

From Pastor Kleinschmidt

THE POSSIBLE CALL OF REV. DR. ARIC FENSKE AS PART-TIME ASSISTANT PASTOR OF ST. JAKOBI.

Who is Pastor Aric Fenske?

- 2011 graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN
- 2020 earned Doctorate of Ministry from CTSFW in preaching
- Married to Marie and have four daughters (one of them at home) and two grandchildren and two on the way.
- Currently serves as the **Executive Director of Lutherans for Life**
- Served Grace and Trinity Lutheran Churches in Bear Creek, WI until May 2025
- Previously served a dual parish in Sheldon and Gilman, WI



Where did this idea to Call Pastor Fenske as Part-Time Unpaid Assistant Pastor come from?

- His desire to have a call to a congregation in addition to his duties at Lutherans for Life.
- Opportunity for him to have a church family and connection to pastoral duties
- His desire to be a part of 'boots on the ground' ministry and not just administrative work at Lutherans for Life.

What would be Pastor Fenske's duties as Part-time Unpaid Assistant Pastor?

- He would preach 12-20 times per year (There are typically 70 sermons per year not including funerals and weddings).
- When he preaches Saturday and Sunday, he would lead Sunday Bible class and continue the study that Pastor Kleinschmidt is conducting on Sundays.
- He would **not** make shut-in or hospital visits, or conduct weddings or funerals.
- He would **not** attend meetings except maybe a couple elder meetings per year and he wouldn't have any administrative duties.
- He would **not** conduct any Bible classes except when he is preaching that weekend.

How is this good for St. Jakobi?

- During the weeks when Pastor Fenske is preaching, it frees up time for Pastor

Kleinschmidt to work on other pastoral responsibilities that haven't received their due attention.

- This gives the congregation a rich range of preaching that will edify people's faith.

How does this affect Pastor Fenske's call and job at Lutherans for Life?

- He would continue to work full-time for Lutherans for Life.
- He currently travels throughout the country on average two weekends per month.
- He would continue to receive full salary and benefits from Lutherans for Life
- He would preach at St. Jakobi when it fits with his travel schedule and work load at Lutherans for Life. Lutherans for Life comes first for Pastor Fenske.

Does he really want to add these extra duties for zero pay?

- He wouldn't accept our call in order to get a second job for more pay.
- His desire is to perform the duties of a parish pastor and preach and teach to a regular congregation.
- He wouldn't receive a salary from St. Jakobi and he doesn't desire any pay either.
- It would probably make sense for St. Jakobi to pay him for his mileage.
 - He will soon build a house in New London and it would be about 35 miles one way.
 - That equals about \$100 per weekend when he preaches (about \$1,500-\$1,700/year)

What comes next?

- Pray for the will of God to be done in our midst and for Pastor Fenske and his family
- **This information will be presented and discussed at the January 25th Voter meeting.**
- Depending on the reception and questions we may hold open forums to present more information and answer questions.
- In order to call Pastor Fenske, we need to hold a Voter Meeting.
 - This could happen at our next regular Voter meeting on April 26 or the President of the Congregation could call a special voter meeting sooner than that.

ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

WALK THROUGH THE HYMNAL

St. Jakobi will be hosting a Hymnal seminar on **Saturday, January 31, 2026**. We are planning a fun and dynamic, half-day seminar, similar to last year's New Testament Journey seminar. **Register at www.tinyurl.com/WalkHymnal**



Registration, fellowship, and snacks begin at 8:30 a.m. Snacks will be available throughout the morning, free childcare will be provided if needed, and lunch will be served. Please plan to stay and enjoy fellowship together afterward. **Be sure to invite a friend. This is a free event for everyone!** Come ready to learn, be encouraged, and rediscover the hymnal as a powerful resource for worship and daily devotion. We look forward to seeing you there!

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Upcoming schedule at Sunday School:

2/1 Mercy-Full Message
2/8 Prayer Lesson
2/15 A Shepherd Loves
2/22 A Tree View

FUNERAL

Marlyn Teetzen passed away on January 12th, 2026. His funeral was on January 19th. Blessed are those who die in the Lord.

SUNDAY SNACK SIGNUP

If you would like to bring a snack to share on Sunday after church, then you can sign up on the counter by the kitchenette in the Narthex.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION REPORT

If you were not able to attend the meeting on January 25th, you can pick up the Annual Report of St. Jakobi that includes the 2025 Financial Statements in the Narthex at church.

GIVING OPTIONS

You can now give online by visiting <http://bit.ly/DonateStJakobi>. This easy way to give to church can be done as a one-time gift or recurring. You can give from your checking account or credit card. If you would like you can help offset the expense of offering this service, there is information at that website.



ASH WEDNESDAY – FEB. 18TH

Ash Wednesday is on February 18th. There will be two Communion Services on that day, at 10:30am and 6:30pm. There is also a Lent Dinner at 5pm. Make a habit of coming and growing in your faith in preparation for the celebration of Easter. The remaining Wednesdays in Lent will have just a single service at 6:30pm.



READINGS AT CHURCH

February 1st: Micah 6:1-8
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12
February 8th: Isaiah 58:3-9a
1 Corinthians 2:1-12
Matthew 5:13-20
February 15th: Exodus 24:8-18
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9
February 22nd: Genesis 3:1-21
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

LENT SERVICES

Lent services will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 18th; and will continue on February 25th, and March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th. There is also a Lent Dinner at 5pm. Make a habit of coming and growing in your faith in preparation for the celebration of Easter.

February 18th: Pastor Kleinschmidt
February 25th: Pastor Kaiser from St. James
March 4th: Pastor Moon from St. John, Hermansfort & St. Paul, Stony Hill
March 11th: Pastor Fehrmann from St. Paul, Bonduel
March 18th: Pastor Nehring from St. Paul, Town of Washington and Immanuel, White Clay Lake
March 25th: Pastor Kleinschmidt

EDUCATION SAVINGS ENCOURAGEMENT

St. Jakobi received a gift that is to be distributed to the children of the congregation under the age of 18. This gift is meant to encourage parents and family to save for the education expenses of their children. St. Jakobi will give \$100 into a 529 Savings Account to encourage and give a jump start to education savings. Forms to apply are in the Narthex and church office.

LENT MEALS

Lent is fast approaching. We will again have a meal before the evening Lent services this year. It will be served from 5-6pm in the new Fellowship Hall. The following will be in charge of the meals:

February 18th -Elders

February 25th – Boards of Evangelism & Trustees

March 4th – Higher Things Youth

March 11th - Choir

March 18th – Board of Education

March 25th – Officers & Spiritual Outreach

ALUMINIUM CAN RECYCLING

You can turn your aluminum cans in south of the church. Put the cans in closed bags and then place the bags inside the fence. The youth group will receive the proceeds of the recycling. Thank you!

ST. JAKOBI BOOK CLUB

The following is the list of books chosen for the upcoming meetings: Feb 3th – *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters; February 24th – *The Cabin at the End of the Train* by Michael V. Ivanov. There will be no Book Club in March.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to sign up to provide flowers for the Altar, you can do so on the bulletin board in the hallway at church. The flowers should be here before church on Saturday evening. You can provide them in memory of someone, in honor of someone or some event, or just because. Thanks for beautifying church in this way!

LUTHERAN FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

In order to assist LCMS Lutherans and congregations, a new Credit Union has been started. This credit union is for members of LCMS congregations and offers a full-range of banking products. They offer online and mobile banking with a network of over 5,000 ATMs. This no-cost banking option may be just what you are looking for with the service you desire. You can find out more at www.lutheranfcu.org.



MEN'S NIGHT

All men from the congregation are invited to the Men's Night on Thursday, February 12th, at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your own beverages and snack to pass. We'll play bags or dartball.

SENIOR CONNECTIONS LUNCHEON

All retired and semi-retired members of St. Jakobi are invited to the next Senior Connection Luncheon on Friday February 13th. We will have Bill Mott from Bill's Busy Bee farm tell us about the process of raising bees to produce honey. His presentation will begin at 11, with a tasty hot lunch to follow. Bill will have some products available for purchase. If you will be attending, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex on or before February 8th.

LOOKING AHEAD

Palm Sunday is March 29th, Easter is April 5th.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you are a Thrivent Member, you may have choice dollars that you can designate to be given to St. Jakobi, or Wolf River Lutheran High School. You can designate by calling 800-847-4836 (Mon-Thur 7:00am—8:00pm, Fri 7:00am—5:00pm, best to call between 5pm—8pm) or go on line to www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to make your designations.



ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN CHRIST

The 2025 4th Quarter started with a loan balance of \$1,339,115 and the year finished with a balance of \$1,299,549. In three years of monthly payments plus some additional paid on principal, we have paid down the loan nearly \$200,000.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Plans are being made for VBS to be held the week of June 1st-5th in the mornings. The theme this year is Tropical Trek: Jesus comes to Seek and Save. The week of VBS is the week after school gets out and the week before Summer School begins. Make plans now to have your children attend, help, or tell your grandkids and friends about this great opportunity to learn about Jesus. Look for registration material in the coming months.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 - Jai Bisterfeldt
2 - Ken Damveld
2 - Lucas Gast
2 - Abigael Owen
2 - Jayden Ritter
2 - Laci Sperberg
3 - Joseph Kleinschmidt
3 - Ayva Plaster
3 - Maverick Walby
3 - Everett Walby
6 - Patti Bohm
6 - Barb Lindner
7 - Jesse Buntrock
7 - Isaiah Gueths
8 - Troy Kuhn
8 - Nicki Meyers
8 - Ann Wollangk
9 - Casey Gast
10 - Alexandar Owen
10 - Andy Popp
10 - Chris Popp
11 - Chloe Bohl
13 - John Popp
13 - Jade Velicer
13 - Justin Weishoff
14 - Jim Hoffman
16 - Hadley Rettke
18 - Pam Moede
18 - Gary Weckwerth
19 - Tara Bohm
21 - Stephanie Boyles
21 - Kaitie Gueths
22 - Noah Bedroske
22 - Hannah Heinz
22 - Jaelyn Hietpas
22 - Glen Seering
23 - Alyssa Wendorff
24 - Nancy Schroeder
25 - Andrew Gueths
26 - Jacob Nevins
26 - Nancy Theis
27 - Melissa Teetzen
27 - Jeff Theis
28 - Betty Booras
28 - Isaac Buettner
28 - Charles Cumberland
28 - Michael Danley
28 - Sarah Magee
28 - Justin Opperman

A BIRTHDAY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, our times are in Your hands. Look with favor on name as he/she celebrates his/her birthday. Grant that he/she may continue to grow in wisdom and grace. Strengthen his/her trust in Your goodness and bless him/her with Your abiding love all the days of his/her life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

18, 2022 - Dale & Lisa Hawkinson
24, 2018 - Bob & Amber Ritter
26, 1972 - Mike & Karen Cotter
26, 1994 - Thomas & Corrina Tuma

AN ANNIVERSARY OF MARRIAGE PRAYER



O Lord Jesus, Your mercies are new every morning. We thank You for another year of married life together for name and name. Open their hearts always to receive more of Your love that their love for each other may never grow weary but deepen and grow through every joy and sorrow shared; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Contact the Church Office if you find anything in need of correction to the Birthdays and Anniversaries.

FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Elders: Sat: Mike Waldvogel Sun: Jeff Buettner Darryl Prodell Special: Mike Waldvogel		Altar Guild: Elizabeth McDowell Betty Szucs Karleen Brei Donna Lopez				
1 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour Acolyte: Ava Plaster	2 6:15 Choir 7:00 Altar Guild	3 1:00 Book Club	4 4:00 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	5 1:00 Bible Study	6	7 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Zoey Riesenber
8 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour Acolyte: Ian Stuber 11:30 Soup-er Bowl Lunch	9 6:15 Choir	10	11 4:00 Catechism	12 1:00 Bible Study 4:30pm Elders 6:30pm Men's Night	13 11:00 Senior Connections Luncheon	14 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Kinlee Meyers
15 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour Acolyte: Zoey Bartz	16 6:15 Choir	17	18 Ash Wednesday 10:30 Service (HC) 4:00 Catechism 5:00 Lent Meal 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Isabel Thoma	19 1:00 Bible Study	20	21 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Harper Ejnik
22 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour Acolyte: Brysen Halvorson	23 6:15 Choir	24	25 4:00 Catechism 5:00 Lent Meal 6:30 Lent Service Acolyte: Hailey Weishoff	26 1:00 Bible Study	27	28 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Carson Hietpas

Listen to WTCH 960 AM for weather cancellations or check www.stjakobi.org or www.facebook.com/lcmsjakobi

St. Jakobi Lutheran Church

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715-524-4347
www.stjakobi.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

“We Preach Christ Crucified”



Church Services:

Saturday at 6:30pm and Sunday at 9:00am

Bible Study:

Wednesday at 6:30pm, Thursday at 1:00pm, and Sunday at 10:30am.

Sunday School:

Sunday at 10:30am

