I will

not stay with you the whole time at the funeral home because you will have more decisions to make in regard to caskets, death certificates, and other such things that you don't need my spiritual guidance on.

For your children or spouse, it is much easier if you have done some of the funeral planning with the funeral home in advance. It is worthwhile to take some of the decisions out of the minds of those who are planning the funeral. They are commonly overwhelmed and don't know what to do and very quickly have decision-making fatigue in addition to the normal grief and heartache a person is feeling.

I would be happy to sit down with you and plan the service part of the funeral with you in advance. You can share with me what Scripture you want your family to hear at your service, what words of comfort you want upon their lips when they are

singing. I will often use Confirmation verses at funerals but am open to tailoring the service to what you want. Even if I am no longer the pastor at St. Jakobi, your records and wishes will remain at the congregation and will be passed on to the next pastor.

In the days between death and the funeral, there will be a parade of tasks to do and it is common to feel overwhelmed. Turn to your family for assistance. Ask the church for help. As a congregation, we grieve when anyone grieves. Let us join with you to stand beside you, pray with you, and comfort you. The church is at her best when we are bringing comfort to the mourning and speaking of the resurrection of Jesus.

Next month I will write in detail about the funeral service and what is said and done.

In the risen Christ,

-Pastor Kleinschmidt



ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

POTATO PANCAKE DINNER

The Potato Pancake Dinner will be held on September 27th. Please check the sign-up sheets in the Narthex regarding donations, which areas you would be willing to work at, or if you are unable to work.



ROOTED & BUILT UP IN CHRIST

We are beginning another three-year commitment for our building project. All of the households of the congregation received a letter with information and a commitment card. Please read over the material you received. Commitment weekend will be September 12th and 13th. Please return your commitment that weekend at church or mail it in the envelop provided.

ONLINE GIVING

With the new commitments, now may be the time that you want to signup for recurring donations to St. Jakobi. You can set it and not worry about having your offering envelope each week. Sign up with the website or QR code. <https://tinyurl.com/DonateStJakobi>. This easy way to give to church can be done as a one-time gift or recurring. You can give from your checking account or credit card. If you would like you can help offset the expense of offering this service, there is information at that website.



ST. JAKOBI BOOK CLUB

The following books have been selected for future meetings: *The Harvey Girls* by Juliette Fay will be discussed in September. For October, the book selected is *Chained to a Killer* by Kellyann Amelung, and will be hosted by Amy Riesenberg. November's book is *The Book Club for Troublesome Women* by Marie Bostwick.

CHURCH OFFICERS

We are looking for new officers to fill the following positions for our congregation in our upcoming election in October: Treasurer, Elder (2), Trustee, Boards of Education and Evangelism. If you are interested in serving the Lord, please take a form in the narthex to be filled out and place in the Elders box when completed.

FALL BIBLE CLASSES

Wednesday night Bible Class will begin the Wednesday, September 9th at 6:30pm. We will begin studying the parable of the Prodigal Son from the Gospel of Luke

Thursday afternoon Bible Class studies the Bible text that Pastor will be preaching on the coming weekend. This Bible Study is a great way to receive more depth to the sermon and the Biblical background for what is preached.

Sunday morning will begin a new study of the Large Catechism on September 13th. You will not be disappointed in the practical, everyday application of the Christian faith to your life.

The Fall is the perfect time to begin attending Bible Class. We are starting new topics and you will not feel behind. I would encourage you to put aside the excuses you have and you will grow in your faith. Parents, while your children are in Sunday School, you can learn too! If you're retired, the Thursday afternoon class is perfect. If you are free in the evenings; then Wednesday night is great. Please consider studying God's Word with us and make it a regular part of your week.

ST. JAKOBI CHOIR

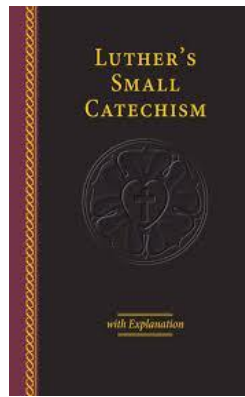
Choir practice will resume on Monday, Sept. 14th at 6:15pm. All are welcome, if you enjoy singing, please join us. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Prodell at 715-853-5769.

SENIOR CONNECTIONS LUNCHEON

St. Jakobi Spiritual Outreach is hosting a Tailgate Senior Connections luncheon on Friday, Sept. 18th at 11:30 am. All food will be provided, including brats and burgers. If you wish, wear your favorite team shirt. We'll have a few rounds of bingo following the meal, with some great prizes. If you will be attending, please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex, and mark whether you'd like a brat, burger, or both. That way we can be assured we have ample food. Hope to see you all there.

CATECHISM CLASS

The school year will be in full swing and that means Catechism class begins again. The first day of class is September 9th. The Catechism students (5th-8th grade) will be attending class weekly and continuing their duties serving at Acolytes. May God bless them during their time of instruction in the Christian faith.



YOUTH GROUP

A new joint Youth Group effort between neighboring sister congregations in Shawano and Bonduel is beginning. The first gathering will be October 11th at the St. James Retreat Center from 2-5pm. This is for 5th-12th graders. There will be time for splitting up the different ages for separate instruction/sharing. Join us for pizza, bonfire, smores, capture the flag, devotions, and more. The retreat center is located at N6982 Retreat Rd., Shawano, WI. See the poster on the bulletin board for more information.

READINGS AT CHURCH

- September 6th:** Ezekiel 33:7-9
Romans 13:1-10
Matthew 18:1-20
- September 13th:** Genesis 50:15-21
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35
- September 20th:** Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30
Matthew 20:1-16
- September 27th:** Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18
Matthew 21:23-27

LUTHERAN EDUCATION

St. Jakobi has funds available to help pay for tuition at [St. James Lutheran 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.

ALUMINIUM CAN RECYCLING

You can turn your aluminum cans in south of the church. Put the cans in closed bags and then place the bags inside the fence. The youth group will receive the proceeds of the recycling. Thank you!

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE (LWML)



Four LWML members from our congregation attended the North Wisconsin District Lutheran Women's Missionary League 41st Biennial Convention in Marquette, MI on June 18-20. The theme was "Joy in Jesus Our Rock."

There were over 250 women (and men) in attendance to: Proclaim Jesus as the Savior of the world; Fund our mission grants and support our mission partners; Provide resources, training, and networking opportunities; Serve and encourage one another in Christ.

We enjoyed a church service, several interesting speakers, Bible Study on "Sing for Joy" and the choir that lead us in singing uplifting songs. On Friday night, we had entertainment from The Grams Family, a Christian family of 8 from Arkansaw, WI. They play many instruments and their harmony and love inspire all ages, but the gospel of Jesus Christ leaves the impact.

The business meetings included adopting the Mission Grant Goal for 2026-2028 for \$155,000 (our mite collections), voting for new officers, and much more.

If anyone would like more information or is interested in joining our group, please sign the sheet in the Narthex.



Pictured are from left: Barb Bubolz, Barb Teetzen, Elizabeth McDowell and Judi Raddant

SUNDAY SNACK SIGNUP

If you would like to bring a snack to share on Sunday after church, then you can sign up on the counter by the kitchenette in the Narthex.

NEWSLETTER IN COLOR

The pictures in the newsletter look best in color. You can sign up to view them on your computer by going to this website.

<https://tinyurl.com/JakobiNewsletter>

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The first day for Sunday School is September 13th. Sunday School begins at 10:30 with opening in the Sanctuary. It concludes at 11:30.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Upcoming lessons at Sunday School:

- 9/13 Handmade-Adam and Eve
- 9/20 A Sign and a Promise-God's Covenant with Abram
- 9/27 No Sunday School – Pancake Dinner

HYMNAL RIBBONS

We are trying to preserve the hymnal ribbons for as long as possible. Please do not braid or pick at the end of the ribbons in the hymnals.

MEN'S NIGHT

All men from the congregation are invited to the Men's Night on Thursday, September 26th at 6:30 at Mark Schuster's house. Bring your own beverages and snack to pass. We'll share in fellowship and friendship. His house is at E12096 County Road C, Clintonville, WI 54929.

ISSUES, ETC

Issues, Etc. is an internet radio program hosted by LCMS pastor, Todd Wilken. They address topics in the news from an intentionally Lutheran Christian perspective and interview guests about issues within the church. **Recent programming features Freedom from Shame; Christians & Anxiety; Encouraging Early Marriage & Childrearing; Mission Outreach to Indigenous Communities in Canada and more.** You can listen to what you want, when you want at www.issuesetc.org. You can download the episodes to your Smart Phone or stream on any device.

Issues, Etc.



HOLIDAY BAZAAR

It's time to get your creative juices flowing. Spiritual Outreach will be hosting their Annual Bazaar on Saturday, November 7th. We will once again be offering homemade arts and crafts, along with baked goods for sale. Donations of these items allow us to continue our outreach work without having to ask the congregation for financial support to complete our projects throughout the year. If you would like to donate any baked goods, new arts or crafts, or if you have any questions regarding the sale, please speak with either Nancy Thelen or Marlene Weckwerth. And yes, fresh cinnamon rolls will be available again this year.



HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES

We have had hearing assistance devices the past several years that can help those people who have trouble hearing at church. These small devices fit in a pocket and there are three different options for how they transmit the sound to you. They can have (1) an in-ear speaker, (2) an over the ear speaker (this works on the outside of a hearing aid), (3) or a hearing loop system. The hearing loop system is worn around your neck and transmits the sound directly to the t-coil of your hearing aid. We've had great reviews of these devices. **They work!** Talk to an usher before church and he will help you get acquainted with these new devices. *Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of Christ.* (Romans 10:17)

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 - Carol Paiser
2 - Peter Carroll
2 - Brenda Price
3 - Krista Buettner
3 - Amanda Gehnke
3 - Austin Gueths
3 - Brittany Nietzer
3 - Corrina Tuma
4 - Draxton Bartz
4 - Brandon Thoma
5 - Krew Cumberland
5 - Maverick Thoma
6 - Jodi Angeli
6 - Curt Wendorff
7 - Paul Utecht
8 - Jase Bisterfeldt
8 - Kavion Franklin
8 - Brenden Halvorson
8 - Naomi Wendorff
9 - Warren Gueths
10 - Gary Felckowski
11 - Steve Buettner
11 - Dayton Davis
11 - Amy Riesenberger
12 - Bryan Teetzen
13 - Andrew Giese
13 - Daniel Darling
13 - Darlene Hoffman
14 - Eva Schroeder
16 - Karleen Brei
16 - Eileen Skalitzky
16 - Janet Wendt
17 - Shirley Popp
18 - Parker Carroll
19 - Desirae Thiel
19 - Tom T. Tuma
21 - Janice Grosskopf
22 - Marvin Buettner
22 - Walker Jashinsky
22 - Daniel Moede
24 - Brian Sperberg
24 - Theresa Gueths
25 - Kyle Raddant
26 - Joshua Theis
27 - Shirley Glock
27 - Noël Kleinschmidt
28 - Justin Engel
29 - Jeremy Meyers
30 - Jacob Burr
30 - Martha Gebert
30 - Emma Magee

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.

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1, 1990 - Brian & Bonnie Sperberg
5, 2015 - Mike & Cindy Winkler
6, 2014 - Shawn & Allyssa Verstoppen
7, 1996 - Greg & Patti Samson
7, 2019 - Tyler & Lydia Walby
8, 1984 - Steve & Lori Buettner
8, 1990 - Russell & Bonnie Cotter
9, 1978 - John & Susan Klemens
9, 2006 - Darryl & Laura Prodel
12, 2015 - Keegen & Casey Gast
13, 2014 - Mike & Amber Schmidt
16, 2023 - Ken & Liz Schroeder
16, 1967 - Jim & Betty Szucs
18, 2021 - Justin & Tamra Buntrock
18, 2004 - William Grab & Patti Burr
19, 1970 - Gerald & Mary Ludolph
19, 1965 - Paul & Marilyn Picard
21, 2019 - Brandon & Alyson Buntrock
21, 2019 - Devin & Kayla Mayer
22, 2002 - Bryan & Melissa Teetzen
24, 1977 - Dave & Darlene Hoffman
27, 1997 - John & Stephanie Boyles
27, 1980 - Jerry & Debbie Fisher
28, 2019 - Zach & Megan Pederson
28, 2023 - Tom & Stacey Teetzen
28, 2013 - Ben & Alison Sperberg
28, 1996 - Jim & Vicky Szucs



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.

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 1:00 Bible Study	4	5 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Harper Ejnik
6 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour Acolyte: Lexi Brady	7 <i>Labor Day</i>	8 1:00 Book Club	9 4:00 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	10 1:00 Bible Study 4:30 Elders	11	12 9:00 Spiritual Outreach 4:00 New Member Class 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Adam Kleinschmidt
13 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour Acolyte: Lincoln Ejnik	14 6:15 Choir 7:00 Altar Guild	15	16 4:00 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	17 1:00 Bible Study 6:30 Men's Night @ Schuster's	18 11:30 Senior Connections Lunch	19 4:00 New Member Class 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Harper Ejnik
20 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour Acolyte: Zoey Riesenber	21 6:15 Choir	22	23 4:00 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	24 1:00 Bible Study	25	26 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Ian Stuber
27 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Pancake Dinner Acolyte: Isabel Thoma	28 6:15 Choir	29	30 4:00 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	Altar Guild: Corrina Tuma Roxy Martzke Jayne Mott		Elders: Sat: Mike Waldvogel Sun: Tom Tuma Mike Daley Special: Jeff Buettner

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

