A prayer for summer

A rippling sea of green and gold
Is shimmering before us
As wind stirs the tall corn,
Wave after green wave rises high,
Reaching for the summer sun.

Lord God,
When you summon seeds
From these furrowed fields,
How readily they obey!
Like the myriad crops,
Help us grow steadily:
Help us stretch, ripen
Round out, unfold.

In the warm rays of your strength,
Help us yield goodness!
**Important Dates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 7</td>
<td>Ladies Aid Meeting also 10/5; 11/2</td>
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<td>June 21</td>
<td>Seafarers Mission clothes due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 11</td>
<td>ANNUAL PICNIC &amp; SERVICE 11AM</td>
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<td>Oct 16</td>
<td>145th Anniversary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 4</td>
<td>Christmas Concert</td>
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<td>Dec 18</td>
<td>German Service</td>
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**IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR ST JACOBI:** By Congregational Vote on Sunday June 12th- We will be having church service at 9:30 AM for the month of July & August. This time change will start July 3rd.

St Jacobi will be celebrating our 145th Anniversary this year. We are planning a Luncheon October 16th. Bishop Zeiser will be attending. More information will follow. If you would like to help in planning this event please contact a council member. We are looking for photos of previous ministers and members.

Quilters that meet on Wed at the St Marks Hall (9am-12noon) are in need of CLEAN blankets (small stains are ok) mattress covers and old quilts. Everyone is welcomed to help in making these quilts. There are many ways to help without sewing experience. Cutting, folding, etc.

Thank you to those who came on 6/14 to help clean up the property.

**REMEMBER OUR SEAFARERS MISSION SATCHEL PROJECT** - We are in the final days of collecting for the Seafarer's we have over 10 seabags full and are still collecting. Thank you to all who brought in stuff and the people who knitted hats last fall. We have collected over 50 hats this past 6 months, we have wool available if anyone wants to knit some more hats. Check out their website: sihnyc.org - Thanks to Thrivent Financial for supporting this project & to Anne & Bruce Rajswasser for chairing this mission.

St Jacobi Ladies Aid will NOT be having their Oct Penny Social. If you have any items for this Penny Social please do not bring them to church as we have limited space to store these items. We will keep you informed as to when the next Penny Social will be. Thank you for your support.

Sunday School - We are presently working on Sunday School programs for the fall. If you have children from ages 4-14 please let us know all are welcome.
Area happenings:

Shohola Railroad & Historical Society  Join them on:
7/16 Annual Zane Grey Festival, Lackawaxen, Pa.
7/17 Shohola Civil War Train Wreck at 1 pm.
7/23 Annual ceremony at the Grave of the Unknown Soldier at 1pm, Lackawaxen, PA &
Minisink Battle reenactment at Minisink Battlegrounds Park, Rt 97, Barryville, NY  4 pm

CONGRATULATIONS: To Justin Pranga this years recipient of St Jacobi Scholarship. God Bless!
My thoughts: On Sat 5/28/16, I watched a group of Boy Scouts help Justin Pranga with his Eagle Scout Project. What I observed was a group of young men work very hard to prepare the ground for the pavers also heard them ask questions and learn about what they were doing. I was glad to have Thrivent Financial support them with food for the day. Looking forward to using the patio. Grace Criscione.

Our parking lot has been resurfaced. Thank you to St Jacobi Ladies Aid for paying for this project. Churches next project will be replacing the sidewalk.

SMILE: during the next few Sundays someone with a camera will be taking your photo. We are creating a photo album of our church members. If you are unable to attend church for this and want to be included in the album, please forward your photo to: Bettina Roa, Chris Protsko, Grace Criscione, Anne & Bruce Rajswasser. Email: stjacobicouncil@yahoo.com//purplegrace@hvc.rr.com.

Thrivent Financial – Pocono Chapter
Thrivent Action Teams are a great way to make an impact in our community through service projects which can be funded up to $250, by Thrivent. Speak to Grace or Joe Criscione for more information on the process to form an action team or if you have a project in mind. We are so pleased we were able to put together an Action Teams to assist with food for the Eagle Scout project.

The Pocono Chapter Leadership team is having an event at Erhardt’s Waterfront (now Silver Birches) on July 28 - open to Thrivent members only. Contact Grace Criscione 845 856 8912 or email:purplegrace@hvc.rr.com limited space available

And if you have Thrivent Choice Dollars to direct, please consider directing them to St. Jacobi. You should receive an email or note letting you know when those funds are ready for you to direct.

Grace Criscione, Congregational Advocate

Whatever the weather

No matter the forecast, weather can remind us of God’s presence:
• When it’s sunny, remember that Jesus is the light of the world (John 8:12).
• When it’s cloudy, remember that God often spoke to and guided his people from a cloud (Exodus 13:21-22.)
• During a thunderstorm, remember the thunder and lightning when God beckoned Moses to Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:16).
• When it rains or snows, remember that God’s Word serves his purpose just as precipitation does (Isaiah 55:10-11).
• When it’s windy, remember that “a wind from God” came at Creation (Genesis 1:2), and God’s Holy Spirit arrived at Pentecost like a mighty wind (Acts 2:2).
St Jacobi Council Corner:

Highlights from the June 2, 2016 meeting. Attendees were Pastor Mitchell, Joe Criscione, Nick Luca, Dale Siemers, Ingrid Vogel, Karen Nieke, Bruce Rajswasser, Anne Rajswasser, Elfrieda Galuschak, Chris Protsko, Grace Criscione.

Approved the minutes of the council meeting held May 5, 2016.

Approved the May 2016 Treasurer’s Report.

All NEWSLETTER items are due on or before the 13th of May, 2016.

Justin Pranga’s Eagle Scout project is underway and is being coordinated with Bruce Rajswasser.

Deadline for donations for the Seafarers International will be the end of June. Sweatshirts are needed, either black, blue or gray.

The 29th Annual Synod Assembly, Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA, will be held on June 17-18, 2016, at the PPL Center, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Pastor Mitchell, Bruce Rajswasser and Anne Rajswasser plan to attend.

Pike County 4H club will be using our facilities July 18-21. Joe Criscione is in contact with them and will coordinate the activities.

Parking lot was sealed. Handicap parking space lines to be repainted. New handicap signs to be installed.

Efforts to seek contractors to repair the sidewalk are continuing.

Plans for a celebration for St. Jacobi’s 145th anniversary are being discussed. Bishop Zeiser is available October 16th. A committee was formed consisting of Chris Protsko, Petra Kluge, Joe Criscione, Grace Criscione to plan the event.

Photo array of members - Committee formed consisting of Bettina Zidek Roa, Chris Protsko, Grace Criscione, Bruce Rajswasser, Anne Rajswasser to conduct this project. More information to follow.

Bible study for the book of John is being discussed. Pastor Mitchell will submit a proposal for review.

Applications for a college scholarship were received and reviewed. Scholarship winner was selected and will be announced.

Upcoming Events:

July 7, 2016 - Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m. All are encouraged and welcome to attend.

September 7, 2016 - Ladies Aid Meeting.

September 11, 2016 - Church picnic service in the pavilion.

October 6, 2016 - Ladies Aid Meeting.

October 15, 2016 - Penny Social (date will be changed due to the St. Jacobi 145 year Anniversary Celebration on the next day).

October 16, 2016 - St. Jacobi 145 year Anniversary Celebration. More information to follow.

November 2, 2016 - Ladies Aid Meeting.

December 4, 2016 - Christmas Music Fest, 3:00 p.m.

December 18, 2016, German Service, 3:00 p.m. Pastor Buchmann officiating.

ST JACOBI COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Pres. Nick Luca—570-559-7489/ email:nickluca2000@yahoo.com
V Pres. - Joe Criscione- 845 856 8912 /email: stewburn@hvc.rr.com --- Property Mgmt. & Maintenance
Treasurer-Dotty Luca-570-559-7489 /email – dottyluca@yahoo.com
Secretary- Fritzie Galuschak-570-559-7406 — Evangelism & Stewardship
Petra Kluge- email: pxkluge@yahoo.com — Financial Secretary, Ecumenism Ministry, Church School teacher & OCC
Ingrid Vogel email: vogelink@aol.com — Worship & Music
Dale Siemers email: daledig@ptd.net — Property Mgmt. & Maintenance
Christine Protsko email: stjacobicouncil@yahoo.com —Christian Education, Youth Activities & Church School teacher.
Karen Nieke: email: stjacobicouncil@yahoo.com
Bruce Rajswasser: email: stjacobicouncil@yahoo.com —Church School teacher & Seafarer’s Missions
Anne Rajswasser: email: stjacobicouncil@yahoo.com — Seafarer’s Missions

Pastor Robert Mitchell: 570-588-9690
St Jacobi Church, Shohola, PA 18458, 570-559-7676
website: stjacobishohola.org  //  join us on FaceBook
Dear St. Jacobi Friends,

New Testament scholar, Norman Perrin, once said of the Gospel of John, “…acts that are normally associated with the future—the coming of the Messiah, resurrection, judgment, eternal life—are already present for the believer in their encounter with Christ…In John past, present, and future are collapsed into a focus on the present.”

Yes, it also took me a while to decipher what he meant, but once I got hold of it, I suddenly had a new understanding of John’s Gospel. From his evocative opening, “In the beginning…” to everything John wrote, all became clearer. I understood why John’s Gospel stands apart from the other three, Matthew, Mark, and Luke. (They are known as the Synoptic Gospels [seen as alike]). Indeed, John has to be seen differently. That’s what we will explore next fall when we meet to study the Gospel of John. I hope you will join us.

We plan to start classes in mid-September to end in early November or so. Nothing’s cast in stone yet. Details of the sessions, the schedule, how many classes, length, etc., have yet to be worked out, so stay tuned for announcements about the Bible Study Class, this go-round devoted to the Gospel of John. Don’t miss it! An understanding of John is basic to our faith. John also contains the best material for sharing your faith with others.

Teaser: Only John says, “You must be born again.” (or “- from above.”) (John 3:3) What’s that mean?

If you need to get in touch with me, my contact info is below. You can also find me on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Amazon, Goodreads, and Google+. Google “Bob Mitchell sings Lydia” for a surprise.

My website, I blush to say, is not up to date:  www.bobmitchell.squarespace.com

Contact Information:

Rev. Robert P. Mitchell (aka, Pastor Bob)
3132 Bear Road
Bushkill, PA 18324-7833
Phone and fax: 570-588-9690
E-mail: b01mitchell@yahoo.com  à Note, type b “zero” 1 etc., not an alpha o!
(If you email me, please identify yourself in your message. I don’t know many names just yet.)


Saying prayers for:

Ashley Cobb  
Brian Becker  
Rev Paul Spohn  
Barbara Scocossi  
Dennis Faro  
Louise Scarpetti  
Tom Vogel & family  
Joe Carver  
Marion Finch  
Magee Hoey  
Rev. Eddie Nilsen  
Krischan Vogel  
Dolores Kolvenhach  
Mark Scaramastro  
Eddie Owen  
Tessie & Charlie Stover  
AnnaMarie Peterson  
Kyle Petersen  
George Nieke  

Chris Protso  
Katherine O'Toole  
Alfred Loeser  
Margaret Shea  
Mildred Flaherty  
Lynn Salvati  
Mark Ketzek  
Keith Blaut  
Bud Ray  
Bianca Aran  
Paul Ludwig  
Cheryl Jurgens  
JaneAnn Spoh  
Family of Bettina Buchmann  
Roseann Prigge  
Marc DaVita  
Louise Kuhn  
Linda Marie Czubak  

Tom Neuviller  
Geneva Ranker  
Grace Koehler  
Sandra Faro  
Tom Wulforst  
Mark Ketzak  
Bobby Martelli  
Janice Iaccovino  
Lisa & TQ Smith  
Erin McCotter  
Donald Colburn  
E.B. Herling  
Mark Ketzak  
Mike & Magie Hoey  
John Page  
Bruce Rajwasser  
Paula Schlichter  
Jackie

PLEASE HELP KEEP THIS LIST CURRENT-
Please contact, Grace Criscione, if you wish to add and/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.
Thank you in advance for your co-operation with keeping this list current.

IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR ST JACOBI:
BY CONGREGATIONAL VOTE ON SUNDAY JUNE 12TH-
WE WILL BE HAVING CHURCH SERVICE AT 9:30 AM
FOR THE MONTH OF JULY & AUGUST.
THIS TIME CHANGE WILL START JULY 3RD.

Seafarer’s Hat

Materials:
Yarn - Red Heart Super Saver OR any worsted weight yarn [not wool]
Needles - two size 6 or 7

Instructions:
Cast on 84 stitches  
Row 1  
Row 2  

Continue until piece measures 3 or 4 inches from the beginning

Then continue in stockinette stitch  
Row 1  
Row 2  

Continue until piece measures 8 inches from beginning

Start decreasing  
Row 1  
Row 2  

Cut yarn leaving a length of 15 inches to weave through the 12 stitches
and sew up the seam

Kindness of Joan Kaplanner  
Madison, New Jersey

Seafarers International House
135 East 15th Street, New York, NY 10003  Tel 212-677-4000  info@shinc.org  www.shinc.org
Helping our neighbors:

**Pond Eddy Food Pantry** Those who are in need of food to call the church, 856-1129, leave a message I will get back to them. Food pantry is open on third (3rd) Saturday ~ hours 11-2. We have been giving appointment times but anybody can come between those hours on those days. They also may call the church for an alternate day and time, 845-856-1129. Thank you and God bless you. - Margie Liebla

**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.

**Remember The Gideon's International Bible** organization!
They are an organization that places Bibles in hotels, prisons & sends the Gospel throughout the world. Web site: gideons.org/give or pick up a pamphlet in the narthex of the church.

**Seafare’s Mission** we will be making CLOTHING SATCHELS:
One sweatshirt- hooded or unhooded (size l-xl); three pairs of socks- thermal or white gym: One casual pullover T-shirt (size M-L); One knit winter cap; One can of nuts or bar of chocolate. Thank you to Bruce & Ann Rajwasser for chairing this outreach program.

**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 Buenos Aires, 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.

**Shohola Railroad & Historical Society** Has a DVD for sale ($12.50) on the history of Shohola. St Jacobi church has played an important part in this history. Please contact Nick Luca to purchase a copy. Dennis Lee, Producer/Director for Tribute New York/Bringing Memories to life.

**Quilters:** Remember that the Wednesday quilters (GOODWILL PIECE MAKERS) will meet Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. @ St Mark'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.

Please notify Grace Criscione if you would like to receive the newsletter by email: purplegrace@hvc.rr.com Thank you!
MEETING OUR CHURCH MEMBERS:

JOSEPH FRANCIS CRISCIONE

Born....Yes In a hospital...in New Jersey August 21, 1947

Parents....2...Nicolina and Salvatore...yes they were Italian. My mother was born in Italy and my father was born in New Jersey. I had a relatively normal childhood and I have a million photos to prove it, AND 8mm movies. My father always had a camera of some sort in his hand. I was the first child of three. I have two sisters Sandra and Donna. Sandra came along when I was 5 years old and Donna 4 years later.

I spent most of my childhood playing on the streets of West New York (New Jersey) and later North Bergen, also New Jersey. We use to do stupid things like most kids of that time but relatively innocent stuff. At least I never got caught. We all played on the streets in those days. I rode my bike (a lot) and had many friends. I grew up a good Catholic boy in a very mixed neighborhood. We had every ethnic background in the world and we didn’t know it. We all got along very well and didn’t even know what last names went with what countries. It didn’t matter. I grew up in a post WWII atmosphere and I think our parents were well aware of how important it was for us all to get along.

I attended Robert Fulton School No. 2 and then North Bergen High School. I played the Accordion when I was a kid and then was forced to join the band in high school. (hated it). I wanted to be on the football team but “I could get hurt doing that sport”. They should only have known what I did on the streets. We use to play tackle on the streets without helmets. (that explains it) Anyway, I suffered through 4 years of “the band”... Was an average student in high school, taking all academic courses. Another mistake, look what I do now. I love to build things and fix things and work with my hands. I didn’t need academic courses for that. I never took a shop course in high school.

When I was 17, got my first car, 1952 Chevy. I was one of the first “kids” in our “gang” to have a car. I saved my own money to buy it $55.00 for the car and $500.00 for insurance. I had worked at various jobs since I was 12 and was prepared for the insurance. Of course us guys always remember our first car.

I met my wife to be, Grace, in high school, we were actually in the same class of 450 kids and knew of each other but had not dated until senior year. She says it had something to do with me being in the band, I agree. We were officially introduced by a mutual friend and I knew the first time I saw her we would be married. She didn’t... She needed a ride home from the local Pizza restaurant and I had the wheels. Grace and I were married in June, 1968. We dated for about 3 years.

I went to Jersey City State College for a while after high school but had a lot of other things on my mind and dropped out. I joined the Navy because there was a military draft at that time and Vietnam was going full strength. I didn’t want to get drafted and end up in the jungle. I entered the Navy in June 1966 and after boot camp got stationed in Littlecreek Va. Grace and I were dating at the time so I was able to come home every weekend to see her from Virginia. I wore out two cars doing it. I was home almost every weekend and my father asked me if I really was in the Navy. It was like a 350 mile commute.

In April or May of 1968 I received my orders for Danang Vietnam and things changed. Grace and I were engaged by this time and we planned to get married very soon but pushed things up. I would be in Vietnam by Aug. 1968 and we wanted to get married before I left. So, to make a long story short we got married June 22, 1968. Uncle Sam sent me to Vietnam Aug. 25, 68 and put me on a river boat out of Danang. We delivered supplies, ammo, food, and everything else you can think of up the coast of the South China Sea and up the rivers of the Northern part of South Vietnam. This was still better than the jungle. (I think) I was lucky and returned home exactly a year later. I received orders for the USS Oriskany, an aircraft carrier out of Alameda Cal. (San Francisco). This time Grace was coming with me because I only had about 9 months left in the service.

We drove out to California (in a VW bug pulling a U-Haul trailer) and rented a studio apartment with a pull out of the wall bed on the 4th floor in Alameda. No elevator but that didn’t matter we were young. We had a big picture window with a great view of San Francisco skyline. Grace found a job and I played sailor. We returned to Jersey in April, 1970. I decided to become an auto mechanic and G.M. sent me to school for 9 weeks. We rented apartments for a while and with the help of Grace’s parents we bought a house in Barryville, N.Y. (Grace was familiar with the area from summer vacations) and I got a job and we joined St. Jacobi Lutheran Church. The rest is history....

A suggestion was made that we have members of our church write up something about themselves and a picture be placed in the newsletter, so that we can know each other better. Please see Grace if you would like to do this.

Ideas for the article are: place of birth, occupation, hobbies, occupation, family and friends. Please submit your bio to Grace before the 14th of each month. Also a photo if you want. Thanks.
Let's face it: a ditty bag with a toothbrush, a bar of soap, a razor and a can of deodorant don't really say "Merry Christmas".

So, years ago, we upgraded our "Christmas-at-Sea" program.

We include a sweatshirt, a couple pairs of socks, a casual pullover shirt, a knitted winter cap, a large chocolate bar or can of nuts and a Christmas card, all contained in an attractive Christmas satchel.

Being away from home on the holidays is hard, and seafarers almost always find themselves in the middle of some ocean on Christmas.

But the holidays will be brighter when the ship captain convenes the annual Christmas celebration aboard ship with a Christmas-at-Sea satchel for each member of the crew.

Please remember this mission while out shopping. Thank you to everyone who has helped in making these satchels.
For kids age 8-13

Date: July 18, 19, 20, 21

Time: 9am-1pm

Place: St. Jacobi Church

Address: 108 Glen Drive, Shohola

Fees: 4-H members $25;
nonmembers $35. Lunch included

Cooking is Fun!

During Kids Cooking Camp children will learn many skills that every good cook needs. Topics to be covered include kitchen and food safety, basic food preparation and nutrition. Children who participate will have the opportunity to cook, try new foods and make friends.

Register by July 11th

http://tinyurl.com/ncagxy4

570-296-3400
[God] seems to do nothing of himself which he can possibly delegate to his creatures. He commands us to do slowly and blunderingly what he could do perfectly and in the twinkling of an eye. ... Creation seems to be delegation through and through. I suppose this is because [God] is a giver. —C.S. Lewis, *The World’s Last Night*

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4h cooking class