

# St. Jacob Lutheran Church

## April Newsletter



April 2017

### What Difference Does Easter Make?

So what if the Easter bunny wins the hearts of children everywhere? So why not strike "Easter vacation" from the vocabulary of our schools and substitute "Spring break"? What difference does Easter make anyway?

It makes a lot of difference to those who are in touch enough with reality to take life and death seriously. It made a lot of difference to a very real woman named Mary. Let me tell you her story.

Mary had the heart-wrenching honor of washing the dried blood from Jesus' lifeless body as two other followers prepared the tomb cut into Jerusalem's cold limestone. Mary wept as she washed—wept and remembered....

Today she had seen her Lord die an excruciating death, his body weight hanging limp from the nails driven through his hands and feet, suspended from a cross like a common criminal.

Her heart caught in her throat as she remembered and wept and washed away the caked blood with her tears. She wept, too, as she watched the men lift Jesus' corpse onto the tomb's carved ledge, and roll a massive stone across the doorway.

Was all her hope for nothing? What of all the thousands of diseased bodies he had healed? The broken lives he had restored? The promises of the Kingdom of God?

But early Sunday morning she was back at the tomb to finish anointing his body. When she arrived the tomb stood open, stone pushed to the side, ashes of the Roman guards' watchfire still smoldering. "How can they be so cruel?" she cried as she ran to tell the apostles. So cruel.

But it wasn't cruelty that rolled away the stone that Easter morning. It was the powerful hand of God as Jesus Christ stepped forth brimming with Life.

Mary saw him, mistaking him for the gardener. But there was no mistaking his familiar voice—"Mary." She fell at his feet, tears of grief melting into tears of joy. "Rabboni," she said as she looked into his face. "Teacher."

Yes, Easter bunnies still capture the hearts of children and schools talk about Spring break, but you and I know what really happened on Easter.

"I am the resurrection and the life," Jesus said. "He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

So why do Jesus' followers gather in churches on Easter morning? To show off their Easter finery? God forbid. Rather

To celebrate the victory of Life over death,

To help their children and grandchildren share their faith that Jesus is alive, and

To declare that Jesus Christ is Lord indeed!

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

### Thought of the Month

Often, in the midst of great problems, we stop short of the real blessing God has for us, which is a fresh vision of who He is.  
*Anne Graham Lotz*

### Bible Trivia Question

On what Sunday during Lent does the Pastor bless palms?

Answer on page 8

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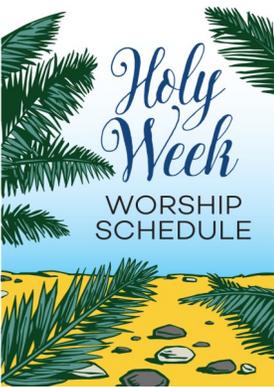
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## Thank You

I want to thank you for the check for gas for my trips to Columbus every two weeks. At this time of year its been an answer to a Prayer. I thank God for keeping me in His care. This has been rough going thru, but I trust in His care and plans for me. I want to thank everyone in the church for their continued prayers and support, special thanks to the committee for their support in my time of needs. God Bless You! Janet Poppe

Dear Christian Action & Benevolence Committee, Thank you for your monetary gift. We are blessed to be part of a congregation that is always ready to help when there is a need. Thank you also for your continued prayers for Hayden. Scott, Christa, Logan, Madison, & Hayden Weiskittel

Dear Endowment Team, Thank you for your generous donation to the Anna Historical Society/Packer House. It is very much appreciated and will be put to good use. Carol Ann Carity/Secretary-Anna Historical Society



April 9	Easter Egg Hunt	9am
	Palm Sunday Brunch	11am
April 13	Maundy Thursday Worship	7:30pm
April 14	Good Friday Worship	7:30pm
April 16	Sonrise @ Pearl Cemetery	6am
	Breakfast	7am
	Worship	8&10am
	Sunday School	9am

## Easter Egg Hunt

St. Jacob Easter Egg Hunt will be **Palm Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>** at 9 a.m. during the Sunday School hour. There is a sign- up sheet in the back for those who are planning on participating (so we have enough materials for all). Any donations of candy are appreciated. Please only individually wrapped candy that can fit into a plastic egg. We need the candy no later than April 5th. There is a box in the back for your donations. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Bertke or the church office.



## Palm Sunday Brunch

The Luther League will be sponsoring the Palm Sunday Brunch on **Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>** at 11:00 a.m. Menu includes: Roast Beef Manhattan, Green Beans, Dessert, and Beverage. There is a sign-up sheet on the back window of the sanctuary. Please sign-up if you plan on attending. A free will donation will be accepted. Carry-outs will be available.

## Easter Flowers

It's time again to think about celebrating Easter morning by filling our sanctuary with colorful flowers. The following plants are available this year from Andy's. Plants can be ordered by filling out a form (located on the back tables of the sanctuary) by **Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Please place your payment in the envelope provided and put in the offering plate or bring to the church office.



## Sunday Morning Servents

	April 2	April 9	April 16	April 23	April 30
Readers (8am)	Rob Current	Kathy Fogt	Dale Wical	Mike Christman	Deb Christman
Readers (10am)	Bonnie Schmidt	Mary Ann Klopfleisch	Kelsey Meyer	David Fogt	Anita Miller
Acolytes	Travis Fogt	Wyatt Fogt	Piper Kipp	Justin Krites	Macy Wahl
Crucifer	Wyatt Fogt		Travis Fogt		
Greeters	N-Dave & Kathy Fogt	N-Howard & Ann Huffman	N-Justin & Ashleigh Radick	N-Miriam Pfaadt	N-Ken & Violet Taylor
	S-Joyce Jones	S-Lois Fogt	S-Linda Watren	S-Jim & Betty Koppin	S-Earl & Joyce Vance
Communion Asst.	Penny Fahnestock		Jenni Shoffner,		
Maundy Thurs.	Kathy Fogt		Betsy Hammergren,		
			Krista Meyer		

Blood Pressure Check Joyce Jones

## Easter Challenge

Each egg on the tree has an item listed. Take an egg off of the tree and bring back the item listed for you on the paper. This will be taking place through the Lenten season. Examples of the items are bedding, toiletries, socks, and cleaning supplies. These items will be used to help the youth at the Wernle Family Treatment Center. This event is sponsored by the High School Sunday school class.



## Puppy Chow

The 5th-6th grade Sunday school class will be making Puppy Chow to sell. Orders need to be placed by April 5th. Order forms will be available starting on March 26th. If anyone would like to help make candy, please bring them in by April 5th. All proceeds will be donated to the Hayden Weiskittel Team.

## WELCA

WELCA is selling Easter candy again this year. Samples will be available today. Orders must be in by March 26<sup>th</sup> with pick up date of April 9<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who would like to help make candy, please come to the basement on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Some items are suckers, crosses, eggs, and rabbits-all solid chocolate.

Northwest 6th Annual Spring Gathering will be held Saturday, April 8th at First Lutheran Church 208 W. Sandusky Ave. Bellefontaine, OH. Registration begins at 9am with refreshments available. Opening assembly is at 10am with presentations at 11am following special music & business meeting. The Cost is \$5.00 which includes lunch. More information can be found in the back of the sanctuary.

## HUGS-Relay for Life News

**Garage Sale** - HUGS team would like to remind everyone of the annual Relay for Life garage sale coming up April 28-29. This will be during the annual Anna Spring Garage Sales. Don't pitch those unwanted items out, but keep them for the garage sale. We take about anything! For questions, see Steve and Jan Elsass. More information to come about drop off dates and times. If anyone would like to join the HUGS team please let Steve or Jan know. We would love to have you!



HUGS are starting the **Wash Away Cancer** fundraiser for 2017. We are asking you to take a bottle of water home with you. After you drink the water we would like you to put your loose change of dimes in the bottle. One per family will be great, but if you want to fill more, that would be wonderful. We will need these brought back to the church of the end of July. Water bottles can be found at the back of the church. Dimes do add up, so let's see how many we get back. Please have filled bottles back to the church by Sunday, July 30th.

**HUGS-Relay for Life Raffle** - The fight against cancer goes on and we know we're going to win this thing! Hardly anyone we know can say they don't have a friend or relative that hasn't battled this terrible disease. We're asking for your help in raising funds because we think it is important that we all join together to help win. The St. Jacob HUGS Relay for Life team will be sponsoring a raffle to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. This is a community affair and fundraising event for our group to raise money. We are in need of donations for our raffle to be held at the Shelby County Relay for Life in August. All raffle items for this event are donated by businesses and community members. Donations can be monetary, gift certificates, or merchandise. Any and all contributions are appreciated. If at all possible, so we are prepared for the event, we would appreciate any donations by July 3rd. If you require additional information please contact me, Phyllis Evans 937-394-7214 and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Make checks payable to St. Jacob HUGS Relay 4 Life Team. Thank you for your consideration. The St. Jacob HUGS Relay team couldn't do it without the generosity of donors like you. Please give your donations to a Hugs team member: Jan or Steve Elsass, Phyllis Evans, Joyce Ike, Heather Althausser, Dianne Cavinder, Dave Fogt, Cheryl Pulfer, Carol Bodenhorn, or Betty Koppin

**Kroger Community Rewards Program**—Good News! You will not have to re-register this year for HUGS to get credit from your purchases from your Kroger card. If anyone would like to sign up for the first time or has questions, please see a HUGS member to get you started.



**Team Hayden** campaign is working with COTA (Children's Organ Transplant Association) to assist Hayden Weiskittel, son of Scott and Christa Weiskittel with heart transplant related expenses. The gmail account is: [teamhaydenw@gmail.com](mailto:teamhaydenw@gmail.com). More information is available in the back of the sanctuary or by contacting Deb Christman at 492-7669. Anyone interested is welcome to attend a meeting. Upcoming days that local businesses will be having a day to donate to Team Hayden are as follows: April 8th—Taco Bell Anna, April 16-30 Tupperware, April 28-29 Garage Sale, May 10 Buffalo Wild Wings, May 14-17 Rada Cutlery.

## LOMO-Summer Camp

There is a 2017 Summer Program Schedule posted on the back window for those interested in going to church camp this coming summer. There are discounts for first-time campers and returning youth campers. Also, each camper will receive a \$100 scholarship from St. Jacob Parish Ed Team and the \$100 from the Christian Action Team. You can save up to \$250 if you register early! Website is [lomocamps.org](http://lomocamps.org)



April 1	Layton Barhorst
April 3	Heidi Zwiebel
April 4	Alicia Greer
April 5	Theresa Speelman, Doris Wells
April 6	Deb Christman, Richard Line, Mike Schnell, Gwen Shoemaker
April 7	Travis Fogt
April 8	Gary Berner
April 9	Mason Bertsch
April 11	Mallory Maher, Elisa Strasser, Urijah Wenrich, Cayle Wildermuth
April 12	Courtney Hollenbacher, Jodi Wildermuth
April 13	LeeAnn Bell, Lucas Fogt
April 14	Earl Vance, Casey Wical
April 16	Tony Speelman
April 16	Jean Wildermuth
April 17	Scott Rickert
April 19	Brent Stombaugh
April 20	Ashley Frilling, James Liess
April 25	Jason Line
April 26	Amanda Cavinder, Elliott Davis, Wilma Elsass, Lisa Grilliot
April 29	Dawn Ely, Jill Wilt
April 30	Morgan Fogt, Trent Fogt, William Helmlinger, Tony Kies



April 15	Doug & Phyllis Evans
April 30	Ed & Juanita Wical



## Purging Prayer Concern List

We will start to purge our prayer concern list in our bulletins. If you have someone on the prayer concern list, please let the church office know if we need to remove that individual. All remaining individuals will be taken off by **April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Individuals will be placed on the list for **4 weeks only**, after that individuals will be removed unless notified. Those serving our country will not be removed unless notified.



## Church Council Minutes—March 19, 2017

### Members in attendance:

Kim Klopfleisch	Dave Fogt	Dave Bell	Rick Ike
Cheryl Pulfer	Jerry Pleiman	Keith Elsass	
Jim Brandt	Deb Christman	Carol Bodenhorn	

### Excused Members:

Ann Huffman	Lisa Brady
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### **Gathering**

#### **Devotion by Jim Brandt**

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Brandt.

#### **Secretary's Report**

Roll Call was taken. The minutes from the February 20, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Dave Fogt moved and Keith Elsass seconded to accept the Secretary's Report. Motion passed.

#### **Financial Secretary's Report**

For February, the Current Offering was \$15,596.50 and the Benevolence Offering was \$1,470.00. The Capital Campaign collected \$685.00. Jerry Pleiman moved and Keith Elsass seconded to accept the Financial Secretary's report. Motion passed.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

For February 2017 the receipts were \$15,596.50 and expenses were \$10,935.58 for a positive difference of \$4,660.92. This brings the Year-to-Date receipts to \$38,275.95 and the expenses to \$33,295.70 for a positive difference of \$4,980.25. Kim Klopfleisch moved and Rick Ike seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

#### **Offering Our Gifts and Talents**

#### **Trustee's Report**

The church bus was delivered on March 15<sup>th</sup> to the company in Toledo. It was decided to keep the same graphics on the bus. They will be doing an inspection of the drive train, because it has been making funny noises. Council discussed repairs to be made up to \$2,000. Rick Ike moved and Keith Elsass seconded the approval. Cody Lambert and Noah Pleiman will be mowing the cemetery this summer. All the pews located in the balcony have been removed. Security system is still being investigated – we have bids from Low Voltage, Miami Security, and waiting on a bid from CJE. It was discussed about doing a cleaning day at the church to clean out items and old records. No date set. The trustee's will do a walk through to inspect the church and to look for any repairs that are needed. Rick Ike moved to accept the trustee's report and Keith Elsass seconded. Motion passed.

#### **Deacon's Reports**

The Parish Ed committee reported they are looking into a coffee hour for Young Adults/parents. Kids of the Kingdom will be meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup> for a Passover meal and explanation of Passover. The Fat Tuesday meal had poor attendance, so they will not be doing one next year. Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Palm Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am during Sunday school.

The Worship Team had nothing new to report. They will be meeting soon.

The Vision Development Team will be meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. They have 4 high school scholarship applications this year.

## Minutes-cont.

The Benevolence/Christian Action Team had nothing new to report. They will be meeting soon.

The Evangelism Team had nothing new to report.

Kim Klopfleisch moved and Dave Fogt seconded to accept the Deacon's Reports. Motion passed.

### Pastor's Report

There are 3 confirmation students that haven't completed more than 60% of the materials needed to be confirmed. A letter will be mailed to all parents for a meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup> during Confirmation class time. Jim Brandt will be in contact with all parents as well.

### Continuing Business

Dave Fogt has accepted to be the chairman of the call committee for St. Jacob.

Team Hayden – Some upcoming events to support COTA for Hayden will be April 8<sup>th</sup> Taco Bell, April 16-30 Tupperware fundraiser, April 28-29 garage sale, May 10 Buffalo Wild Wings, May 14-27 Rada Cutlery. Some new promotional items will be for sale at Anna Homecoming. A pancake breakfast made over \$3,000. There are coin boxes in business around town. There will be a newspaper article in the Sidney Daily News next week.

### New Business

St. Jacob will no longer rent out tables and chairs. All rentals of the church building will need to be paid before an event date will be confirmed.

A letter was read to the council about concerns about the purging of the Prayer Concern List in the bulletin. Jim was able to speak to the individuals that had concerns.

Council will be submitting a request to Endowment for \$20,000 to lower the principle on property loans. Motion passed.

### Envisioning Business

Rick Ike informed council that he will not be doing the church payroll taxes at the end of 2017. He will work on getting someone else to take this over. Rick is working on submitting the form for a State Employer's ID Number.

The next Council Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 23, 2017 at 11:15a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Bodenhorn

Cheryl Pulfer

## 2017 Vacation Bible School

VBS is fast approaching. If you are able to serve as a teacher or helper for this year's VBS, please let Kara Kipp (704-898-6988) know as soon as possible. Adult & older youth are needed for teachers & helpers to guide children through "Mighty Fortress—In Jesus the Victory is Won!" on June 12-16 from 9:00-11:30 a.m.



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# St. Jacob Lutheran Church

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Website: [www.stjacoblutheran.com](http://www.stjacoblutheran.com)

*Growing and Sharing; Inviting and Caring*

## Mission Interpreter News



### Water renewing the earth and the church

There are three forms of flowing water—stream, flood and spring—meet us on at least three levels. They are metaphors from our textual traditions. They flow through our liturgical rites. And they are, before anything else, life-giving bodies of water on the earth. Through water, a fellow creature with us, we encounter a living witness to God, our common creator.

On this troubled earth, we creatures of dust learn from the flowing water all around us. When you next encounter a free-flowing stream, give thanks to God for it, pray for its health and let it speak the gospel to you: God comes to earth as surely as water-falls from the mountain heights and rivers rolling over the land, flowing relentlessly, giving life to all of us shaped from the earth.

When you next encounter a flood, first keep yourself and others safe, pray for those in danger and providing aid, and consider letting this flood call to mind an even greater one: against every scheme to save the world through destruction and violence, God desires to flood the world with mercy, saving every species on earth, leaving nothing outside of this deluge of grace.

And you might be blessed to encounter a spring bubbling up from the earth. If you know the water is safe, drink deeply and give thanks. Pray for the health of this and all springs. And let the spring remind you: the task of reformation calls us to remember and clear out the life-giving springs where God's mercy and goodness have been promised to us.

In this era we especially turn again to the first spring given to us earthly creatures: the fruitful earth itself, overflowing with God's goodness. In the work of reformation we help one another to rediscover this spring, to drink from it deeply, and to join the ongoing work of clearing out the pollution and obstructions so God's life-giving waters flow freely for all.

To read more about this story go to [www.livinglutheran.org/2016/04/stream-flood-spring](http://www.livinglutheran.org/2016/04/stream-flood-spring).

Submitted by: Nancy Martin

## Upcoming Events

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| April 2  | Kids of the Kingdom 2-4pm Passover Meal                   |
| April 5  | Mid-week Lenten 7:30 p.m.                                 |
| April 9  | Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School 9 a.m.               |
| April 10 | Brotherhood 7:00 p.m.<br>Palm Sunday Brunch 11 a.m.       |
| April 11 | SAPS 1 p.m.<br>Ruth Circle 7:30 p.m.                      |
| April 13 | Maundy Thursday Worship 7:30 p.m.                         |
| April 14 | Good Friday Worship 7:30 p.m.                             |
| April 16 | Sunrise @ Pearl Cemetery 6:00 a.m.<br>Breakfast 7:00 a.m. |
| April 19 | Hannah Circle 12:30 p.m.                                  |

\*Save the date: Community Blood Drive @ St. Jacob May 9th 2-6pm

Bible Trivia Answer: Palm Sunday