

St. J Newsletter

February-March 2017

From the Pastor's Desk:

Lent 2017

Forty years after the Exodus out of Egypt, Joshua successfully led a new generation of Israel to conquer the "Promised Land" of Canaan through their faith and trust in God and their obedience to God's commands. However, the succeeding generations failed to remember the mighty acts of God in the Exodus out of Egypt and in the conquest of Canaan. In their forgetfulness and ingratitude, they became a disobedient and idolatrous people who came to be oppressed by their enemies until they repented their sins. When they repented, God sent them warrior judges to deliver them from their oppressors. The Book of Judges is the account of the generations between the conquest of Canaan and the time of the monarchy. It is a time in which the Israelites continually strayed from God and "everyone did as he thought fit."

Today we live in a time that may be seen as similar to the times of the judges of Israel. Many have strayed from their faith and trust in God, many have failed in their obedience to God's commands, and many people live by the non-code of "do what feels right." The Book of Judges tells of the painful consequences of rejecting God's divine authority and also speaks of the mercy that God extends to those who return to Him in repentance and faith.

During our mid-week Lenten services this year, we will engage in a 7 week Bible study of the book of Joshua. The schedule will be similar to previous years. On Wednesday evening we will gather around 6:15 p.m. for a fellowship meal hosted by one of our church organizations. Following the meal, we will remain in Heritage Hall for the Bible study, and a brief time of shared concerns and prayers. Evening services should be concluded between 7:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Everyone, regardless of their church home or denominational affiliation, is invited to join us for our Wednesday evening fellowship dinners and Bible study.

Just a reminder, the meals are prepared and presented by the various church organizations and families. These are not potlucks. There is a donation basket available to offset the cost of the meals, so no one needs to feel self-conscious about participating. These really are warm and enriching evenings for family and friends to gather around tables for good food, fellowship, and spiritual nourishment.

COME AND SEE!

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.

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:

Mary (Becky) Hanserr

Jerry Tague

on the death of their loved ones.

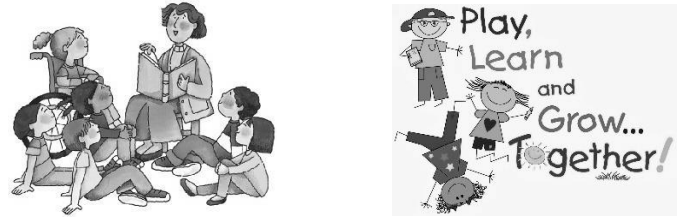
WEDDING

Amy Zbinden and Jerimiah Sullivan

January 28, 2017

BAPTISM

Dash Duane Zobrist – January 22nd



NURSERY

All children are welcome in our Sunday Morning worship services and we have a lovely Nursery in Heritage Hall, staffed by experienced and trusted volunteers if the children or their parents need a break. There is a changing station located in the adjacent restroom. Questions? Ask our Council Person for any assistance you might need. 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: raelynemeyer@gmail.com

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

FEBRUARY

- 5 – Melissa Nehrt
- 12 – Donna and Micah Lowe
- 19 – Beth and Bailey Frank
- 26 – Rae Lynne Meyer

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 Friday, April 7th.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars:

Sunday, May 21st from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

St. Jacob Township Park

Do you know a business that would be willing to advertise as part of the Strawberry Festival? Sponsorships are available in a wide range of cost, and the committee is also accepting offers of goods and services to be included in the raffle. What a fantastic opportunity for positive exposure to a very diverse community of people from all around the metro area, and to help support our church. Contact Dawn Zobrist @792-4316 or Audrey Yann @567-8013.

ST. JACOB SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will be singing during worship on Sunday, February 5th.

This is Scout Sunday; all Scouts are invited to wear their uniforms.

HERITAGE HALL

Anyone desiring to reserve Heritage Hall for a private event should contact the church office as soon as possible. Reservations are being requested with increasing frequency, as the Hall is available to everyone, on a first come basis.

Please make your reservations early.

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, March 1st

Host – St. Jacob Church Council

Meal – Lasagna, Salad

Lesson – Judges 1:1 – 2:5

Second Wednesday, March 8th:

Host – St. Jacob Brotherhood

Meal – Chef Surprise!

Lesson – Judges 2:6 – 5:3

Third Wednesday, March 15th:

Host – St. Jacob Sunday School

Meal – Corned Beef/Cabbage

Lesson – Judges 6-8

Fourth Wednesday, March 22nd:

Host – Evening Ladies Fellowship

Meal – Chili and Soup

Lesson – Judges 9:1-12:16

Fifth Wednesday, March 29th:

Host – St. Jacob Youth Group

Meal – Fiesta

Lesson – Judges 12:17-15:20

Sixth Wednesday, April 5th:

AT ST. JOHN, SUMMERFIELD

Host – St. John, Summerfield

Meal – Sausage Dinner

Lesson – Judges 16-18

Maundy Thursday, April 13th – 6:30 p.m.

Host – St. Jacob Brotherhood

Meal – Beef Stew

Lesson at 7:00 p.m. – Judges 19-21

**MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP
BREAKFAST**

Sponsored by St. Jacob Brotherhood

The upcoming dates for the All Church Fellowship Breakfasts are:

Saturday, February 25th and

Saturday, March 25th

(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.

**ST. JOHN PANCAKE
AND SAUSAGE BREAKFAST**

Saturday, March 11th, 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.

HOLEY SUNDAY

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

NO EVERY SUNDAY COFFEE TIME IN ST.JACOB.

GIRL SCOUT TROOP #734

Summerfield/Lebanon Girl Scout Troop #734 is collecting aluminum can TABS for the Ronald McDonald House in St. Louis. Collection cans are located on the resource tables at both St. John, Summerfield and St. Jacob U.C.C. They appreciate your support.

Did you know that ALL the Summerfield/Lebanon area Girl Scout troops meet in the St. John Fellowship Hall?

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group will be sponsoring a Game Night on Saturday, February 18th.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Everyone from the congregation and guests are invited and welcomed. Bring your snacks and your appetite – FOR FUN!

Board games, playing cards, and drinks provided. No admission cost. Sponsored by the St. Jacob Youth Group.

The Youth Group will provide and serve the meal at the March 29th Lenten Service.



SWEETHEART SUNDAY

Sunday, February 12th, both churches will be celebrating Sweetheart Sunday.

The couples celebrating significant anniversaries will be recognized during worship.

After worship St. Jacob will have a cake and punch reception in Heritage Hall for everyone attending today.



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 \$9.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tulip | Price \$9.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hyacinth | Price \$9.00 |

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: Friday, April 7th

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**

ST. JOHN 4th ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, April 8th at Summerfield Lions Club

Come join us for our 4th Annual Trivia Night to support St. John UCC, Summerfield.

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!

Items are needed for the Silent Auction and Bake Sale.

**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