

From Pastor Kleinschmidt

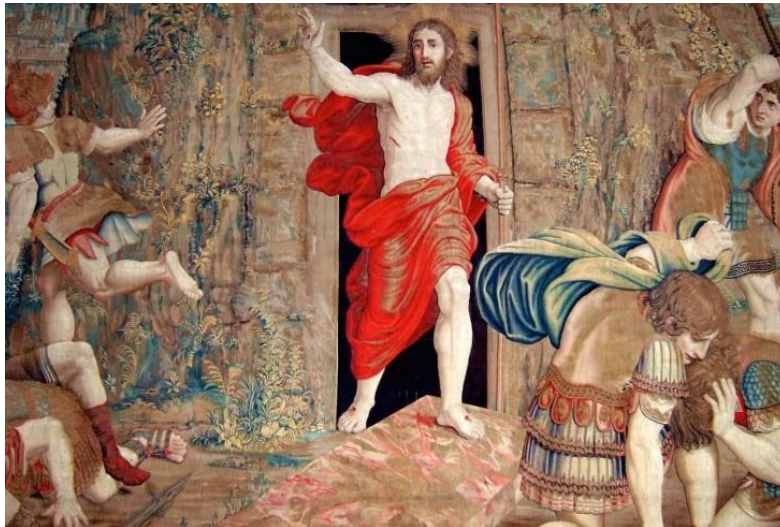
The Easter season gives us pause to think about the place of death in our lives. We go about each day and for the most part we don't think a lot about death. It's not until we are dealing with the death of a loved one or even facing our own mortality that we put much thought to death.

However, with a focus on the resurrection of Jesus, I want to take some time over the course of the next several months to give some practical, Biblical advice about how to think about death; how to deal and be prepared for your own death, what is the purpose of a funeral, and how we show respect and honor to the bodies that the Lord has created us with.

Again, this month, we'll consider how we should think about death from a Scriptural perspective instead of a worldly perspective. The world sees death as a finality. The only thing that can overcome death is a legacy or how people will remember you. This view of death causes a person to view this life as preparatory so that people will remember you.

The world will also try to get you to look away from death. It will tell you that you should do everything you can to avoid death. Yes, you should strive to be healthy but an obsession with health and medicine leads to the idea that you can live longer and longer and that is always the goal of the world.

We turn to God's Word to learn what death is actually like. Revelation 14:13 says, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." This is the conclusion of our thinking about death. Death is a blessing for those who believe in Jesus. But how would a person come to that conclusion at the end of the book of Revelation? It's based upon the words and actions of Jesus.



Jesus speaks to Martha, the sister of Lazarus. He has been dead four days and Jesus is consoling her and says, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:25-26) When Jesus says that he is the resurrection and the life he is making a promise that is built upon the solid rock foundation of his own resurrection from the dead on the third day.

Thus, in order for us as Christians to think about death properly, we have to think about the resurrection of Jesus. His breaking of the chains of death shows that death has no power over you. Death is a neutered and blunted weapon that

cannot really harm you. We are not to see death as something to fear. You should only fear those things that can hurt you. And death can't hurt you.

Jesus says in Matthew 10:28, "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell." Death is not to be feared because it can't really hurt you. Jesus says we are to fear the devil who can turn you away from Jesus and thus turn you away from everlasting life.

In Christ, you are a child of God who has the promise of eternal life. You have eternal life now, and yet you still wait the fulfillment of that promise. That fulfillment only comes through your blessed death. So, you look forward to that death when that the promise of God comes to complete fulfillment in the gift of eternal life.

I'm looking forward to writing about death in the coming months because this is a topic that many people avoid, and yet one that is important; especially for the people of God who hold fast to the resurrection of Jesus and the promise of life eternal.

In the resurrected Christ,
-Pastor Kleinschmidt

ST. JAKOBI NEWS & EVENTS

SPIRITUAL OUTREACH CRAFT FAIR

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS:

Spiritual Outreach will be holding a Create a Craft evening on Wednesday, May 27th, at 6:00pm in the Jerusalem Room. All are invited to attend as we work on crafts to be sold at our Bazaar on November 7th. If you like to craft, or are interested in learning, join us as we become creative and share some great fellowship. For planning purposes, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please speak with Marlene Weckwerth.

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.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PARTY

Joseph Kleinschmidt is graduating high school. Pastor and Noël invite you to his party that is June 20th from 11:30-4:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Come and celebrate with Joe!

ST. JAKOBI BOOK CLUB

The following is the book chosen for the upcoming meeting on May 19th is *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes. We meet at 1 pm in the church library. There will be no book club in June or July.

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.



LOOKING AHEAD

Vacation Bible School is June 1st-5th, the outdoor service and church picnic is June 7th.

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.**



BAPTISMS

Baptized into Christ on April 12th is **Elowyn Louise Robbins**. She is the daughter of Jordan and Stacy Robbins. Her baptismal sponsors are Josh Robbins and Lisa Engel.

Baptized into Christ on April 26th is **Toby Roland Buntrock**. He is the son of Brandon and Aly Buntrock. His baptismal sponsors are Austin Buntrock and Alisha Cooper.

Thanks be to God who gives new life by water and the Spirit.

FUNERALS

Vicki Bahr passed away on March 4th, 2026.

Barbara Lindner passed away on April 2nd 2026.

We give thanks to the Lord for the blessings he has given us through Vicki and Barb.

READINGS AT CHURCH

May 3rd: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

May 10th: Acts 17:16-31
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

May 17th: Acts 1:12-26
1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 24th: Numbers 11:24-30
Acts 2:1-21
John 7:37-39

May 31st: Genesis 1:1-2, 4a
Acts 2:14a, 22-36
Matthew 28:16-20

RED BARN BRAT FRY

We will be hosting a brat fry at Charlie's Red Barn on Monday-Wednesday, June 15th-17th, from 9-5. The families attending the Higher Things Conference will work, but they may need some help. Proceeds will be used to help pay for the transportation expense to St. Louis.



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. Last month 900 pounds were recycled and the youth received \$810!

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.

CEMETERY ASSOCIATION NEWS

The cemetery guidelines indicate that planters, vases, and decorations may be placed on or after May 1st. Keep in mind that these items must be removed by October 1st.

CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual church picnic will be held on Sunday, June 7th, following the outdoor service. We will be serving pulled pork, mac n' cheese, hot dogs, and slushies. Please bring a dish to pass or a dessert. Fun activities include a bounce house and barrel rides.

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

- 5/3 An Enemy Converts
- 5/10 A Soldier Believes
- 5/17 A Returning Truth (Last Day)

ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN CHRIST

The 2026 1st Quarter started with a loan balance of \$1,299,549 and after making our regular payments the quarter finished with a balance of \$1,294,888.

WRLHS EVENTS

Check the Wolf River Lutheran High School Bulletin Board in the hallway for upcoming events: Annual Rummage Sale at WRLHS. Dates are Fri.& Sat. May 29 & 30, June 5 & 6, and June 12 & 13, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Donations may be dropped off at the school starting Monday, May 18, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Questions, please call or text 715-851-2741. Thank you!

THANKS FOR THE MEALS!

Thank you to all who donated food and their time for this year's Easter Breakfast. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Lent meals as well. What a great time to gather for fellowship as God's people at St. Jakobi.

MARTIN LUTHER EASTER QUOTE

"Christ died; death devoured the Son of God. But in doing so death swallowed a thorn and had to get rid of it. It was impossible for death to hold Him. For this Person is God; and since both God and man in one indivisible Person entered into the belly of death and the devil, death ate a morsel that ripped his stomach open." LW 22:355

PASTOR FENSKE'S INSTALLATION

Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske was installed as the parttime Assistant Pastor at St. Jakobi on April 12th, 2026. He also serves fulltime as the Executive Director of Lutherans for Life. When he isn't travelling for Lutherans for Life he will assist in preaching at St. Jakobi. District President Rev. Timothy Shoup and other pastors were on hand for Pastor Fenske's installation.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 - Greg Samson
1 - Jennifer Stuber
2 - Tucker Pyatskowitz
3 - Sarah Benser
3 - Connie Kunze
4 - Lori Wendorff (Scott)
5 - Jenni Sperberg
7 - Michael Kroenke
7 - Lisa Otto
7 - Paul Wollangk
8 - Jonathan Ebert
8 - Chase Erickson
8 - Aspen Gehnke
8 - Kayden Price
9 - Steve Gueths
10 - Kevin Herrmann
10 - Amber Schmidt
10 - Janell Wesenberg
11 - Bryce Bohl
12 - Natineal Kunze
12 - Danny Otto
12 - Andrew Theis
12 - Marlene Weckwerth
12 - Jamison Yorton
13 - Jerry Fisher
13 - Jim Fiske
13 - Sawyer Schuettpelz
14 - Tom Teetzen
14 - Hailey Weishoff
15 - Amie Olson
16 - Pete Arthur
16 - Brandon Buettner
17 - Ruth Cummings
17 - Kathy Fonger
17 - Caleb Wendorff
18 - Jeff Schuettpelz
18 - Madisyn Skalitzky
18 - Connie Steinke
20 - Everly Gueths
21 - MaryJane Kucksdorf
22 - Darlene Drake
22 - Megan Pederson
23 - Kloie Boyles
23 - Abby Parilek
23 - Emily Raddant
24 - Luke Kleinschmidt
25 - Susan Giese
27 - Joanne Behrens
27 - Nathaniel Gueths
27 - Paul Kroenke
27 - Brooklyn Krueger
27 - Keonna Lindner
27 - Levi Wendorff
28 - Tammy Burr
28 - Richard Raddant
29 - Paige Bedroske
29 - Justin Buntrock

29 - Kade Strebelt
29 - Jim Szucs, Jr.
29 - Gloriann Watzlawick
29 - Margaret Wendorff
30 - Katie Carroll
31 - Sue Klemens

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.

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

05, 2007 - Eric & Kim Wendorff
07, 2005 - Brandon & Jessy Clark
12, 2012 - Justin & Ashley Weishoff
13, 1989 - Craig & Karleen Brei
15, 2004 - Jeff & Tina Hartmann
21, 1983 - Randy & Tammy Burr
21, 2005 - Kevin & Sheila Herrmann
24, 2003 - Jim & Cathy Hoffman
25, 1985 - Steve & Theresa Gueths
25, 1996 - Tom & Marjorie McGahan
27, 1989 - David & Noelle Buettner
27, 1967 - Darwin & Darlene Drake

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.



MAY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Elders: Sat: Tom Tuma Sun: Mike Waldvogel Jeff Buettner Special: Tim Massey					1 Senior Connection Lunch 11:00	2 6:30 Service (HC) <i>Acolyte: Zoey Riesenberg</i>
3 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour <i>Acolyte: Ian Stuber</i>	4 6:15 Choir 7:00 Altar Guild	5	6 4:00 Catechism	7 1:00 Bible Study	8	9 9:00 Spiritual Outreach 6:30 Service (HC) <i>Acolyte: Isabel Thoma</i>
10 <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour <i>Acolyte: Zoey Bartz</i>	11 6:15 Choir	12	13 4:00 Catechism	14 <i>Ascension Day</i> 1:00 Bible Study	15	16 6:30 Service (HC) <i>Acolyte: Avya Plaster</i>
17 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Education Hour <i>Acolyte: Isabel Thoma</i>	18 6:15 Choir	19 1:00 Book Club 4:30 Elders	20	21 1:00 Bible Study	22	23 6:30 Service (HC) <i>Acolyte: Harper Ejnik</i>
24 <i>Pentecost Sunday</i> 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Bible Study <i>Acolyte: Emma Ladwig</i>	25 <i>Memorial Day</i>	26	27 6:00 Crafting Night	28 1:00 Bible Study	29	30 6:30 Service (HC) <i>Acolyte: Carson Hietpas</i>
31 9:00 Service (HC) 10:30 Bible Study <i>Acolyte: Brysen Halvorson</i>						Altar Guild: Barb Teetzen Barb Bubolz Chris Johnson

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

