**Pastor’s Column Pastor Jacob Sherry - St. John Palmer**

 Linn Lutheran School will be celebrating 50 years of education on March 3rd at Scattered Acres. This will be a semi-formal event where former teachers, students, and pastors will come together to celebrate the amazing blessings that God has given to Linn Lutheran School in the years the association has been established. This also is an opportunity to look back at 135 years of Lutheran Education in Washington County with former students of Linn Lutheran, Immanuel, St. John, and Zion Lutheran all coming together to share stories and memories of their time being educated and growing up in the Lutheran faith.

 This celebration is a good reminder that education isn’t something that should be isolated. We all work together to raise up children whether they are from our own family, our own school, or even our own town. Linn Lutheran School is an opportunity for us to see the amazing work of God who raises up children in the important subjects of both the secular world and their Lutheran faith.

 Proverbs 1:7: “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.” This verse defines the 135 years of Lutheran Education. It is in the proper understanding of the power of God and what God has done for us in love by sending Jesus Christ to die for our sins, that we begin to understand our lives and the world around us. Fools despise learning and instruction, and they also despise supporting others who want to learn especially children of all ages.

 The upcoming celebration will be a great time of food, fellowship, and great music by Tony B. Dueling Pianos. So come on out and celebrate! Remember the good times and perhaps trying times of your own education whether it was at Linn Lutheran School or one of the other schools that were mentioned. Then go forward into the next 50 years and look for ways to support the standard of Lutheran education that this county has. Look into becoming a teacher, or encourage your own child to see the blessings that come from serving the Lord in educating others. Support Linn Lutheran School by volunteering, coming to the endowment auction, or giving to their overall mission. Be involved in the decision making of this school by attending association meetings, or going to PTL. We have been blessed by God with this school. Let’s give thanks, celebrate, and be faithful stewards of this gift.