

Office@stjacobsucc.org — www.stjacobsucc.org—Find us on Facebook! Sunday School 9:15AM — Coffee/Tea Time 10:00 to 10:20AM — Worship Service 10:30AM

From the Desk of the Pastor



rectings to all,

Today is quiet.—the school buses aren't running. So the neighborhood is full of children.

Maybe they should be in school. After all, one never quits learning—if one is wise.

But those children would never be going to school if not for the Reformation.—Yes, the public schools are one of the products of the Protestant Reformation.

It works this way. The Reformation had a motto, "Solo Gratia, Solo Scriptures." Only Grace, Only Scripture. The word of God is primary—no politics, no traditions.

Therefore the word of God needed to be learned by the people. We can't follow God or get to know God otherwise. In the 1500's few people could read.—The Reformers changed that, setting up schools for all people. This was the birth of universal public education. (And also why—if a family owned a book, - it was the Bible!)

This gift from the Reformation has changed society. We are blessed because of it. And, it is indeed, an example of how God is still speaking.

Shalom,

Pastor Rick

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From the Desk of Consistory President

Proverbs 11:24-25 Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything. The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Congratulations St Jacobs UCC and St Jacobs Lutheran Church for 6 years of a successful joint covenant working with each other sharing Gods word and love. Opening our doors, hearts, and minds with each other as we now look to the future and what changes we can make to make this world a better place.

This month has been full of generous moments where we have refreshed ourselves and opened the doors and welcomed others in. Our web page has been refreshed and as we move forward we are able to add so much more information to it. The dinner we had was a success and there again we opened our doors and welcomed family and strangers alike to come and enjoy a meal and time with each other. We have scouts here the next couple of weeks sharing our building and young teachers taking the next step in their education. Pastor Rick is leading us in Bible study on Monday evenings stretching our minds with the book of Revelations. There are movies nights to coming up for both young and old. Bingo and Santa Claus are just around the corner so don't miss out. There are so many, many things to come and I would encourage you all to come and join us.

I would like to thank everyone who came out to help us on our Fall Work Day. For more information on what was completed, please see our article on the "Fall Work Day Update".

Heather Kuhn

Consistory President

October 17th Consistory Meeting

- Hurricane offerings through October 15th is \$4,492
- Search Committee officially received two (2) profiles
- The Pot Pie Dinner had 114 people attend, 30 were walk-ins
- Conference Minister, Monica, will lead the service on December 10th
- November 26th there will be a blood drive after Sunday Worship. More information to follow.
- Grandfather clock repair is being looked into to see what we can do to repair and get directions on how our clock can be set in the future.
- Clark fire testing to complete will cost \$525.00
- Clean the hood and duck work in the kitchen will cost \$400 this cost will be split with our early learning center. A motion was made by Kathyrn and seconded by Kim to move forward with doing this clean up.
- Any address changes or phone number updates will only be in the printed/e-mailed newsletter and NOT put on the website or social media.
- The Small Games of Chance license is being worked on by Eric for the New Year.
- St. Jacob's UCC & St. Jacob's Lutheran Consistory are planning a joint meeting in the near future.

September Budget Information

September 2017 Budget Update (Combined General and Building Funds)

The chart on the right shows a simplified over view of our budget numbers for the eight months of 2017.

The numbers through the end of August showed a combined shortfall in the General and Building Funds of \$7,759 between budgeted expenses and actual offerings. Unfortunately we have now had a shortfall for each of the last four months between our actual giving and our budgeted expenses. (As a comparison – our overall giving is down just over \$7,000 for the same period (January through August) from last year). So again a reminder that if you've taken vacation this summer and missed one or more Sundays – please make sure to put your offering in for those Sunday(s) when you return.

The child care program made it's shared expense payments of \$700 per week, which helped maintain a balance between overall cash receipts and cash disbursements.

Even with the shortfall we did not have to take anything from our building savings account to meet expenses.

Budget Numbers through August 2017

Covers 35 Sundays Combined General and Building Funds



Thank you!

Pot Pie Dinner

Thank you to everybody who participated in and donated to our Pot Pie Dinner! It would not have been a success without your help! Kim Criswell

St. Jacob's Food Pantry Update

Through September of 2017 St. Jacob's Food Pantry served 1023 families, or an average of 113 families per month. Thank you everyone from both congregations who have provided support for the pantry. Whether you gave food, monetary, or time donations (or all three) your support is greatly appreciated and has helped us to provide support to the community.



Fall Work Day Update

Some notes from the Fall Work Day October 21st :

Choir Room

Some of you already know, but we found a leak in the ceiling in the choir room. We removed a badly stained ceiling tile from above the one windows and found water in the insulation directly above it. We removed the insulation and found the wood above it toward the outer edge of the ceiling was wet. We did not replace the insulation, and left the ceiling tile off to give the area a chance to air out some and give the wood a chance to dry. I was up on the roof and caulked at a few places that might have been a source for a leak, but there was nothing obvious. With rain and thunderstorms scheduled for tomorrow if someone could check to see if they see water in the choir room, and check to see if the wood seems newly soaked it might be helpful to know if we fixed the problem, or if we have to look at it closer. (Also - while I was on the roof I cleaned out around the two main drains - they both had a good bit of dirt around them - which had clogged up some of the drain holes).

Condensers for the Sanctuary AC Units

While I was on the roof looking for the leak in the choir room I noticed that the insulation on the pipes from the sanctuary condensers to the AC units was rotted and in most places had fallen off (and from the looks of the insulation this has been this way for a while). At some point this insulation needs to be replaced. We will have Regal replace the insulation on these exterior pipes when they perform their semi-annual preventative maintenance work this coming spring.

Vestibule Doors

When we started cleaning on Saturday we found that neither of the doors in the vestibule were locked (both had the dead bolts extended but the they were not latched in place). Please make sure when you lock up the church that these are locked, or if you get the chance just check and make sure they are locked. I made sure last evening before the start of the social that both doors were closed correctly and locked.

Holes in Sanctuary Roof

Eric and I took a look at the position of the holes from inside (up above the sanctuary) - they are not easily accessible from the inside.

New batteries in the Heat Controllers in the Vestibule in Sanctuary

When we started cleaning we noticed that the controller in the sanctuary said it needed new batteries, and the controller in the vestibule was not reading at all. (When the batteries were removed from controller in the vestibule one was leaking). Something that may be a good idea would be to add replacing these batteries to our work day tasks that way we know they will get changed twice a year.

Covered entry way lights. Using the lift we were planning to replace the lights under the covered entranceway. We were hoping that purchased replacement floodlights could be used. However, we found that the fixtures do not allow a floodlight shaped bulb to be used. We will likely need to replace with similar "dusk-to-dawn" type bulbs. Lynn Markle is investigating the most economical purchase for these. These style bulbs can be replaced from ground level and we will replace the 2 that are currently burnt out.

Aluminum cladding. Discovered that 2 of these exterior pieces are loose at the corner of our glass entrance. These need to be caulked into place.

Curbing and sidewalks. There are a number of areas where the expansion joint material has deteriorated over time allowing water to enter between areas of concrete. New sandstone colored caulking has been applied in several places. Work will continue as long as favorable weekend weather prevails. There is a particular challenge where we need to place material along a slope. The nature of this caulk is that it is self-leveling and takes an hour or so to begin to cure, so you will note there are some places where the new material has flowed to the lowest spot. We will do the best we can in those areas, but it's not going to look as consistent compared to flat application areas.

Search Committee Update



**Two Pastor Profiles have been received by the Search Committee and are under review/discussion. Updates will be provided as we continue this journey.

As we began this process, the word discernment kept popping up in our conversations and readings. Discernment sounds a bit frightening, but reverent at the same time. So what is discernment? The following reading was provided to the search committee and helped clarify what

discernment is. It's not just a quality that a Pastor should have, but something all Christians should strive for in their lives. Hope you enjoy this discovery of discernment from reading these words by Susan Beaumont:

Discernment is how we live our lives, thoughtfully and faithfully. It is the fundamental disposition of aligning ourselves with that sense and experience of God's Spirit moving in and empowering our lives.

Discernment is also the Christian practice of seeking God's call in the midst of the decisions that mark one's life.

Communal practice of discernment places group decisions within the context of God's activity. It trusts that resolution based on something larger than self-interest or partisanship is possible.

ble...the goal of God's activity being the New Creation.

The practice of discernment makes intentional a process of reflection on and participation with God's Spirit as the fundamental context in which we live and make choices.

It's important to realize: "Discernment doesn't just happen. It must be intentionally nurtured within the culture of the team. A team that is grounded in God's spirit, and open to authentic discernment, will cultivate its presence, its process, and its practices."



"This one looks promising: "limited knowledge of contemporary culture, enjoys renovation projects and yard work."

Pastoral Relations Committee

A pastoral relations committee has been formed. The primary function of this committee is to be a source of support for the pastor (and family) as he/she explores his/her concerns, hopes, dreams, and personal needs in his/her role as pastor.

Additionally. This committee is to support and maintain an open relationship between the congregation and the ordained, settled pastor. The relationships between congregants and pastor enable the tasks of ministry to be carried out faithfully and joyfully, with a minimum of friction and stress.

The committee will meet on a regular basis (monthly, quarterly, annually), or as needed. The pastor is always included in these meetings.

Congregants are free to bring their concerns, pose questions, and express their joys concerning the work of the pastor to this committee. Any information shared with this committee is CONFIDENTIAL.

MEMBERS: Carl Reininger, Glenn Geiple, Lorrie Bechtel, LuAnn Markle



Letter from Back Bay Mission

Living in poverty means relying on networks of people you can trust.

Sometimes, that works well. A neighbor might help with childcare. A family member might help with an unexpected bill. Sometimes, it doesn't work at all. There are people in the world who will take advantage of even the most vulnerable.

A few months ago, 'Sarah' came into the Micah Day Center and met Anne, the Micah Center's case manager. Sarah was exhausted and upset. She has special needs and she thought that she had been staying in a group home. But when she described it to Anne, our case manager caught the scam right away. Sarah had been staying in a private home that rented rooms out in exchange for control of the renters' Social Security benefits. Sarah had trusted someone and been betrayed. Her landlord had taken her money and spent it at the casino.

A few nights before she came to the Micah Center, Sarah left that house. She had been sleeping in the stairwell of a parking garage before she came to us.

Anne made sure that Sarah got clean clothes and food. She helped Sarah call the police and make a report. She helped Sarah contact one of our partner agencies to get housing. Anne made sure that Sarah got the help that she needed when she needed it. That's who we are. That's what we do.

And then Anne had a powerful moment. After Sarah left, Anne checked our records. She discovered that Sarah had come to the Micah Day Center before...for a few weeks...five years ago. From that short experience, Sarah knew that she could trust us. To be a safe place. To be a caring community. To give her the help she needed.

And she knew that she could trust you.

When you give to Back Bay Mission, you give to people like Sarah. People who need help right now. People who have been taken advantage of. People who need someone they can trust. And you do so much more. You give to people who are beginning their journeys our of poverty. You help people who are struggling to keep their homes. You teach people who are learning to serve in their own communities.

You make a place that people can trust. You strengthen neighborhoods, seek justice, and transform lives.

Right now, you can be the person who Sarah—and all the people who walk through the Mission's doors—can trust. Your gift of \$ 150 can give someone clean clothes, some decent food, and the dignity of being heard. You can sow her that there are people she can trust.

To make your gift today, you can visit our website, thebackbaymission.org.

Thank you!

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Alice Graham, Ph.D. Executive Director, Back Bay Mission.

Christmas Gift to St. Jacob's

Last Christmas Season we had an awesome outpouring of giving totaling \$23,586 for

our year-end effort to pay down our Church's mortgage balance. This coming season, which is just around the corner, **supporters have pledged \$16,000 to match dollar for dollar offerings made by our congregation toward this year's effort**. Regular monthly payments will bring our outstanding mortgage to about \$686,000 as of the end of 2017. With \$16,000 offered by our congregation, combined with the \$16,000 pledge amount, the year-end balance would be reduced to \$654,000. Less than 15 years would then remain. Please prayerfully consider if you can help toward this year's goal. Thank you.



Fall Worship Message Subjects



- Reformation—Why are we not like our Pilgrim forefathers
- Worship Committee Meeting—6:30pm
- All Saints—Pastoral Update
- Veterans' Day—Jay Kuhn
- 9 Count Your blessings—Thanksgiving Week

Bible Study

Bible Study will be on the movie "War Room" on the following Tuesdays: November 7 & 21, December 5 & 19. Learn how to fight your battles in the War Room with Jesus.



Poinsettias

Ready or not, the Advent season will soon be upon us. This means having the beautiful poinsettia plants in our sanctuary. In the next few weeks, order forms will be placed in the pews. Orders will be handled the same as last year—35 poinsettia plants have been ordered. Members select the color they desire (indicating a second choice). Poinsettia plants are distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Any questions, contact Lynn Johnson.



Movie Night—Friday, November 3rd

On Friday, November 3rd we will be holding our Movie Night featuring The Shack. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the movie will start at 7:00 p.m. This is open to everybody but parental discretion is advised. Refreshments that are being served are hot dogs, popcorn, snacks, and drinks. Movie is rated PG-13.



Basket Bingo-Saturday, November 18th

Join us Saturday, November 18th for our Basket Bingo that will benefit the Building Fund! Doors open at 4:30 pm and bingo starts at 6:00 pm. Tickets in advance are \$22 or \$25 at the door. Ticket price in-



cludes a meal consisting of baked pot pie, sandwiches, salads, dessert, snacks and a beverage, a chance at door prices, and 20 games of bingo. Also, if you bring a nonperishable food item, you will receive a raffle ticket for each item you bring for a chance to win a basket. Reserve your tickets today!!

Family Movie Night—Friday, December 8th

On Friday, December 8th we will be holding our Family Movie Night featuring Frozen. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. and the movie will start at 6:30 p.m. This is open to kids and adults of all ages. Refreshments that are being served are hot dogs, popcorn, snacks, and drinks.



Butter Braids Fundraiser

The Early Learning Center will be having a Butter Braids Fundraiser due to popular demand! Butter Braids are about the easiest breakfast, brunch, side dish or dessert you can serve. They come ready made and assembled and are stored in the freezer. You'll pull the pastry out of the freezer just before you head to bed and let it sit out to thaw and rise overnight. When you wake up, it will be like magic—sitting there ready and waiting for you to bake the Butter Braid pastry! If you'd rather serve it as an evening dessert or side, just take a pastry out first thing in the morning and bake that evening.

The Butter Braid fundraiser will kick off on November 20th and orders are due December 8th. Orders will be available for pick up on December 18th. Order forms will be available on the Early Learning Center Bulletin board starting November 20th.

Christmas Dinner-Saturday, December 2nd

Save the Date! The annual Christmas Dinner will be held on Saturday, December 2nd starting at 6:00 p.m. Elva Hurst will be joining us with her Chalk Talk. Prices are \$13.00 for adults, \$6.50 for children 4-10, and children 3 and under are free. Tickets are on sale now. They will be available after church and by calling the church office. Hope to see you there!

<u>Keep Track of Our Missions</u>: Remember we have 2 missions ahead of us.

- the Houston Relief. This will probably run in Jan/Feb of 2018. This Penn Central Conference Mission Trip will be rebuilding homes.
- Back Bay (Ms.) This is the congregation's (& friends) return mission trip scheduled for Sept of 2018. Details of what we'll do there are not yet ready.

Newsletter articles for December due no later

Celebrate the Holidays with St. Jacob's



GINGERBREAD Competition

Join us this year as we have our first ever Gingerbread House Competition. We will have an adult division and a children division. Entries must be delivered to the church on Friday, December 1st and will remain on display from December 2nd-24th. For additional rules, entry form, and/or questions please contact Ashley Criswell.

Breakfast with Santa and SO MUCH more!

The Church & the Early Learning Center have teamed up to host a wonderful set of events on December 2nd and you don't want to miss them!!

First, St. Jacob's UCC will be having their annual "Breakfast with Santa! It's from 8:30-11:00am. Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, and a special visit from Santa!! Tickets prices are: Adults—\$5.00, Children 4-12—\$3.00 and children under 4 are FREE! During breakfast the children from our Early Learning Center will have a holiday concert as well!

After you enjoy your breakfast, visit with Santa, and hear Christmas jingles, the kids can visit Santa's workshop where they can purchase small gifts for their parents, siblings, grandparents, etc. While the children are in the workshop, parents can shop at our scholastic book fair....maybe Christmas presents for the kids?

So mark your calendars and bring the whole family to St. Jacob's! It's sure to be a fun filled morning for everyone!

Church Christmas Dinner

Later that evening, join us back at the church for our annual Christmas Dinner starting at 6:00pm. Elva Hurst will be joining us with her "Chalk Talk". Prices are \$13.00 for adults, \$6.50 for children 4-10, and children under 3 are free!

Tickets are on sale now! They will be available after church and by calling the church office at (717) 792-4326. We hope to see you there!!



Special Dates

November Birthdays

- November 05 Rodney McCarron
- November 10 Robert Delaronde, Jr.
- November 10 Shelly Shubert
- November 11 Dorine Hagarman
- November 11 Shawn Querry
- November 15 Jay Claycomb
- November 17 Scott Becker
- November 21 Megan Harbold



November Anniversaries

November 07 Tom & Heather Kuhn



P.U.S.H

CG

(Pray Until Something Happens)

- Robert D.
- Brandon G.
- Judy G.
- Anna G.
- Justin H.
- Dottie H.
- Barry
- Barb H.
- John H.
- Barb H.
- Dean K.
- Logan K.
- Vicki K.
- Steve M.
 - Pat P.
- Richard P.
- Richard P., Jr.
- Claude R. & Family
- Terri R.
- Linda C.
- Evelyn
- Jason S.
- Sharon S.
- Cindy S.
- Carl H.
- Loretta L.
- Dottie H.
- Justin H.
- Judy G.
- The Kuhn Family
- Pat P.
- Anne H.
- Amber



2017 Altar Guild

November—Lynn & Scott Becker—Communion 3rd

December—Tom & Heather Kuhn—Communion 24th



*With 2018 just around the corner we are updating the Altar Guild list for the New Year, if you would like to be apart of the Altar Guild, please see Heather Kuhn.

Head Ushers



November—Kim Criswell

December—Heather Kuhn



St. Jacob's WCC Early Learning Center

October is quickly coming to end. Normally we would say the trees are changing colors and a chill is in the air, however, this October that is not the case. It seems that our late summer temperatures just don't want to let go. That hasn't stopped St. Jacob's Early Learning Center from getting their creepy on. Our children are busy with all the typical Halloween activities that young children enjoy. All age groups are making spooky crafts, reading stories about pumpkins, black cats, and friendly ghosts, singing Halloween songs, and enjoying fall snacks. Even the smallest of our children had the opportunity to paint small pumpkins. They were displayed throughout the center. What fun! Even Wilbur, the center's guinea pig, got into the Halloween spirit with colorful decorations. Now, we all know what a gingerbread house looks like around the Christmas season, but have you ever seen one around Halloween? Each house took on a spooky look. Our kiddos had a blast creating these. The haunted houses were on display for Trunk or Treat, which was held Friday, October 27th. This was a safe way for children to enjoy trick or treat and an opportunity for staff and friends of the center to show off their creative talents as they decorated their trunks for the evening. What a frightful time!

There were several fundraising events throughout the month of October. We had the first of our Pampered Chef raffles. Look for information on the next one. Our pumpkin roll fundraiser is in full swing. It goes from October 22 – November 5. Ms. Cassandra and Ms. Dorine are excited to offer this tasty treat. They offered a "try before you buy" sampling of pumpkin roll, obviously a delightful way to check out their product. Coming in November, the center will be having their annual Butter Braid fundraiser. Watch for information on this as well.



Early Learning Center Board Members: Michele Harper, President; Deb Stough, Vice President; Eric Barley, Treasurer; Dorine Hagarman, Heather Kuhn; Bev Stiffler-Smith

Pampered Chef Raffle

The Early Learning Center is holding "Pampered Chef" Raffles starting this Sunday!! The raffles will run for two weeks and then we will draw a name to see who the lucky winner is of these fantastic products! We will be doing these raffles from now through the holidays so buy a ticket for a chance to win it yourself or to give to someone as a present this holiday season!

Kids Cookie Baking Set (Retail Value \$64.50)

The lucky person to win this will receive



Purchase your Raffle Tickets Today! 1 Raffle Ticket = \$1.00 3 Raffle Tickets = \$2.00 6 Raffle Tickets = \$5.00 15 Raffle Tickets = \$10.00

To purchase your tickets see Michele Harper or Eric Barley.

All proceeds benefit the children of the Early Learning Center

Pumpkin Roll Fundraiser



Everyone's Favorite fall and holiday treat is being made from scratch by Ms. Cassandra and Ms. Dorine in the Early Learning Center! Moist and rich this festive, old fashioned pumpkin roll is tender caked filled and rolled with sweetened, whipped cream cheese filling. Pumpkin rolls freeze beautifully and are perfect to take to a party, give as a gift, or have as dessert with your holiday meals. You can purchase pumpkin rolls for \$10.00 each or 2 for \$18.00. Each pumpkin roll serves approximately 10 people.

Want to try a sample before purchasing one? Then stop by the church on Sunday, October 22nd before church or at 6:30 pm for the Church's Apple/Pumpkin Social!

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Worship Committee 6:30 pm	2 Movie Night "The Shack" 6:30pm	3	4 Food Pantry 9-11 am
5 Dutiti Sandy sevences	6 CDA Classes 6-9 pm	7 Bible Study 6:30 pm	8	9	10	11
12 Veteran's Day Ser- vice	13 CDA Classes 6-9 pm	14	15	16	17 Bingo Setup Newsletter Articles Due	18 Basket Bingo 4:30pm
19	20 CDA Classes 6-9pm Consistory 7 pm	21 Bible Study 6:30 pm	22	23 Gobble	24	25
26 Advent Communion	27 CDA Classes 6-9pm	28	29	30		

Schedule of Events

- November 1—Worship Committee 6:30 pm
- November 2—Movie Night: "The Shack" 6:30 pm
- November 4—Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 am
- November 5—Daylight Savings
- November 6—Early Learning Center CDA Classes
- November 7—Bible Study 6:30 pm
- November 12—Veteran's Day Service
- November 13—Early Learning Center CDA Classes 6-9pm,
- November 17—Bingo Setup, Newsletter Articles Due
- November 18—Basket Bingo 4: 30 pm

- November 20—Early Learning Center CDA Classes, Consistory 7 pm
- November 21—Bible Study 6:30 pm
- November 23—Happy Thanksgiving
- November 26—Advent Communion
- November 27—Early Learning Center CDA Classes 6-9pm

Find the words in the puzzle, and write them under the appropriate picture.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



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Everyone is Welcome!

100 East George Street P.O. Box 111 York New Salem, PA 17371

Phone: 717-792-4326 Church E-mail: Office@stjacobsucc.org Pastor's E-mail: 13stuempfle@gmail.com



St. Jacob's Mission Statement We, the family of St. Jacob's United Church of Christ, called by God, empowered by the Holy Spirit and following the example of Jesus Christ, will strive to be ambassadors of God's will by: Caring for others and ourselves through love and

- Caring for others and ourselves through love and compassion
- Teaching God's word
- Accepting and seeing all people as children of God
- Committing ourselves to these responsibilities in an ever changing society.

We're on the Web! www.stjacobsucc.org