

St. J Newsletter

April-May 2016

From the Pastor's Desk:

Following the example of the disciples of Jesus, following the rush of Easter activity, I too decided to go fishing. (*John 21:1-19*) Joyce and I went to Reelfoot, and spent a few days enjoying the unmatched natural beauty of the lake, largely undisturbed by any fish requiring catching. Still, it was a good trip, including our evening dinners at 'Boyettes'. Boyette's is an institution at the lake, having served their unique style of meals since 1921. Every dinner, from the three-meat all you can eat, to the modest plate lunch sized portion is served the same way. Every entrée comes with home-made French Fries, onion rings, slaw, hush puppies, rolls and your choice of seasoned green beans or white beans. It is a crazy amount of food. Afterwards the waitresses, in that sweet southern drawl, will ask if "Y'all saved any room for dessert?". One night I asked our waitress if dessert was not the poorest selling item on the menu. She smiled at me, and with a bright twinkle in her eyes exclaimed, "It is! We eat way more than we sell!"

I wonder if what the waitress said about their desserts might also be true about our churches. Much of the best that we have to offer: our amazing fellowship, our deep concern for others, our commitment to children, our joys and our enthusiasms; we ourselves are the biggest consumers. That is not a bad thing! They are not commodities in limited supply. We have plenty and enough to share, but sharing is what we are supposed to be doing.

Consider the disciples in the aftermath of Easter. For years they had been enjoying rather exclusive access to Jesus. They had witnessed the miracles, received the teachings, and lived in his presence. Now, after Easter, they are not sure of what to do. Several of the disciples decide to go back to fishing. But then, the risen Christ returns to them, and gives them their marching orders. "Feed My Sheep!"

The disciples were charged to take all they had seen and heard and experienced, and share it with others. Christ' directions are not too specific. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the disciples will need to find their own voice, their own way forward; but forward they must go.

And so must we as the churches of Jesus Christ in our own time. We must continually search within our own hearts and imaginations, and trust in the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to find ways to share the good things we enjoy within our community of faith; to feed the other lambs for whom Christ also died and was raised again.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

St. John's:

Worship and Sunday School

8:45 a.m.

St. Jacob:

Sunday School

9:00 a.m.

Summer Vacation after May 10

Worship

10:15 a.m.

Holey Week Fellowship 1st Sunday of each month at both churches.

BIRTH

Griffin Daniel Goodman – January 31

Baptisms

Dexter Louis Zbinden – February 21

Lillian Marie Zobrist – February 28

Haylee Sue Petchulat – February 28

Carla Sue Zobrist – February 28

Alaina Rose Welsh – February 28

Delana Lynn Dooley – March 20

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

St. Jacob Web: <http://www.stjacobucc.org/>

Rev. Gary, Home: 644-5703

Rev. Gary, e-mail: knipkamp@hometel.com

Kay, Home 644-5578

Kay, e-mail: khoenig@hometel.com

IN OUR PRAYERS

We offer our heartfelt sympathies to the families of:

Glenn Zobrist

Robert Bovinett

on the death of their loved ones.

WEDDING

Tara Frey and Philip Marchinski

March 19, 2016

2015-2016 Confirmation Class

Congratulations to the St. Jacob and St. John, Summerfield, 2015-2016 Confirmation Class, who was presented to the congregations on Sunday, March 13th, confirmed on Palm Sunday, March 20th and received their First Communion on Easter Sunday, March 27th.

St. John, Summerfield:

Kristen Rachael Hill

St. Jacob:

Delana Lynn Dooley

Troy Gene Gansmann

Gavin Edward Marti

Haylee Sue Petchulat

Benjamin Robert Prange

Samuel Jacob Prange

Lane Nicole Sedlacek

Cameron Michael Woods

MOWING GRASS

It's time to sign up for mowing the grass at church. Remember, we have a great mower for you to use. Sign up sheet is in Heritage Hall.

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 Rae Lynne Meyer, telephone 541-4052 (text or call) OR e-mail: raelynnemeyer@gmail.com

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

APRIL

- 3 – Beth and Bailey Frank
- 10 – Rae Lynne Meyer
- 17 – Ann Schmidt
- 24 – Patti Woods

MAY

- 1 – Ronda Schmidt
- 8 – Ronda Schmidt
- 15 – STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
- 22 – Ronda Schmidt
- 29 – Shelly Marti

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

**Sunday, May 15th – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
at the St. Jacob Township Park**

As always, we are seeking volunteers on Saturday for setting up the park and cleaning berries, and on Sunday – parking cars, grilling, and working in the food stand.

The Worker Sign Up and Donation Sheet and T-Shirt Order Form are included in this Newsletter.

The Strawberry Festival Chairman for the Craft Stands is Donna Lowe, 644-2801. Anyone who would like a space for their Craft Stand should contact her.

ST. JACOB SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, April 17th –

DuBois Camp Sunday

Information on all camps is available in Heritage Hall.

And remember, our church organizations will help make camp affordable for you.

Sunday, May 8th –

Mother's Day Celebration

Promotion Sunday

Children will sing during worship

Bibles and Perfect Attendance Awards
will be presented during worship

Last Day of Sunday School until Fall

Sunday September 11th –

Sunday School Resumes

NEEDED – VOLUNTEERS!

WHO ME?

So, you want to be a Sunday School teacher?

Help for those who have doubts or fears about teaching young children.

Kids do not need another cool friend. Children need someone who cares, knows their names, encourages them, makes them feel important—someone they can count on who is stable. Above all, kids need someone who has a desire to teach them about God.

Draw the kids into the lesson and the group by helping them become part of the lesson. Include the children as often as possible. Allow them to act out the Bible stories, read the Bible passages, draw on the whiteboards, ask questions, and participate in class discussions. Be encouraging.

So, you want to be a Sunday school teacher, good for you!

God has abundant blessings in store for both you and the children!



ST. JACOB 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 the Church Basement.

YOUTH GROUP RUMMAGE SALE

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

May 5th, 6th, 7th

The Youth Group is accepting donations anytime. Bring to church, put in the shed, or leave in Heritage Hall. Dawn will organize them. We are looking for volunteers to help organize and help sell with the Youth Group. Any questions, contact Dawn by e-mail: smdz@hometel.com or phone 792-4316

DuBOIS WORK DAY

Saturday, April 23rd

YOU'RE INVITED! Everyone is invited to lend a helping hand as we prepare our facilities for the busy summer camping season. Projects vary depending on the skills of those involved and the weather, but a tired muscle or two and a great sense of satisfaction are guaranteed. There are fans to be cleaned, leaves to be raked, wood to be stacked, and buildings to be cleaned and painted. There are also a variety of carpentry projects, as well as other tasks requiring special skills. The work may not be glamorous, but it really does make a BIG DIFFERENCE! We'll gather at 7:30 a.m. at St. Jacob and conclude work by 4:00 p.m. Lunch and supplies are provided,

STRAWBERRY SPONSORS

Our sincere thanks to the following Strawberry Sponsors:

Gateway Business Services

Fresh Thyme

Home Telephone

Steinkoenig Dairy

State Bank of St. Jacob

Packaging Options

Greentree AV.com

Big Frog

New Image Technical Center

Lucky Rooster

Randy's Towing

Xtreme Collision

Personal Preference Services

Plocher Construction Company

Marine Coin Company

B-Dry/B-Wet

Moonlight Computing

Security Finance

Hanser Dental

SOGA OB/GYN

A THOUGHT

When I woke up this morning
I asked myself:

What are some of the secrets
of success in life?

I found the answer right there
in my room.

The fan said: Be cool;

The Roof said: Aim high;

The Window said: See the world;

The Clock said:

Every minute is precious;

The Mirror said: Reflect before you act;

The Door said:

Push hard for your Goals.

And don't forget:

The Carpet said: Kneel down and Pray.

Have a Nice Day!

**St. Jacob United Church of Christ
207 West Main Street
St. Jacob, Illinois 62281-1531**

**St. John's United Church of Christ
109 West Kavanaugh – P O Box 159
Summerfield, Illinois 62289**



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 15th, 2016

St. Jacob Township Park

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**St. Jacob United Church of Christ
207 West Main Street
St. Jacob, Illinois 62281-1531**

**Non-Profit Organization
U S Postage
PAID
Permit Number 6
St. Jacob, Illinois 62281**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED