

St. J Newsletter

December 2016-January 2017

This Our Mothers and Fathers Did For Us

When we build, let us think that we build forever. Let it not be for present delight nor for present use alone. Let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for; and let us think, as we lay stone on stone, that a time is to come when those stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them, and people will say, as they look upon the labor, "See! This our fathers and mothers did for us!"

John Rusken (adapted)

For the last four months, the St. Jacob U.C.C. has been a construction zone. We were getting accustomed to apologizing for the inconvenience, but not for much longer! On December 11, we will be returning to worship in our newly renovated sanctuary.

The plans for the day include two morning services.

The *first* service of worship in the new sanctuary will take place at 9:00 a.m., on Sunday, December 11.

The Sunday School Children and congregation will gather outside by the new front doors at 9:00 a.m. for a ribbon cutting and pictures. We will then process into the Sanctuary for morning worship with special music by the Guthrie Brothers. Following the Children's Time, the young people will follow their teachers to their assigned classrooms, to continue with their Christmas Program Practice, and worship will continue.

Following the first service, there will be a coffee hour in Heritage Hall from 10:00 a.m. until 10:30a.m.

At 10:30 a.m., the *second* service will include the Dedication of the new sanctuary, including a sermon from the Rev. David Greenhaw, President of Eden Theological Seminary, music by the Guthries, and the Dedication.

Immediately following the late service, a celebratory Fellowship Dinner will follow in Heritage Hall. The church will be providing the meal, a delicious Sausage Dinner with all the sides. In keeping with our Second Sunday custom, those staying for the meal are asked to bring a dessert to share. (Perhaps a tray of the first Christmas cookies of the season?)

Please note, there is no charge for the Second Sunday Sausage Dinner, but **we are distributing tickets for the meal**, in order to make appropriate preparations according to our expected attendance.

Through December 4th, you can pick up tickets before and after worship on Sundays, or pick yours up at the church office during business hours. There may be some limit on the number of tickets available, so please pick yours up at your earliest convenience.

Finally, and very importantly, such arrangements as are being made for the Rededication Sunday would not be possible without the generous support and co-operation of our brothers and sisters in our yoked congregation of St. John, Summerfield. We owe them a great debt of thanks, and very much look forward to their joining with us in worship and fellowship on this special occasion.

There will be no morning service at St. John on December 11th.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 11th at St. Jacob:

- Worship 9:00 a.m. – Sanctuary with Sunday School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Pictures
- Coffee Time – Heritage Hall 10:00 a.m.
- Worship 10:30 a.m. – Sanctuary Rededication
- Celebration Meal – Heritage Hall 11:30 a.m.

December 24th – CHRISTMAS EVE

- St. Jacob Family Service 4:00 p.m.
 - St. John Candlelight Service 7 p.m.
 - St. Jacob Candlelight Service 11:00 a.m.
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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 Cell: 567-9764

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:

Doris Baer

Zelda Donnelly

on the death of their loved ones.

BIRTHS

Dash Duane Zobrist – October 15

WEDDING

Brittany White and *Andrew Hanford*

October 15, 2016

ST. JACOB EVENING LADIES FELLOWSHIP

United in Fellowship and Service

All ladies are invited to join us for our monthly meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month.

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 Church Basement.

The Youth Group usually meets on the second and fourth Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Any questions, call Dawn Zobrist 644-4716.

ST. JACOB SUNDAY SCHOOL

Upcoming dates:

- Sunday, December 4th, pictures will be taken during Sunday School
 - Sunday, December 11th, Ribbon Cutting – Opening to the Sanctuary
 - Saturday, December 17th, Christmas Program Practice at 9:00 a.m. following Breakfast
 - **St. Jacob Sunday School Program on Sunday, December 18th at 10:15 a.m.**
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MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP

BREAKFAST

Sponsored by St. Jacob Brotherhood

Fellowship Breakfast in November is Saturday, November 26th.

Breakfast is served at 8:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

Adult Donation \$5.00

Children are always our guests.

Fellowship Breakfast in December is Saturday, December 17th, serving from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. prior to Sunday School Program Practice. Everyone welcome. Teachers and students are the Brotherhood's Special Guests.

We will decorate our church for Christmas following Breakfast and Practice.

ST. JACOB BROTHERHOOD

PORK SAUSAGE SALE

Orders must be turned in by Sunday, December 11th.

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 15th after 12 noon, and Friday, 16th after 8:00 a.m.



FAITH COUNTRYSIDE HOMES

December 7th – 10:00 a.m.

Linden Hall – Christmas Communion

All St. Jacob UCC residents of Faith Countryside Homes, neighboring residential facilities and independent living apartments, their families and friends are invited to join us for a time of worship and fellowship on Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. We will share communion, have a few gifts to present, perhaps enjoy a Christmas Treat, and give old friends a chance to visit together.

CALENDARS

December

- 4 Sunday School Pictures 9:00 a.m.
Dedication of White Gifts 10:00 a.m.
- 7 Faith Countryside Nursing Home
(info above) 10:00 a.m.
St Jacob Council Meeting 7:15 p.m.
- 11 Ribbon Cutting – Opening the Sanctuary
9:00 a.m. then worship
Coffee Time 10:00 to 10:30 a.m.
Rededication Worship 10:30 a.m.
Second Sunday Lunch 11:30 a.m.
- 12 Last day to order Sausage
- 14 Last day to order Poinsettias
- 15 Pickup Sausage after 12 noon
- 16 Pickup up Sausage after 8:00 a.m.
- 17 Fellowship Breakfast 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School Program Practice 9:00 a.m.
St. Jacob Decorate the Church
- 18 St. Jacob Sunday School Program
during Worship 10:15 a.m.
- 23 Poinsettias delivered
- 24 Christmas Eve (see above/back cover)
- 25 Christmas Day – NO Worship
- 31 New Year's Eve

January 2017

- 1 New Year's Day
Worship at both churches
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CHRISTMAS FUND

Love each other. Just as I have loved you,
so you also must love each other.

John 13:34

Grace to you and peace in the name of God, who is Love!

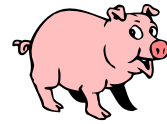
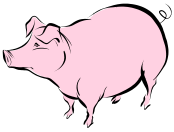
For 115 years, the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a tangible expression of God's love. One of the four Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ, the Christmas Fund provides UCC congregations and members an opportunity to reach out in loving compassion, providing assistance to those who have so faithfully served our Church and who now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs.

In 2015, UCC congregations and members generously contributed \$1,528,481 to the Offering. This enabled the Pension Boards' Ministerial Assistance program to provide, on behalf of the whole Church, Pension Supplementation, Health Premium Supplementation, Emergency Grants, and Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks to individuals and families in need.

The theme of the 2016 Christmas Fund Offering is **God's Love Colors Everything**, and our goal is to raise \$1.7 million to help support these ministries of love and care. In the spirit of love, we invite and encourage you to prayerfully consider and support this year's appeal, and to spread the word so that others will also join in this vital ministry.

Christmas Fund Offering Envelopes are available in your envelope sets and in the church pew racks.

The word "Christmas" is written in a highly decorative, red cursive script. The letters are thick and feature elaborate flourishes, including large loops and swirls that extend above and below the baseline of the text. The overall style is reminiscent of traditional calligraphy or a festive holiday font.



ST. JACOB BROTHERHOOD PORK SAUSAGE SALE

Fill out order form below and send to the church office by December 11th

Or

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

Orders may be picked up at the church shed on Thursday, December 15th after 12 noon, and Friday, 16th after 8:00 a.m.

Meat and Sausage Order Form

Name _____ **Telephone** _____

Pork Sausage

Liver Sausage

Back Bone

Ribs

Link **Bulk** _____



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:

Wednesday, December 14th

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: _____

**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**



**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP
Saturday, December 24, 2016**

4:00 p.m.	St. Jacob UCC	Family Worship Service including Holy Communion
7:00 p.m.	St. John's UCC	Candlelight Communion Service
11:00 p.m.	St. Jacob UCC	Candlelight Communion Service

**Sunday, December 25, 2016
NO Sunday School and NO Church**

**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 CORRECTION REQUESTED