



Kirchenblatt

February 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.

*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:

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

In the Event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor Elizabeth Hess by phone at 814-943-3972 or 695-8346 until February 14. After February 14, please contact Pastor Rill at the church, 946-6835.

Greetings

January 29, 2015

Let us journey together.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ of St. James Lutheran Congregation ,

“Getting to Know You” is a line from a popular song of the past. This will be the theme of our relationship in the coming months as you get to know me and I learn about each of you and your ministry at St. James.

As I am already learning, St. James has had a significant ministry in Altoona and beyond for a long time. Now is the time for each of us to be supportive of each other and our new ministry together. In so doing, the Lord will bless us and enrich our ministry together.

I am called by the Allegheny Synod as an intentional interim pastor for St. James. Our covenant with each other states our responsibilities to each other and the financial support of St. James. I will be your pastor for at least a term of three years. During this time my responsibilities include preaching and teaching, administration of the sacraments, guiding you and helping you to renew your ministry and discover new ways to serve our Lord. I will be your pastor.

My wife, Tere, and I were born and grew up in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. I am a graduate of Penn State in electrical engineering. I spent a number of years in computer software and management at universities. When I began teaching at universities and active in a Lutheran church I felt the calling of Christ into full time ministry. So we went with three small children to seminary! I graduated from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina.

Since then I have served four congregations (two in Virginia and two in the Allegheny Synod) as a full time pastor and a full time hospice chaplain and bereavement counselor. I was a full time intentional interim pastor for three congregations in the Upper Susquehanna Synod.

Tere completed studies in marketing and public relations at Penn State, Loyola of Maryland, and William and Mary College. She has worked as a hospital administrator and executive director of the American Cancer Society and the Nittany Valley Symphony. She is now publisher and owner of The Women's Journal that serves 14 counties in Central Pennsylvania. We own and live in our home in Millheim, Pennsylvania.

Our three children are all married and each have two children. Our one grandson and his wife have two young sons, which makes us great grandparents!

I have attended training in intentional interim ministry, "The Fundamentals of Transitional Ministry", led by the Interim Ministry Network and also attended an advanced training course for intentional interim ministry. I am considering resuming my Doctor of Ministry program at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia as a very part time student. The focus and theme of my D.Min. work is intentional interim ministry and renewal of congregations.

The Allegheny Synod is new to the intentional interim ministry. In conversations with Bishop Rhyne I believe that our ministry together at St. James can be a model for our Synod's growth in this type of ministry.

I look forward to beginning ministry with you on Sunday, February 15 and start singing together ***"Getting to Know You"***.

Yours in ministry in Christ,

Jim Rill
Pastor

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

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.

News & Notes From Council

—A council meeting was held on January 12, 2014.
 —Minutes and reports were reviewed.
 —Ministry and the possibility of a new pastor were discussed.
 —Two special meetings were subsequently.
 —One meeting was to discuss the possibility of an intentional interim pastor.

—The other meeting was to meet Pastor James Rill and vote on his becoming the intentional interim pastor.

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.**

Financials

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY Dec. 1, 2014 - Dec. 31, 2014

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.06
Contributions	
General	\$3,364.80
Designated	\$559.00
Special	-\$207.00
Other Income	\$300.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,016.86

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$831.02
Worship & Music	\$360.62
Office	\$1,542.42
Custodial & Property	\$1,074.54
Benevolence	-\$30.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,778.60


December 2013

Contributions \$4,113.00
 Average Weekly Attendance 25
 Christmas Eve Attendance 50

December 2014

Contributions \$3923.80
 Average Weekly Attendance 32
 Christmas Eve Attendance 70

February Flower Charts & Bulletins

	Altar	Niches	Bulletins
1			
8			
15			
22			

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!

February Birthdays

12 Jean Bickel
12 Bob Hench



Happy Birthday!

	Altar Guild	Srv. Cord.	Elev. Oper.
Feb.	Sylvia	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Mar	TBA	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Apr	TBA	Volunteers of St. James TBA	

	Greeters	Usher
Feb.	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Mar	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Apr	Volunteers of St. James TBA	



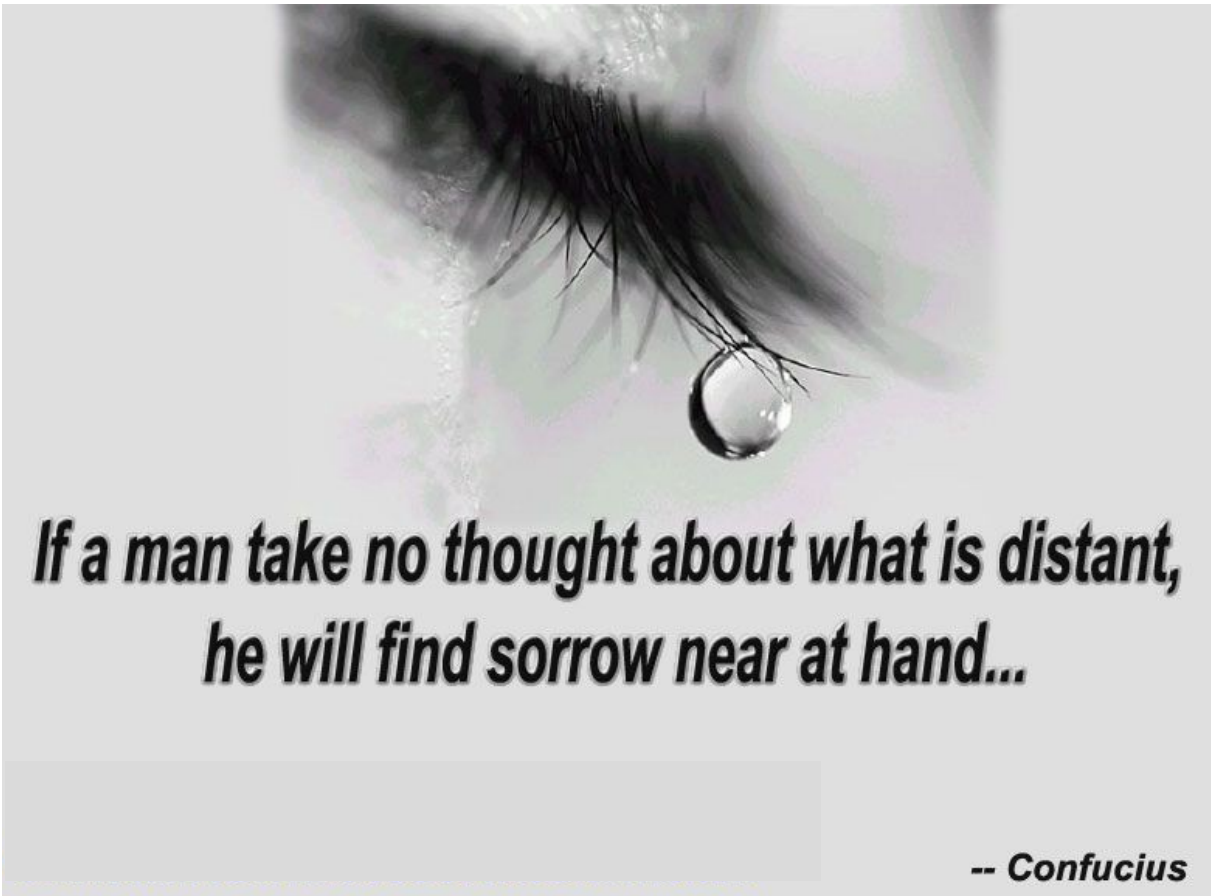
See an error? Missing someone? Please inform the church office of any corrections to the birthday list so that the computer may be corrected.

W
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A

In preparation for the Allegheny Synod Women's Association Annual Convention on May 2, 2015, St. James will host the Synod WELCA Board Meeting on Saturday, February 14. The ladies will conduct their meeting, tour the church, and enjoy a luncheon.

Watch the announcements for future meeting dates and times.

N
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W
S



Announcements and Upcoming Events

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,
please contact Pastor Eli at 943-3972 or 695-8346.
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:

MEET & GREET LUNCHEON
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, FOLLOWING WORSHIP
COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 6 PM



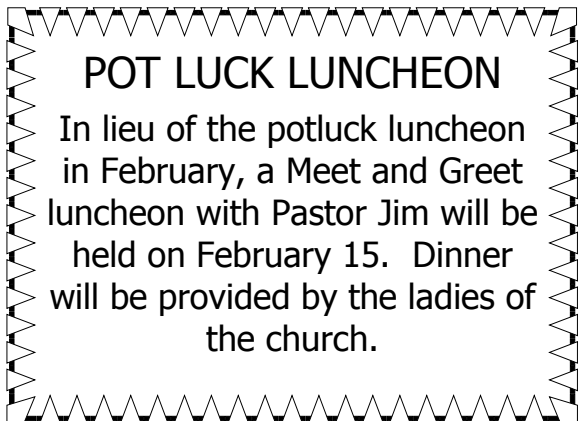
CHOIR NOTES

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



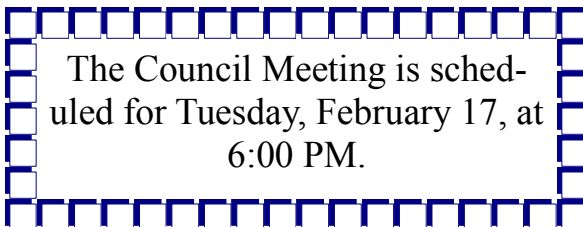
W.e.l.c.a.

Watch the
announcements for the
next meeting date and time.



POT LUCK LUNCHEON

In lieu of the potluck luncheon
in February, a Meet and Greet
luncheon with Pastor Jim will be
held on February 15. Dinner
will be provided by the ladies of
the church.



The Council Meeting is sched-
uled for Tuesday, February 17, at
6:00 PM.



The Allegheny Synod 25,000 Can Challenge

**Advent
(Nov. 30) -**



**Super Bowl
Sunday
(Feb. 1)**

The 25,000 can goal was met and exceeded a
week before the end date.
St. James had great participation in this Synod-
wide initiative!!

DEADLINE FOR THE MAR. ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS MONDAY, FEB. 16.

BASKETS of PROMISE

This Lent we're joining Lutheran World Relief's Baskets of Promise campaign. Each week, we'll collect a different item that we'll use to assemble Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations. Our goal is to assemble LWR Personal Care Kits during Lent.

HERE'S OUR COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

FEBRUARY 22
Bars of Soap (4 to 5
oz., any brand, in
original wrapping)



MARCH 15
Heavy Duty Combs



MARCH 1
Lightweight bath towels,
dark color recommended,
no larger than 52 X 27



MARCH 22
Nail clippers, metal,
attached file optional



MARCH 8
Adult Size Toothbrush, in
original packaging



For more information contact Maizie Emswiler.

Daily Readings and Prayers

February 1—Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 1

Help me, O Lord, to listen carefully to you. Amen.

Quote of the Day: God's promises are like the stars; the darker the night, the brighter they shine. David Nicholas

February 2—Luke 2:22-40, Psalm 84

Thank you, Lord, for filling my heart with Your joy and peace. Amen.

Quote of the Day: He who runs from God in the morning will scarcely find him the rest of the day. John Bunyan

February 3—1 Corinthians 8, Psalm 15

Father, fill us with Your spirit to truly exist for you. Amen.

Quote of the Day: A dairy maid can milk cows to the glory of God. Martin Luther

February 4—Mark 1:21-28, Psalm 96

Thank You, Lord, for delivering us from evil with Your “new teaching.”

Amen.

Quote of the Day: Work without a love relationship spells burnout. Lloyd John Ogilvie

February 5—John 1:19-34, Psalm 71:1-6

I praise You, Lamb of God, for You take away the sin of the world. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Some folks treat God like a lawyer. They go to Him only when they are in trouble. Anonymous

February 6—John 1:35-51, Psalm 142

I praise and thank You, Lord, for the revelation of Your grace in the cross of Jesus. Amen.

Quote of the Day: We cannot help conforming ourselves to what we love. St. Francis De Sales

February 7—John 2:1-12, Psalm 147:1-13

You have come to give us Joy, O Lord. We rejoice in that loving concern.

Amen.

Quote of the Day: I'd rather be a fool in the eyes of men than a fool in the eyes of God. Anonymous

February 8—Isaiah 40:21-31, Psalm 112

Lord, increase my faith and surround me always with Your loving presence.

Amen.

Quote of the Day: Oh for a spirit that bows always before the sovereignty of God. Charles Spurgeon

February 9—Psalm 147:1-11, Psalm 138

Lord, thank You for loving us and taking pleasure in us as well. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Deep in your heart it is not guidance you want so much as a guide. John White

February 10—1 Corinthians 9:16-27, Psalm 80:1-7

Lord, make me a servant of all whom I meet today, that I might win more of them. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Man finds it hard to get what he wants because he does not want the best. George MacDonald

February 11—Mark 1:29-39, Psalm 85:8-13

O Lord, open my lips that I may praise you with my humble “preaching.” Amen.

Quote of the Day: Law says “do,” grace says “done.” John Henry Jowett

February 12—John 4:31-38, Psalm 47

Heavenly Father, help us all to make doing Your will our food. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Our actions disclose what goes on within us, just as its fruit makes known a tree otherwise unknown to us. Thalassios The Libyan

February 13—John 4:46-54, Psalm 50

Thanks and praise to You alone, O Lord, for the gift of faith. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The Father in heaven loves to fill His children with His Holy Spirit. Andrew Murray

February 14—John 5:1-18, Psalm 92

Lord, bring Your healing to us all, and help us to want to be healed. Amen.

Quote of the Day: We have no power from God unless we live in the persuasion that we have none of our own. John Owen

February 15—Mark 9:2-9, Psalm 99

Lord, may the whole earth see Your glory and listen to Your Word. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Free grace can go into the gutter and bring up a jewel! Charles Spurgeon

February 16—2 Corinthians 3:12-18, Psalm 15

Lord, help us to be more and more transformed as we behold Your Glory. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The characteristic of the new birth is that I yield myself so completely to God that Christ is formed in me. Oswald Chambers

February 17—Psalm 50:1-6, Psalm 65

Lord, keep us ready for that great gathering day. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Christ has turned all our sunsets into dawns. Clement of Alexandria

February 18—Joel 2:12-19, Psalm 5

Lord, help me clearly to see and understand that greatness of Your grace. Amen.

Quote of the Day: You do not need to wait...before beginning to live eternally. James S. Stewart

February 19—Psalm 51, Psalm 108:1-6

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Amen.

Quote of the Day: A little faith will bring your soul to heaven, but a lot of faith will bring heaven to your soul. D. L. Moody

February 20—2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10, Psalm 125

Lord, help us all to know and rejoice that the salvation You promise is already upon us. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The Bible is not meant merely to inform, but to transform. Anonymous

February 21—Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21, Psalm 65

Lord, help me to lay up my treasure in heaven with you, that my heart may be whole. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The door of God is humility. John the Short

February 22—Genesis 22:1-18, Psalm 85

I praise You, Lord God, for sending Your Son as the sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Christianity is a warfare, and Christians are spiritual soldiers. Robert Southwell

February 23—Psalm 25:1-10, Psalm 91:1-13

Lord, increase our faith and give us patience as we wait. Amen.

Quote of the Day: A life of thankfulness releases the glory of God. Bengt Sundberg

February 24—James 1:12-18, Psalm 57

Lord, help us remember we are "firstfruits," and keep us steadfast. Amen.

Quote of the Day: As long as I see anything to be done for God, life is worth having. David Brainerd

February 25—Mark 1:9-15, Psalm 46

Father, help me to trust You always, especially when I am tempted. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Time is short. Eternity is long. It is only reasonable that this short life be lived in the light of eternity. Charles Spurgeon

February 26—Mark 4:21-41, Psalm 126

Lord Jesus, replace my fears with faith. Amen.

Quote of the Day: He is truly wise who looks upon all earthly things as folly that he may gain Christ. Thomas A. Kempis

February 27—Mark 5:1-20, Psalm 130

Lord, fill us with Your Spirit to enable us gratefully and enthusiastically to tell what You have done for us. Amen.

Quote of the Day: If I take care of my character, my reputation will take care of itself. D.L. Moody

February 28—Mark 5:21-43, Psalm 31

Heavenly Father, give us the healing of Your peace as we struggle with our adversities. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Christ is either Lord of all or He is not Lord at all. Hudson Taylor

<p><i>Church Council Members</i></p> <p>Mark Hoover—President Shirley Manbeck—Vice President Donna Wilt—Secretary —Treasurer Betty Boslet Dana Detwiler Carolyn Feather Donna Foster Evelyn Holsinger Louisa Marshall Debra Morgan</p>	<p><i>Pastor— Pastor James Rill, Intentional Interim Pastor</i> <i>Church Administrative Assistant -</i> <i>Organist & Choir Director - Pat McConnell</i> <i>Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper - Ralph Grove</i> <i>Custodian—Shirley Manbeck</i></p>
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Chairpersons are listed in bold at the top of each committee.

Mutual Ministry
Donna Foster
Evelyn Holsinger
Joe Yanke

By-Laws
*Betty Boslet
*Carolyn Feather
Maizie Emswiler
*Debra Morgan
Edith Trinks

Christian Education/
Social Ministry
Janet Kauffman
Maizie Emswiler
*Carolyn Feather
*Evelyn Holsinger
Sylvia Malsatzki
*Shirley Manbeck
*Debra Morgan
Edie 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