



Kirchenblatt

August 2014

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.

*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 814-414-9587, by email at PastorECH@comcast.net, or at the church office at 944-6835.

Greetings From The Pastor

CHANGE OR DECAY

In the second verse of the hymn, "Abide With Me," there is a phrase that reads, "***Change and decay in all around I see; O thou who changest not, abide with me.***" I really think that those of us who still sing that hymn would be better served if the text was altered to read "change or decay." The opposite of change is decay.

A lot of things have changed in Altoona just in the last three decades. The Churches that are growing are those that have adjusted their approach to meet the challenges of an every changing society.

We have in our possession "**THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD,**" but we seem to lack the ability to tell **THE STORY** in a way that makes others eager to hear it. Of course part of the problem is that we do not clearly understand the story. Pastors, myself included, are sometimes guilty of not teaching (preaching) the story in a way that inspires you to want to share that "story" with others.

"Thou who changest not," still applies to God. But, those of us who are his disciples need to change the way in which we "deliver" the timeless message of a timeless God to an ever changing society. If we do not get creative about how we do ministry, decay will set in. That decay will affect not only our souls, but it will also affect our congregations.

Another favorite hymn, "The Church's One Foundation," also has a phrase we should make note of: "***With his own blood he bought her.***" If Jesus bought us at so great a cost do you think he is going to abandon us now? Let me close with a line from another hymn: "***Jesus, savior, pilot me.***" That line needs to be in all of our prayers. We need to accept the fact that Jesus is willing to do the steering. Then we need to yield to the direction in which he is trying to steer us. That sounds like a formula for success whatever form success may take.

GEBT NIEMALS AUF!

Pastor Ed

Most Holy God, through your servant Moses you lead your people out of bondage in Egypt and by a star you guided the magi from the east to the birthplace of your Son. Direct this congregation as we look to the future. Remind us that you are with us and that you continue to guide us. We ask that you would lead a candidate to us who is eager to do ministry with us in this place and that you would lead us to recognize the one whom you send. We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, who is the Good Shepherd. 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

stjamesaltoona@verizon.net

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

Financial Reports

CHARITABLE DONATIONS October 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014

MEMBER SPECIAL GIVING

Allegheny Synod - Designated	\$735.00
Blanket Sunday	\$77.00
Harvest Home	\$70.00
Mission	\$105.00
White Gift	\$105.00
Malaria Campaign	\$88.00
Holidaysburg Fire Victims	\$151.00

BENEVOLENCE

Allegheny Synod - Designated Support	\$2,625.00
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 June 1, 2014 - June 30, 2014

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.08
Contributions	
General	\$2,362.00
Designated	\$162.00
Special	\$155.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,679.08

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$1,626.88
Worship & Music	\$485.61
Office	\$3,301.98
Custodial & Property	\$484.11
Christian Education	\$0.00
Renovations	-\$950.00
Special Donations	\$0.00
Special Music	\$0.00
Benevolence	\$0.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,948.58

June 2013

Contributions \$2,194.00 Average Weekly Attendance 29

June 2014

Contributions \$2,362.00 Average Weekly Attendance 31

W

Do you remember the old-fashioned Cake Walk? If you come to the August 10 "Thank You" luncheon in the Sunday School Room immediately following the church service you'll have a chance to participate in one. There is nothing to bring except yourself, but we do need to know how much lunch to prepare, so please use the sign-up sheets in Sunday's bulletin and place them in the offering plates no later than Sunday, August 3, or call the church office by Monday, August 4.

E

L

On Thursday, August 14, the Visitation Team will meet at the Allegro at 11:30 AM for lunch and then divide into teams of two to visit our shut-ins. If you would like a visit or know of someone else who would, please call the church office at 944-6835. Anyone planning to attend the luncheon should call Barbara Good at 942-6668.

C

This month's WELCA meeting will be held on August 16 at the Discovery Gardens in Legion Park, Hollidaysburg, starting at 8:30 AM. Breakfast will be provided by members but you should bring your own beverage. An interesting program is being planned, and you may tour the beautiful gardens at your own speed afterwards.

A

Watch the Sunday bulletins for more information and additional events such as an Oktoberfest and/or a Parking Lot sale in October, and the Allegheny Chorale and our Christmas party in December.

Thank you to the congregation for the cards and prayers that Dave received and for the Pastor's visit during his recovery.

Sincerely,
Dave and Jean Bickel

A big thank you to Joe Yanke for making the mailing of this newsletter [to all members of the congregation] possible.

The church office would like to extend a thank you to the anonymous donor who supplied us with color toner for the laser printer. Your generous donation will go a long way in helping our flyers and announcements more professional and attractive.

N

e

W

S

Thank You

Thank You

THANKS BOB HOLSINGER, SR.



When Bob heads for Florida on Aug. 3, he hopes it is for a well-deserved vacation. During his 3 months at St. James this summer Bob has:

- Repaired the instant hot water control in the Parish House restroom eliminating the need for a hot water tank in the basement;
- Rewired the boiler controls in the Parish House, eliminating the waste of natural gas – two pumps donated by Joe Holsinger were also installed on the furnace;
- Replaced all batteries in wall and hand held thermostats and set them to 78 degrees when the air conditioners are on and 68 when the heaters are on – these settings had been approved by the Council last fall;
- Re-cemented the steps and landing going into the Sunday-school room;
- Re-pointed the bricks around the side door and rear of Parish House;
- Repaired and replaced the fire door leading into the church basement;
- Replaced the PVC pipes from the rear of the Parish House to curb on 8th Ave.;
- Developed a new set of specifications for repairs to the roof of the Parish House and supervised the work performed by the Wohler firm that was awarded the contract – the Wohler firm was the only contractor that still had a supply of the original shingles – the chimney, which had not functioned since the furnace was converted to gas, was removed and sealed over with the same shingles - the total cost of the roof project was \$3,600;
- Negotiated a settlement with the insurance company for water damage in the Parish House due to the leaking roof – an \$1,800 check was received from the insurance company thus covering ½ of the cost to repair the roof;
- Repaired two drawers in the kitchen on the first floor;
- Repaired and replaced components in both toilets in the Parish House;
- Relocated the thermostat on the first floor of the Parish House;
- Reprogrammed the heating operation between the electric and hot water heat in the Parish House to make heating the building more efficient;
- Called Penelec to repair the security light in the parking lot.

Bob still found time on Sunday mornings to serve as crucifer, usher and service coordinator. He was also an active participant in the “RRR” project currently being sponsored by WELCA.

THANKS AGAIN BOB

An Open Invitation to a Reception honoring Bishop Gregory R. Pile followed by Worship

Sunday, August 17, 2014

2:00 p.m. Reception

3:15 p.m. Sharing to honor Bishop Pile

4:30 p.m. Service of Holy Communion and
Farewell & Godspeed

The celebration will be held at
Friedens Lutheran Church (131 South Main St., Friedens), where Bishop Pile's
call began at his Holy Baptism.

IN HONOR OF BISHOP PILE

Donations to the **Allegheny Synod Seminarian Endowment Fund** are being collected.

Financial contributions to support travel opportunities for Bishop and Barb Pile are being accepted.

Letters and notes acknowledging and giving thanks for the Bishop's ministry are being gathered.


Please indicate how your financial gifts are to be designated and send them to the Synod Office at: **701 Quail Avenue, Altoona, 16602**

Notes & letters can be mailed to Michelle Bossler at the Synod Office or e-mailed to her at michelle.bossler@alleghenysynod.com

Additionally, if you have pictures that capture moments of the Bishop's ministry in the life of your community, they can be sent to angie@sequanota.com before August 1st.

Pastor Ed will be driving to this event. If you need a ride or would like to follow him, please contact him at the church office.

August Flower Charts & Bulletins

	Altar	Niches	Bulletins
3	IMO Alma Delozier By Phyllis Spinazzola		
10			
17	IHO David Manbeck's Birthday By Shirley Manbeck		IHO David Manbeck's Birthday By Shirley Manbeck
24			
31			

August Birthdays

2	John Wiederkehr
6	Debbie Manbeck
7	Richard Potter
8	Douglas Kauffman
17	Sylvia Malsatzki
18	David Manbeck
21	Herbert Badorrek
31	Judie Harrison

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.
Aug	TBA	TBA	TBA
Sept	TBA	TBA	TBA
Oct	TBA	TBA	TBA

	Greeters	Usher
Aug	Barb Good	TBA
Sept	Barb Good	TBA
Oct	TBA	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.

Getting to know...

Getting to know...

Ethan Wilt

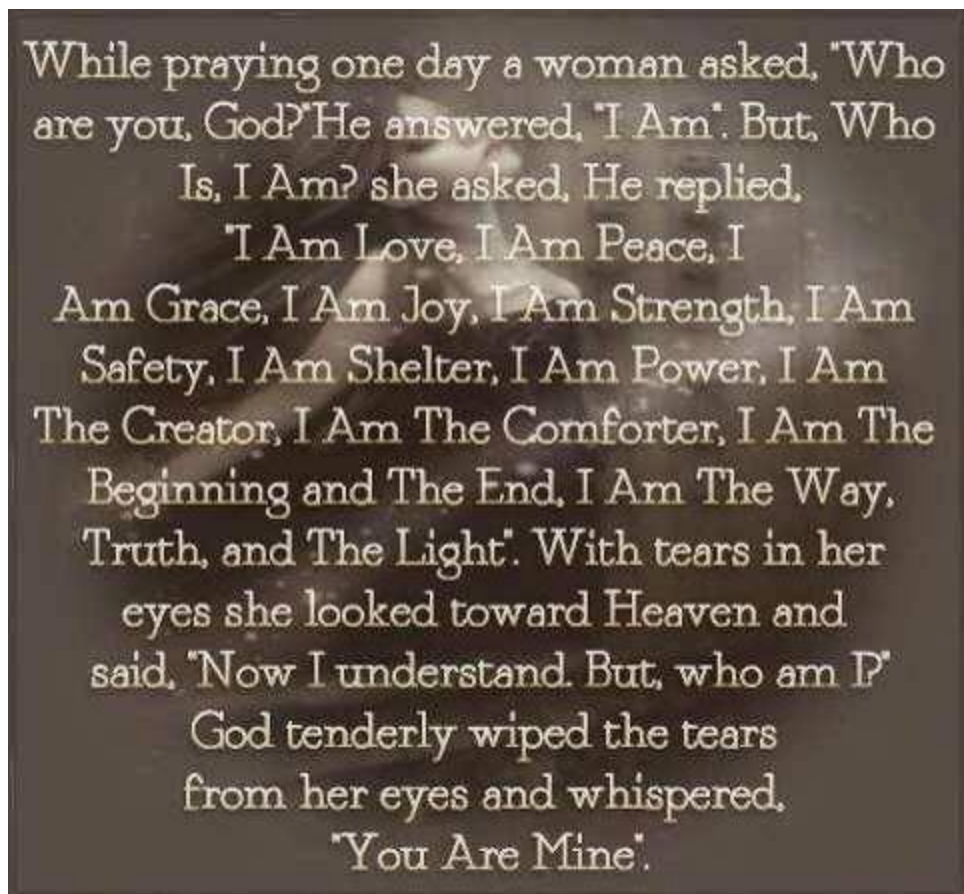
Ethan Wilt was a regular lector at St. James during his summer break. We deeply appreciate his service to his congregation and wish him the best in his senior year at Juniata College where he will play line-backer for the Eagle football team. The following material was excerpted from an article in the college newspaper.

“Altoona native, Ethan Wilt, is heading into his final season with Juniata College football. The starting linebacker was named one of the four team captains for 2014 after helping the team to the program’s highest win total since 1990, and the most conference wins since 1999. Ethan was named All-Centennial Conference and earned a place on the Centennial Academic Honor Roll for maintaining a cumulative grade point average over 3.40 during last season.

Liking the small community feel of Juniata, Ethan was ready to make the transition from bigger city living to a small town. He knew a lot of alumni and thought Juniata would be a great step in the right direction for his career goals. Studying politics with a secondary emphasis in history, Ethan hopes to attend law school after graduation and eventually become a district attorney.

Ethan is the secretary of the Barrister’s Pre-Law Club on top of participating in football. The pre-law club is a student run organization that provides students a chance to take practice LSATs as well as bring in representatives from various law schools. Ethan also helps out at St. James Church in Huntingdon. He and a teammate assisted in putting on the passion play before Easter.

Football has taught Ethan discipline. With the heavy commitment of football, he learned quickly that he needed to manage his time correctly. When Ethan finds any free time in his schedule he loves to read comics and is a huge batman fan. He also enjoys reading novels by Ayn Rand and playing video games.



The Nehemiah Project—5K Run Walk to Benefit Stella's Voice

The Nehemiah Project will be hosting a fundraising 5K Run/Walk as well as a community picnic on Saturday, August 16. This event will take place at Highland Park in Altoona. The race starts at 9:00 AM and the picnic will be immediately following the finish of the award ceremony.

All proceeds will go to Stella's Voice, an organization building safe houses to prevent vulnerable young women from being trafficked. These houses are called Stella's Houses and accommodate 25 to 30 girls each.

For more information please contact the event leaders:
Lindsay Salyards—814-381-8099, or Jennifer McConnell—814-934-9028.

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	AUGUST 12, 7:00 PM
VISITATION TEAM	AUGUST 14, 11:30 AM
FINANCE MEETING	AUGUST 18, 6:30 PM



Choir is on break for summer.
Watch the bulletins and newsletter
for updates.



W.e.l.c.a.
WELCA meets:
8:30 AM, August 16
Discovery Gardens @ Legion Park

POT LUCK LUNCHEON
The next potluck luncheon will be
September 14th.



Congregational
Self-Study Survey



Have you completed and
returned your form?
Forms are due no later
than Monday, August 4th.

Print a survey or com-
plete the survey online to
ensure your voice is
heard.

Visit the St. James web-
site home page for links
to the printable form or
the online form today!

Offering Counters Needed

If you are interested in
helping, please
contact the church
office or a member
of the Finance Committee.



**Bishop Elect Michael Rhyne will
be presiding at St. James on
Sunday, September 14.**

DEADLINE FOR THE SEPT. ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS MONDAY, AUGUST 18.



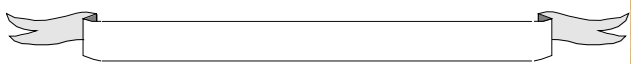
2014-2015 DYD Registration

Registration is now going on for the next session of Discerning Your Discipleship classes.

You may take classes and fulfill requirements to become a Lay Worship Leader or you may take classes that interest you.

Orientation for the Lay Worship Leader program is on August 23 from 9 am to 12 pm at the Synod Office in Altoona.

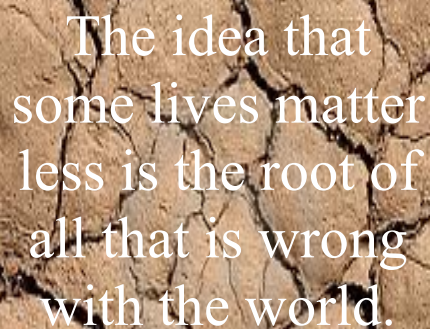
Contact the church office or Synod for more information.



The Ladies of WELCA will conduct worship services on Sunday, August 10th.

Peggy Thatcher—Presiding
Donna Wilt—Lector
Shirley Manbeck—Usher
Judy Bryan—Usher
Betsy Manbeck—Crucifer
Elizabeth Richards—Greeter

Afterward, stay for the WELCA sponsored luncheon in the Sunday School room. (you must sign up by August 3rd to attend)



The idea that
some lives matter
less is the root of
all that is wrong
with the world.



VISITATION TEAM LUNCHEON/VISITS

Join the visitation team for lunch at the Allegro in Altoona on August 14th at 11:30 AM. Then share in the meaningful experience of visiting with the homebound of the church.

Reduce Rejoice Renew

The entire committee of volunteers is hard at work and making a huge difference in our church. Take a look around and see the changes coming to life.

- **The kitchen, custodial closet behind the elevator, and three other small areas within the church are clean and organized.**
- **Four boxes of loose bell choir music have been organized into a filing cabinet that was rescued from the parish house basement.**
- **Useful items such as a sofa, a recliner, a hospital bed, and other small medical equipment were donated to The Salvation Army and John's Way.**
- **Many things are being gathered together for a parking lot sale in October.**

It's an exciting time here at St. James as there is still much work to be done. Watch your weekly bulletins for further updates on the progress of Reduce, Renew, Rejoice.

Submitted By: Elizabeth Richards

<p><i>Church Council Members</i></p> <p>Pastor Ed Harshbarger—President Maizie Emswiler—Vice President Donna Wilt—Secretary Lori Savino—Treasurer Judy Bryan Bill Dambeck Barbara Good Bob Hench Janet Kauffman Elizabeth Richards</p>	<p><i>Pastor— Ed Harshbarger, Interim</i> <i>Church Administrative Assistant - Amy Lantz</i> <i>Organist & Choir Director - Pat McConnell</i> <i>Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper - Colleen Garlick</i> <i>Custodian—Shirley Manbeck</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

Bob Holsinger

*Barbara Good

*Elizabeth Richards

By-Laws

*Bill Dambeck

*Maizie Emswiler

Edith Trinks

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

Kim Vandevander

John Wiederkehr

*Donna Wilt