

Jacob's Ladder

volume XII issue 5

May 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

Sextons

John & Lorrie Rauch (484) 226-6207

The Pastor's Epistle

"THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT"

The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like, I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:19-23 NIV

I remember, as I think back over the years, what a wonderful week we had during our 1994 Vacation Bible School! With an average attendance of 85 happy students and a dedicated "prayed up" staff led by director, Mary Ann Oswald, we truly experienced the blessings of Almighty God!

The theme for 1994 V.B.S. was "Son Country Farm," which emphasized the fruits of the Holy Spirit. After reading Galatians 5:19-23, the difference between living by the world's standards vs. God's standards becomes obvious.

My dear friends and family in Christ, are you experiencing the fruits of the Holy Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control) in your life? The scriptures say that God truly desires for us to experience an abundant life. (John 10:10) This means a life that is filled with true meaning when we serve the living God.

It is my prayer for the entire church universal that we are filled with the fruits of the Holy Spirit. If you feel that this very important aspect is missing from your life, then ask Jesus Christ to come into your heart as your personal Lord and Savior. When we humble ourselves, confess our sins with a repentant spirit, and trust totally in the finished work of Jesus Christ on the Cross, then the Holy Spirit will bless us with these special "fruits."

It is my prayer that all of you desire those wonderful fruits of the Holy Spirit.

God Bless You!
Pastor Shay

JACOB'S CHURCH BOARD MINUTES

Attendance:

March 7, 2016

Pastor: Scott Shay

Elders: Ralph Hill, Lou Schimpf, Dave Zoghby

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

Treasurer: David Follweiler

Ministry Assistant: Jim Reppert

Excused Absence: Ned Rauch-Mannino

Guest: Curtis Staudt, Paul Schick

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. Chris Ford and Jim Reppert are working to bring the website up to speed. Will be adding mailboxes and an events calendar.
4. Reviewed new estimate for lawn mowing. The bid will be verified to be inclusive of all current mowing services and discussed further.
5. Discussed reconnecting with membership. Letter to be drafted and submitted for approval at next board meeting.
6. Discussed the need to look into the specific requirements under the Child Protection Policy law.
7. Tom & Faye Foulk volunteered to ring the church bell before Sunday services. Approved by board.
8. Jacob's church has the opportunity to host the annual Sportsman Dinner for Seipstown Grange. An Elder will connect with the Grange for more details on what level of involvement is expected.
9. Curtis Staudt requested the opportunity for Cheyenne Boyer to address the congregation about Americore. Motion to accept was made by Lou Schimpf and seconded by Ron Belknap. Motion carried.
10. Curtis Staudt explained need to expand the Cemetery. Motion to allow the Cemetery Association to move dirt onto church land was made by Ralph Hill and seconded by Dick Oswald. Motion carried.
11. Jim Reppert shared that plans for this year's Egg Hunt are going well. Event will take place on March 19 from 12-2pm
12. Motion was made to accept the minutes for February by Ralph Hill and seconded by Gary Readnack. Motion carried.
13. Treasurer's report was presented by David Follweiler as follows:

Balance at February 2016 Meeting		\$18,850.04
Income	\$40,164.36	
Expenses	\$30,212.79	
Balance at March 2016 Meeting		\$28,801.61

Motion was made to accept it by Dick Oswald and seconded by Ralph Hill. Motion carried.
14. At 10:00 pm a motion was made by Ralph Hill to close the meeting. It was seconded by Dick Oswald. 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:

March 6	\$3,478.55
March 13	\$3,968.90
March 20	\$3,954.00
March 25 (Good Friday)	\$ 470.50
March 27	\$5,058.25

Budgeted Tithes and Offerings for January – March	\$61,555.00
Actual Tithes and Offerings for January – March	\$54,786.21
Deficit for January – March	\$ 6,768.79

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 May	
May 1	Maria Azar & Corinne Bast Carol Rassler & Ruth Seither
May 8	Church Board
May 15	Tom & Candice Danner & Family
May 22	Ron & Donna Smith Curtis & Joan Staudt
May 29	Ron & Bonnie Belknap Don & Eileen Myers
Greeters should be at church by 9:45 am	

Flowers for May	
May 1	
May 8	Mother's Day
May 15	
May 22	
May 29	

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	



May Wedding Anniversaries

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

Brad & Heather Eroh
Cyrus & Jennifer Gehringer
Hillard & Lisa Leindecker
Jason & Jill Loch
Ronald & Cindy Loch
David & Marcia Miller
Jim & Rose Moyer
Bruce & Loretta Peters

Michael & Anni Russo
Joseph & Jenny Schick
Mark & Charlene Silva
Curtis & Joan Staudt
Michael & Vanessa Stepan
Fred & Sandra Tomasko
Andrew & Whitney Zoghby



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Wedding!

Congratulations and best wishes to Jennifer Lynn Gulick and John Joseph Brinker, Jr. who were united in marriage in Jacob's Church on March 19, 2016 by Pastor Scott L. Shay.

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Baptism!

Elliana Fay Randall , born December 30, 2015, was baptized in Jacob's Church on April 17, 2016, by Pastor Scott L. Shay. She is the daughter of Kevin and Jennifer (Belknap) Randall from Summerhill, PA. Brayden is her big brother, and Ron and Bonnie Belknap are her proud grandparents. Her sponsors are Matthew Randall and Christine Martin. Congratulations to all!

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Thank You!

Dear Jacob's Church Family,

I would like to express my gratitude to all of you for the many encouraging words, cards, prayers, and love extended to me during my recovery from surgery. Even now, your kindness continues to bless me.

With love,

Nancy Backenstoos

Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8th

Mothers will be honored during our worship service.

Pentecost Communion/ Confirmation Sunday, May 15th

Holy Communion will be served in the pews.
Confirmation of 12 young adults.



Honoring Our Graduates Sunday, May 29th

All college and high school graduates who are members of Jacob's Church will be honored and presented with a gift. If you have a graduate in your family please contact the church secretary, Cindy Kuhns (484-529-2835), so no one is missed.

Scholarship Fund

Any Jacob's Church member who will be attending college in the fall is encouraged to obtain the current guidelines and 2016 outline (contains easy questions) to apply for a portion of the Jacob's Church Scholarship Fund. You can pick up these forms from Donna Smith or Pastor Shay. The deadline for applying is June 1, 2016.

Look What's New! A Sunday School Class is starting Sunday, May 22 for young adults after confirmation through college. More information coming soon!

Pastor Shay will be on Vacation from May 16 – May 27. If you are in need of routine pastoral service, please contact a member of our Church Board. For emergency pastoral service, contact Pastor David L. Long from Salem E.C. Church in Lenhartsville. Contact our Church Secretary, Cindy Kuhns, for his telephone number, or contact another pastor of your own choice.

Something BIG is Coming!



JACOB'S CHURCH VBS: July 11 - 15, 2016

Save the Date

JACOB'S CHURCH

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

ACTIVITY CENTER REPORT

April 22, 2016

The following activities are scheduled for the last week of April and the month of May in the Jacob's Church Activity Center.

- The Senior High Youth Group continues to meet at the Spade Ministries in Steinsville.
- The Junior High Youth Group is scheduled to meet on Thursday, April 28, May 5, 12, 19 and 26 beginning at 6:30pm and ending approximately at 8:30pm.
- The Kids For Christ Youth Group is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, April 28, May 4, 11, 18 and 25 beginning at 6:00pm and ending approximately at 7:45pm.
- Private activities are scheduled for Saturday, April 23, Saturday, May 7, 21; Sunday, May 22, Friday, May 6 and 20; Monday, May 23 and Tuesday, May 24.
- 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.
- On Saturday, May 14 the Mother/Daughter Banquet will be held in the Activity Center.

God Bless You,

Faye M. Foulk

March Youth Report

The month of March brought opportunities for evangelism and outreach. I took a group of Jr. High and Sr. High students to Hamburg to pick up balloons for the Easter Egg Hunt. We had a great time of fellowship. The trip to Hamburg led into the packing of bags to hand out to the kids at the Egg Hunt. The students did a great job. They filled 85 bags with candy, flyers of different ministries and a prize egg donated from Texas Roadhouse. The bags had Little Lambs and KFC printed on them.

The next day we held the Annual Egg Hunt. We had a time of fellowship in the beginning and that led into a lesson explaining the Resurrection Eggs on the carpet for the kids. The fellowship consisted of pizza, moon bounce, popcorn and a time of conversation with families. On the carpet we had a great time talking just briefly on what each egg represented about the story of Easter. I was truly blessed to hear the great answers the students gave. After the lesson was over, the Egg hunt began. We took each age group to their area and left one group at a time hunt the eggs. After the hunting was over, Jane Wessner put a game together for the kids to get a little more truth into their heads; it was a relay race that at the end the whole team had to answer 10 questions about our faith. The first team to finish the relay and questions won. The kids had a great time.

KFC and Jr. High continue to grow. God has blessed us with a very strong and consistent attendance. In both groups we have been going through the Easter story. Leading up to Easter, we talked about the events leading to that Good Friday. Making sure they know the importance of the events leading up to Easter weekend is so important. I believe that we must promote well rounded foundations for our faith. To know that Jesus died for us is great but not quite enough for the whole picture.

Matthew 7:24-27

²⁴ "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

Coming up:

May 22

Sr. High Picnic

May 25

KFC Picnic

May 26

Jr. High Picnic

Summer Schedule TBA soon

March Ministry Assistant Report

In the month of March I met with Jill Sabo and Jane Wessner to talk about planning the Easter egg hunt. Jane took ownership of helping with the lesson and she put a great game together to interact with the students. Jill made a connection with Texas Roadhouse for some free prize eggs. Jill and I also discussed printing a giveaway bag to promote KFC and Little Lambs. She recommended what to fill the bag with for the students.

I met with Paul Schick to start discussing Community Days. We are looking at building the BBQ side of the event. Also getting the blood mobile and possibly a car show this year was discussed. I will be starting to get advertising items made up and finish answering some of the questions the meeting produced.

I placed the Pig Stomach and other upcoming events on the church website. I also have been working with Chris Ford to continue to upgrade the website. He will be helping me with graphics and content. Hopefully, between Chris and Brad we will be able to get direct emails set up in the near future. This will help with getting questions answered quicker and getting better information to the people that are asking for help.

Revive continues to move right along. At the end of March we ended the "Resurrection" series. We are now moving to the book of Acts. I feel God leading me this way to help us put down a solid foundation of how to reach the lost world. What better place to start that journey than in the book of Acts. We continue to see new families come to the ministry. We have been blessed by the worship week in and week out. Our hope is that God would continue to grow us individually and as a ministry.

Psalm 119:9-11

⁹ How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.

¹⁰ With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your commandments!

¹¹ I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.

The Voice of the Martyrs Prayer Calendar
MAY 2016

1. AZERBAIJAN-pray for pastors who cannot find employment because they were imprisoned for their faith.
2. LEBANON-pray that Lebanon will continue to provide refuge to its suffering neighbors.
3. KENYA-pray that Christian converts from Islam will grow deeper in Christ.
4. TURKEY-pray for the effectiveness of Christian Turkish media (satellite & radio)
5. KYRGYZSTAN-pray for Christians who regularly face property destruction, intimidation and physical attack.
6. TAJIKISTAN-pray for pastors who are tempted to leave the country because of constant harassment and threats.
7. KENYA-pray that Christian converts from Islam will remain faithful when rejected by their family and community.
8. MALAYSIA-pray that Christians will remain strong in faith and love as they face unjust treatment by Muslims.
9. OMAN-pray that the heart of the Sultan of Oman will be softened toward the gospel.
10. MOROCCO-pray for more freedom in Morocco.
11. JORDAN-pray for Christian refugees who are displaced and unable to work or attend school.
12. NIGERIA-pray that Nigeria's new president, Muhammadu Buhari, will govern wisely.
13. MAURITANIA-pray that God will soften the hearts of those persecuting family members who have converted to Christianity.
14. PHILIPPINES-pray that pastors will avoid error and have the courage to teach the truth of God's Word.
15. NIGERIA-pray that the gospel of Christ will spread freely in northern Nigeria.
16. TAJIKISTAN-pray for evangelistic outreach projects in the Pamir region
17. EGYPT-pray for an end to the kidnapping of Christians for ransom.
18. LAOS-pray for the physical health of believers who live and serve in unhealthy conditions.
19. LIBYA-pray that Libyans who leave the country will have a chance to hear the gospel.
20. VENEZUELA-pray for unity in the church, which is being divided by Marxist ideas.
21. CHINA-pray for VOM's Bible distribution program, Christian literature printing and front-line workers ministry.
22. SIERRA LEONE-pray that the hearts of Muslims will be softened.
23. KYRGYZSTAN-pray for President Almazbek Atambaev.
24. GUINEA-pray for the family of Moise, an evangelist who was murdered while helping villages affected by Ebola.
25. MALDIVES-pray that God will open doors for the gospel throughout these islands.
26. JORDAN-pray for God's provision of new Christian converts who must live in safe houses.
27. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES-pray that the UAE royal families will come to know Jesus as Savior
28. IRAQ-pray for an end to war.
29. MALAYSIA-pray for VOM's distribution of Christian training materials and other literature.
30. PHILIPPINES-pray that Christians will stand firm in faith despite attacks from Muslim extremists.
31. DJIBOUTI-pray that evangelists will have opportunities to share the gospel with Somalis.

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

May 2016

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday	
	1		2		3
9 am Children & Adult Sunday School		9 am Mommies @ Jacobs		9:30-11:30 am	
10:15 Blended Worship Service/Sanctuary		in Activity Center		Women's Bible Study	
10:15 Revive Ministry/ Activity Center		7:30 pm Church Board Mtg.		7 pm Healing Prayer Min.	
<i>Happy Mother's Day</i>			9		10
9 am Children & Adult Sunday School		9 am Mommies @ Jacobs		9:30-11:30 am	
9 am Confirmation Class - <i>picture day</i>		In Activity Center		Women's Bible Study	
10:15 Blended Worship Service/Sanctuary		7:00 pm Elders Meeting			
10:15 Revive Ministry/Activity Center				7 pm Healing Prayer Min.	
3:30 Sr. High Youth Group at Spade Min.					
	15		16		17
9 am Children & Adult Sunday School		9 am Mommies @ Jacobs		9:30-11:30 am	
9 am Confirmation Class - <i>rehearsal</i>		In Activity Center		Women's Bible Study	
10:15 Blended Worship Service/Sanctuary					
<i>Pentecost Sunday, Communion, and Confirmation Sunday</i>				7 pm Healing Prayer Min.	
10:15 Revive Ministry/ Activity Center					
	22		23		24
9 am Children & Adult Sunday School		9 am Mommies @ Jacobs		9:30-11:30 am	
		In Activity Center		Women's Bible Study	
10:15 Blended Worship Service/Sanctuary					
10:15 Revive Ministry/Activity Center				7 pm Healing Prayer Min.	
3:30 Sr. High Picnic at Jim Reppert's House					
	29		30		31
9 am Children & Adult Sunday School		9 am Mommies @ Jacobs		9:30-11:30 am	
		In Activity Center		Women's Bible Study	
10:15 Blended Worship Service/Sanctuary					
10:15 Revive Ministry/Activity Center				7 pm Healing Prayer Min.	
<i>Honor the Graduates</i>		<i>Memorial Day</i>			

