

Kirchenblatt APRIL 2015

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church 1407 Eighth Avenue Altoona, PA 16602

If you would like to opt-out of receiving a hard copy of this newsletter, please contact the church office either by phone or email.

LionPrJim@aol.com

Join us for Worship Sundays at 10:45 am

MISSION STATEMENT: To make disciples of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament by the Holy Spirit.

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Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9 am—1pm

Email: stjamesaltoona@verizon.net Website: www.stjamesaltoona.org Phone: 944-6835

In the Event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor James Rill by phone at 814-880-1612 or email LionPrJim@aol.com



Brothers and sisters in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ,

PALM SUNDAY — March 29th Worship at 10:45 am Palm Sunday is the start of Holy Week. On Palm Sunday Christians celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday, also known as "Passion Sunday," marks the beginning of Holy Week, which concludes on Easter Sunday. The Bible reveals that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowds greeted him by waving palm branches and covering his path with palm branches. Immediately following this great time of celebration in the ministry of Jesus, he begins his journey to the cross. Come join us for this historic time in our church.

MAUNDY THURSDAY with Holy Communion --- April 2nd 7pm. On Maundy Thursday Jesus' actions reveal how important it is for us to live lives of servanthood. While the plot against him begins to unfold, Jesus has a meal with his disciples and afterwards washes their feet.. Washed by Jesus in our baptisms, we too are blessed with and challenged by God's love in Christ and the command to share that sacrificial love with the whole world. As Jesus began at his Last Supper, we on Maundy Thursday celebrate the Holy Communion that He gave us.

GOOD FRIDAY— April 3rd 2 pm

On Good Friday we experience the pain of the cross. Jesus doesn't end with the cross. However, it was on the cross that Jesus died for our sins and showed us first-hand God's love for us. Good Friday is not a funeral service for Jesus. It is a celebration of the triumph of the cross!

EASTER — April 5th 10:45 am. HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! We remember and celebrate that Jesus Christ is risen! He lives in us through the Holy Spirit

Come celebrate the EASTER JOY with us!

Easter Blessings, Pastor Jim:-)





Contribution & Attendance

February 2014

Summary

Contributions \$2,022.60 Average Weekly Attendance 26

February 2015

Contributions \$2,509.00 Average Weekly Attendance 30

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY Feb. 1, 2015 - Feb. 28, 2015

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Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$2,289.00
Designated	\$220.00
From Investments	\$45.00
Other Income	\$12,070.00
	\$14.624.00

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$1,742.16.
Worship & Music	\$376.43
Office	\$708.00
Custodial & Property	\$9,080.37
Social Ministry	\$20.00
	\$11,926.96

We welcome any member to attend Council meetings. Or if you have a topic that you would like brought before the Council, please share it with any Council member and they can bring it to the meeting. All Committee reports and Council Minutes are available upon request. Please contact the Church office.

Heus & Notes from Council

—A council meeting was held on February 17, 2015.

Devotions given by: Pastor Jim reading from Matthew on the genealogy of Jesus focusing on the role Joseph as husband to Mary and servant of our Lord.

Introduction: Mark introduced the new church administrative assistant, Tim Surkovich and gave a brief synopsis of his background and how things are working out in the office to date.

Council Minutes: Shirley Manbeck made a motion to accept the minutes of February 17, 2015 revised minutes. Evelyn Holsinger seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Continued on next page

News & Notes From Council Cont.

Pastors' Report: He gave a membership update on a transfer in progress. He is in the process of doing his best to visit all of the Homebound and enjoying his visits. On February 2nd he attended a symposium at the Simpson-Temple on Stewardship. He made the comment that if anyone is in need of Pastoral Care, he is relying on the congregation for help in telling him who is in need. On Synod & ELCA, he reported on World Malaria Day which is Sunday April 26th.

Treasurer's Report: Council reviewed the report. The transfer from our investments was to pay insurance. Ralph reported he is working on getting information on Pastor's benefit package and has also received training on Revelations. The organ will be tuned Friday March 20th. Evelyn Holsinger made a motion to accept. Donna Wilt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Finance: No report. Meeting to be scheduled.

Christian Education/Social Ministry: There will be a meeting on Saturday, March 21st at 10:00 AM. The Pot Luck Dinner will be April 12th with Roast Beef provided and attendees are to bring a covered dish.

Property Committee: Shirley Manbeck reported no new news on the roof. Changes to our phone/internet services will be reviewed and changed when a new computer is purchased for the administrative assistant.

Stewardship/Evangelism Committee: Dana Detwiler reported on the Release Time classes being held at the church for special education students from Altoona Junior High. The classes are sponsored by the Altoona Ecumenical Council. They will take place every Monday from 1-2pm for 10 weeks which began March 16th.

Worship and Music Committee: Ralph Grove reported the organ will be tuned Friday April 20th. Palms for Palm Sunday will be shared by Bethany and St. James. Holy week schedule was confirmed as: Palm Sunday with Communion, Maundy Thursday at 7PM with Communion, Evelyn and Shirley will strip the altar after service, Good Friday Service at 2PM with no final hymn.

Mutual Ministry Committee: No report. Meeting to be scheduled after Easter. Pastor Jim will determine date and he asked to add a person or two to the committee.

By-Laws Committee: A meeting will be scheduled after Easter.

Old Business: Mark and Tim discussed options for a new administrative assistant computer along with thumb drives for backup. A formal decision on what to purchase has not been determined. The topic of getting the Treasurer a computer also came up and it was decided to concentrate on the administrative assistant computer first.

New Business: Pastor Jim will be composing a letter to all members inviting them back to worship. Mark reported that he is still investigating silk flower arrangements. Pastor Jim suggested developing a way to welcome new visitors at worship. A motion was made by Betty Boslet to increase Pat McConnell's salary by \$25 a week beginning next pay. Donna Foster seconded. Motion carried. Mark will also be conveying how much her talents and service are appreciated by the church. A motion was made by Shirley Manbeck to allow Pat McConnell to use the Sunday School Room for her band to practice. Dana Detwiler seconded. Motion carried. Donna Wilt made a motion to give Amy Lantz a \$200 gift for her service as administrative assistant the last 4 years. Louisa Wilt seconded. Discussion of adding a thank you letter honoring and acknowledging her talents was suggested. Motion carried.

Communications: There were no communications

Meeting Adjournment: Evelyn Holsinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Betty Boslet seconded the motion. The motion carried. Council voted by standing.

The meeting with adjourned at 8:15PM with the Lord's Prayer.



June 28, 2015 Highland Park, Pavilion #2

11:00 AM Communion Worship Service

12:00 PM Meal

Name:
Plan to attend #
Plan to bring #
I can help. Sign me up to do:
Shopping
Set up the day of the picnic
Transporting Supplies
Plan bingo games
Cooking/Grilling
Clean Up

For details on any of these jobs, please contact Evelyn Holsinger or the church office.

ríl Flower Charts & Bulletins

Niches Bulletins 5 12 19 Robert & Marian Holsinger **IMO Walter Mueller** 26

Worship Assistants

Would you like to help serve your congregation? There are many opportunities to do so by helping for just a few minutes on Sunday morning.

Thank you to those who have donated their time to serving the congregation!

Mark Hoover 2nd

2nd Louisa Marshall

6th Sheila Wilkins

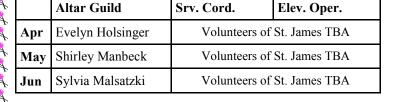
Eric Wilt 6th

12th Betty Boslet

17th Lisa Moore

21st Marlene Leonard

23rd Judith Dambeck



	Greeters	Usher
Apr	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
May	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Jun	Volunteers of St. James TBA	





See an error? Missing someone? Please inform the church office of any corrections to the birthday list so that the computer may be corrected.



Easter Flowers 2015



IHO Verna Mills IMO John Bartley By Ann Bartley

IHO Our Children & Grandchildren Bonnie, Dave, Jeff & Lori Jim, Melissa & Jarrett IMO Our Parents By David & Jean Bickel

IMO Our Children & Grandchildren Verna Mills By David & Dana Detwiler

IHO Children & Grandchildren
IMO Clarence & Ruth Emswiler
Edward & Edna Schiesser
Rev. Jack Emswiler
By Maize Emswiler & Family

IMO Robert & Blanche Schroeder Bob & Vivian Hench By Bob & Karen Hench IHO Children: Kasey, JR, Nicholas, Brandi & Kelley Grandchildren: Braeden, Zach, Samantha & Jack Parents: Bob & Marian Holsinger IMO Grandparents: Walter & Marian Muller Mother: Patty Sharrar By Bob & Evelyn Holsinger

IHO Children, Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren IMO Husband: Charles M. Kauffman, Jr. Grandparents, Aunt Freda & Uncle Paul Hofmann By Janet Kauffman

IMO Nathan Stehle, Sheila Buterbaugh, Jean Carnell By David & Shirley Manbeck

> IMO Alma C. Delozier, Donna L. Collins By Phyllis Spinazzola

> IHO Children: Eric, Julia, Dana & Todd By Mother & David Wilt

IMO Our Parents & Loved Ones By Donna & Bill Wilt

IHO Grandchildren: Erikka & Cory Brown Ethan & Elliott Wilt Haley, Jada & Sienna Mayo By Grandma & Pap Wilt

TABLE FOR HOLY COMMUNION

IN his German Mass of 1526 Martin Luther wrote: "In the true mass, however, of real Christians, the altar should not remain where it is, and the priest should always face the people as Christ undoubtedly did at the Last Supper." The practice to which Luther here alludes was common in the Christian Church. The celebration of the Holy Communion facing the people serves to emphasize the Holy Communion is a *meal*. The family of God gathers around the Lord's *table* for the family meal. This way of celebrating the Communion provides for a kind of involvement of the people with the action of the presiding minister which is not possible when the Holy Communion is celebrated by a minister with his back to the people.

We will begin using a table on the lower area below the altar in our sanctuary. Pastor will lead the service from behind this table. Members will come forward as usual to receive the bread and wine at the appropriate time.

The action of a table versus the altar against the wall distinguishes between the sacrifice of presented offerings, as in the Old Testament, and the celebration of the Risen Christ in the bread and wine for the people gathered at the **Table of the Lord**.

Pastor Jim



Announcements and Upcoming Events

In The Case of A Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor James Rill by phone at 814-880-1612 or email LionPrJim@aol.com46.

The church office email is stjamesaltoona@verizon.net The church's website is www.stjamesaltoona.org



Choir Practice Thursday at 7:00 PM Everyone is welcome!

The Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, at 6:00 PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

WELCA SATURDAY, APRIL 11 9AM
ALTOONA STORYTELLERS SATURDAY, APRIL 11 2PM
COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 14 6 PM
ALLEGHENY SYNOD SATURDAY, APRIL 18 9AM

POT LUCK LUNCHEON

The potluck luncheon will be held on April 12. Dinner will be provided by the ladies of the church. Please bring a covered dish.

ALLEGHENY CHORALE CONCERT

3 PM

St. James Lutheran Church Sanctuary





WHAT IS WELCA? It's an easy way to say
"Women's Ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America. WELCA exist to support
women in St James congregation
So if you are a woman and have never been to a
WELCA meeting please join us.

HOW DOES WELCA WORK?

Over 7000 attend meetings with each congregation having their own constitution.

Synodical Women organization like we have at St James exist in 64 of the ELCA 65 synod.

If you are a female member of a Lutheran church or if you are not a member but are interested in our program and the purpose of WELCA then guess what? You a automatically a member of WELCA (and there aren't even any dues)

So.....St James women... join us and mark your calendar for

APRIL 11. 9-11

MAY 9 9-11

JUNE. 4...5...6. ALLEGHENY SYNOD

ASSEMBLY

June 13, 9-11

July 11. 9-11

AUGUST 8. ALLEGHENY SYNOD WOMAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

ST JAMES WELCA WILL HOST THIS EVENT. MORE INFO WILL BE IN FUTURE NEWSLETTERS.

DEADLINE FOR THE MAY ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS WED, APR. 15.

DOING THE RIGHT THING IS IMPORTANT TO US

For the fourth year running, Thrivent Financial has been named one of the "World's Most Ethical Companies" by Ethisphere Institute, a leading international think tank dedicated to the creation, advancement and sharing of best practices in business ethics. Doing the right thing has been important to us for more than 100 years.

It's just one way we demonstrate our focus on values

Part of our values statement says we make it a priority to be "trustworthy in character and competence." You can be sure we'll act responsibly and with integrity. Learn more about the Thrivent difference and what we have to offer, by visiting Thrivent.com/join us or contact: Andrea K. Paul, Financial Associate at (814)-695-3496.



Release time for special education students from Altoona Area Junior High School has started ten weeks of classes at St. James. This program is sponsored by the Ecumenical Council of Altoona. They will meet on Mondays from 1:00-2:00 pm with the first session having been held on March 16th.

Volunteers are in charge with Mrs. Barbara Statler leading the lessons. Any volunteers from St. James would be welcome to assist the group. Contact Dana Detwiler for any further details if interested helping.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift; look upon this congregation with grace. Guide the minds of our Call Committee members as they discern which of your servants will be our next pastor. Please grant that we might receive a faithful shepherd who will care for us and continue to equip us for ministry in this place. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Remember In Your Prayers

Our Prayer List:

The Manbeck family

Louisa Marshall

Doug Kauffman

Ann Bartley

John Wiederkehr

Helen Brickley

Dave Bickel

Joe Yanke

Brun Hilde Badorrek

Janet Kauffman

Those serving in our military

Homewood of Altoona:

Dick Potter

Presbyterian Village in Hollidaysburg:

Charlie Green

Patti Green

In their own homes:

Becky Manbeck

Clara Esworthy

◆If anyone would like to join the prayer chain or knows of someone needing prayer, contact Janet Kauffman or the church office.

From the Office of the Bishop...

Rev. Greg Harbaugh's father, Paul Harbaugh, unexpectedly died today in Williamsport, MD. Please hold Pastor Greg and his family in prayer.

Expressions of sympathy can be sent to the family at 308 Union Street, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

We ask for continued prayers for *Pastor Frank Harpster* as he is at home on a heavy treatment of antibiotics following a successful knee surgery due to an infection.

Please hold *Retired Pastor Luther Gotwald* in prayer as he was taken to the ER last night due to weakness and confusion and then admitted to Westmoreland Hospital for testing.

THE VISITATION TEAM ASKS

if anyone would like to be added to the Visitation List or knows of anyone who would like to be added, please call the church office to notify us. Also, please call the office if anyone is hospitalized so that the visitation team and prayer chain can be notified. These requests can also be emailed to

stiamesaltoona@verizon.net

Daily Readings and Prayers

April 1—Luke 22:7-13, Psalm 116

All-knowing Father, help us to trust that You know all things, even though we do not. Amen

Quote of the Day: Simply wait upon Him. So doing, we shall be directed, supplied, protected, corrected, and rewarded. Vance Havner

April 2—Corinthians 11:17-26, Psalm 22:1-8

Merciful Lord, draw us to Your Supper that we might proclaim Your death for our sins. Amen.

Quote of the Day: We share in the divine nature through our sharing of the Spirit. Athanasius

April 3—1 John19: 23-30, Psalm 22:9-21

Gracious God, thank You for Christ, who on the cross completed Your plan of salvation. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The evidence of knowing God is obeying God. Eric Alexander

April 4—John 19:31-42, Psalm 22: 22-31

Heavenly Father, we anticipate the celebration of Your Son's resurrection. Breathe into us the eternal hope it brings. Amen

Quote of the Day: No one would allow garbage at his table, but many allow it served into their minds. Fulton John Sheen

April 5—Mark 16: 1-8, Psalm 16

Glorious God, thank You for bringing Christ to us when we think we have lost Him. Amen.

Quote of the Day: You never pray with greater power than when you plead the promises of God. William J. C. White

April 6—Luke 24:13-27, Psalm 104:1-23

Wonderful Lord, may we see in all the pages of Scripture Your plan to save ball people through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Quote of the Day: In Jesus and for Him, enemies and friends alike are to be loved. Thomas A Kempis

April 7—Luke 24:44-48, Psalm 104:24-35

Faithful Father, increase our trust in Jesus and His salvation. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Eternity to the godly is a day that has no sunset. Thomas Watson

April 8—John 21:1-12, Psalm 96

Gracious God, at the end of a long night with no fish, point us to Your Word and the promise of Jesus to be with us always. Amen.

Quote of the Day: God has given us a short time here upon earth, and yet upon this short time eternity depends. Jeremy Taylor

April 9—1 Corinthians 15:1-8, Psalm 93

Father, by Your Spirit help us to trust the witnesses who tell us about Jesus' resurrection. Amen

Quote of the Day: World poverty is a hundred million mothers weeping because they cannot feed their children. Ronald J. Sider

April 10—1 Corinthians 15:12-19, Psalm 94

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, free us from the fear of death through the promise of our resurrection. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Peace rules the day when Christ rules the mind. Anonymous

April 11—1 Corinthians 15:20-28, Psalm 95

We praise You, Father, for Your creation of life in the beginning and for Your restoration of life through Jesus' death on the cross. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Envy is a denial of providence. Stephen Charnock

April 12—John 20:24-29, Psalm 133

Blessed Lord, cause us who have not seen Jesus to be blessed by believing in Him for our salvation. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Pride is utter poverty of soul disguised as riches. John Climacus

April 13—1 Corinthians 15:50-57. Psalm 142

Lord of life, grant us faith until the day of the final victory over death comes. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Fear the Lord, then, and you will do everything well. Hermans

April 14—1 John 1:1-4, Psalm 144

Creator God, restore us to new life in Jesus Christ so that when we are raised, we will never die again. Amen.

Quote of the Day: We were deceived by the wisdom of the serpent, but we are freed by the foolishness of God. St. Augustine

April 15—1 John 1:5-10. Psalm 141

Light of the world, shine on us, and lead us to eternal life with You and peace with one another. Amen.

Quote of the Day: His wisdom's vast, and knows no bounds, a deep where all our thoughts are drowned. Isaac Watts

April 16—1 John 2:1-6, Psalm 140

Merciful Father, keep us walking with Jesus, confessing our sins, turning from them, and being forgiven by His blood. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Nothing in my hands I bring, simply to thy Cross I cling. Augustus Toplady

April 17—1 John 2:15-23, Psalm 3

Blessed Father, we know You because we have heard and believed in Your Son. Keep us strong in that faith. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The Holy Spirit of grace desires to disturb your sleep. Blessed are you if you awaken. Lars Linderot

April 18—1 John 3:11-18, Psalm 101

Father, help us to love one another as Christ loved us. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The Spirit breathes upon the Word, and brings the truth to sight. William Cowper

April 19-Luke 24:36-43, Psalm 48

Lord of Life, give us eternal, resurrected life in Jesus' name. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Heaven will be the perfection we have always longed for. Billy Graham

April 20—1 John 4:7-12 Psalm 52

Gracious God, You show us undeserved kindness. Send the love of Your Son into our hearts. Amen.

Quote of the Day: We are not part of a nice, neat creation...; we are part of a mutinous world where rebellion against God is the order of the day. Samuel Shoemaker

April 21—1 John 4:16-19, Psalm 42

Father, give us confidence in Jesus so that He will be our only plea on the day when we are judged. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The more godly any man is, the more merciful that man will be. Thomas Benton Brooks

April 22—2 John 7-11, Psalm 12

Merciful Lord, help us to hold closely to the apostles' teaching, that we might be found faithful to Jesus on the Last Day Amen.

Quote of the Day: Tell me how much you know of suffering of your fellow men, and I will tell you how much you have loved them. Helmut Thielicke

April 23—3 John 1-8, Psalm 15

Heavenly Father, keep us united to Christ through the truth of the Scriptures. Amen. Quote of the Day: No man ever enters heaven until he is first convinced that he deserves hell.

April 24—Revelation 1:4-8, 23, Psalm 17

May You, who sit on the throne, keep us faithful to Jesus, the Lamb of our salvation. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Dear Lord, although I am sure of my position, I am unable to sustain it without you. Help me or I am lost. Martin Luther

April 25—Mark 16:9-16, Psalm 45

Lord of Life, help us faithfully to share the witness of the evangelists and apostles that Jesus is the world's Savior. Amen.

Quote of the Day: He who can give thanks for little will always find he has enough. Anonymous

April 26—John 10:11-18, Psalm 23

Good Shepherd of sheep, comfort us with the truth that You know us and will one day call us home to be with You. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Temptation has its source not in the outer lure but in the inner lust. D. Edmund Hiebert

April 27—Revelation 1:9-19. Psalm 30

Father of the heavens, keep our eternal life safe with Jesus, where no sin or devil can touch it. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Every temptation leaves us better or worse; neutrality is impossible. Erwin Lutzer

April 28—Revelation 7:9-17. Psalm 11

Father of lights, be with us when the world offers us tribulation, and remind us of the white robes You have given to us through Jesus. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Right intention is to the actions of a man what the soul is to the body, or the root is to the tree. Jeremy Taylor

April 29—Revelation 21:1-7, Psalm 19

Lord of Life, turn our eyes from the things of this world to Jesus, who is making all things new. Amen

Quote of the Day: When you are able to do good, defer it not. Polycarp

April 30—Revelation 22:1-5, Psalm 119:105-112

Creator Lord, help us to see in common things such as water and light Your promise of life in Jesus. Amen

Qoute of the Day: Other men see only a hopeless end, but the Christian rejoices in an endless hope. Gilbert Brenken

Church Council Members

Mark Hoover—President

Shirley Manbeck—Vice President

Donna Wilt—Secretary Ralph Grove—Treasurer

Betty Boslet Dana Detwiler Carolyn Feather Donna Foster Evelyn Holsinger Louisa Marshall

Pastor—Pastor James Rill, Intentional Interim Pastor Church Administrative Assistant - Tim Surkovich Organist & Choir Director - Pat McConnell Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper - Ralph Grove Custodian—Shirley Manbeck

Chairpersons are listed in bold at the top of each committee.

Mutual Ministry

Debra Morgan

Donna Foster **Evelyn Holsinger**

Joe Yanke

By-Laws

*Betty Boslet

*Carolyn Feather

Maizie Emswiler

*Debra Morgan

Christian Education/ Social Ministry

Janet Kauffman

Maizie Emswiler

*Carolyn Feather

*Evelyn Holsinger

Sylvia Malsatzki

*Shirley Manbeck

*Debra Morgan

Edith Trinks

Stewardship/Evangelism

*Donna Wilt

Dana Detwiler

Janet Kauffman Louisa Marshall

Worship & Music

Dana Detwiler

Donna Foster

Louisa Marshall

Pat McConnell

Phyllis Spinazzola

Finance

*Mark Hoover

Jean Bickel

*Betty Boslet

John Wiederkehr

*Donna Wilt

Property

*Bill Dambeck

Bob Holsinger Shirley Manbeck