

Jacob's Ladder

volume XII issue 7

July 2016

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
jacobschurch.org

Pastor

Rev. Scott L. Shay (610) 298-2602 (home)
8029 Penny Court (610) 756-6352 (office)
New Tripoli, PA 18066 (484) 695-4021 (cell)

Ministry Assistant

James Reppert (610) 698-6637

Youth Leaders

Jim & Jocelyn Reppert (610) 698-6637

Music Director

Brenda Phillips (484) 604-3302

Activity Center Director

Faye Foulk (610) 751-5742

Secretary

Cindy Kuhns (484) 529-2835

Treasurer

David R. Follweiler (610) 298-2331

Financial Secretary

Bonnie Belknap (610) 756-3196

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John & Lorrie Rauch (484) 226-6207

The Pastor's Epistle

"THE CURE FOR A NATION"

"If My people who are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." II Chronicles 7:14 KJV

I remember reading this statement a short time ago, "Are you unemployed? Unable to pay your mortgage? Unable to properly clothe, feed and educate your family? Go eat your foreign import!"

If only the answer to our national problems would be so simple as controlling foreign investment and trade regulations. We are a nation that has been greatly blessed of the Lord. Our very constitution and legal system was originally based on Biblical principles. But now we can all sense a social, economic, moral and spiritual decline taking place in our land. I'm sure that economists and sociologists throughout the world may have many complex theories as to why this decline is taking place. I'm sure that our federal government will spend hundreds, or millions or even billions of dollars in trying to change this course of destruction. In my opinion, the cause of our decline as a nation can totally be summed up in this one short statement, "AMERICA HAS TURNED HER BACK ON ALMIGHTY GOD."

The cure for America's ills is the same cure which our Lord offered to Israel in II Chronicles 7:14.

First We need to call upon the Holy and Mighty name of Jesus Christ. "If My people who are called by My name." In Acts 4:12 the apostle Peter speaking about Jesus Christ said, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Second We need to humble ourselves before God. In I John 1:9 we read "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Third We need to pray. In James 4:2-3 we read "Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." In Matthew 21:21-22 we read Jesus answered and said unto them, "Verily I say unto you, if ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea, it shall be done. And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

Fourth We need to change (repent) of our behavior (“thoughts, words, and deeds”). In Luke 6:46 we read these words of Jesus Christ “And why call Ye Me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?”

After we faithfully obey God’s Word can we expect an economic, social, moral and spiritual healing in our nation? Yes we can! We read in II Chronicles 7:14 that the Lord will forgive our sins and heal our land.”

My friends, there is still hope for our great nation; however, we must get back to basics and HONOR God. Let him who has ears to hear – hear! AMEN.

God Bless You!
Pastor Shay

Jacob’s Church Board Minutes

May 3, 2016

Attendance:

Pastor: Scott Shay

Elders: Ralph Hill, Lou Schimpf, Dave Zoghby

Deacons: Gary Readnack, Jim Moyer, Leslie Ford, Ron Belknap

Ministry Assistant: Jim Reppert

Excused Absence: Dick Oswald, Ned Rauch-Mannino, David Follweiler

Guest: Curtis Staudt

1. Meeting opened with prayer by Pastor Shay
2. A schedule of Board Members to assist with KFC was made for the next 6 weeks.
3. Final revision of Job Descriptions for Church employees. Deacons will be scheduling meetings with respective employees for review.
4. Discussed progress on Website updates. Jim Reppert will contact the site manager to set up email addresses before the end of May.
5. Letter to reconnect with Church Membership was finalized and will be sent out this month.
6. Church Activities Overview document was updated and finalized
7. Leslie Ford presented the board with the Mission Statement, Faith Statement and Guidelines for a Christian Homeschool Co-Op in the activity center next school year. The group will meet to discuss suggestions made by the board and present them for final review next month.
8. Motion was made to accept the minutes for April by Lou Schimpf and seconded by Ron Belknap. Motion carried.
9. Plans were made to cover Pastor’s vacation this month. Pastor David Long will cover pastoral duties and the Board will cover service on May 22nd.
10. A plan was made to better organize the distribution of Communion to ushers.
11. Jimmy shared that there is concern over the safety and condition of one of the swing sets. The condition will be accessed and reported to the Board at the next meeting.
12. A Mission Moment and Love Offering was requested for Mohan Ram on June 5th. The Mission Committee will be consulted.
13. Members requested permission for Kevin Dellicker to give an educational seminar on the history and threat of ISIS. A motion to allow the presentation was made by Leslie Ford and seconded by Ralph Hill. Motion carried.
14. The possibility of changing the service time to 9:00 AM during the summer was discussed. The possibility of continuing Choir performances during the summer will be discussed with Brenda Phillips.
15. At 9:40 PM a motion was made by Ralph Hill to close the meeting and was seconded by Ron Belknap. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Leslie Ford

At our December 6, 2015 Annual Congregational Meeting, we voted to contribute \$4,735.00 per week in order to meet our 2016 budget. The following tithes and offerings were collected in February, 2016:

May 1	\$5,228.00
May 8	\$2,425.00
May 15	\$6,457.00
May 22	\$2,709.00
May 29	\$2,967.00

Budgeted Tithes and Offerings for January – May	\$104,170.00
Actual Tithes and Offerings for January – May	\$89,215.98
Deficit for January – May	\$14,954.02

ORGAN ENHANCEMENT FUND - Your donations to this fund will be used for additional pipes required to complete families of tone in conjunction with fine organ design and building. This money is in addition to the \$65,505.00 voted on at the December 1, 1996 meeting to restore our organ and prepare for the additions. All donations should be sent to:

Jacob's Church Treasurer
 C/O David Follweiler
 6893 Whitetail Court
 New Tripoli, PA 18066

Greeters/Ushers for July

July 3	Perry, Liz, Julie Long & Steve Narkin
July 10	Church Board
July 17	Sisters of Esther (women's Bible study)
July 24	Choir Members
July 31	Sunday School Teachers

Greeters should be at church by 9:45 am

Flowers for June

July 3	Ralph & Pearl Follweiler
July 10	
July 17	
July 24	
July 31	

Cost of Flowers for Sunday Service:

(2) Altar vases	\$25.00
(1) Floral stand	\$15.00
Bud vase	\$10.00
Bulletins	\$ 5.00

Contact Pam Zoghby to order Flowers
 610-298-3002



July Wedding Anniversaries

Congratulations and best wishes to the following couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries.

Curtis & Lynn Dietrich
Bobby & Denise Fetherolf
Ralph & Pearl Follweiler
Richard & Lucille Follweiler

Kevin & Patricia Greenawalt
Jeffrey & Aubrey Miller
Jason & Rebecca Williams
Joseph & Tonya Yeakel



✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

Wedding!

Congratulations and best wishes to Slade R. Hermany and Kinsey E. Fry who were united in marriage by Pastor Shay June 4th at Jacob's Church. Slade is a member here at Jacobs.

We also congratulate Melanie Chamberlain and Grayson Whitted who were married June 11 at Jacob's Church. The pastor who officiated was a family member.

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

Look What's New! A Sunday School Class is started for young adults after confirmation through college. The class is led by Solomon and Ginger Johri in the parish house Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. Check it out!

No children's Sunday School or Children's Church for the summer. Classes will resume in the fall.

PLEASE
NOTE

New Confirmation Class starting in the fall for 2016-2018; there is a sign-up sheet in the church parlor.

Looking Ahead

Community Outreach – Movie Night at the Chris and Leslie Ford's home (next to New Tripoli Bank) July 2, July 16, August 6 at 8:00 pm. Everyone is welcome! See Youth events for movie titles.

Praise in the Park Benefit Concert – presented by the Lynn Township Recreation Advisory Committee. Sunday, August 28, 5-8:00 pm in Ontelaunee Park, local church Praise Bands along with Jack Snyder and Friends will be performing on stage. Please attend to support the Lowhill Food Pantry. All donations will go to support their mission. The Food Pantry will also have food for purchase at this event.

Progressive Dinner! – Mark your calendars for the Progressive Dinner to be held Sunday, September 24. Watch for more information in the next newsletter.

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Neal Gildner from Arkansas, who passed away May 29, 2016. He had family in our area, and a service was held for him by Pastor Scott L. Shay Monday, June 6, 2016. The interment was at Heidelberg Union Cemetery in Germansville.

Congratulations

We congratulate Pastor Scott and Donna Shay as grandparents of their third grandchild, Anneliese Marie Williams, born Thursday, June 23, 2016.

Congratulations to Ned and Stephanie Rauch-Mannino on the birth of their daughter, Victoria Hope born Monday, June 6, 2016.

Congratulations to Christopher and Kari Phillips on the birth of their son, Lucas Patrick.

Youth Events!

July 2 @ 8:00 pm

Movie Night at the Ford's (next to New Tripoli Bank)
"WOODLAWN" (Community outreach-everyone welcome)

July 11-15 @ 9-11:45 am

Vacation Bible School (ages 3-12)

July 16 @ 8:00 pm

Movie Night at the Ford's (Next to New Tripoli Bank)
"GOD'S LITTLE CREATURES" (Community outreach-everyone welcome)

July 30-31

Campout at the Farm

August 4

Pool Party

August 6 @ 8:00 pm

Movie Night at the Ford's (Next to New Tripoli Bank)
"KUNG FOO PANDA 3" (Community outreach-everyone welcome)



Something Big Is Coming!

July 11-15, 2016

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is scheduled for July 11-15, 2016. Dive right in to Ocean Commotion VBS! The kids will be learning about Noah and the Flood from the book of Genesis, how to apply Noah's spiritual lessons to everyday life, and interesting earthly lessons from the Flood. Our mornings will be packed with Singing, Drama, Lifesaver Lesson Time, Sensational Science, Crafts, Games, and Snacks. **To register your children complete the registration form in this newsletter or register on-line at www.jacobschurch.org.**

Teens are welcome as helpers.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR LIFE'S CHOICES

Dear Friends of Life's Choices,

We are currently in need of some volunteers at Life's Choices for the following positions:

1. Landscaper: If you enjoy gardening we have a very small garden in front of the building at Kutztown that could use some tender loving care. This person would need to come about twice per month throughout the summer and fall to keep it weeded. This could be a great summer activity for parents and children and what a great way to teach children to serve others!
2. Housekeeping: Beginning in September we will need someone to clean at the Kutztown office twice per month. Cleaning supplies, vacuum, etc. are provided by Life's Choices. Chocolate treats from the candy dish are also provided by Life's Choices! The Hamburg location also could use some housekeeping help if you live closer to the Hamburg area.
3. Parenting Mentors: We are looking for Godly moms and/or dads who would be willing to mentor a young parent who comes to Life's Choices for parenting classes at both the Kutztown and Hamburg locations. One hour classes are held at Life's Choices and are one-on-one with the client. Teaching is done mostly by video along with a discussion worksheet. If your children are grown you have a wealth of information to share with the next generation. Younger parents can be used as well as you can relate first hand to the challenges our clients are facing.

If you would like more information about any of these opportunities please contact Life's Choices at 610-683-8000 or email lifeschoices@hometownu.com.

Thank you for your continued support of Life's Choices. We wouldn't be here without you!

Joy Stutzman
Executive Director

JACOB'S CHURCH

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

ACTIVITY CENTER REPORT

June 24, 2016

The following activities were held in the Jacob's Church Activity Center during the month of June.

- A private celebration was held on Friday, June 3, using Wednesday, June 1, and Thursday, June 2, to prepare and set up for this main event on Friday. A private celebration was also held on Saturday, June 11.
- The annual Community Day event was held on Friday, June 17. Volunteers started to set up for this event on Thursday, June 16.
- The annual Miller-Keystone Blood Drive was held on Friday, June 24.
- Jacob's Revive Ministries continue to use the activity center each Sunday morning.
- The Women's Prayer Group continues to use the meeting room on Tuesday mornings. The Men's Prayer Breakfast Group continues to use the meeting room on Wednesday mornings.
- Vacation Bible School will be held Monday, July 11 through Friday, July 15.

God Bless You,

Faye M. Foulk

May Youth Report

The month of May brought forth the closing of another year of youth ministry. As I look back over the year, many encouraging memories and connections were made. I can see God's hand move in the lives of the youth. While this year brought out a different group of kids, I believe that this year we saw the most change. We have been encouraged to see them wanting to learn, be loved and built up. As I look back over the year, the way a youth group night was ran changed some to accommodate the new needs of the group. I also think about how much our youth are looking for love. I can say that God is working on these kids' souls and we need to continue to pray for them to hear God's voice.

The youth group season came to end by having picnics for all the groups. We were blessed to have a good turnout for all the picnics. We focused on food, games and review of what we had learned throughout the year.

The week after the Jr. High picnic, we started staff training for the next year. We have 10 students that want to step up and serve. During the summer we plan on investing in these students to grow and embrace their faith and the understanding of what it means to serve with a purpose.

Joshua 24:14

“Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.

Coming up:

Movie Night at Ford's	July 2 8:00 pm
Lake side service North Entrance	July 10 10:15 am
VBS	July 11-15
Movie Night at Ford's	July 16 8:00 pm
Campout at the Farm	July 30-31

May Ministry Assistant Report

May coming to an end brought Community Day close at hand. While planning was going on for months, May was crunch time to finish up the details for the outreach event. I was contacting people for grilling, finalizing advertising, getting rentals taken care of and lining up bands for the evening. Paul and I had a few meetings to discuss the different aspects of the night. We are excited about the picture we can portray to our community through this outreach event.

Looking to the summer Jane, JJ and I started meeting to discuss VBS. Jane has got a good start to bringing VBS together. JJ will be doing t-shirts and I will be doing opening program and running games.

The website continues to be updated every two weeks. I put a link to preregister for VBS on the site. I am continuing to work with Brad about emails for the different ministries of the church.

Revive has been going well. I believe that God has sent us a good base of people. Numbers have been pretty steady. Our worship leaders have been doing a great job leading worship and connecting to the Holy Spirit to connect songs to the message. As the summer approaches, we are hopeful that attendance will hold steady and that it will be a time of great growing in the ministry.

Chris Ford and I have been working out a schedule for community movie nights at his house. We are excited to see what God can do through this ministry.

Matthew 9:37-38

³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

The Voice of the Martyrs Prayer Calendar
JULY 2016

1. COLUMBIA-Pray for churches in the “red zones” esp. those closed by rebel groups.
2. LEBANON-Pray that extremism will be transformed into repentance and faith in Jesus.
3. BHUTAN-Pray for Christians who receive a Bible for the first time.
4. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES-Pray that the Christian expatriate community will become more active in evangelism.
5. COTE D’IVOIRE-Pray that all evangelistic & discipleship opportunities will be grounded in pure truths of the Bible.
6. ISRAEL-Pray for Christians who use email and social media to reach Muslims who have questions about Jesus.
7. LAOS-Pray that communist authorities will stop viewing Christianity as an Amer. political tool.
8. TUNISIA-Pray for the spread of the gospel in unreached areas, especially in the south.
9. IRAN-Pray for the continued growth and strength of house churches in Iran.
10. KAZAKHSTAN-Pray for church leaders, many of whom choose prison over paying fines for meeting in homes.
11. VIETNAM-Pray for the training of new pastors, so believers can hear God’s Word taught clearly in house churches.
12. TURKMENISTAN-Pray for the safety of believers, whose activities are closely monitored by authorities.
13. IRAQ-Pray for Iraqi believers who chose to stay in Iraq as witnesses for Christ rather than emigrate.
14. SOMALIA-Pray that believers will be encouraged and will trust God’s Word.
15. ALGERIA-Pray for the training of workers outside the Kabylie region.
16. JORDAN-Pray for Christian converts who are hospitalized from attacks against Christianity.
17. TANZANIA-Pray for the families of Christian martyrs.
18. OMAN-Pray that the country’s prosperity will not be an obstacle to the gospel.
19. ISRAEL-Pray for front-line workers who have made great sacrifices to share Christ in hostile communities.
20. LEBANON-Pray that the walls of fear will disappear between churches and needy souls.
21. MALI-Pray for greater stability in the north so that evangelism will be more effective.
22. TAJIKISTAN-Pray for Christians who are fined for allowing their children to participate in religious activities.
23. ERITREA-Pray for the government and for those in authority.
24. ALGERIA-Pray for Pres. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, who has ruled since 1999.
25. KYRGYZSTAN-Pray for Christian families, who are prohibited from burying their dead.
26. MALI-Pray that the peace agreement between rebel groups and the government will hold.
27. EGYPT-Pray that Christian converts from Islam will be able to worship the Lord in churches.
28. LEBANON-Pray for Christian converts who suffer persecution and loneliness
29. TANZANIA-Pray that Christian converts from Islam will be bold in their new faith.
30. VIETNAM-Pray that authorities will allow Christians to gather for worship in every province and not just in cities.
31. SUDAN-Pray for Mansour, 11, who is recovering from wounds suffered when his school was bombed by government planes.

Please use this list to pray daily for the persecuted church around the world.

July 2016

Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
					1		2
						8 pm Movie Night at the Ford's House Showing "Woodlawn" Everyone Welcome!	
	6		7		8		9
6-6:45 am Men's Prayer							
Breakfast							
7pm Mid-Week Bible Study							
	13		14		15		16
9:00 - 11:30 am VBS		9:00 - 11:30 am VBS		9:00 - 11:30 am VBS		8 pm Movie Night at the Ford's House-Showing "God's Little Creatures" Everyone Welcome!	
6-6:45 am Men's Prayer							
Breakfast							
7pm Mid-Week Bible Study							
	20		21		22		23
6-6:45 am Men's Prayer							
Breakfast		6:30 pm Christian Ed Mtg					
7pm Mid-Week Bible Study							
	27		28		29		30
6-6:45 am Men's Prayer						Saturday and Sunday Youth Camp out at the Farr	
Breakfast							
7pm Mid-Week Bible Study							