



Kirchenblatt

June 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

TOUGH DECISIONS

It can be safely argued that alarms regarding our financial situation should have gone off a long time ago. However, dwelling on that point now is of no value as we ponder our future.

On the issue of finances the big truth that we cannot avoid is that we are spending three times more than we receive in offerings. That is the major reason our investments have shrunk by 44% in the last seven years.

The Finance Committee will continue to work hard to reign in our spending. The Stewardship/Evangelism Committee will look for ways to increase attendance and offerings. That effort must include talking to inactive members as well as looking for new members.

Those who worship regularly are pretty much maxed out in terms of what they can contribute. Therefore, participation in worship services is needed on the part of those who are not now attending. I have been frustrated in my efforts to get a foot in the door of the homes of our inactive members. It would help me a great deal if you can convince someone you know to allow me to sit down with them and discuss their potential involvement at St. James. But perhaps our biggest problem is the atmosphere of “hostility” that continues to pervade our scene. I hear it from other Pastors as well as other members of the community. Unless we can change the way we are perceived to be treating each other all efforts to get St. James back on track will fail.

I am not completely ready to throw in the towel but if there is not a marked willingness by the end of the summer to establish some direction for the future of this congregation then my tenure will be over. I have told the council that I will not hang around just to help you spend your reserves. If everyone who has requested to be retained on our rolls would show they are willing to **participate** in the life and work of this congregation then I am willing stay and do my part. That is a big “IF.” It can happen but only if **ALL OF US ARE REALLY SERIOUS** about some future direction for this congregation.

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 years' Allegheny Synod Assembly, June 4th—June 6th, will include the election of a new Bishop. Watch the Altoona Mirror for details.

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

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

**W
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C
A**

Although the day was a little chilly, members of WELCA thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Spruce Creek on May 17. Sandwiched between a stop at the Martin's greenhouses and a visit to the Canoe Creek Bakery, the business meeting was held under a pavilion on the beautiful grounds of Camp Kanesa-take. Peggy Thatcher presented an interesting article concerning the ASWO (Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization) Convention held in Osterburg on May 3. Our WELCA group is planning to attend the next Convention with the idea of perhaps hosting one in the future. The June 21st meeting will begin with an 8:30 breakfast at the Unter Uns and a planning session to follow. Watch the Sunday bulletins for further information, and plan on joining us for future interesting and meaningful projects.

**N
E
W
S**

To the Ladies of WELCA,

Thank You

Your gift to the Domestic Abuse Project is greatly appreciated. Because of your thoughtfulness, families are given shelter and the support needed to get back on their feet. Because of your generosity, victims of domestic abuse are offered safety and empowered to break the cycle of abuse. Because you took the time to give, youth have a place to go when nowhere else feels safe and individuals with intellectual disabilities are given a chance to live the life they want.

Warmest Regards,
Lisa Hann, Executive Director
Family Services, Inc.

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$151.00 to support the mission of the Lower Susquehanna Lutheran Disaster Response Network. Your contribution will be designated to help assist the victims displaced in the Hollidaysburg apartment building fire on February 27, 2014.

Pr. Glenn D. Miller
VP for Philanthropy
Lutheran Social Service

Thank you so much for allowing us to use your building for our junior high religious education classes. This year, there was an average of eight to ten students—three of which are moving on to tenth grade—who participated in singing, a bible lesson, and crafts. The crafts have been left for the members of the church to view and enjoy.

Blair County Ecumenical
Time Released Religious Education

Thank You

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.

June Flower Charts & Bulletins

	Altar	Niches	Bulletins
1			<p>IMO Kenneth Civils on Father's Day From Children Marlene, Donna, Bob and Families</p>
8			
15			
22			

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.
Jun	Kim Vandevander	Bob Holsinger Sr.	Bob Holsinger Sr.
July	TBA	TBA	TBA
Aug	TBA	TBA	TBA

	Greeters	Usher
Jun	Kim Vandevander, Barb Good	Bob Holsinger Sr.
July	Barb Good	TBA
Aug	Barb Good	TBA

June Birthdays

- 2 Kyle Dambeck
- 5 Julia Wilt
- 6 Verna Mills
- 7 Joseph Yanke
- 10 Lynzi Vandevander
- 16 Janet Kauffman
- 19 Judy Bryan
- 21 Betsy Happeny
- 23 Nicholas Moore
- 23 Nicole Moore
- 24 Dave Detwiler
- 24 Robin Kessler

Happy Birthday!



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

What Makes A Dad

***God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it ... Dad***

Author Unknown

Financial Reports

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

October 1, 2013 - April 30, 2014

MEMBER SPECIAL GIVING

Allegheny Synod - Designated	\$630.00
Blanket Sunday	\$77.00
Harvest Home	\$320.00
Mission	\$90.00
White Gift	\$105.00
Good Samaritan - Hollidaysburg Fire	\$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

April 1, 2014 - April 30, 2014

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.06
Contributions	
General	\$3,069.00
Designated	\$239.50
Special	\$243.00
Wienken Transfer	\$4,000.00
	\$7,551.56

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$1,626.88
Worship & Music	\$986.29
Office	\$1,549.55
Custodial & Property	\$2,673.88
Christian Education	\$47.04
Good Samaritan	\$151.00
Benevolence	\$495.00
	\$7,529.64

April 2013

Contributions \$2,895.00	Average Weekly Attendance	32
	Easter Sunday Attendance	87

April 2014

Contributions \$3,308.50	Average Weekly Attendance	30
	Easter Sunday Attendance	58

News & Notes From Council

—A council meeting was held on May 13, 2014.

—The agenda was adopted with the addition of discussing leadership roles on Council.

—The discussion at the potluck luncheon was introduced to the floor.

—Elizabeth Richards and Donna Wilt mentioned a program called Young Life. Pastor Harshbarger will contact Timothy O'Brien about possibly hosting Young Life's program's at St. James.

—Meetings have been scheduled with Bethany and St. Luke's to discuss cooperative ministries.

—The minutes were approved with one correction.

—The organist duties were discussed. No job description has been located at this time. This issue has been sent to the Worship and Music Committee.

—The Special Council Meeting Minutes of April 20th were approved with no changes.

—The pastor report was submitted. There were no questions.

—The treasurer's report was submitted, including the investment reports that were unavailable at the last meeting.

—It was noted that a person needs to be designated to complete the investment spreadsheets.

—Both the Special Music Fund and the Church Directory Fund received money in the month of April. Colleen will be asked to print a monthly report for these funds.

—Options for leadership of Council were discussed. It was decided to maintain the status quo for the time being with Lori Savino remaining in the Treasurer position until the end of her term in September.

—Minutes from the Finance meeting of April 22 were submitted.

—Elizabeth Richards recommends that one Sunday be selected and altar flowers to be placed in honor of all of those who have given bequests to the church. This issue will go to the finance committee for review.

—The scholarship application will be placed in the June and July newsletters and have a deadline of July 31.

—Expense control was briefly discussed.

—The new voucher procedure was briefly explained.

—Church picnic planning is underway. Many signed up via offering envelope.

—The summer day camp program is being planned and advertising will begin with the June newsletter.

—A notice will be placed in the June newsletter asking for 2014 graduate information.

—A contract and firm work date for the parish house roof is needed from Rispoli Construction.

—Earl Walters resigned from his position as custodian.

—A temporary custodian, Martha Otto, was hired and completed her term of service.

—Shirley Manbeck had expressed an interest in the position. The property committee will meet and make a recommendation regarding this position.

—Reduce, Renew, Rejoice is underway and seeking more volunteers.

—The church directory ad will be revisited by the Stewardship/Evangelism committee.

—An evaluation of the Holy Week services was requested. It was questioned as to whether these services are best kept at St. James or joined with another church.

—Pastor Harshbarger listed four people who are willing to participate on a congregational profile team.

—A report was given on the "update information forms" that were sent to the entire congregation.

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.**

Lutheran Day Altoona Curve



DATE

Sunday, July 6, 2013

WHERE

Peoples Natural Gas Field
Blair County Ballpark

COST

\$4.50 per person *
(Adults/Youth Ages 3 and Up)

FREE

(Children Age 2 and Under—on laps)



TIME 6 PM

**Orders Due To The Church
Office By June 15th**



Name _____

Adult/Youth Tickets # _____ X \$4.50 _____

Children 2 and Under # _____ X free _____

Total Due: _____

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:

Stewardship/ Evangelism Meeting	June 4, 6:30 PM
Church Picnic	June 8, 11:00 AM
Council Meeting	June 10, 7:00 PM



W.e.l.c.a.

WELCA meets:
June 21, 2014 at 8:30 AM
Breakfast at the Unter Uns



June 8, 2014
Highland Park
Pavilion #1

11:00 AM Communion Worship Service
12:00 PM Meal

Don't forget your place settings and covered dish to share!



CHOIR NOTES

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

POT LUCK LUNCHEON
A potluck luncheon will be held June 1st following worship service.
The next date is September 7th.

Know A Graduating Senior?

Graduation announcements and congratulations will be included in the July Kirchenblatt. Please contact the church office with information on 2014 graduates. We don't want to miss anyone in this milestone recognition.

Offering Counters Needed

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



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



An Open Invitation to All

The people of the Allegheny Synod are invited to share a time of Reception & Worship as we celebrate the retirement of Bishop Gregory R. Pile

August 17, 2014

2:00 p.m. Reception

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

4:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion and Farewell & Godspeed

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

Conferences will be contacted to help host the afternoon reception.

Gifts in honor of Bishop Pile can be given to the **Allegheny Synod** for the Seminary Endowment Fund and/or to support travel opportunities for Bishop and Barb Pile.

Bus transportation is being planned.
Watch the Kirchenblatt for details.

Help the Allegheny Synod Confirmation Camp Build LWR Personal Care Kits

As part of the 2014 Allegheny Synod Confirmation Camp at Camp Sequanota, Confirmands will be devoting part of their week to serving others. One activity we are hoping to do with the campers is the building of LWR Personal Care Kits. We are asking you, the churches of the Allegheny Synod to help us gather materials to make 250 LWR Personal Care kits.

Once assembled these kits will be transferred to Lutheran World Relief and sent all over the world. It is one more way that we, the Allegheny Synod are part of God's mission.

What each kit requires is:

- One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" & 52"x27")
dark color recommended
- Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional)
**Toothbrush multi-packs are acceptable as we can repack them*

The Confirmation Camp Planning Team appreciates any donations you and/or your congregation can make. You don't have to donate equal numbers of all items required for the kits, we will happily take whatever you can give us.

Donations will be collected at Synod Assembly, June 5 & 6. If you need to make other arrangements please contact Pastor Mike Rhyne - pastormikerhyne@gmail.com - and he can help you make other arrangements.

Thank you for your consideration:
Allegheny Synod Confirmation Camp Planning Team

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.



Reduce

Volunteer response for this project has been sensational! With 21 volunteers so far, coordinators Elizabeth Richards and Barb Good are busy as bees creating a work schedule.

Renew

Some work has already begun and schedules will be distributed soon. Don't miss out on this opportunity to help St. James remember why cleanliness is next to Godliness.

Rejoice

<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>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
Edith Trinks
John Wiederkehr
*Donna Wilt