

+ GOD + FAMILY + SELF +

St Jacobi Lutheran Church
108 Glen Drive
Shohola, PA 18458
570-559-7676
Sunday Service 11 am
Church School 10 am

Website: stjacobishohola.org
Email: stjacobicouncil@yahoo.com
Issue 12 Volume 1 & 2 Jan/Feb 2020
Editor: Grace Criscione



Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

To every thing there is a season,
and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant,
and a time to pluck up that which is planted;
A time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep,
and a time to cast away;
A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence,
and a time to speak;
A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war,
and a time of peace.

King James Version (KJV)

Public Domain



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

from Pr. R. P. Mitchell

"Oh, the weather outside is dicey..."

Oops! Those are not the right words, but we never know from one day to the next what it will be like out there. But Christmas is coming, weather notwithstanding, whether we like it or not!

It's time to slow down and remember Mary's amazing words recorded in Luke's Gospel:

**47 "My soul glorifies the Lord
 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
 48 for he has been mindful
 of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
 holy is his name.
 50 His mercy extends to those who fear him,
 from generation to generation.
 51 He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
 he has scattered those who are proud in
 their inmost thoughts.
 52 He has brought down rulers from their thrones
 but has lifted up the humble.
 53 He has filled the hungry with good things
 but has sent the rich away empty.
 54 He has helped his servant Israel,
 remembering to be merciful
 55 to Abraham and his descendants forever,
 just as he promised our ancestors."**

Rev. Robert P. Mitchell, BS Voice & Opera, M.Div.

*Designated Pastor, St. Jacobi Lutheran Church, Shohola, PA****

Published author of 3 books:

Opera Inside Out, 2007, Xlibris Publishing Co.

Tales of a Tenacious Tenor, 2014, ASJ Publishing Co.

*Sodium Balls, A Reverend's Journey, 2017, RoseDog (Dorrance) Publishing Co.****

*Unlicensed Love, a literary novel about two married opera singers who fall in love with stage partners who are not their spouses...she gets pregnant...who's the father? ...Uh-oh...****

*Member of the Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group (GLVWG)****

*Retired corporate manager for Scholastic, Inc.****

Sang 40 leading tenor roles from Mozart to Menotti in the NYC metro area.

President's Message - Winter 2020

Feeling blessed! As we leave the end of 2019 and begin 2020, we need to reflect on the happenings in our church community.

In the summer, I moved into the president's chair and have been working with a great community to make changes for the future of St. Jacobi. I have to thank all of you for this opportunity. The council and membership have been supportive of the changes in the first few months. And I thank you all for your continuing guidance and support as we enter the New Year.

I cannot thank you enough for all your help in the past month in filling the shoes of our Financial Secretary, Petra, who is on the mend and will be home with us as soon as she can. A special thanks to Joe, Grace, Annie and Dotty for filling in with many things that needed to be done. Thanks also to the members who helped decorate the church for Christmas and continue to be participants in our congregation during this time.

I would like to thank the people who were in this past Sunday's Christmas Concert and those who helped with the setup and cleanup of the refreshments. These events we have at St. Jacobi are important and can't happen without your support. As we go forward in this season we must not forget the German Service coming up on December 22nd at 3 pm.

Also last week we had our first winter storm and we cancelled Sunday activities on Saturday afternoon. We will be following this procedure as the safety of all of our munity is most important. So as you hear of impending bad weather, follow these steps:

Check our Facebook page if you are a member. It will come up on your newsfeed.

Check your email.

If we know you don't have email, we will call.

Again, thank you to Joe and Grace for helping with the notifications. As always, if it looks bad where you are, stay home. We want everyone to be safe!

Looking forward to the New Year, we will have the first council meeting of the New Year on Sunday, January 5th. Coffee and cake will be served after the service and before the meeting. Everyone is encouraged to stay for the refreshments and sit in on the council meeting.

Finally I would like to wish you all a Happy and Blessed Christmas Season and a Happy and Healthy New Year!



IMPORTANT DATES: 2019

22nd- German Christmas Service 3 pm

24th- CHRISTMAS EVE 5 PM

2020- Jan 5th- Coffee/Cake -Council meeting after church
Feb 2nd- Coffee/Cake- Council meeting after church
Feb 26th ASH WEDNESDAY
March 1st- Coffee/Cake-Council meeting after church

WHAT IS HAPPENING:

Please remember our local food pantries. Food and monetary donations are always welcomed.



POINSETTIA
DONATIONS

Please contact, Chris Protsko, if you would like to place a Poinsettia plant \$12.00 each or in Memory/Honor of donation (no Flower) \$10.00 for Christmas season at St Jacobi. phone 570-559-7676. Leave message or call Chris at 570 559-7354.

German Christmas Service Dec 22nd at 3 pm

**2020- ENVELOPES ARE NOW IN THE NARTHAX-
PLEASE DO NOT USE 2019 OR PREVIOUS ENVELOPES- THANK YOU!**

A prayer for new beginnings

In his book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth* (Fortress Press), Walter Brueggemann writes in an Epiphany poem:

... this is a time to be born.
So we turn to you, God of our life
God of all our years,
God of our beginning....
We dare pray that you will do for us
and among us and through us
what is needful for our newness.
Give us the power to be receptive,
to take the newness you give
There is a time to be born, and it is now.
We sense the pangs and groans of your newness.
Come here now in the name of Jesus. Amen.

How fitting that the Epiphany season and the new year coincide! Epiphany reveals a new King, the beginning of his ministry, his new disciples, his first healings, his "new teaching – with authority" (Mark 1:27).

We, too, experience newness, now and year-round. But newness can be tough.
So we trust that God, who "[makes] all things new" while banishing "mourning and crying and pain" (Revelation 21:4-5), walks with us in this new year – and always.

JANUARY BIRTHDAY

14- Liselotte Hannemann
27- Nick Luca

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY

7- Jean Sandberg
18- Joseph Protsko
22- Hank Prigge
27- Wilma Brown

If you would like your Birthday, Anniversary or special date listed please contact Grace Criscione.
Email: purplegrace@hvc.rr.com or 845 856 8912

Saying prayers for:

Ashley Cobb
Brian Becker
Alfred Loeser
Sandra Faro
Tom Vogel & family
Keith Blaut
Bob & Valerie Cocchi
Hank Prigge
Bud Ray
Erin McCotter
Krischan Vogel
Shirley Kelly
George Nieke
Robert Breuer
Paula Schlichter
Ari Deutsch
Ingrid Vogel
Trish Mead
Linette Harding
Herta Zidek

Chris Protsko
Katherine O'Toole
Fran Nelson
Mark Pellettiere
Lottie Hof
Janice Iaccovino
Bob Mead
Rene Farrar
Lisa & TQ Smith
Nick Pellettiere
Cheryl Jurgens
Mark Scaramastro
Tessie Stover
Anna Marie Peterson
Kyle Petersen
Jackie Mundy
Anne Widelock
Pat McAuliffe-Hunkele
Petra Kluge
Robert Koehler

Pat Friedrich
Family of Rev Paul Spohn
Barbara Scocossi
Lynn Salvati
Joe Carver
Peter
Alma L Brown Keller
Marion Finch
Bianca Aran
Donald Colburn
E.B. Herling
Roseann Prigge
Marc DaVita
Louise Kuhn
Mike Hoey
Hope Traver
Lieselotte Hannemann
Witt Davis
Family of Jennifer Malzahn

PLEASE HELP KEEP THIS LIST CURRENT- Please contact, Grace Criscione, if you wish to add /or remove a name on the prayer list. I can be reached at 845 856 8912, or email: purplegrace@hvc.rr.com or stjacobicouncil@yahoo.com.

Send Cards to our friends:

Lottie Hof, Milford Sr Care, 264 Rte. 6 & 209, Milford, PA 18337 - She loves visitors.

Ms. Wilma Brown- PO Box 152, Eldred, N.Y. 12732-0152

Mrs. Lieselotte Hannemann, 107 Hannemann Lane, Shohola PA 18458

Shine a little light into their lives by reaching out to them. If you know of others that would like to be included please contact: Dotty Luca 570-559-7489

A prayer for Ash Wednesday

Lord of the winds,
I cry to thee,
I that am dust,
and blown about
by every gust
I fly to thee.

Lord of the waters,
unto thee I call.
I that am weed
upon the waters borne,
and by the waters torn,
tossed by the waters,
at thy feet I fall.



My Faith Story

My Faith:

I was born into a Lutheran family and have always known that Jesus Christ is my Lord & Savior. (My dad was raised Roman Catholic and became Lutheran)
At the times when my faith has been tested, the death of my sister, Naomi, (age 14). I knew that my belief in Jesus would give me peace, knowing that she is with Jesus- our minister's sermon was "I Am Jesus Little Lamb". These tests have and will take a long time to process.
Faith to me is believing in the unseen and receiving confession & absolution, communion and hearing the Gospel as written in the Bible.
Our family went to church, Sunday school then came home for Sunday dinner together. A minister, Eddie Nilsen, always said, God, Family & Self, somehow remembering this always works out.
Grace Criscione

This is part of the response to retreat. Please submit your faith stories so we can learn more about each other and our lives together as part of St Jacobi Family. (email: purplegrace@hvc.rr.com or give your story to any council member and they will get it to me) Thank you & God Bless!

Helping our neighbors:

Good Cheer Food Pantry

Located in St. Luke's Center (the lower level of St. Luke Pre-School) is open the First Sunday of each month from 10:30-11:30 AM. Thanks to all who donate their time, food and money...? It is truly appreciated. This is such a great service to our community! **PLEASE NOTE:** For further information please call 570- 226-3966. If your call is answered by an answering machine, please leave your name and a valid telephone number and a volunteer will call back.



Mission Support This year we are sponsoring Krystle Moraska-Madrussen who serves in Argentina/Uruguay. Krystle is the Young Adults in Global Mission Country Coordinator for young adult volunteers serving in Argentina & Uruguay. She works with the companion church, the IELU, to support the relationships they have with United States & Canada based groups. Her contact info: Camacua 282,1406 DOF BuneonAires, Argentina or email: Krystle.moraska@elca.org

Operation Christmas Child Remember when shopping to pick up items for the shoe boxes.
Thanks to Petra for chairing this great outreach.

Quilters: Remember that the Wednesday quilters (GOODWILL PIECE MAKERS) will meet Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. @ St Jacobi's social hall; they do quilts for the different charities, shelters and homeless in Pike County and surrounding areas. Anyone interested in joining them in this endeavor would be so welcome. You don't have to be a quilter to help this group with their sewing. For information call Linda Moret: 570-559-7257 or Ingrid Vogel: 570-559-7206

Ladies Aid News: meeting \Feb 2020. New members are always welcomed. Come & join in the fun....

On Sat. Nov.23, 2019, we attended a Memorial service for Rev. Dr. Paul Spohn. Paul ministered to St Jacobi, St Marks & St Luke's for a short time. His guidance and faith will always be remembered. Our deepest sympathy to Jane Ann, his wife and his family. Memorial gifts can be made to: Rev. Dr. Paul H & Mrs. Jane Ann Spohn Scholarship fund at Muhlenberg College 2400 Chew St, Allentown, PA 18104 Attn: Office of Advancement/Mark Mazer or Christ Lutheran Church, 69 Main St, Hellertown, PA 18104. Attn: Paul Spohn Memorial Fund.

Sunday School making & decorating cookies for the Christmas concert.



St Jacobi Ladies Aid Thank you to Ruth Wahl for making & donating this beautiful full size quilt.

Our winner of this beautiful quilt is Ben Koehler, Grandson of Grace Koehler.







THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED IN MAKING OUR 22ND CONCERT A SUCCESS.
(Sorry I do not have a photo of our friends from St. Ann's)





2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
						
5 11 am Service	6 Epiphany	7	8	9	10	11
Coffee cake		Quilters 9am	Quilters 9am			
Council meeting						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11 am Service	Lions club 7:30 pm	Quilters 9am	Quilters 9am			
						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
11 am Service		Quilters 9am	Quilters 9am			
						
	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day					
26	27	28	29	30	31	
11 am Service		Quilters 9am	Quilters 9am			



2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 11 am Service Coffee cake Council meeting	3	4 Quilters 9am	5 Quilters 9am	6	7	8
9 11 am Service	10 Lions club 7:30 pm 	11 Quilters 9am	12 Quilters 9am	13	14 	15
16 11 am Service	17 	18 Quilters 9am	19 Quilters 9am	20	21	22
23 11 am Service	24	25 Quilters 9am	26 Quilters 9am 	27	28	29 