

From Pastor Kleinschmidt

Once every two or three years our congregation hosts an Easter Vigil service. We rotate with Zion Lutheran Church in Embarrass, Trinity Lutheran Church in Bear Creek, and St. John Lutheran Church, Tigerton. This year we will be hosting this special service and members of those congregations will travel to St. Jakobi to join you in celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

You might ask, "What is an Easter Vigil Service?" It is a very old service of the church whose roots go back to the earliest Christians. The highlight of the entire year wasn't actually Easter morning for them;

it was the Easter Vigil on Saturday night. The Easter Vigil is the true completion of the previous two days services. On Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, the services don't conclude with a benediction because those services aren't done until we come with joy to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Then, at the end of the Easter Vigil service, the benediction is spoken and the service concludes. It really is a three-day long Church service!

A vigil service is typically held the evening before the actual holiday. Historically they begin after sundown.

Beginning in the dark is an important symbolism for the Vigil service. The people gather in the Narthex and don't enter into the sanctuary. The service begins in the Narthex with the Paschal Candle that is normally by the pulpit. The Paschal Candle represents the light of Jesus Christ and it is lit at various times of the church year including Easter, Christmas, Epiphany, and when there are Baptisms and Funerals. The lit candle is carried into church and the pastors and the people follow the light of Christ into the darkness of the church. Then candles are lit by everyone within the church to show that the light of Christ has come upon all people.



Following this portion of the service, there are a series of readings that focus on the Old Testament prophecies of the birth of Jesus along with his suffering and death and subsequent resurrection. They speak to the people and emphasize the great plan and work of God to bring salvation through the very Son of God.

Historically during the Easter Vigil service would be when people are baptized and/or confirmed. People went through as much as a year-long process of learning in preparation for an adult Baptism or to be confirmed. The process finds its culmination in

the great joy of the Easter celebration. For the resurrected Lord is the one who calls all people to himself and brings them into the sheep-fold of the Good Shepherd.

We won't have any Baptisms or Confirmations at the Easter Vigil. However, later in April, we will be welcoming into our congregation new members. These are people who will make vows that they wish to be a part of this Body of Christ to which we belong also. They will confess before God and you that we are all one in Christ and believe the same things about what Holy Scripture teaches.

At the Easter Vigil service Holy Communion will be offered; for this is how the resurrected Lord continues to show His Body to us, even as he is still ascended into heaven. In Holy Communion we receive by our mouths the one who has conquered death and has promised to his people that death shall not overcome them either.

The Easter Vigil Service has a lot of history surrounding it, but that really isn't the reason for having it here at St. Jakobi. Primarily it is one more way to celebrate the victory of Jesus Christ over death.

In the Good News of the Resurrection of Jesus,
-Pastor Kleinschmidt

ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 2nd is **Maundy Thursday** this year. We will recall how Christ has given to us the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar with a service at 10:30am and 6:30pm. April 3rd is **Good Friday** when we recall the death of Jesus Christ. Services are at 1:00pm and 6:30pm. The Easter celebration begins with the **Easter Vigil** service on Saturday night, April 4th at 6:30pm at St. Jakobi. Jesus Christ rose on Sunday morning so we gather to worship the living Christ on **April 5th with services at 6:30am and 9:00am.** There is also an Easter breakfast beginning at 7:30am.



EASTER VIGIL

In the past we have been part of a rotation of congregations that hosts a special Easter Vigil service each year. This year the service will be held at St. Jakobi at 6:30pm on April 4th. Pastor Jerabek from Embarrass, Pastor Harris from Bear Creek, and Pastor Suehring from Caroline and Tigerton will assist with the service. This unique and special service is a reflection of how God made promises of a Savior in the Old Testament and with the Resurrection of Jesus they all come true.

EASTER BREAKFAST

On Easter morning there is breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, following the Sunrise Service. The breakfast will include egg casserole, fruit salad, and Kringles. Come between 7:30am and 8:15am for a great breakfast!

EASTER FLOWERS

Let's Celebrate! Please feel free to bring a plant to beautify our church for Easter! It can be an Easter lily, hyacinths, tulips, a pot of bright daisies or hydrangea; whatever you would like. Bring them on Saturday April 4th and we will have them on display for Easter Sunday! Please be sure and have your name on the bottom of the plant. After the 9:00 service on Easter Sunday you may take your plant home or, if you like, you may leave them in church! Thank You! St. Jakobi Altar Guild.



SENIOR CONNECTIONS

STILL TIME TO SIGN UP for the Senior Connections Luncheon on May 1st. All members are invited to attend. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy some great fellowship. For more information, see the flyers near the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. For planning purposes, please sign up by April 19th.

ST. JAKOBI BOOK CLUB

The following is the list of books chosen for the upcoming April 7th - book is *The Long Road Back to You* by Buck Turner. May 19th - book is *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes. **No book club in June and July.** We meet at 1 pm in the church library.

SPIRITUAL OUTREACH

Spiritual Outreach will meet on Saturday, April 18th at 9:00 in the Jerusalem room. Items for discussion: craft day, future Outreach projects. All members of St. Jakobi are welcome to attend the meetings.

FUNERAL

Holly Montoure fell asleep in Jesus on March 23rd. Her funeral service will be April 11th at 11am. The visitation will begin at 9:30 on that same day. The Lord grant his blessing to all who mourn.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Upcoming schedule at Sunday School:

- 4/5 No Sunday School - Easter
- 4/12 A Telling Truth
- 4/19 A Servant Speaks
- 4/26 A Deacon Delivers

READINGS AT CHURCH

- April 5th:** Acts 10:3-43
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10
- April 12th:** Acts 5:29-42
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31
- April 19th:** Acs 2:14a, 36-41
1 Peter 1:17-25
Luke 24:13-35
- April 26th:** Acts 2:42-47
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

VOTER MEETING

The Quarterly Voter Meeting of the congregation will be held on April 26th in the Fellowship Hall after the Sunday morning service. Please consider attending to be informed about the workings of the Congregation.

LENT DINNERS – THANKS!

Thank you to everyone who helped prepare, serve, or clean at the Lent dinners. We had great turnouts and it was wonderful to have time for fellowship and a shared meal.

GIVING OPTIONS

You can now give online by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/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.



LWML SPRING RALLY

You are cordially invited to attend the **Spring Rally of Zone 13/14 of the North WI District LWML.**

Place St. Paul Lutheran Church – Stony Hill

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026

Time: Registration begins at 8:30 am with light refreshments, the rally closes with lunch served around noon.

Fee Registration: \$5.00 (includes lunch)

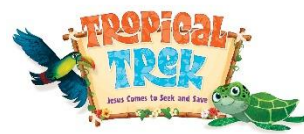
Program Highlights: Hymn Sing begins at 8:45, followed by rally start at 9 with opening devotion led by Pastor Moon. We will join in bible study named “*Trees of the Bible*”, written by Rev. Daniel Pfaffe presented by our Zone Christian Life Leaders Sue Ladwig and Angie Smith. We will hear from Alyssa Petty, Chief Development Officer, Lutheran Bible Translators on the topic, “God speaks every language.” There will also be a break mid-morning, relatively short business meeting, and collection of mites (cash donations supporting district and national mission grants).

Please bring: Gifts of the Heart: For the ingathering, a monetary donation would be appreciated to further the mission of Lutheran Bible Translators.

Stamps for Missions: Please bring your cancelled stamps with perforations intact. As of the Fall 2025 Mission Tidings article we have raised \$15,231.51 through this project.

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. **You can register your child or register to volunteer at www.vbsmate.com/JakobiVBS or by scanning the QR code.**



HYMNAL RIBBONS

We are trying to preserve them for as long as possible. Please do not braid or pick at the end of the ribbons in the hymnals.

CONSIDERING A LUTHERAN SCHOOL?

St. Jakobi has funds available to help pay for tuition at [St. James Elementary School](#), [Wolf River Lutheran High School](#), or a Concordia University if your student is majoring in a church-work field. Don't let tuition be a stumbling block to a Lutheran school education. Also available for students enrolled at Wolf River Lutheran High School is a \$1000 discount for each student. Talk to Pastor if you need assistance or have questions.

ALUMUNIU CAN RECYCLING

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!

COUNCIL

The Church Council will meet on April 14th at 6:30pm.

LOOKING AHEAD

Vacation Bible School is June 1st-6th and the church picnic is June 7th.

DISHES CALLING YOUR NAME

Have you remembered to pick up your funeral or Lent dish? If not, your dish is calling your name. They are located above the coat rack to the right of the mailboxes in the Narthex. **Any dishes not picked up by April 12th will be incorporated into the Fellowship Hall kitchen or donated to a charity.**

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 - Kathy Anker
1 - Carl Montoure
1 - Patrick Tuma
2 - Michelle Teetzen
3 - Brynlie Boyles
3 - Brenda Gast
3 - Lori Opperman
3 - Harper Rettke
4 - Dylan Genke
4 - Nancy Marcell
4 - Kendra Westphal
5 - Melody Bartz
5 - Ainsley Jashinsky
5 - Mary Ludolph
5 - Kim Wendorff
6 - Virgil Gueths II
6 - Jim Horne
7 - Sarah Engel
7 - Gabriella Wendorff
8 - Alyson Buntrock
8 - Ashley Scray
8 - Dawn Wesenberg
11 - Sharlene Bork
11 - Ross Fischer
11 - Aspen Gast
11 - David Kroenke
12 - Denise Bartels
13 - Ben Reinke
14 - Jeff Hartmann
16 - Bruce Kunze
17 - Brandon Buntrock
17 - Leah Gebert
18 - Mackenzie Rodenbeck
20 - Timothy Benser
20 - Rachel Feivor
20 - Tristan Szucs
21 - Hunter Hawkinson
21 - Christian Lindner
22 - Jennifer Bisterfeldt
23 - Larry Lindner
23 - Brad Raddant
24 - Ashley Weishoff
25 - Blaze Ejnik
25 - Matt Hietpas
27 - Darlene Ross
28 - Vicky Szucs
29 - Amber Fischer
29 - Tia Hein
29 - Pyper Meloy
30 - Casey Carroll
30 - Josie Gueths
30 - Steve Koenig

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.

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

03, 2021 - Jim & Annette Kestell
17, 1999 - Dana & Brenda Price
27, 1986 - Bruce & Connie Kunze
29, 2016 - Brennan & Rachelle Price
30, 1983 - Jon & Dawn Wesenberg

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.

APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 10:30 Service (HC) 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Kinlee Meyers	3 <i>Good Friday</i> 1:00 Service 6:30 Service	4 6:30 Easter Vigil (HC) Acolyte: Adam Kleinschmidt
5 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 6:30 Sunrise Service (HC) Acolyte: Reegan Clark 7:30 Easter Breakfast 9:00 Service (HC) Acolyte: Carson Hietpas	6	7 1:00 Book Club	8 4:00 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	9 1:00 Bible Study 4:30 Elders	10	11 11:00 Holly Monture Funeral 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Hailey Weishoff
12 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour Acolyte: Brielle Reinke	13 6:15 Choir	14 6:30 Council	15 4:00 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	16 1:00 Bible Study	17	18 9:00 Spiritual Outreach 9:00 LWML Rally – Stony Hill 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Jase Bisterfeldt
19 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour Acolyte: Lexi Brady	20 6:15 Choir	21	22 4:00 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	23 1:00 Bible Study	24	25 6:30 Service (HC) Acolyte: Reegan Clark
26 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Sunday School Voter Meeting after Service Acolyte: Raelyn Krueger	27 6:15 Choir	28	29 4:00 Catechism 6:30 Bible Study	30 1:00 Bible Study	Altar Guild: Lisa Evenson Donna Lopez Donna Ward Judi Raddant	Elders: Sat: Daryl Prodell Sun: Tom Tuma Tim Massey Special: Mike Daley

St. Jakobi Lutheran Church

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Shawano, WI 54166
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

