

JACOB'S LADDER

Volume XXXIX Issue Two

February 2023

*PURPOSE: To keep the members and friends of Jacob's Church informed of the ministries and happenings at our church and in the surrounding community to be **The Church on a Hill, Shining Forth for Jesus Christ***

Jacob's Church, 8373 Kings Highway, New Tripoli, PA 18066
Office Phone: 610.756.6352 Website: jacobschurch.org

Interim & Youth Pastor

Rev. Tad M. Schlegel 717.644.1153 (cell)
8399 Kings Highway tad836@yahoo.com
Kempton, PA 19529

Minister of Music: Rev. Susan Ohl – 610.562.7953

Financial Secretary: Bonnie Belknap - 610.756.3196

Contemporary Music Leader: Andrea Hermany - 484.225.2955

Sextons: John & Lorrie Rauch - 484.226.6207

Treasurer: David R. Follweiler - 610.298.2331

Activity Center Director: Faye M. Foulk – 610.751.5742
& *Church Secretary* – novaps@aol.com

THE PASTOR EPISTLE

“Be Strong and Work for God is with You”

But now be strong, Zerubbabel,' declares the Lord. 'Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,' declares the Lord, 'and work.

For I am with you,' declares the Lord Almighty. – Haggai 2:4

Some of you may feel discouraged as you look at Jacob's Church today. At church, in general, in our world today. As things aren't the way they once were. As church, for many people in our world today, isn't a priority. As clubs, sports, work, and other activities interfere with Sunday morning worship. As people don't give of themselves the way they used to. As attendance, not just at Jacob's but all churches, is down. So, you may understand what the people of Judah were feeling at that time. As they looked back to what the temple once was.

As the temple, in its former glory, had incredible beauty. As the walls, floors, and doors were covered in gold. Carvings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers were carved into the walls before being overlaid with gold. There were two cherubim statues that stood 15 feet tall, which filled the room. Plus, there was a room known as the Holy of Holies where the ark of the covenant was placed.

Sixty-Six years later, this beautiful temple was only a memory. As it was destroyed by the Babylonian army. Plus, the ark of the covenant was gone. The older people that remembered the beauty of the original temple were discouraged as they looked at the rebuilt temple. As it was inferior to the original.

We too may remember Jacob's in its hay day. When Jacob's Church was receiving new members on a regular basis. When the youth group was booming. When Sunday School was thriving. When people were growing spiritually and coming to know the Lord for the very first time. When people were giving of themselves through their time, talent, strength, and resources to serve God first, here at Jacob's. When coming to church was a priority.

So, though you may feel discouraged as you look at the church today and the things that are happening, or aren't happening, the way you had hoped. Remember that our God is still in control. He is in control of the course of history of Jacob's. He was in control during the rebuilding of the temple, and he is in control as we make steps toward the future. In either case God's plans were and will be fulfilled. So, trust in God as we move forward.

So, if you find yourself discouraged in this time of transition, in these steps moving forward,
“Be strong...be strong...be strong...and work. For God is with us.”

JACOB'S CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 5, 2022

Attendance:

Interim Pastor: Tad Schlegel

Elders: Ron Belknap, Mike Follweiler

Deacons: Kevin Dellicker, Kayla Fusselman, Jared Hermany, Solomon Johri, Kaitey Sacks

Treasurer: Dave Follweiler

Visitors: Mike Bailey, Faye Foulk, Diane Wertman

1. Pastor Schlegel opened in prayer.
2. Property Report – Jared reports painting continues at Tad’s house; windows are being replaced as well.
3. Youth Group – Tad reports no updates for Youth Group. Sidewalk Sunday School is currently on hold due to fall/winter months; planning to start home visits soon as well as monthly parents’ night out. Young Adults has met this month; continuing The Art of Marriage series.
4. Website/Social Media/Podcast – Kayla reports the ethernet cord is not working, causing streaming issue due to having to use wifi. Tad reports new website is progressing; will contact cable company to discuss internet issues.
5. Church Strategic Plan – Kevin continues a strategic planning ministry to establish church priorities, evaluate church resources and make recommendations regarding worship, facilities and discipleship; welcoming all congregation members Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm; hope to see you there!
6. Congregational Meeting – The meeting went well. Dave Zoghby was elected for his first term as Elder; Kayla Fusselman and Diane Wertman were elected for their first term as Deacons. The expense report/annual budget was approved with two opposing votes.
7. Youth Programs/Children’s Church – Discussions on changing when the children are dismissed from Sunday service continues to allow children more time at Children’s Church; Suggestions of children immediately going downstairs upon arrival was made.
8. Youth Leader Search – We are looking for a new Youth Pastor! Please send Application, Statement of Faith and References to Ron Belknap.
9. IT Director Search – We are looking for a new IT Director! Please send Application, Statement of Faith and References to Ron Belknap.
10. Pastor Topics –
 - a. VBS luncheon will be held December 18th in the activity center after church. All volunteers welcomed, please sign up in the back parlor.
 - b. Installation Service for new Elders and Deacons will be held on January 8th.
 - c. Mr. Drum from Gideons has requested a short video be played during service, along with additional information placed in the back parlor.
 - d. Christmas Eve Service will start at 7:00pm, Saturday.
 - e. Christmas Service will start at 10:15am, Sunday.

11. Treasurer’s Report – November 2022 Meeting Balance		\$39,935.49
Income	\$20,566.34	
Expenses	\$20,068.05	
December 2022 Meeting Balance		\$40,433.78

A motion was made to accept Treasurer’s Report as read, by Solomon and seconded by Kayla; motion carried.

12. Meeting Minutes – A motion was made to accept November’s meeting minutes as read, by Kayla and seconded by Solomon; motion carried.
13. Next Elders Meeting will be held on December 12th, 2022.
14. Next Board Meeting will be held on January 2nd, 2023
15. Paster Schlegel closed in prayer.
16. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Jared and seconded by Solomon; motion carried.
Recorded and Submitted by Kaitey Sacks

Next Jacob's Church Board Meeting is scheduled for 7:30PM, Monday, February 6, 2023
Next Jacob's Church Elders Meeting is scheduled for 7:00PM, Monday, February 13, 2023

At our December 5, 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting, we voted to contribute \$3,956.00 per week in order to meet our 2022 budget. The following tithes and offerings were collected in December 2022:

December 4	\$3,803.00
December 11	\$5,158.25
December 18	\$4,158.00
December 24	\$3,465.00
December 25	\$6,090.00


Budgeted Tithes and Offerings for January-December	\$205,701.00
Actual Tithes and Offerings for January-December	\$209,205.31
Surplus for December 2022	\$ 3,504.31

JACOB'S CHURCH CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENT due to inclement weather can be found: On our website, jacobschurch.org, on Facebook and broadcasted on WFMZ TV CHANNEL 69 NEWS STORM CENTER. Please do not hesitate to call or text Church Secretary, Faye Foulk at 610-751-5742.



Jacob's Church Board members were installed on Sunday, January 8, 2023 by Interim Pastor, Rev. Tad M. Schlegel. Church Board members L to R:: David Zoghby, Vice President; Ronald Belknap, President; Edward Sawyer, Deacon; Kevin Dellicker, Deacon; Kayla Fusselman, Deacon; Kaitlin Sacks, Deacon & Secretary; Michael Madtes, Elder. Absent: Deacons, Jared Hermany and Diane Wertman.





INFORMAL CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2023 AT 6:00PM
JACOB'S CHURCH ACTIVITY CENTER
To meet Pastoral Candidate, Pastor Stanley C. Newton
Sign-up sheet posted in parlor area for the potluck dinner.

**Praise
GOD!!
from
WHOM
ALL
blessings
FLOW**

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023

- Question and Answers
- Vote on Pastoral Candidate
- Approve Pastoral Candidate Terms and Conditions
- Approve Pastor Salary and Benefit Package

ANNOUNCEMENT

MONTHLY OFFERING ENVELOPES:

Jacob's Church has been contacted by Church-Budget Envelope and Mailing Company, our provider for our monthly donation envelopes.

Due to supply chain problems and inability to add employees to their company, Jacob's Church members will not be receiving January or February offering envelopes.

The monthly offering envelopes will resume and be delivered by the first Sunday in March.

To address this problem, you will find blank envelopes in the Sunday bulletin.

Please use these envelopes to place your weekly offering.

On the outside of the envelope, please write your name legibly, especially if you are making your weekly offering by cash. If you have any questions regarding this situation, please do not hesitate

to see me after church or give me a call at 610-756-3196.

I am sorry for any inconvenience this situation may cause.

Thank you.

Bonnie Belknap

**Children will continue to
be dismissed for
CHILDREN'S CHURCH
after A TIME FOR OUR
CHILDREN or the
PUPPET MINISTRY**

Pastor Stan Newton



Pastor Stanley Newton is a 1996 graduate of Dallas Seminary holding a ThM degree in the Old Testament. With over 30 years of pastoral experience, he offers a unique ministry perspective having shepherded three churches in Washington, North Carolina, and Houston. Most recently he served as DTS Houston's Interim Director and Director of Community Relations and Formation Ministries. His varied ministry experience includes chaplaincy work amongst first responders, leading a church planting network, mentoring elementary children, and multiple mission trips overseas.

Before coming to Dallas Seminary as a student, Pastor Newton graduated from the US Naval Academy where in addition to earning a BS degree in Control Systems Engineering, he won two national championships on the Naval Academy's storied rowing team. After commissioning as an Ensign, he served as a Nuclear Submarine Officer in the world's finest Navy. Retired after achieving the rank of Commander, Stan has 26 years of combined active and reserve service.

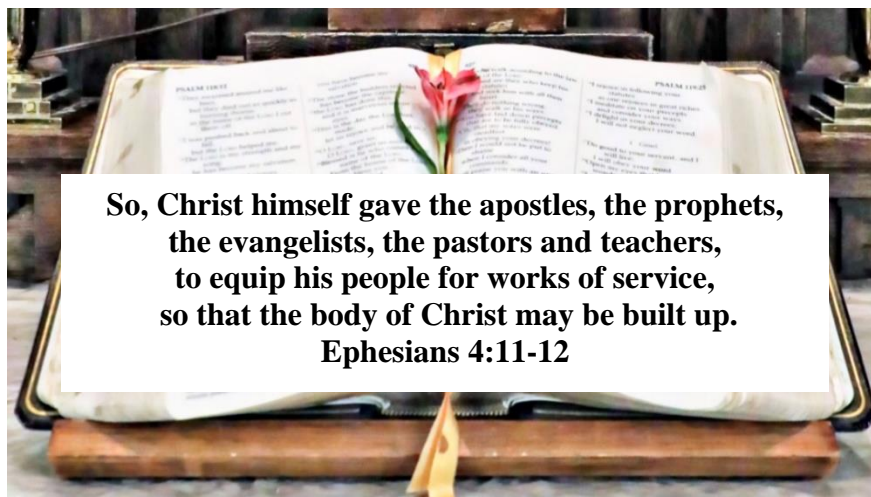
Stan is married to the former Carla Campbell of Belton, SC, who he providentially met on a blind date. Together they have three children: Victoria, Jonathan, and Caleb. A shepherd with a servant's heart, Pastor Newton's ministry focus is to mentor, disciple, and train future leaders for service at home and abroad for the glory and honor of Christ.

SERMON LINKS of Pastoral Candidate, Pastor Newton, please take the time to view.

Forgiveness and Forgotten. <https://youtu.be/5ueWMpbJovI>

The Shame of the Gospel. <https://youtu.be/jGu-L7b8rIg>

The Essential Incidental- Post Christmas Details. <https://youtu.be/WjzmzuBpcNA>.



Carla Campbell Newton

Allow me to introduce myself, I am Carla D. Newton.

I was born in South Carolina and reared in a small, rural community where my family all lived very closely together. I had a very gentle upbringing where we often shared meals, ate watermelon under large pecan trees, and had Sunday night churns of ice cream. I was introduced to Christ at an early age and was baptized when I was six years old. As I grew in age and understanding, I felt that the Lord was calling me into some type of ministry, but I wasn't sure what direction.

I attended Anderson College (now Anderson University) in Anderson, SC and went on to graduate from Furman University with a B.A. in Religion with the intent of going to seminary to study marriage and family counseling. However, I met and married Stan while a sophomore in college in 1985 and did not pursue my intended career path. However, years later, I am excited to now resume my educational journey by pursuing the MBTS degree at Dallas Theological Seminary.

I began this journey while living in Carrollton, TX in 2018. My husband and I were attending The Village Church, and they offered a training program where you could obtain credit hours for seminary. I earned 12 credit hours, and when we moved to Houston in 2019, I was accepted to DTS to finish the degree. After I complete this class in the spring, I will only have two more classes to complete.

I met my husband, Stan, on a blind date. We were engaged eight months later and married in 1985 after he graduated from the United States Naval Academy. Stan was in the nuclear power submarine community, and we moved frequently. In 1990, he resigned his active-duty commission to pursue his ThM from DTS. Together we have served over thirty years in pastoral ministry in Washington state, North Carolina, and Houston. As a pastor's wife I had many responsibilities over the years such as cleaning the church, coordinating the nursery volunteers, kitchen liaison, wedding director, church secretary, hostess for small groups, (ie baby showers, wedding showers,) ladies Bible study leader, worship leader and yes, I've even played the piano and sang solos in church and at funerals.

Stan and I have three adult children and a beautiful daughter-in-law. Victoria is 33, Jonathan is 31 and married to Chelsea, and our son, Caleb, is 30. We have two grand-dogs, Dallas, and Lila. I recently had to place my mother in assisted living in SC, so I travel frequently to see to her care. Stan and I enjoy exercise, board games, coffee, talks on our porch, and spending time with friends and family. Stan is pursuing his PhD in Old Testament, so we spend a lot of time reading and talking about the things we are learning.

One of my greatest joys in life is to cook and have people around our table. I believe discipleship is best when we spend time face to face in a relaxed atmosphere talking and wrestling out the truths of God that we are called to live and share. Currently our ministry has involved much pre-marriage counseling as well as Stan officiating the ceremonies. We love interacting with the younger generation to pass the mantle of faithfulness to them. I am thankful for this opportunity to grow in my understanding of who God is as I disciple young women in this very chaotic culture. We are on the prayer team in our church in Houston, Bayou City Fellowship.

Fun fact: Stan and I have moved over 20 times in our 37 years of marriage (thanks to the Navy and the ministry). I have never eaten a Twinkie, and I hate anything reptilian especially lizards. My life mantra: Bless people, eat with them, heal the sick, share the Gospel.

Jacob's Church Commitments for February.... THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

Greeters/Ushers for February

February 5	Jacob's Church Board
February 12	Jacob's Church Board
February 19	Jen and Kelly Mease Donna Leiser and Loretta Peters
February 26	Jacob's Confirmation Class

Greeters should be at church by 9:45am

Scripture Readers for February

February 5	Joan Oswald
February 12	Dick Oswald
February 19	Silvana Bliven
February 26	TBA

Puppet Ministry

Sunday, February 5, 2023
 Kayla Fusselman and Rose Moyer
Sunday, February 19, 2023
 Rose Moyer and Joan Oswald



Flowers for February

February 5	To the honor and glory of God – Rev. Susan Ohl
February 12	Dick & Joan Oswald - Anniversary
February 19	In memory of Pearl Follweiler & Hattie Smith – Follweiler & Foulk
February 26	Jacob's Church Altar Committee

**February Acolyte
 Leroy Hahn**

2023 FLOWER CHART is ready for you to sign up for Altar Flowers on your special date for the 2023 New Year.

The chart is posted in the east vestibule on the Church Bulletin Board. Contact Pam Zoghby with any questions at 610-298-3002.

Cost of Flowers for Sunday Service:

- (2) Altar vases \$25.00
 - (1) Floral stand \$15.00
 - Bud vase \$5.00
 - Bulletins \$5.00
- Contact Pam Zoghby to order Flowers 610-298-3002



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Congratulations and Best Wishes to the following couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries in February:

Ben and Emily Blotz

Neil and Maryann Oswald

Bruce and Cheryl Fidler

Richard and Joan Oswald

Jay and Rachael Scheffler

Celebrating with...

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:11

Birth

“That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit” John 3:6

CONGRATULATIONS to Allen and Gayla Sacks! Their bundle of joy, Nehemiah Leon Sacks, was born on Tuesday, January 17, 2023. Nehemiah has six older siblings, Sarah, Emma, Ava, Isaiah, Andrea and Elijah Sacks. The proud paternal grandparents are Mike and Leann Sacks, and paternal great-grandmother, Joyce Sacks, and many more family members are members of our Jacob’s Church Family. Congratulations and many blessings from your Jacob’s Church Family!



Siblings were created for love and friendship. They are the people in your life who see you At your worst and love you no matter what. Mary and Martha are the perfect example of this when We come to the story of their brother, Lazarus.



“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32

Congratulations Janine Oplinger - Jacob's new Stephen Leader, became a Stephen Minister in February 2019 with the first class at Jacob's Church. As a cheerful encourager and servant of the Lord, she has faithfully given care to women in the congregation and community. As a Leader, she will be using even more of the gifts God gave her. Her enthusiasm will be appreciated as she trains, educates, and supervises the Stephen Ministry Team with Jane and Cindy. Thank you Janine.



L-R-Carolyn Krick, Corinne Bast, Carol Rassler, Janine Oplinger, Curtis Staudt, Cindy Kuhns, Tom Foulk. Rev. Tad M. Schlegel, behind group



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT JACOB'S CHURCH



STEPHEN MINISTRY – Christ caring for people through people
Everyone faces periods of difficulty. During these times, someone who will listen, empathize, pray and encourage them with Christ's love and care can be a tremendous benefit. Stephen Ministers Meetings on **Thursday, February 2nd and Thursday, February 16th.**

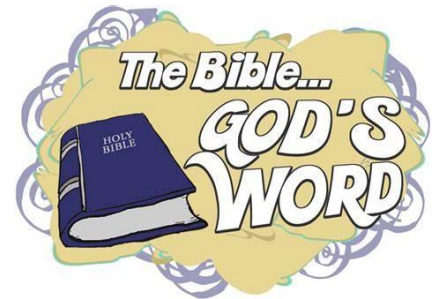
WINTER HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated on **Sunday, February 12, 2023** during the **10:15am** worship service. Communion will be served in the pew that morning. Join us to receive from Christ the nourishment and strength, and hope and joy.



CARDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT MINISTRY – Jacob's Church continues to reach out to our members and extended families with "Thinking of you" cards. The cards to be sent out are located in the parlor area, please take the time to sign each card before or after worship. Our mission is to remember each other as we go through life's journey. Please contact Diane Wertman at 484.330.1033, for additional information or to offer a name in need.

SISTERS OF ESTHER BIBLE STUDY meet **Tuesday** mornings at **9:30am** in the Activity Center meeting room. For additional information, please contact Louise Hill at 610.573.1977.

FREEDOM IN CHRIST MINISTRY will start to view and discuss "The Chosen" Season Three on **Tuesday, February 7th** at **7:00pm** in the Activity Center. For additional information, please contact Diane Wertman at 484.330.1033.



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST meet **Wednesday mornings** at **7:00am** in the Activity Center meeting room! For additional information, please contact Ralph Hill at 610.767.1286.

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY AND PLANNING WORSHIP - COLLABORATIVE DISCIPLESHIP - led by Deacon, Kevin Dellicker in the church on Wednesday evenings from **7:00pm to 8:30pm.** February 1 – Worship; February 8 – Wrap Up and Next Steps.

CHOIR REHEARSAL is held on **Thursday evenings** at **7:30pm.** All voices are welcome! Any additional information, please contact Rev. Susan Ohl at 610.562.7953.





LADIES NIGHT OUT – will be held on Monday, February 20th at 6:30pm in the church. For additional information, please contact Kayla Fusselman at 610.844.1567.

We begin our lent season of preparing our hearts for Easter by recognizing our brokenness and need for turning our heart to God. Join us at Jacob’s Church with our **ASH WEDENSDAY SERVICE with HOLY COMMUNION on Wednesday, February 22nd at 7:00pm.** Communion will be served at the altar.



SIDEWALK SUNDAY SCHOOL – Eugene and Becky will make home visits during the winter months.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP - This group will meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at **6:30pm.** If you are interested in joining us, or want more information, please contact Rev. Tad M. Schlegel at 717-644-1153. For those of you with children, child care will be provided.

If you have any questions, please contact
Interim Pastor and Youth Pastor,
Rev. Tad M. Schlegel-717.644.1153
or tad836@yahoo.com

Drinking from My Saucer
by John Paul Moore

I’ve never made a fortune and it’s probably too late now.
But I don’t worry about that much, I’m happy anyhow.
And as I go along life’s way, I’m reaping better than I sowed.
I’m drinking from my saucer, Cause my cup has overflowed.
I don’t have a lot of riches, and sometimes the going’s tough.
But I’ve got loved ones around me, and that makes me rich enough.
I thank God for his blessings, and mercies He’s bestowed.
I’m drinking from my saucer, Cause my cup has overflowed.
I remember times when things went wrong, my faith wore somewhat thin.
But all at once the dark clouds broke, and the sun peeped through again.
So, God help me not to gripe about the tough rows that I’ve hoed.
I’m drinking from my saucer, Cause my cup has overflowed.
If God gives me strength and courage, when the way grows steep and rough.
I’ll not ask for other blessings, I’m already blessed enough.
And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads.
Then I’ll keep drinking from my saucer, Cause my cup has overflowed.

Submitted by Eileen Myers

JACOB'S CHURCH FASTNACHTS

\$11.00 One Dozen Fastnachts
\$6.00 Half-Dozen Fastnachts

CHOOSE PLAIN OR
BROWN SUGAR CINNAMON
Pre-Order Your Fastnachts by
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023

To order call **LEANN SHOEMAKER** at 610.739.6896
FAYE FOULK at 610.751.5742
or visit the Jacob's Church website
Jacobschurch.org/fastnachts

For your convenience Fastnacht order sheet
is also posted in the parlor area of the church

PICK UP Saturday, February 18, 2023
from 10:00am-3:00pm

PICK UP Sunday, February 19, 2023
from 9:00am-11:00am

Fastnacht helpers,
Please sign up on the sheet posted
in the church parlor area.
Please indicate which day/days
you are able to help
Thursday, February 16, Friday, February 17,
and/or Saturday, February 18



JACOB'S CHURCH

LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL 2022-2023



Little Lambs Preschool Easter Candy Sales Program!



Please help support our wonderful preschool ministry by purchasing your Easter candy through our Gertrude Hawk Sales Program.

We will be posting our Candy Sale information in the back of the church from February 9th - February 20th.

*We would be so very grateful for all your orders and support for our program!
If you have any questions you can reach out to Jill Sabo jsabo615@aol.com*

We welcome you to participate even if you do not attend church in person we have online sales you can order from!!!

<https://fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com>

Select – I AM A BUYER

Organization – LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL SCHNECKSVILLE PA

Select Seller – JILL SABO

Shop Away! Thank You!!

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT



2022-23 Little Lamb Important Date
Valentine's Party
Tuesday, February 14, 2023

LOOK WHO IS IN THE NEWS!



Pennsylvania Farm Show

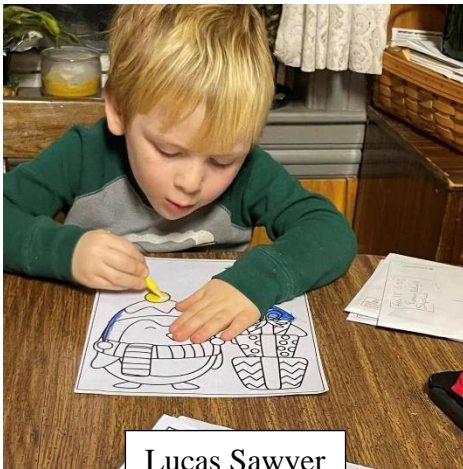
Making a good pie is no simple feat, taking proper patience and craft. We're honored to have amazing bakers enter the contest each year at the #PAFarmShow. Coming out on top today was Lorrie Rauch from Lehigh County, winner of this year's Blue Ribbon Apple Pie Contest! Wish you could try it? You are in luck! 🍏 Here's the recipe for Lorrie Rauch's famous The Ultimate Apple Pie... See more



John Rauch blue ribbon cookies



Betsy Hauser with Buster



Lucas Sawyer



Nola Hermany



Aria and Asa Hermany



Rev. Tad M Schlegel, Lauren and Michael



Nick Schaeffer and Kayla Fusselman



Picture by Leann Sacks

THANK YOU!

*Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
For His mercy endures forever. Psalm 106:1*

Dear Members of Jacob's Church

Thank you for your generosity in buying gifts for three children of the Children's Christmas Gift Program of the Northern Lehigh Pastoral Association.

With your support, this program continues to provide Christmas gifts for children whose families are served by the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Because of your generosity, 101 children in our community were able to receive gifts this year. Thank you again, and best wishes to you all for a Merry Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year 2023.

Sincerely, Francine Potters, For The Gift Committee



*Jacob's Church also received
thank you letters from
The Voice of the Martyrs,
SPADE International, and
International Fellowship of Christians
and Jews. Thanking Jacob's Church for
supporting the Lord's work.*

THANK YOU to the Ladies of
Jacob's Church for the lovely Christmas
remembrance bag of goodies.
God Bless, Carol Ressler

Dear Jacob's Church

Dave and I want to express our sincere thanks for your special year-end gift. We are so very grateful for your prayers for the work God has laid before us and your financial giving.

Would you pray that we would continue to pursue God, and all of the things he has for us, with perseverance. Sometimes the work we do is sad, but pray we remember the bigger picture and that God is working + more powerful than we sometimes remember. Thanks!

Sincerely, Katie and Dave



A SPECIAL THANK YOU to
the Ladies of Jacob's Church
and Rev. Schlegel for the bag of
Christmas goodies.

Very much enjoyed!

God Bless, Anna Lou Oswald

MISSIONS!

January 2023 Barnabas Benefit update

We work with trusted third world leaders who are also personal friends that we have met. Most work primarily in remote parts of India, but some also work in the mountain areas of Nepal and Myanmar. One friend is located in Uganda and one is in Bhutan. I will be going back to India (trip #10) from January 17-January 28th to spend some precious individual time with some key leaders and, as always, would appreciate your prayers. This trip will be a bit different and I look forward to learning a lot. I belatedly realize even though I have very frequent WhatsApp communications with most of the leaders, almost all of my trips are devoted to a hectic packed schedule seeing, doing, and following up on as many things as possible. Unfortunately, this has been at the expense of devoting alone time with the leaders who make it possible. It's something 54 years of marriage should have taught me sooner!

Our focus is on "teaching to fish rather than giving fish" and hopefully avoiding building dependence. We evaluate one time needs and try not to be a continuing source that many would like us to be. We try to plant seeds of hope and nurture self-sufficiency and independence. This can be challenging in a society of castes with a colonial history.

We continue to focus on the health and well-being of the disadvantaged, some actually previously unclothed. Our largest thrust is sponsoring borewells (\$300 Nepal -\$ 480 India) for clean pure water in various rural areas of India and Nepal. Many are sick and even dying from drinking distant putrid drinking water. In addition, many of the low caste folks are not allowed to drink from the same water sources as the upper castes. (Similar to African Americans in the past)

We also provide on an as needed basis desperately needed food, clothing, mosquito nets, and warm blankets for orphans, widows and the elderly. Many of the low caste children don't have access to schools and up to 80% of the ladies in villages are illiterate. We started to provide some materials such as books, tablets, and pencils to equip those able and willing to teach. When leaders came to meet with Natalie and me, many walked a long distance. We started selectively supplying bicycles to remote leaders in the past few months (\$100-\$137) which are having a great impact.

We continue to provide mini battery-operated projectors and the Jesus Film in native tribal languages which attracts riveted throngs. Unfortunately, the gatherings are sometimes "not allowed" and often dispersed by not so friendly police. Four of our original projector units "wore out" this year after hard use and many thousand viewings and are being replaced. Replacement repair parts cost more than "new" \$250 refurbished units. There is a great demand for native language Bibles, much more than we can possibly fill. (\$2-\$7) We were shipping cases of Gideon Bibles in native languages but one state now will not allow them past their border. We rely on inexpensive (25 cent) book of John for most follow-up with Bibles later.

We have been involved in multiple orphanage and church construction projects as our donors choose to fund. We try to teach and encourage local giving and prefer to match funds or fund a specific part of the whole project. There are increasing numbers of orphans after covid and child trafficking is rampant. Additional rooms are needed to separate boy and girl orphans.

The momentum for our microloan programs is increasing and a variety of endeavors are providing for women and their children. These include raising pigs and quail, making and selling baskets, mobile phone repair, breakfast shops, and along with the most popular—sewing machines. (\$108) We joined one of the sewing classes and were amazed at the skills, especially fancy embroidery of wedding garments. We actually arranged for 3 village fishermen to get a large commercial loan to replace their badly torn nets.

This is a very short summary and we are always happy to provide more details with individuals, families or groups. One mother invited us to an evening so her school age children can interact. It is an honor to be a conduit for you and then to witness and report on the great things your prayers and support are producing. I am especially touched by families, businesses, and groups adopting projects and villages "as their own."

It is an honor and privilege to represent you bringing hope to the hopeless.
May God continue to bless you and your compassionate hearts abundantly.

Your friends, John & Natalie Teufel

JACOB'S CHURCH

ACTIVITY CENTER REPORT

"THE CHURCH ON A HILL, SHINING FORTH FOR JESUS CHRIST"

January 28, 2022

Happenings in the Jacob's Activity Center during the month of January....

Sisters of Esther held their meetings on Tuesday, January 3rd, 10th, 24th and 31st, starting at 9:30AM and ending approximately at 11:30AM.

The Freedom in Christ Ministry held their meetings on Tuesday, January 24th and 31st beginning at 7:00PM.

Men's Prayer Breakfast held their breakfast on Wednesday, January 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th, starting at 7:00AM.

Stephen Ministers held their meetings on Thursday, January 5th and 19th.

Young Adults Group are holding their meetings in the church.

Kutztown Lady Twirlers held practice sessions on Friday, January 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th starting at 5:30pm and ending approximately at 9:00pm.

Private celebration was held on Saturday, January 28th.

Crossroads Community and Orchard Homeschool groups use the center on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

NYAA Basketball groups continue to hold practices on most Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. An additional practice was held on Friday, January 27th.

NYAA Quarterback training was held on Saturday, January 14th and Saturday, January 21st.

NYAA Volleyball team held practices on Sunday, January 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th; 6:00pm-7:30pm

When we put our problems in God's hands, he puts peace in our hearts.

God Bless You,
Faye M Foulk

Photo by Andrew Sawyer



Jacob's Church Scheduled Activities in Church

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Little Lambs Preschool 9-11:30AM Mid-Week Bible Study 7:30pm	2 Little Lambs Preschool 9- 11:30AM Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	3	4
5 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Confirmation 10:15AM Blended Worship Service Congregational Meeting	6 Jacob's Church Board 7:30PM	7 Little Lambs Preschool 9- 11:30AM	8 Little Lambs Preschool 9-11:30AM	9 Little Lambs Preschool 9- 11:30AM Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	10	11
12 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM Confirmation 10:15AM Blended Worship Service/Holy Communion	13 Jacob's Church Elders Meeting Parish House 7:00PM	14 Little Lambs Preschool 9- 11:30AM 6:30pm Young Adults Group	15 Little Lambs Preschool 9-11:30AM	16 Little Lambs Preschool 9- 11:30AM Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	17	18
19 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM Confirmation 10:15AM Blended Worship Service	20 Ladies Night Out! 6:30pm	21 Little Lambs Preschool 9- 11:30AM	22 Little Lambs Preschool 9-11:30AM Ash Wednesday Service w/Holy Communion 7:00pm	23 Little Lambs Preschool 9- 11:30AM Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm	24	25
26 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM Confirmation 10:15AM Blended Worship Service	27	28 Little Lambs Preschool 9- 11:30AM 6:30pm Young Adults Group				

Jacob's Church Tentative Activity Center Schedule

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00AM-8:30AM Homeschool 1-4pm	2 Stephen Ministers Meeting 9:30AM-12:00PM Homeschool 1-3pm NYAA 6-9	3 Twirlers 5:30pm-9:00pm	4 Church Fellowship 6:00pm
5 9:00am Sunday School Softball 6:00pm-7:30pm	6 NYAA 6-9	7 Sisters of Esther 9:30-11:30am 7:00pm Freedom in Christ Ministry	8 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00AM-8:30AM Homeschool 1-4pm NYAA 6-9	9 Homeschool 1-3pm NYAA 6-9	10 Twirlers 5:30pm-9:00pm	11 Private Celebration 3-11pm
12 9:00am Sunday School Softball 6:00pm-7:30pm	13 NYAA 6-9	14 Sisters of Esther 9:30-11:30am 7:00pm Freedom in Christ Ministry	15 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00AM-8:30AM Homeschool 1-4 NYAA 6-9	16 Fastnachts Stephen Ministers Meeting 9:30AM-12:00PM Homeschool 1-3pm NYAA 6-9	17 Twirlers 5:30pm-9:00pm Fastnachts	18 Fastnachts
19 9:00am Sunday School Softball 6:00pm-7:30pm	20 NYAA 6-9	21 Sisters of Esther 9:30-11:30am 7:00pm Freedom in Christ Ministry	22 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:00AM-8:30AM Homeschool 1-4pm	23 Homeschool 1-3pm NYAA 6-9	24 Twirlers 5:30pm-9:00pm	25 Private Celebration 11:00am
26 9:00am Sunday School Boy Scouts Softball 6:00pm-7:30pm	27	28 Sisters of Esther 9:30-11:30am 7:00pm Freedom in Christ Ministry				

--	--	--	--	--	--	--