

St. J Newsletter

February-March 2016

From the Pastor's Desk:

Texas Sheet Cake or Cream Puff Cake. At a recent luncheon at church, that was the decision confounding me. Which of those two delectable desserts would I choose? In the end, Religion and Science combined to solve my problem. Religion, with my calendar reminding me that Lent and its traditions of penitence and self-denial was beginning only a few weeks later. It is my customary practice to 'give up' everything sweet for Lent – desserts, soda, chocolate, everything. Science, in the form of logic, told me – better enjoy these treats while I still can. So I took 'em both. BOOM ! Double-desserted it.

(Traditionally, pastors feel required to insert a long list of qualifiers here. How there were tons and tons of desserts so nobody else would run short, or how I ate a light lunch to save room for the desserts. Forget about it. It was time to 'get while the getting was good.' I may have smuggled a piece of Dump Cake out in a to-go box.)

With Ash Wednesday rapidly approaching, others among us might be making similar considerations. What will we be 'giving up for Lent.' I intend to keep my usual tradition, but am considering a slightly different approach, especially as it regards our mid-week Lenten services.

Fear not ! We will continue to enjoy our Wednesday evening fellowship meals, and most times there will be desserts. However, following the meal this year, instead of guest mission speakers, we will be participating in a short Bible study and guided reflection on *Giving Up Something Bad for Lent !*

If we are going to engage in the spiritual discipline of giving up something for Lent, might we consider giving up some negative attitude, habit or practice that really negatively affects us? And if we can engage in denying ourselves these bad things for the forty days of Lent, maybe we can keep rid of them permanently. Imagine how our lives might be if we could give up envy, jealousy, resentment or negative thinking, and not just for Lent, but with God's help, forever.

Please consider joining us on Wednesday evenings during Lent when we will be enjoying great fellowship meals, and prayerfully considering what we might be giving up *BAD* for Lent.

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 1st Sunday of each month at both churches.

BIRTHS

Payton Riley Bohnenstiehl – December 15
Brenna Kelli Zurliene – December 17

Baptism

Lola Jean (Joy) Porter – November 2

NEW MEMBERS

St. Jacob

Andrea Henkenhoff
Rebecca (Becky) Jones
Ann Schmidt

October 25, 2015

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:

Lola (Joy) Porter
Paula Soldanels
Garrett Byrnes
Tiffany Gindler
Lillian Zobrist

on the death of their loved ones.

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

FEBRUARY

7 – Kristen Belcher
14 – Beth Hanser
21 – Dian Gansmann
28 – Ronda Schmidt

MARCH

6 – Andrea Herkenhoff
13 – Beth and Bailey Frank
20 – Melissa Nehrt
27 – Donna and Micah Lowe

WEDDING

Nicole Baer and Bo Gum
December 31, 2015

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars:

Sunday, May 15th from 10 am to 4 pm

St. Jacob Township Park

More information in Bulletins and next Newsletter.



INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP

Both churches are always happy to welcome new members into their congregations. If you or someone you know is interested in joining one of our church families, please contact Pastor Kniepkamp at church –

644-2142, at home – 644-5703, or by e-mail knipkamp@hometel.com

EASTER

Easter Flower Order Form is included in this Newsletter and must be in the St. Jacob Church Office by Sunday, March 20th.

ST. JACOB SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will be singing during worship on Sunday, February 7th.

This is Scout Sunday, so all students who are Scouts are invited to wear their uniforms.



LENTEN SCHEDULE

Wednesday Lenten meals begin at 6:15 p.m. except Maundy Thursday, which begins at 6:30 p.m. Bible Study follows after the meal at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Donation for the meal is \$5.00 for adults.

Ash Wednesday, February 10th

Host – St. Jacob Church Council

Meal – Lasagna, Salad, Bread Sticks,
Dessert

Bible Study

Second Wednesday, February 17th:

Host – St. Jacob Brotherhood

Meal – Asian Express
Bible Study

Third Wednesday, February 24th:

Host – St. Jacob Evening Ladies Fellowship

Meal –
Bible Study

Fourth Wednesday, March 2nd:

Host – St. Jacob Youth Group/
Confirmation Class

Meal – Fiesta Night--Tex Mex Buffet
Bible Study

Fifth Wednesday, March 9th:

AT ST. JOHN, SUMMERFIELD

Host – St. John, Summerfield

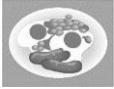
Meal – Pork Sausage, Mashed Potatoes and
Gravy, Sauerkraut, Green Beans,
Dessert

Bible Study

Maundy Thursday, March 24th – 6:30 p.m.

Host – St. Jacob Brotherhood

Meal – Beef Stew and Biscuits, Desserts
Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.



**MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP
BREAKFAST**

Sponsored by St. Jacob Brotherhood

The upcoming dates for the All Church Fellowship Breakfasts are:

Saturday, February 27th and
Saturday, March 26th

(final Breakfast of the season)

We always begin serving at 8:00 a.m.

The menus are not yet set, but expect lots of good things to enjoy!

Adult suggested Donation is \$5.00

The next Fellowship Breakfast will be in the Fall.

FAST NACHT HAM SUPPER

The Annual Fast Nacht Ham Supper is coming soon – Tuesday, February 9th in Heritage Hall. Serving from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$9.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children 4-12, carry-outs are \$9.00

It's not too late! Anyone who has not been contacted by a member of the Evening Ladies Fellowship and can volunteer a couple hours of their time, please call:

Sara Schreiber – 644-9498

Jane Schmidt – 444-0590

Audrey Bolk – 644-2856

A church preschool teacher was watching her class of four-year-olds enjoying free time for art. One little girl seemed especially engrossed in her drawing, so the teacher walked over to take a closer look.

“I’m drawing a picture of God,” said Callie.

“Oh, honey, no one knows what God looks like,” said the teacher.

“Well, they will when I’m done!” replied Callie.

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.



The Youth Group will be sponsoring a church-wide Rummage Sale during the St. Jacob Yard Sale Weekend on May 5th to 7th. So, as you are cleaning closets for the new year, please keep the kids in mind for their sale.

The Youth Group/Confirmation Class will provide and serve the meal at the March 2nd Lenten Service.



**ST. JOHN PANCAKE
AND SAUSAGE BREAKFAST**

Saturday, February 20th, from 7 to 11 a.m., St. John is hosting an all-you-can-eat Pancake and Sausage Breakfast. Menu: pancakes, sausage, eggs, biscuits and gravy.

Adults are \$7.00, children 5-12 are \$4.00, under 5 eat free.

There will be great fellowship, good food, and friends. They hope to see all of you there!

You won't find a better breakfast around for the price.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

In a world where communities are being displaced by the catastrophes of war, famine, and natural disasters, the Church is called to reclaim the spiritual discipline of solidarity.

Through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, we, as the body of Christ, have opportunity and power to help those who are living in despair as refugees. If refugees had the chance to return home, many would not have a place to return because their home most likely has been destroyed—either burned, severely damaged, or is still an unsafe place to live.

This year as you consider your gift to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, for one moment, think of what it would be like to not have a place to call home, and then make your very best gift. Let us live out the call of solidarity with all people especially those displaced by disaster, war, and famine.

HOLEY SUNDAY

On the first Sunday each month, both St. John and St. Jacob are continuing their coffee hour fellowship times.

From 9:45 a.m. until worship time at 10:15 a.m. in St. Jacob, and immediately following worship at St. John, in the respective fellowship halls for coffee and conversation.



SWEETHEART SUNDAY

Sunday, February 14th, both churches will be celebrating Sweetheart Sunday at a joint worship service at St. Jacob at 10:15 a.m.

The couples celebrating significant anniversaries will be recognized during worship.

Special music will be provided during and after the service by the Edwardsville Brass Quintet.

A “special Buy them a drink” – DuBois Barn Offering will be collected.

An Appetizer Reception for everyone attending worship today in Heritage Hall will be held following worship.

ST. JOHN

3RD ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, March 29 at Summerfield Lions Club

Come join us for our 3rd Annual Trivia Night to support St. John’s UCC Summerfield Sunday School. This event raises money to send our kids to Church Camp. We’ll be having a silent auction, 50/50 raffle, bake sale, and selling hot dogs and chips to go along with the Trivia. You are welcome to bring whatever snacks you want, but all drinks must be purchased from the Lions Club (NO outside drinks). Doors open at 6 p.m. and Trivia starts at 7 p.m. \$100 per table and 10 people max per table. To reserve a table you can let us know via Facebook or call Mindy Schiefer at 444-2852 or Barb Baer at 795-0746. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Easter Flowers

Order your flower(s) to decorate your church sanctuary for Easter Sunday below.

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

Put number of flowers in box next to flower name.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Lily | Price \$8.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tulip | Price \$8.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hyacinth | Price \$8.50 |

Put X in box next to name of your church.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | St. John's | <input type="checkbox"/> | St. Jacob |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|

Your Name:

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

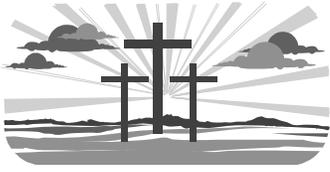
Return this form to the St. Jacob Church Office or drop in your church offering plate.

Deadline for ordering: Sunday, March 20th

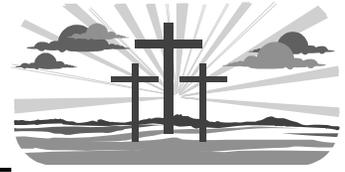
People who ordered flowers may take them home after late services on Easter Sunday.

**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**



Easter Sunday, March 27th Worship



**7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Worship with Communion
Followed by Easter Breakfast**

at St. Jacob UCC

8:45 a.m. Easter Worship with Communion

at St. John, Summerfield UCC

**10:15 a.m. Easter Worship with Communion
Confirmation Class First Communion**

at St. Jacob UCC

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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED