



Kirchenblatt

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

Greetings From The Pastor

Some interpreted my June message as “threatening” while others saw it as a “reality check.”

Let me deal first with the issue of “threatening.” On one of the first Sunday’s after I came to St. James last September, I made the statement that it took the Israelites 40 years of wandering in the wilderness to get their act together and that neither this congregation nor this Pastor could afford to take that much time to get “our act” together. There was an urgency present then and there is an urgency present now. If my message was interpreted as being “threatening” in June I am sorry. I came here because I thought I could make a difference but after nearly 10 months I do not sense that is happening. A month ago my tone was intended to sound more “urgent” than “threatening.” But no matter what interpretation you put on it, we **ALL** have a lot of work to do and very little time in which to do it.

On the issue of “reality check” we must face the fact that the “nest egg” provided by some dedicated wealthy deceased members is what has kept us going for a very long time. However, when we decided to start “eating” the nest egg instead of merely relying on the interest from its investment we began sowing the seeds for disaster. I am asking our various committees to “trim” their budgets for our next fiscal year and I hope such actions will buy us a little more time. However, without a marked growth in income we will continue to spend more than we receive in offerings and that, in all honesty, is not the path to success.

I am not looking for a reason to resign. However, simply watching St. James spend down its resources is not my idea of ministry. Your suggestions for enriching our ministry will be appreciated. You may reach me through the office (944-6835) or on my cell phone (650-5584). You may also put your suggestions on the offering plate or mail them to the office, 1407 Eighth Ave., 16602. My June letter and this one is a plea for help. Please take this request seriously.

Pastor Ed

Gracious God, save and defend your whole Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Give it pastors and ministers filled with your Spirit and strengthen it through the Word and holy sacraments. Make it perfect in love and in all good works. Establish it in the faith delivered to the saints. Sanctify and unite your people in the entire world, that one holy Church may bear witness to you, the creator, and redeemer of all. 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....

Please keep ***Bishop-elect Michael Rhyne's mother, Patricia Rhyne***, in prayer as she is undergoing a series of medical tests at Duke Medical Center in Durham, NC.

On the Sundays of July 20 & 27 survey forms will be distributed at worship services. The Synod has asked that this survey be completed before additional talks take place with any congregation regarding a shared ministry. The five people who will compile the results of the survey are listed in the council notes.

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.



The women of WELCA would like to extend an invitation to the congregation to attend a luncheon as a "Thank You" for your support. It will take place in the Sunday School Room on Sunday, August 10th, immediately following the church service, and all you need to bring is yourself. A sign-up sheet will appear in the July bulletins. The next meeting will be held on July 19 at the regular time and place. Additional activities include a Visitation Team meeting at The Allegro on August 14 and a Christmas party at Crepes and Creamery on December 13. Please watch the Sunday bulletins for further information and more activities.



HIDDEN TREASURES UNCOVERED

In the course of the "house cleaning" that is part of the "Reduce-Renew-Rejoice" activities we have uncovered a couple of family heirlooms.

A large family Bible (in German) belonging to Friedrich Fimfschilling and wife Maria Fornbacher has been found. According to the Bible that couple came to America in 1882 and were married in 1883.

The second item is a framed certificate of Baptism for Frederick Charles Witmer. The certificate was issued on Nov. 10, 1911.

If any members of these families can be located they may view these items by contacting the Church office. (814) 944-6835.

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

1407 Eighth Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602

Phone (814) 944-6835

Rev. Ed Harshbarger, Interim Pastor

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

- Scholarship Applicants must be members of St. James Lutheran Church for at least two years previous to applying for funds.
- Applicants must be voting members of St. James Lutheran Church having been confirmed and shall have communed and made a contribution of record during the current or preceding year.
- Applicants must remain active at St. James Lutheran Church in order to renew their scholarships for the following years.
- If there is a year in which a loss of income occurs in the Scholarship Funds, no scholarships will be issued for that year.
- The Scholarship Committee will review all submitted applications.
- **Applications MUST be received in the church office by July 31st for consideration**
- **Proof of Registration will be required before a scholarship is issued.**

Date: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

(city) (state) (zip)

Telephone Number: (H) _____ (W) _____ e-mail _____

Post-Secondary School Attending: _____

Name of Program/Major: _____

Expected Year of Graduation: _____


Scholarships Available

The **Fred Haller Memorial Scholarship** is limited to \$500.00 per applicant for each academic year if fund income is sufficient for the year; otherwise 20% of the income is divided equally among all applicants.

The **Albert Mann Scholarship Fund** income for the year, is divided equally among all the applicants.

The **William C. Close Memorial Scholarship** is available for a young person who is a member of St. James pursuing a post-secondary education with a **Major or Minor in Music**. If you think you may qualify for this scholarship, please contact the church office for further information.

July Flower Charts & Bulletins

	Altar	Niches	Bulletins
6	IMO Charles Zorger By Grace Zorger		
13			
20	IHO Shirley Manbeck's Birthday		IHO Becky Good By Barbara Good
27			

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!

July Birthdays	
2	Lori Savino
6	Charles Hetrick
12	Mallory Ganz
13	Donna Kauffman
15	Evelyn Holsinger
19	Marissa Thompson
20	Shirley Manbeck
27	Landen Wilkins
29	Dana Detwiler
29	Robert Holsinger Sr.
Happy Birthday!	

	Altar Guild	Srv. Cord.	Elev. Oper.
July	Sylvia Malsatzki	TBA	TBA
Aug	TBA	TBA	TBA
Sept	TBA	TBA	TBA

	Greeters	Usher
July	Sylvia Malsatzki, Barb Good	TBA
Aug	Barb Good	TBA
Sept	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.

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 your community,
they can be sent to angie@sequanota.com before August 1st.

Bishop's Farewell Service Caravan

Raystown Transit Service of Altoona is sponsoring transportation to the Celebration Service at Friedens
Lutheran Church, Friedens, PA on Sunday, August 17, 2014.

The roundtrip cost per person is \$25.00 and will leave from the People's Natural Gas Field, Altoona at
2:00 pm. (Home of the Altoona Curve)

An intermediate stop will be made at 2:30 pm in EBENSBURG behind the McDonald's in the Ebensburg
Giant Eagle Plaza.

Reservations can be made by calling Raystown Transit Service at
800-252-3860 OR 814-944-2585

Or by

Sending your name, address, and phone number along with a check to:
Raystown Transit 3434 Rt 764 Duncansville, PA 16635

The motor coach will return immediately following the service.

Reservation deadline is Friday, August 8, 2014.

Checks are made payable to "Duane Bordell @ Raystown Transit"

Financial Reports

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

October 1, 2013 - May 31, 2014

MEMBER SPECIAL GIVING

Allegheny Synod - Designated	\$735.00
Blanket Sunday	\$77.00
Harvest Home	\$320.00
Mission	\$105.00
White Gift	\$105.00
Malaria Campaign	\$88.00
Hollidaysburg Fire Victims	\$151.00

BENEVOLENCE

Allegheny Synod - Designated Support	\$2,325.00
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

May 1, 2014 - May 31, 2014

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.04
Contributions	
General	\$3,161.00
Designated	\$382.00
Special	\$195.00
Weinken Transfer	\$6,000.00
	<u>\$9,738.04</u>

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administra-	\$1,840.32
Worship & Music	\$360.62
Office	\$1,018.11
Custodial & Property	\$1,264.57
Christian Education	\$275.00
Renovations	\$950.00
Special Donations	\$88.00
Special Music	\$20.00
Benevolence	\$495.00
	<u>\$6,311.62</u>

May 2013

Contributions \$2,310.00 Average Weekly Attendance 34

May 2014

Contributions \$3,161.00 Average Weekly Attendance 32

News & Notes From Council

—A council meeting was held on June 10, 2014.
 —The agenda was adopted as presented.
 —Pastor Harshbarger's letter from the June news-letter was distributed and discussed.
 —The meeting at Bethany Lutheran Church was discussed.
 —The meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church was discussed.

—There was discussion regarding the Altoona Mirror Spiritual Notes and Community Page free advertising; i.e. what should be advertised, who should advertise etc.
 —The Council minutes of May 13, 2014, will be filed as presented.
 —The special Council meeting minutes of May 25, 2014, will be filed as presented.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

News & Notes From Council Cont'd

—Maizie Emswiler accepted the Council Vice President position.

—The Pastor's report was submitted and will be filed as presented.

—The Treasurer's report was submitted and will be filed for audit.

—The telephone bill increased this month. It was noted that this is likely because \$10 loyalty credit was given for a period of one year and this may have expired. (This has not confirmed at this time by a physical bill)

—There was discussion regarding what monthly bills could be placed on auto-payment, if they haven't already been, to save on postage. It was also mentioned that the bills still need to be monitored so that we are aware of our monthly expenses.

—It was noted that the annual budget was missing from the Treasurer's report and that the giving to the Allegheny Synod did not match budgeted figures.

—The contribution and attendance figures for April and May were reported orally. The totals for the Special Music Fund and the Church Directory fund were reported.

—Finance minutes from May 27, 2014, were submitted.

—A report was given on the meeting with Kooman on June 9, 2014.

—Edith Trinks resigned from the Finance Committee. Kim Vandevander agreed to join.

—Wages for Colleen Garlick, the new bookkeeper, were discussed. Lori Savino will receive 2/3 of the annual treasurer stipend for her service this year.

—It was noted that confidentiality agreements were signed by the secretary and the pastor.

—It was established that the church will purchase flowers on All Saints Sunday, dedicated to all those who have left bequests to St. James.

—A meeting is scheduled with Bob Grossman of Brotherhood Mutual for Monday, July 14, at 6:00 PM to review and discuss our insurance policy and new options such as functional replacement.

—There was discussion regarding the possibility of a paid audit at the end of this fiscal year.

—It was decided to ask for committee budget requests by the August Council meeting.

—It was noted that the church picnic went well and was well attended.

—Notes from the Property Committee were submitted.

—The existing shingles on the parish house roof are no longer made. Options are being explored.

—There was a leak in the parish house bathroom due to a bad tank bolt. Bob Holsinger found and repaired this.

—Issues with the boiler in the parish house were identified and corrected. This should help decrease our winter energy costs.

—It was noted that Mom's Club and Story League both occasionally use the church. At this time, the Platinum Steppers are no longer meeting at the church.

—The issue of the stair lift was briefly discussed along with costs to repair or replace it. This issue will go back to the Property Committee.

—It was suggested to ask Bishop-Elect Rhyne speak at St. James in September.

—Worship & Music minutes from May 22, 2014, were submitted.

—Bob Hench is booked to sing once per month throughout the summer.

—A committee has been formed to execute a congregational survey. This committee consists of Eric Wilt, Donna Foster, Evelyn Holsinger, Lynn Vandevander, and Alysia Tyler.

—Scholarship applications were discussed and it was agreed to cap the number of years a person may collect the scholarship at six.

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.**

RISK

To laugh is to risk appearing the fool.
To weep is to risk appearing sentimental.
To reach out for another is to risk involvement.
To expose feelings is to risk exposing your true self.
To place your ideas, your dreams, before a crowd
is to risk their loss.
To love is to risk not being loved in return.
To live is to risk dying.
To hope is to risk failure.

But risks must be taken.
Because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing.
If you risk nothing and do nothing, you dull your spirit.

You may avoid suffering and sorrow,
But you cannot learn, feel, grow, love, and live.
Chained by your attitude, you are a slave.
You have forfeited your freedom.
Only if you risk are you free.

Anonymous



Christmas in July Craft and Vendor Show

Featuring vendors
from across the area,
door prizes, fresh
baked goods and hot
sandwiches.

Bethany Evangelical
Lutheran Church
200 Third Avenue,
Altoona

Saturday, July 26
9:00 AM to 2:30 PM

For more
information
contact 944-7560.

DEFINING THE DIVINE

On three consecutive Tuesday's in July (8th, 15th and 22nd) a panel of various religious leaders will discuss ***"Who God is and what God does."*** All of the sessions will be held at 7:00 PM at St. John the Evangelist Catholic School in Lakemont.

The presenters represent the following religious communities: Bahai, Buddhist, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Church of the Brethren, Eastern Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Roman Catholic and United Methodist.

The public is invited to this informative program offered by the Ecumenical Conference of Greater Altoona. The facilitator will be Cindy Baney.

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:

SURVEY COMMITTEE	JULY 8, 7:00 PM
MEETING WITH	
BOB GROSSMAN	JULY 14, 6:00 PM
PROPERTY MEETING	JULY 15, 6:30 PM



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

Luncheon Invitation

Date: Sunday, August 10
Time: Following Worship Services
Location: Sunday School Room

WELCA is hosting a luncheon to thank the congregation for their support. Watch the July bulletins for further information and a sign-up sheet.



No Council meeting will be held in July.
Next Meeting: August 12, at 7:00 PM

Offering Counters Needed

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



A special meeting with the Finance and Property Committees and Bob Grossman of Brotherhood Mutual is scheduled for Monday, July 14, at 6:00 PM to review/discuss the church's insurance policy.

Bob is travelling from Williamsport for this very important meeting to discuss something new called "functional replacement."

If you cannot attend this meeting, please contact Finance Committee Chairperson, Elizabeth Richards at 944-3164 in advance.



W.e.l.c.a.

WELCA meets:
8:30 AM, July 19

POT LUCK LUNCHEON

The next potluck luncheon will be
September 7th.

DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS MONDAY, JULY 16.

Work is well underway and things are shaping up.

Useful items have been donated, clutter is being eliminated, and treasures have been found.

But there is still much to do. If you haven't already done so, consider volunteering for this rewarding church wide project.

Reduce

Renew

Rejoice

Day Camp Volunteers Needed

Day Camp is being held July 28 - August 1 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church (8th Avenue, Altoona) in cooperation with Bethany Lutheran Church and St. James Lutheran Church. Volunteers are needed to make the week a success. Please complete this form and drop it in the offering plate.

Name: _____

I can help in this way:

- ☐ Provide a snack one day during the week.
- ☐ Provide a drink one day during the week.
- ☐ Provide a craft supply
- ☐ Provide "extra" lunch items for use during the week.
- ☐ Be an adult volunteer for one day (or half a day)
- ☐ Provide transportation one day during the week (if needed).
- ☐ Help with registration on the first day



SUMMER DAY CAMP

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, St. James Lutheran Church and Bethany Lutheran Church have formed a partnership to host Day Camp at St. Luke's, 803 13th Street, Altoona. July 28 - August 1, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Games, Bible study,



crafts, and lots of fun. Children who have completed Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to attend--free of charge! Register by calling the church office at 944-6835 between 9 am and 1 pm, Monday - Friday. More information will follow registration.

<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