



Kirchenblatt

April 2014

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

*Join us for Worship
Sundays at 10:45 am
with Sunday School
for all ages at 9:30 am*

MISSION STATEMENT:

**To make disciples of Jesus Christ
through Word and Sacrament by the Holy Spirit.**

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Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9 am—1pm

Email: stjamesaltoona@verizon.net Website: www.stjamesaltoona.org

In the Event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor Ed Harshbarger by phone at 814-414-9588, by email at PastorECH@comcast.net, or at the church office at 944-6835.

Greetings From The Pastor

The Christian movement began at the empty tomb. If Jesus had not risen from the tomb his life and teachings would have been lost forever, and, as St. Paul stated, our faith would be in vain.

The first Christians were Jews who had worshiped on the **LAST** day of the week since at least the time of Moses. However, once they were convinced that Jesus had come out of the tomb they upset their normal routine and decided that worshipping on the **FIRST** day of the week should take precedence over their normal worship/work schedule. Thus, Sunday became a weekly celebration of the resurrection.

Even when some “pious” Christians decided that they needed “forty days” prior to Easter to reflect on their sins, the Church “Fathers” said ***“OK, but leave Sundays out of the mix. Sundays shall remain a celebration of the resurrection.”***

Well we all know that in due time even the Sundays of Lent got pulled into a time of reflection on sin and, instead of forty days, Lent became a 46 day event in the life of the Church.

But, thank God for Easter. Beginning on April 20th our weekly worship will reflect the resurrection spirit of the first Christians. The lessons, hymns and (hopefully) my sermons will once again reflect the joy of being “in Christ.”

Come, be part of this annual rebirth of the resurrection spirit and help us keep that spirit alive beyond Easter.

Note the Holy Week schedule on the Church Calendar.

Pastor Ed

Gracious Lord, you know the skills and spiritual gifts that are needed to do ministry within this congregation. Please guide one with these qualities to us to be our shepherd. Lead this congregation in the way that you see best for all of your Church. Help us to continue to witness to your truth, and bless each member that we might remain strong in the faith. Keep each member faithful through this time that we might be regular in our worship, diligent in the sharing of the Eucharistic feast, eager to learn, and ever ready to do your will. We pray in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Remember In Your Prayers



Our Prayer List:

The Manbeck family
Louisa Marshall
Doug Kauffman
Ann Bartley
John Wiederkehr
Helen Brickley
Dave Bickel
Gemini Eger
Joe Yanke
Brun Hilde Badorrek
Those serving in our military

Elmcroft of Altoona:

Dick Potter

Presbyterian Village in Hollidaysburg:

Charlie Green
Patti Green

In their own homes:

Becky Manbeck
Clara Esworthy

From the Office of the Bishop....

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

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

Congregations At Work--Together

The congregations of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Bethany Lutheran Church, and St. James Lutheran Church are planning to participate in two areas of ministry this year.

Easter Vigil—8:00 PM—Saturday, April 19

St. Luke's Episcopal and Fr. Patrick Collins will host this year's Easter Vigil Service with Lutheran pastors Paula Schmitt and Ed Harshbarger participating. Choir members from all three congregations are invited to participate along with anyone else who may want to participate in either the choir or the bell choir. The combined choirs will rehearse on Thursday evenings beginning April 3rd following the regularly scheduled rehearsals at the participating congregations. The bell choir rehearsal will be determined by the group.

The Easter Vigil service is held at sundown in keeping with scripture and tradition. The women who went to the tomb went at sunset because, in the Jewish calendar, that was when the Sabbath ended and the new day began. For those who first told the Easter story, "early on the first day of the week," was when the sun went down, not when it came up. The concept of holding the primary Easter service at sundown is one of the earliest traditions in Christianity. Your participation is encouraged and welcomed.

Day Camp—July 28, 2014 to August 1, 2014

The same three congregations are also exploring a cooperative adventure in the form of a summer day camp for children, kindergarten through grade 5. None of these three congregations have many children of that age level so this is designed to reach out to children anywhere in Altoona who are looking for such a summer experience. The leaders for this year's day camp will be from Camp Mount Luther near Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania. The theme will be the church year as it relates to the life and ministry of Jesus.

St. Luke's will serve as home base for this year's camp, but visits to the other two congregations, Bethany and St. James, are planned for that week. Details on all the activities will be announced in future newsletters. Each congregation will be asked to contribute snacks and supplies for this "adventure."

The rolls of all three congregations have many more citizens of a certain age than children, so this will indeed be a "leap of faith." Your prayers and support are encouraged.

Getting to know...

Getting to know...

THE DETWILER FAMILY

Dana Detwiler has deep roots at St. James and her husband David became part of the scene when they were married in 1971.

Dana's Grandparents, Charles and Eva Bickel were members of St. James and two of their children, David Bickel and Verna Mills are also life-long members of St. James. Verna is Dana's Mother and to further help you connect the dots, Jean Bickel, Treasurer for WELCA, is David's wife.

The Detwilers, David and Dana, are parents of three children all of whom were baptized at St. James.

Jay (Thadd) is the oldest son and he lives in Pittsburgh and works as a software engineer for Google. His wife is Suzanne and they have three sons, Nicholas, Alexander and Oliver as well as a daughter, Mia.

The second child, Alysia, is married to Rob Tyler and last October they presented David and Dana with their youngest grandchild, Gabrielle, who was baptized at St. James in January. The Tylers live in Altoona and Alysia works as the freight manager at Bed, Bath and Beyond.

The youngest son, Curtis, and his family live in Bethel, Connecticut. His wife is Clare and they have two sons, Owen and Elliot. Curt works as a bicycle design engineer for the Cycling Sports Group.

Dana and David both retired in 2013 and are both still active. Dana is currently in the choir and serves on two committees, Stewardship/Evangelism and Worship and Music. David can often be seen in the kitchen at the Unter Uns Club. To us he is best known as the cook for those breakfasts we enjoy on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month.

In their spare time they help take care of their youngest grandchild with some assistance from Gabrielle's Great-Grandmother, Verna.

Best wishes to Dana and David for a happy and fun filled retirement(?).

W
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This month's WELCA meeting will be moved to April 26, the fourth Saturday instead of the third, because of Easter Sunday on the 20th. Many interesting and exciting projects were presented at the March meeting, beginning with a spring concert by the Allegheny Chorale on Sunday, April 27, at 3:00 PM, in our own auditorium. Watch the weekly bulletins for additional information. The Visitation Team will meet for lunch at The Allegro on May 1 at 11:45 AM before going out to visit our shut-ins. Why not plan on joining the group for this very rewarding project? You will find yourself blessed every bit as much as the person you are visiting. Please call the church office if you know someone not on our list who would enjoy a visit.

N
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Thank you for your prayers and God-honoring gift of \$500. Your financial contribution helps advance the King's work through the support of our missionaries as they serve our Lord Jesus Christ and bring the Gospel to those least likely to have heard, believed, or benefited from its saving and transforming power.

World Mission Prayer League

Thank You

Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

In keeping with God's word, we know that we're always better together than we ever will be apart.

Thank you for living that truth out through increased mission support in 2013! As 2014 brings new opportunities to share that Gospel at home and abroad, may our partnership for the glory of God grow even further.

Thanks again!

In Christ's service,
Your Synodical Stewardship Team

Thank You

Financial Reports

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

October 1, 2013 - February 28, 2014

MEMBER SPECIAL GIVING

Allegheny Synod - Designated	\$420.00
Blanket Sunday	\$77.00
Harvest Home	\$320.00
Mission	\$60.00
White Gift	\$105.00

BENEVOLENCE

Allegheny Synod - Designated Support	\$1,500.00
ELCA National Church	\$1.00
Haller Earnings - ELCA Disaster Response	\$2,018.23
World Mission	\$1,000.00
Gettysburg Seminary	\$200.00
Camp Sequanota	\$1,500.00

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

February 1, 2014 - February 28, 2014

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.31
Contributions	
General	\$1,862.60
Designated	\$145.00
Special	\$260.00
Investment Check	\$57.87
Lost Check	\$50.00
Wienken Transfer	\$31,000.00
	<u>\$33,375.78</u>

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$1,626.88
Worship & Music	\$423.11
Office	\$935.08
Custodial & Property	\$3,569.42
Church Functions	\$65.00
Investment Transfer	\$46,748.00
Replace Lost Check	\$50.00
Benevolence	\$3,196.00
	<u>\$56,613.49</u>

February 2013

Contributions \$3,113.30 Average Weekly Attendance 33

February 2014

Contributions \$2,007.60 Average Weekly Attendance 26

News & Notes From Council

—A council meeting was held on March 11, 2014.

—The agenda was adopted with one addition .

—The Council Minutes from the previous meeting were adopted with two wording changes.

—The Pastor's report was submitted and discussed.

—The treasurer noted that the check to the Maennerchor that was issued as a donation for their entertainment services at Oktoberfest was lost. This check has been reissued.

—Snowplowing services cost \$600 in February. As per Elizabeth Richards, the property committee should look into new bids for the 2014/2015 season.

—The funds from the Dorothy Mann estate have been moved to a short term investment CD.

—The parochial report was discussed. Questions were raised and answered as to how the membership numbers were reached.

—The treasurer's position was discussed. Lori Savino will email dates that she is available to meet with candidates.

—Elizabeth Richards will contact Bob Grossman regarding meeting to discuss insurance options.

—A finance meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2014, at 6:30 PM.

—Signers on the investment and checking accounts are being updated.

—Highland Park has been booked for the church picnic.

—Barbara Good has volunteered to lead bingo games at the picnic.

—Evelyn Holsinger has volunteered to do the shopping and help arrange the cooking at the picnic.

—Minutes from the property meeting on February 16, 2014, were submitted.

—A deadline to retrieve donated items from the church will be posted in the April Kirchenblatt (before the clean-out proceeds). More information on page 15.

—A spring cleaning day was scheduled for April 12, 2014.

—The stewardship/evangelism committee has begun making contact with members on the inactive list or active members who have not been in church.

—Donna Wilt noted that the membership list is in need of updating. Pastor Harshbarger indicated that meetings were scheduled to do this in February, but had been cancelled because of inclement weather.

—Updated lists will be distributed to Council members no later than March 31, 2014.

—At the time of the Council meeting, \$45 had been donated to sponsor the Church Directory ad in the Altoona Mirror.

—It was noted that there have been a number of new lectors participating in the service.

—The by-laws committee is in need of a third member.

—Pastor Harshbarger noted that joint efforts between St. James and St. Luke's continue to be explored.

—Council was asked to consider names for a call committee and to have those names prepared for the April meeting.

—The need for Synod Assembly Delegates was discussed. This year's assembly is particularly important due to electing a new bishop. All members of the congregation are eligible.


—There was discussion regarding worship attendance.

—It was noted that the attendance numbers are down from previous years.

—It was also noted that there are two new members and more people are becoming active in the church.

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**

April Flower Charts & Bulletins

Altar	Niches	Bulletins
6 IMO Had Richards and Karl Trinks By Elizabeth Richards and Edith Trinks		IMO Had Richards and Karl Trinks By Elizabeth Richards and Edith Trinks
13 IMO Walter and Marian Muller By The Holsingers		
20 RESERVED		
27 IMO Billy Dambeck By Bill and Judy Dambeck		

April Birthdays

2 Louisa Marshall
 2 Mark Hoover
 4 Eric Wilt
 4 Shelia Wilkins
 12 Betty Boslet
 14 Karen Steele
 17 Lisa Moore
 17 Lydia Thompson
 21 Marlene Leonard
 23 Judy Dambeck

Happy Birthday!

Worship Assistants

We are currently scheduling Worship Assistants.
 Please contact the church office to volunteer!
 Thank you to those who have donated their
 time to serving the congregation!

	Altar Guild	Srv. Cord.	Elev. Oper.
Apr.	Evelyn Holsinger	Bob Holsinger Jr.	Bob Holsinger Jr.
May	Robin Kessler	TBA	TBA
Jun	Kim Vandevander	TBA	TBA

	Greeters	Usher
Apr	Evelyn Holsinger	Bob Holsinger Jr.
May	Robin Kessler	TBA
Jun	Kim Vandevander, Barb Good	TBA



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

Announcements and Upcoming Events

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,
please contact Pastor Harshbarger at 414-9588, or through
the church office at 944-6835.
The church office email is stjamesaltoona@verizon.net
The church's website is www.stjamesaltoona.org
Find us on Facebook to get up-to-date information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Council Meeting	April 8, 7:00 PM
Finance Meeting	April 22, 6:30 PM



W.e.l.c.a.

WELCA meets:
April 26, 2014
8:30 AM



CHOIR NOTES

Please join us for choir rehearsal every
Thursday at 7:00 PM.
There is room for everyone!

VISITATION TEAM LUNCHEON/VISITS

Join the visitation team for
lunch at the Allegro in Altoona
on May 1st at 11:45 AM. Then
share in the meaningful experi-
ence of visiting with the home-
bound of the church.

St. James is looking for
someone to fill the treasurer's
position for the church.

Duties include:
Overseeing all financial record keep-
ing functions, preparing financial
reports for council and congregation,
writing monthly checks, filing tax
forms, monitoring investments ac-
cording to church policies, assisting
in preparing church budget, serving
on Finance Committee. Quicken
basic 2007 & Excel computer pro-
grams are currently being used,

Applicants should contact the
Church office (944-6835). The po-
sition is to begin by April 1, 2014.
On the job training provided by
retiring treasurer, Lori Savino

POT LUCK LUNCHEON

The pot luck luncheon returns on
April 6, 2014, with an
Old Fashioned Hymn Sing.

DEADLINE FOR THE MAY ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS TUESDAY, APRIL 15.



On Sunday, April 27th, at 3:00 PM, The Allegheny Chorale will present a free concert at St. James Lutheran Church, Eighth Ave. and 14th St.

The concert includes numbers based on traditional hymns, a Rodgers & Hart movie tune, Beatles numbers, a pair of sea shanties, and music that will be completely new to the audience.

Deborah Estright is Director of the Chorale. Accompanists Anna Myers and Susan Daly will share duties and double up for some special four-hand work. Percussionist Paul Turner will add to the program.

Join us for an afternoon of spring time music.

Senior Lunch At St. Luke's

St. Luke's Episcopal Church welcomes all to their Senior Lunch, the first Wednesday of each month – September through May.

Lunch begins at 12:15, but come a bit early to socialize and choose your seats.

Lunch is held in the Parish Hall – entrance on 8th Avenue.

On street parking is available as is parking in the vacant lot across the street (providing that the ground is frozen!).

A free will offering will be collected.
All are welcome!

Breakfast With The Pastor

Pastor Ed invites members of St. James to join him for breakfast on April 5th.

Time: 8:30 AM

*Place: Unter Uns Club,
1407 Van Buren Avenue*

The breakfast is prepared by our own David and Dana Detwiler.

The menu is varied and the coffee is free.

Come join together for fellowship and conversation!

Pastor Ed will not be available on April 19th or May 1st.

WORLD MALARIA DAY APRIL 27, 2014

Who would have dreamed that something as simple as a mesh net could protect so many children from a dreaded disease. For the last few years the ELCA has joined other organizations in providing money for these nets that are used to keep sleeping children from being bitten by malaria carrying mosquitoes. St. James is being asked to join other congregations on April 27th and make a special contribution toward the ELCA goal of \$250,000 for this one day campaign. Special envelopes will be available.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday Service*	
April 13, 2013	10:45 am
Maundy Thursday Service*	
April 17, 2013	7:00 pm
<i>Foot washing for those who wish to participate.</i>	
Good Friday Service	
April 18, 2013	2:00 pm
Easter Vigil Service*	8:00 pm
<i>St. Luke's Episcopal Church</i>	
Easter Sunday Service*	
April 20, 2013	10:45 am

*Indicates Communion Service



Cleaning vs Clearing Out

There will be two (2) days this Spring which will deal with the issue of "housekeeping" at St. James.



The first event will deal with giving a careful but complete cleaning of the worship and fellowship areas of the Church, including the access areas, doorways and stairways. This will take place at 9:30 AM on Saturday, April 12. When you come on that day there will be persons at each area to be cleaned, ready to assign you a specific "job." This event is timed to happen on the day before Holy Week so that all areas to be used that week will reflect our anticipation of preparing for the celebration of resurrection of Christ. All able bodied persons are invited to join us.

The second event of "housekeeping" will take place at a latter day and will involve a "clearing out" of many things – from the attic to the basement - that are no longer of use. If there are items you have donated and wish to remove you are asked to do that by April 30th. It is anticipated that a dumpster will be needed to haul away a lot of out dated and unusable items.



Church Picnic

June 8, 2014
Highland Park, Pavilion #1

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 _____ Assigned (1 Person) _____

Set up the day of the picnic _____ Assigned (2 People) _____

Transporting Supplies _____ Assigned (1 Person) _____

Plan bingo games _____ Assigned (1 Person) _____

Cooking/Grilling _____ Assigned (2 People) _____

Clean Up _____ Assigned (2 People) _____

For details on any of these jobs,
please contact Janet Kauffman or the church office.

<p><i>Church Council Members</i></p> <p>Pastor Ed Harshbarger—President Elizabeth Richards—Vice President Donna Wilt—Secretary Lori Savino—Treasurer Judy Bryan Bill Dambeck Maizie Emswiler Barbara Good Bob Hench Janet Kauffman</p>	<p><i>Pastor— Ed Harshbarger, Interim</i> <i>Church Administrative Assistant - Amy Lantz</i> <i>Organist & Choir Director - Pat McConnell</i> <i>Sexton - Howard Walters</i> <i>Treasurer - Lori Savino</i></p>
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Chairpersons are listed in bold at the top of each committee.

Mutual Ministry

***Barb Good**

Donna Foster

*Bob Hench

Joe Yanke

Christian Education/

Social Ministry

***Janet Kauffman**

*Judy Bryan

*Maizie Emswiler

Evelyn Holsinger

Edie Trinks

Property

***Bill Dambeck**

*Judy Bryan

Mike Fanelli

Bob Holsinger

*Barbara Good

*Elizabeth Richards

Earl Walters

By-Laws

*Bill Dambeck

*Maizie Emswiler

Stewardship/Evangelism

***Donna Wilt**

Dana Detwiler

*Janet Kauffman

*Lori Savino

Worship & Music

***Bob Hench**

Dana Detwiler

Donna Foster

Louisa Marshall

Pat McConnell

Phyllis Spinazzola

Finance

***Liz Richards**

*Bill Dambeck

*Lori Savino

Edith Trinks

John Wiederkehr

*Donna Wilt