

**From the Pastor's Desk:**

*As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.* John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Working in my home office recently, I reached for a small bag of pretzels lying on my desk, and was a little surprised to discover that the salty sticks plucked from the bag were quite warm. I quickly recognized that they had been sitting on top of my computer's wireless internet router. Enjoying my toasty snacks, I reflected on just how much heat that one small electrical device was emitting. Then I began counting how many little red and white and green and blue lights were glowing, just in my office alone. There is a computer, a printer, modem, speakers, portable phone, television, and various chargers; there must have been a dozen different devices, all consuming some amount of power, and all generating some level of heat.

Multiply that times all the other rooms in the house, and it is no wonder the furnace has not needed to run this fall.

The thing is, I was not actively using most of those devices, but I am always dependent on them being available when I need them, and am always aggrieved when they don't work.

I had been working on Thanksgiving materials that morning, and it occurred to me how many small blessings all of us enjoy, and yet, like those little twinkling lights and electronic devices, tend to go unnoticed and unappreciated.

The season of Thanksgiving is a blessed tradition for most of us. For some it can be a difficult time, with a newly vacant place at the table or traditions altered by changing dynamics within our families. These family and friends need to be foremost in our prayers this year for Christ's presence and comfort.

I am also resolved to expand my thanksgiving this year, beyond my brief prayer for food and family and friends at table. To go past the worry of what is cooking, and what is overcooked and what is getting too cool to serve. To not make my thanksgiving a secret hope only for more good things to come to me, but to be mindful and truly thankful for everything, even the little things I so often take for granted, and by which my life is truly blessed. I am further resolved to do a better job of allowing my true thanksgiving be better reflected in my deeds, most especially my sharing.

May all our Thanksgivings be truly blessed, may we be mindful off all that we have to be grateful for, and may we be filled with a spirit of sharing that grows out of our deep gratitude to God.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

St. John's:  
Worship and Sunday School  
8:45 a.m.

St. Jacob:  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Worship 10:15 a.m.

Holey Week Fellowship 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at both churches.

**WEDDING**

**Samantha Martin and Brent Gibbs**  
October 25, 2014  
**Kristen Kniepkamp and Thomas Belcher**

November 8, 2014

**CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION**

St. Jacob Office Hours:  
Tuesday and Friday: 8:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
St. Jacob Phone: 644-2142  
St. Jacob e-mail: [stjucc@hometel.com](mailto:stjucc@hometel.com)

Rev. Gary, Home: 644-5703  
Rev. Gary, e-mail: [knipkamp@hometel.com](mailto:knipkamp@hometel.com)  
Kay, Home 644-5578  
Kay, e-mail: [khoenig@hometel.com](mailto:khoenig@hometel.com)

**BIRTHS**

**Dexter Louis Zbinden** – August 27  
**Kherrington Michelle Baer** – September 16

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

We offer our heartfelt sympathies to the families of:

**Glenn Noeltner**  
**Eula Gruender**  
**Cathy Stewart**  
**Jerry Ward**

on the death of their loved ones.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS FOR 3 AND 4 YEAR OLDS (or not yet in Kindergarten)**

New Sunday School Class this year. We have a volunteer to help with this class and need one adult each week. All Sundays in 2015, January 4<sup>th</sup> thru May 3<sup>rd</sup> are open. Contact Patti Woods, 644-9410 or e-mail at [woods@hometel.com](mailto:woods@hometel.com)

**NURSERY**

Located in Heritage Hall, our nursery is a fresh clean space with age appropriate toys and furnishings for newborns through children in the second grade. It's a wonderful way for your children to begin friendships with kids they'll know for many years.

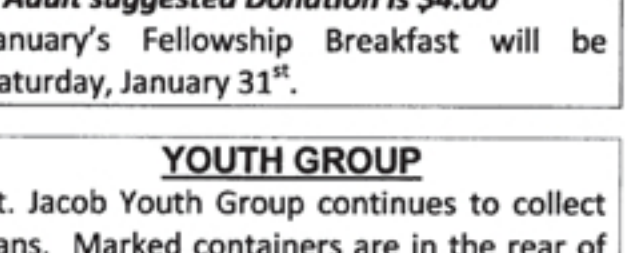
Anyone who would like to volunteer to help in the Nursery, contact Donna Lowe, telephone 644-2801 OR e-mail: [thelowes@hometel.com](mailto:thelowes@hometel.com)

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**

**NOVEMBER**  
16 – Dian Gansmann  
23 – Ann Schmidt  
30 – Shannon Goodfield

**DECEMBER**  
7 – Donna and Micah Lowe  
14 – Patti Woods  
NO NURSERY December 21 – Program  
28 – Ronda Schmidt

**JANUARY**  
4 – Shelly Marti  
11 – Joyce Kniepkamp



**GIFTS TO THE CHURCH**

The 2014 financial books of both churches will close on Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. Monetary gifts to the Churches, to be included in the 2014 records of giving, should be in the December 28<sup>th</sup> offering, or sent to the church office before Tuesday, December 30<sup>th</sup>.

**WHITE GIFT SUNDAY Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**

We have the Christmas List from Hoyleton Children and Family Services. They can be picked up at both churches. St. Jacob and St. Johns have consistently been tremendous supporters of this program, with 100% plus response to the children's wishes. Deadline for receiving gifts will be White Gift Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**SEASONAL LITURGIST**

We are soliciting for individuals or families who would like to read during the Christmas Eve service at St. John U.C.C. 7:00 p.m., St. Jacob U.C.C. 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Those who are interested should contact Pastor Kniepkamp as soon as possible or leave a message at the church office.

**ST. JACOB BROTHERHOOD PORK SAUSAGE SALE**

Orders must be turned in by Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Order Form enclosed.  
Meat and Sausage available:  
Pork Sausage – Link or Bulk  
Liver Sausage – Ring  
Back Bone  
Ribs  
Orders may be picked up at the church shed on Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> after 12 noon and Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> after 8:00 a.m.

**Totenfest**

**Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

On Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the St. John U.C.C., Summerfield and St. Jacob U.C.C. observed the traditional Memorial Sunday known as Totenfest.

During the regular 8:45 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. services of worship, the names of the members and friends of the congregation who have passed away in the previous twelve months were read and remembered with special prayers and acts of memorial. Those we remember:

- St. John**
- Eula Gruender**
- Ruth Klein**
- Cletus Sensel**
- St. Jacob**
- James Beardsley**
- Jacqueline Bone**
- Lenore Frey**
- Opal Keilbach**
- Edwin Kelley**
- Vera Loehring**
- John McCarey**
- Darlene Mueller**
- Delbert Mueller**
- Mary Mueller**
- Glenn Noeltner**
- Martha Parker**
- Jay Rinderer**
- Robert Steding**
- Cathy Stewart**
- Jerry Ward**

**SPECIAL MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST IN DECEMBER**

*Sponsored by St. Jacob Brotherhood*  
The Monthly All Church Fellowship Breakfast for December will be held on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. We will begin serving at 8:00 a.m., but will continue to keep the buffet open until the 9:00 a.m. start of the Sunday School Christmas Program rehearsal in St. Jacob.

We wish to invite all our Sunday School Teachers, Parents and especially our Sunday School participants to come early for practice and enjoy a special menu breakfast this day. All members of the St. Jacob Sunday School, teachers, accompanists, and students are to consider themselves the guests of the Brotherhood and eat for FREE. The menu is not yet set, but expect lots of good things to enjoy!  
**Adult suggested Donation is \$4.00**  
January's Fellowship Breakfast will be Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**YOUTH GROUP**

St. Jacob Youth Group continues to collect cans. Marked containers are in the rear of the church between doors to Heritage Hall and Church Basement.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Anyone who is interested in using Church Envelopes in 2015, who did not have them in 2014,  
at St. Jacob, call Duane Woods (644-9410).  
at St. John, call June Boggy (808-0364).

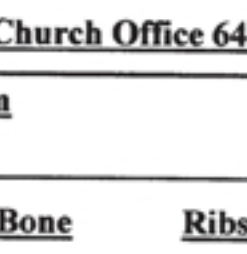
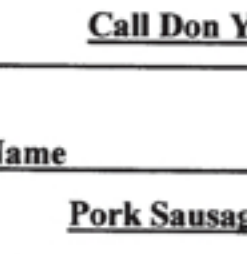
**CHRISTMAS FUND**

For decades, the Christmas Fund, formerly known as "Veterans of the Cross", has helped provide supplemental monies for pension and health insurance premiums to low-income retirees.

At Christmas, the offering provides gift checks to hundreds of annuitants, and provides emergency assistance to clergy and lay employees and their families throughout the year.

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**St. Jacob**  
**Candlelight Communion Service on Christmas Eve**  
**10:00 p.m.**



**ST. JACOB BROTHERHOOD PORK SAUSAGE SALE**

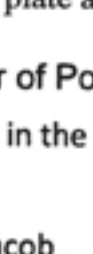
**Fill out form below and send to the church office by December 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Or**

**Call Don Yann 667-4626 or Brad Kunz 644-9237 or Church Office 644-2142**

**Meat and Sausage Order Form**

<b>Name</b> _____		<b>Telephone</b> _____	
<b>Pork Sausage</b>	<b>Liver Sausage</b>	<b>Back Bone</b>	<b>Ribs</b>
<b>Link</b>	<b>Bulk</b>	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____



**Poinsettias for Christmas**

Order your Poinsettia(s) to decorate your church sanctuary during the Holiday Season below.  
**COST: \$8.00 each**

Make checks payable to: **St. Jacob U.C.C.**

Return this form along with payment to the St. Jacob Church Office by mail or drop in the offering plate at your church by:  
**Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

Number of Poinsettia(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Put an X in the box next to name of your church.

St. Jacob  St. John's

Poinsettias may be taken home after last worship service on Christmas Eve.  
Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_