



Kirchenblatt

JUNE 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

Greetings from the Pastor in the Summertime

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Hebrews 12:1

One of my favorite analogies in the Bible compares the Christian life to running a race. Paul loves this analogy, as he uses the running and racing image at least nine times in his epistles and the author of Hebrews uses the analogy once.

Our congregation of St. James Lutheran is in the race to grow our ministry. We can use the analogy of the race to help us in this growing. We must always train before we race if we hope to have any success. We need to keep our goal before us, especially during the summer time.

Be Consistent One of the giants of American track and field, Ken Doherty, put it this way: "Run until the question of not running just never arises." Without consistency, we will never fulfill our potential. We need to be consistent in our ministry and mission at St. James Lutheran. This enables us to be strong in Christ's work and be able to move forward in strength through God's Spirit. Mission and ministry will develop.

Be Disciplined Runners are faced with many distractions, many enjoyable or pressing activities that can divert them from the pursuit of excellence. Similarly, we as Christians face many possible diversions, especially in the summertime. The author of Hebrews uses a running analogy to make this point to us Christians when he writes, *"Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."* Attendance at worship and regular giving are always very important disciplines for our ministry, even during the summer months. Our discipline is important if we are to present a strong, positive image of Christ to our community.

Work Through the Pain In order to achieve one's potential, hard work is necessary, and that, at times, is painful. So endure hardship! Be willing to put up with pain, knowing what it produces! We've had some challenges as a congregation in the past. I believe that we are working through a lot of these challenges and moving forward in several areas of ministry. It is hard work but we move through it and onward to our goal. **Enjoy the Training** We must enjoy it. That seems contradictory; I've just mentioned the need for discipline, consistency, and hard work; I've highlighted that productive training always includes an element of pain. So how can we enjoy it? Eternal life begins now, we are in Christ Jesus now. We have his peace, his love, his presence, in the midst of whatever pain and suffering we encounter in this life. We need to rejoice in the Lord always, not only when things are going well; we need to focus on His presence, His joy, His overcoming of the world, even -- rather, especially -- when the world seems to be bearing down on us. So rejoice in this time of transition and hard work! **Rejoice that we belong to Christ! Enjoy this time!**

I will remain with you as your pastor in this race. Let us keep running this summer and beyond.

Peace+ Pastor Jim Rill

Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization

Twenty-Eight Annual Convention
St. James Lutheran Church, Altoona, PA
Saturday, August 8, 2015

DELEGATE INFORMATION FORM

COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THIS FORM BY JULY 15, 2015

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

CONGREGATION _____ CONGREGATION # _____

TOWN/CITY _____ CONFERENCE _____

Since we would like to encourage inclusivity, we ask that you please indicate Ethnic/Racial Heritage:

_____ Native American _____ African American _____ Asia
_____ Caucasian _____ Hispanic _____ Other

Primary language other than English (if applicable) _____

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DELEGATE

- A. Attend all business sessions.
B. Report on the convention to congregation and congregational/intercongregational unit.

Please return this form to: Jeanne Fleegle, 697 Messenger Street,
Johnstown, PA 15902
(814) 535-1916 fleeglej@verizon.net

NOTE: If the Delegate named above is unable to attend, a letter from the Congregational President (or other officer) authorizing another person to serve as a Delegate should be presented at the Registration Area by the person who has been designated as the new Delegate.

A REGISTRATION FORM MUST ALSO BE SUBMITTED TO THE REGISTRAR FOR THE DELEGATE so there is an accurate count for printed materials and the meal. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS MATTER.**

* See Pastor Rill if unable to pay for the cost of the convention.

CONVENTION AGENDA

8:00 – 9:00 AM	11:45 AM
Registration, Refreshments,	Bible Study (for ALL)
8:30 AM	12:30 PM
Delegate and Worship Orientation	Meal and Fellowship
9:00 AM	1:30 PM
Opening Worship/Holy Communion	Workshop #1
9:45 AM	2:15 PM
Introduction of Guests/Presentations	Workshop #2
Business Session	3:00 PM
11:00 AM	Closing Worship/Installation of
CWO Representative Presentation	Officers and Board Members

CALL TO CONVENTION

The Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization will meet for the Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention on **Saturday, Saturday, August 8, 2015 at St. James Lutheran Church**, Altoona, PA. Each Congregational Unit needs to select a delegate to represent their unit for conducting the Business of the convention. However, **ALL** women are invited and encouraged to attend.

The 2015 theme is "Bring God's Gifts to Life." Our Convention Scripture is 1 Peter 4:10 – "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another

with whatever gift each of you has received." New Revision Standard Version.

There will be many opportunities to have fellowship with women from the Allegheny Synod. Come and be enlightened through the **workshops, Bible study, and worship.**

The Convention agenda is listed below. After reviewing evaluations from last year's convention, there will be a hands-on workshop for those who do not wish to attend the business session.

Menu

*Baked Chicken Breast
Salisbury Steak
Parsley Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables
Rolls
Cakes
Beverages*

Special Emphasis

Our Special Emphasis this year will be to give to shelters that help women and children in the Johnstown and State College area. Items requested are:

Gift Cards: Giant Eagle, Sheetz, Wal-Mart, Bi-Lo and Ideal Markets

**Items requested: Sweatpants & Sweatshirts-all sizes;
Underclothing-all sizes;
Slippers; Baby Wipes;
Disposable diapers (size 4,5,6)**

Paper Products: Paper towels, Toilet Paper, Napkins, Tissues

Donations of cash will also be received and shared among the shelters.

Financials

Contribution & Attendance Summary

April 2014

Contributions \$3,308.50
Average Weekly Attendance 30

April 2015

Contributions \$3,086.00
Average Weekly Attendance 42

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

Apr. 1, 2015 - Apr. 30, 2015

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.05
Contributions	
General	\$2,966.00
Designated	\$120.00
Special	\$133.00
Other Income	\$12,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$15,219.05

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$3,972.13
Worship & Music	\$614.20
Office	\$1,600.72
Custodial & Property	\$4,356.73
Uncategorized	\$250.44
	<hr/>
	\$12,332.88

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.**

News & Notes From Council

—A council meeting was held on May 12, 2015.

Pastors' Report: Pastor Jim continues to make visitations to the sick. He gave a glowing report on the Allegheny Chorale and announced they will perform again December 6th at St. James. He attended a day class at the Lutheran Home. His goal as interim pastor is to gather data on why parishioners like it at St. James and what they see themselves doing as far as ministry.

Treasurer's Report: Council looked over and had no questions. Ralph reported all investments in the report are up to date.

Finance: Next meeting to be held at Kooman Associates on May 28th for suggestions on our investments. The church audit will take place May 16th. Verna Mills will be added to the committee.

Christian Education/Social Ministry: Pot Luck dinner will take place May 17th. Chicken provided. The church picnic will take place May 28th with a short liturgical service before lunch. Pastor asked all those attending to invite friends and family. Pat McConnell's band "Rokkandy" will be providing entertainment.

Property Committee: Shingles were replaced on the church roof. A bulb needs replaced in the office. The concrete is flaking on the back steps of the church and also crumbling around the railing in the front of the church. The doorbells are also not functioning. Bill Dambeck will be notified. Bill will also be installing the window AC units in the office and the pastor's office May 14th or 15th.

Stewardship/Evangelism Committee: Donna Wilt setting up a meeting within the next month.

Worship and Music Committee: Ralph Grove reported that the organ still has a few minor issues to work out and will be addressed soon.

News & Notes From Council Cont.

Mutual Ministry Committee: Meeting held May 6th with the new members being: Pastor Rill, Donna Foster, Evelyn Holsinger and Joe Yanke. They will meet quarterly and as needed. You may contact any of the members about our ministry in the form of suggestions or complaints so they can deal with the issues as a group.

By-Laws Committee: The Committee met and went through the entire document and made the necessary corrections. The major changes dealt with incorporation and the need for legal representation when necessary. Another meeting will be scheduled to go over the document again once all the corrections have been made.

Old Business: Mark discussed briefly the laptop proposal made by Tim. They will meet to finalize the purchase. The silk flower arrangements are still in progress. Debbie Morgan will represent St. James along with Pastor Jim as are delegates at Synod June 5th and 6th

New Business: WELCA would like to extend an invitation to ALL women of St. James to attend the Synod Convention being held at St. James. If interested please see a WELCA member. Tim is checking on the press release for Pastor Jim as the new pastor of St. James. It was discussed that Social Ministry should develop a way to recognize graduates of high school and college that are members of the parish.

Communications: The Bishop is requesting that parishes participate in Christian services activities May 16th – 24th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM with the Lord's Prayer



ATTENTION MARRIED

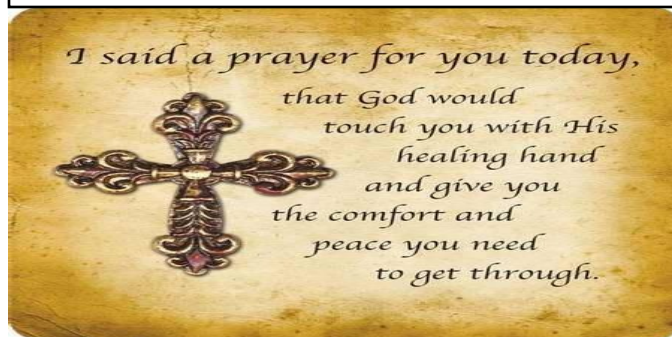
COUPLES: Fall is the perfect time to fall in love with your spouse all over again! That is what couples overwhelmingly report is the result of attending a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend. Now is the time to sign up for one of the fall Weekends to be sure you get the one of your choice. The fall Weekends are:

- **September 18-20, 2015** at Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA, a new, hotel-style facility on Spruce Lake in the heart of the Pocono Mountains – an hour north of Allentown.


- **October 16-18, 2015** in Lancaster, PA, at the all newly-renovated Heritage Hotel Lancaster, home of the unique treehouse-inspired restaurant, "Loxley's."

Weekends run from Friday at 8 PM to Sunday around 4 PM and are designed to help you make your marriage a more intimate, loving, Christian union. Currently, the registration fee is \$45 per couple; however, starting September 1, the registration fee will be going up to \$100 per couple, so register now to qualify for the lower registration fee. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included with your registration fee, plus toward the end of the weekend you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish toward the continuation of the program. Registrations are limited, so sign up today by going to the website:

www.GodLovesMarriage.org and pay the \$45 registration with your credit card, or mark the option to mail a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure with registration form mailed to you, contact Pennsylvania Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at fjschamber@comcast.net or 724-325-3166.



June Flower Charts & Bulletins

Altar	Niches	Bulletins
7 14 21 28 Robert & Marion Holsinger IHO The Holsinger Family		

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!

June Birthdays

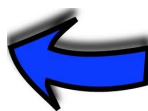
Judith Bryan	6/19
Steven Hartman	6/24
Karen Hench	6/28
Janet Kauffman	6/16
Robin Kessler	6/24
Verna Mills	6/6
Lynzi Vandevander	6/10
Julia Wilt	6/5
Joe Yanke	6/7



Happy Birthday!

	Altar Guild	Srv. Cord.	Elev. Oper.
Jun	Sylvia Malsatzki	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Jul	Volunteer Needed	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Aug	Volunteer Needed	Volunteers of St. James TBA	

	Greeters	Usher
Jun	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Jul	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Aug	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.

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 stjamesal-
toona@verizon.net The church's website is
www.stjamesaltoona.org

Find us on Facebook to get up-to-date information.



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

The Council Meeting is sched-
uled for Tuesday, June 9, at 6:00
PM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

COUNCIL MEETING	TUE, JUN 9 6PM
WELCA	SAT, JUN 13 9AM
ALTOONA STORYTELLERS	SAT, JUN 13 2PM



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

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

June 13. 9-11

July 11 Graystone Villa Breakfast. Bring a friend!

AUGUST 8. ALLEGHENY SYNOD WOMAN
ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

ST JAMES WELCA WILL HOST THIS EVENT:

Information about this event and the registration
form is available on Page 3.

DEADLINE FOR THE MAY ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS MON, JUNE, 15.

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.



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
David & Jean Bickel
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...

Drew McCaffery is one of our candidates for pastoral ministry who is currently interviewing with a congregation of the Allegheny Synod. Drew's grandmother, Mary Haas, passed away on Saturday night. Please keep Drew and his family in your prayers.

I would ask you to please remember the family of Bishop Ann Svennuggsen (Minneapolis Synod) and her family in your prayers. Her son, John, passed away early Saturday morning from Leukemia. John was 30 years old. We usually reserve prayer requests for immediate members of our ministerium, congregations, and families of rostered leaders in the Allegheny Synod. However, we can all imagine how hard it must be for this family to lose a young man who was only entering the prime of life. As part of the one church of God, we pray with our brothers and sisters in Minneapolis for this family. John's funeral is on Wednesday. Thank you and God Bless
Bp Michael

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

Daily Readings and Prayers

June 1—2 Corinthians 5:18-21, Psalm 13

Lord, You became sin for my sin. Continue to send messengers that all might hear Your forgiveness. Amen

Quote of the Day: *Ultimately, faith is the only key to the universe. Thomas Merton.*

June 2—John 14:1-3, Psalm 41

Jesus, comfort our troubled hearts by faith in Your forgiving heart. Amen.

Quote of the Day: *To love Jesus is to love holiness. David Smithers.*

June 3—John 10:22-38, Psalm 5

Lord, help me not to depend on sentiment for the guarantee of eternal life, but only on Your Word. Amen.

Quote of the Day: *The serene beauty of a holy life is the most powerful influence in the world next to the power of God. Blaise Pascal.*

June 4—Exodus 12: 21-23, Psalm 8

Thank You, Lord, for marking us for salvation through Your blood. Amen

Quote of the Day: *Pray, and let God worry. Martin Luther*

June 5—Romans 12:1-12, Psalm 58

Dear Lord, have compassion on things we dare not ask in our unworthiness, but which You promise to give us because of Christ's worthiness. Amen.

Quote of the Day: *He who knows himself best esteems himself least. Henry G. Brown*

June 6—Philippians 2:5-11, Psalm 39

Lord, help us die to sin each day through sorrow and repentance, so that Christ makes us partakers of glory of the kingdom of heaven. Amen.

Quote of the Day: *When you get your way, you nurse a hideous idol called self. But when you give up your way, you get God. Janet Erskin Stewart*

June 7—Mark 2:1-12, Psalm 14

Lord, help me admit my sins and rejoice in Your forgiveness. Amen.

Quote of the Day: *Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless. Mother Teresa*

June 8—Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 121

Lord, thank You for being our sure hope. Amen.

Quote of the Day: *Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee. Francis Ridley Havergal*

June 9—Romans 5:1-11, Psalm 120

Holy Spirit, help us proclaim Christ's forgiveness through His obedience. Amen.

Quote of the Day: *Faith without works cannot please, nor can good works without faith. The Venerable Bede*

June 10—Isaiah 43:18-25, Psalm 7

Heavenly Father, help us give You thanks and praise for Your greatest promise, proclaimed through Your voice crying in the wilderness. Amen.

Quote of the Day: You will never need more than God can supply. J. I. Packer

June 11—1 Corinthians 1:21-31, Psalm 6

Thank You, God, for making me Your own. Amen.

Quote of the Day: He who demands mercy and shows none ruins the bridge over which he himself is to pass. Thomas Adams

June 12—1 John 3:11-24, Psalm 64

Lord, thank You for making me certain. Amen.

Quote of the Day: God's justice guarantees that ultimately all that is unfair will be dealt with. Joseph Stowell

June 13—John 14:1-24, Psalm 26

May God help us to be His faithful followers, abiding with His comfort. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Between here and heaven, every minute that the Christian lives will be a minute of grace. Charles Spurgeon

June 14—Habakkuk 2:1-4, Psalm 49

Please, Lord, strengthen our faith, giving us Your peace. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Beware of anxiety. Next to sin, there is nothing that so troubles the mind, strains the heart, distresses the soul, and confuses the judgment. William Uliathorne

June 15—Luke 24:1-12, Psalm 25

Lord Jesus, when death strikes, comfort us in Your resurrection. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Work designed for eternity can only be done by the eternal Spirit. A. W. Tozer

June 16—Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 55

Dear Lord, thank You for Your blessings of this life to eternity. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Love of man necessarily arises out of love of God. John Hooper

June 17—John 1:29-34, Psalm 9

Lamb of God, keep us Thine forever. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Joy is the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved. Henri Nouwen

June 18—Genesis 32:22-32, Psalm 19

Dear Lord, help me hold on to You in Your World. Amen.

Quote of the Day: You have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in You. St. Augustine

June 19—2 Luke 5:1-11, Psalm 107:1-9

Lord, may Your glory always shine on us through Christ. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Be as patient with others as God has been with you. Anonymous

June 20—Hebrews 12:3-17, Psalm 32

Lord, help us see our afflictions as crosses sent by Your loving hand. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless. Mother Teresa

June 21—Galatians 5:16-25, Psalm 2

Dear Lord, fill us and all fathers with Your love. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Goodness is something so simple: always live for others, never to seek one's own advantage. Dag Hammarskjold

June 22—Matthew 25:1-13, Psalm 24

Risen Christ, keep us ready to meet You. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The faithful person lives constantly with God. Clement of Alexandria

June 23—Psalm 23, Psalm 30

Thank You, Lord, for calling me to flock to the Good Shepherd. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength. St. Francis De Sales

June 24—John 1:6-8, Psalm 38

Almighty God, may we always know Your light. Amen.

Quote of the Day: If you would learn self-mastery, begin by yielding yourself to the One Great Master. Johann Friedrich Lobstein

June 25—Psalm 119:41-48, Psalm 92

Lord, help us always to confess You, hallowing Your name. Amen.

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

June 26—Isaiah 43:24-28, Psalm 71

Dear Lord, strengthen me in Your mercy and wash away my sin for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Spiritual gifts are no proof of spirituality. Samuel Chadwick

June 27—Romans 14:5-12, Psalm 43

Dear Lord, keep me Yours and make heaven my home forever. Amen

Quote of the Day: Seek the advice of your betters in preference to following your own inclinations. Thomas A Kempis

June 28—Proverbs 4:20-27, Psalm 112

Heavenly Father, give me a faithful heart and diligently keep it with You. Amen.

Quote of the Day: He never comes to those who do not wait. Frederick William Faber

June 29—Genesis 49:28-33, Psalm 90

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your promise and for strengthening my faith. Amen

Quote of the Day: Pray as if everything depended upon your prayer. William Booth

June 30—1 John 4:13-21, Psalm 28

God of Love, fill us with Your love, and help us to show it. Amen

Quote of the Day: The one sole thing in myself in which I glory, is that I see in myself nothing in which I can glory. Catherine of Genoa



Church Picnic

June 28, 2015
Highland Park, Pavilion #2

11:00 AM Communion Worship Service

12:00 PM Meal

Name: _____

Plan to attend # _____

Plan to bring # _____

**** Paper Plates, and Utensils will be provided****
****Iced Tea, Lemon Aid, and Water will be provided****

I can help. Sign me up to do:

Shopping _____

Set up the day of the picnic _____

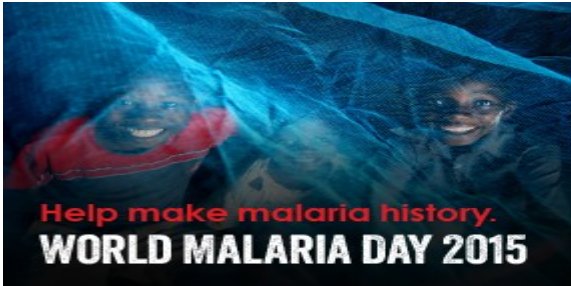
Transporting Supplies _____

Plan bingo games _____

Cooking/Grilling _____

Clean Up _____

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



Dear friend,

Grace and peace to you!

Over the past four years, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has given special attention to World Malaria Day on April 25. This year, on World Malaria Day, a massive earthquake struck Nepal.

As a church, you responded to this crisis immediately. I am grateful for the generosity of congregations and individuals who quickly offered assistance through Lutheran Disaster Response. Together, we have raised \$400,000 to support recovery efforts. It is in these moments that I am heartened to see the profound way our long history of mission has put us exactly where God would have us to bring help and hope. Our prayers continue for the people of Nepal, especially for those who serve neighbors through our partners and companions.

At the same time, opportunities to give continue for World Malaria Day – a time that traditionally raises a great deal of funds and awareness to help our sisters and brothers in Africa put an end to this preventable, treatable disease.

[Our companions and partners are still counting on your support, and we could use your help now.](#)

Five years ago the ELCA joined worldwide efforts to fight malaria by launching the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Our goal: \$15 million by 2015 to support the malaria programs of our Lutheran companions and partners. Today, we're 94 percent of the way there.

Together, our work has stretched into 13 countries throughout Africa. We have fully funded our commitments to 10 country programs with positive results underway, but communities in **three countries still are depending on your support.**

I give thanks for your past support and hope that you will prayerfully consider [one more gift.](#)

As we continue to celebrate new life in Christ, let us join together and ensure all of God's children live whole, healthy lives.

God's blessings,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

<p><i>Church Council Members</i></p> <p>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 Debra Morgan</p>	<p><i>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</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

Christian Education/
Social Ministry

Janet Kauffman

Maizie Emswiler
*Carolyn Feather
*Evelyn Holsinger

Sylvia Malsatzki
*Shirley Manbeck
*Debra Morgan

Finance

***Mark Hoover**

Jean Bickel
*Betty Boslet
John Wiederkehr
*Donna Wilt

By-Laws

Mark Hoover

*Betty Boslet
*Carolyn Feather
Maizie Emswiler
*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

Property

***Bill Dambeck**

Bob Holsinger
Shirley Manbeck