



# Kirchenblatt

## May 2014

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1407 Eighth Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16602

The entire cost of this mailing has been  
provided by a friend of St. James.

*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](mailto:stjamesaltoona@verizon.net) Website: [www.stjamesaltoona.org](http://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](mailto:PastorECH@comcast.net), or at the church office at 944-6835.**

# Greetings From The Pastor

## A RESSURECTION CHANGES EVERYTHING

When Jesus restored life to Lazarus he simple resuscitated him. Lazarus was the same man when he came out of the tomb that he was when he went in. Nothing had changed except that his old body with all its old organs were functioning as they were before. However, when Jesus came out of his tomb, everything about him was different. His body was no longer captive to a specific location. He could be in many places at the same time. His appearance was so different that his closest friends did not recognize him – until he spoke. What he had to say and the way he said it allowed his friends to recognize in an instant that he was the one who had so recently died and been buried.

St. James has a message for the community of Altoona and it is the same as it was on the day this congregation was founded over a hundred years ago. However, this congregation cannot deliver that message in the same “package” that it was using even fifty years ago. We need to be resurrected in the same sense that Jesus was resurrected. As I said in my Easter sermon, we need to come out of our tomb and look for more ways to address our message to more people. The message does not need to change but the delivery of that message does.

The challenge St. James faces today is probably the biggest challenge it has ever faced. The task is not for the faint hearted. But when we look at what God has done for us, dare we turn our back on the task before us. I am willing to give it my best effort and I am looking for more people willing to put their best effort into the cause.

At the “Pot Luck” luncheon on May 4<sup>th</sup> I would like to hear from YOU some suggestions regarding our future. To help stimulate your mind see the next page.

Pastor Ed

## POT LUCK LUNCHEON

MAY 4 - noon

As we look at the future of St. James it may be helpful to take a glance in the “rear view” mirror. The trend over the past decade does not speak well for our future.

In the fiscal year of 2004-05 the offering at St. James was \$69,812. To meet our financial obligations that year we dipped into savings and extracted \$48,528. In the fiscal year of 2012-13 the offering was \$39,060 and we dipped into our savings to the tune of \$87,000 dollars.

The average attendance in 2004-05 was 84. The average attendance in 2012-13 was 34.

In 2004-05 we needed \$118,340 to keep us going and in 2012-13 we needed 126,060.

In 2004-05 our offerings provided 59% of the financial support we needed. In 2012-13 our offerings provided 31% of the financial support we needed.

On April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 the total of our savings was \$1,407,631.

On March 31, 2014 the total of our savings was \$793,792.

Our “nest egg” shrunk by 44% in seven (7) years.

**If you are interested in the future of St. James** then please bring a casserole and join us for lunch following the service on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Ed and the Church Council are looking for any and all suggestions you may have.

*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....***

Please continue to hold **Vicki Garvin**, spouse of Synod VP Spence Garvin, in prayer as she is moved to HealthSouth for ongoing care.

Please keep Pastor Bob Way's spouse and Synod Council member, **Pam Way**, in prayer as she undergoes a right knee replacement on May 9, 2014 and if all goes well, the left knee will be done on June 23.

♦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

St. James would like to thank the following people for their donations to the Church Directory ad in the Altoona Mirror:

Sylvia Malsatzk  
Donation In Memory Of  
Gearhart W. Malsatzki and Adrian Allen Malsatzki

Joseph Yanke  
Donation In Memory Of  
August Yanke and Anna Yanke

Dave and Jean Bickel  
Donation In Memory Of Their Parents

Donna Foster  
Donation In Memory Of Ida Ficker

Bill and Donna Wilt  
Donation In Honor of the Future of St. James

Bob & Evelyn Holsinger

David and Shirley Manbeck

Edith Trinks

Lynn & Kim Vandevander



The WELCA Visitation Team will meet at The Allegro on May 1st at 11:45 to have lunch first and then to go out in groups of two to visit our shut-ins. This has always been a very rewarding project, with the blessings flowing both ways. Anyone interested in sharing in the fellowship is welcome to attend the luncheon, the visitation, or both. Please call the church office if you know someone not on our list who would enjoy a visit. Since the WELCA meeting was a week later in April, plans for the following months have not been finalized in time for this Newsletter. The May meeting will take place on the regular third Saturday of the month, May 17. Please watch the weekly bulletins for additional information.



### **Mother's Day Acrostic Poem**

**"M"** is for the million things she gave me,

**"O"** means only that she's growing old,

**"T"** is for the tears she shed to save me,

**"H"** is for her heart of purest gold;

**"E"** is for her eyes, with love-light shining,

**"R"** means right, and right she'll always be,

**Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"**  
**A word that means the world to me.**

It is always our practice to say a sincere and heartfelt "Thank You" to all who support the mission and ministry of Gettysburg Seminary. This remains a very special community committed to training creative and visionary leaders for service in and through the church.

In His Service,  
The Rev. Glenn E. Ludwig  
VP of Seminary Advancement

## Thank You

Thank you for your recent \$5.00 contribution to Lutheran World Relief, received through the Allegheny Synod. Your gift to LWR brings help to some of the world's most impoverished families in 35 countries worldwide.

In Christ,  
Jeff Whisenant  
Interim President and CEO, LWR

Thank you to the members of St. James Lutheran Church from the Allegheny Synod of the ELCA. In grateful appreciation for giving \$250.00 for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synodical and churchwide ministries of the ELCA.

Gregory Pile  
Synod Bishop

Elizabeth Eaton  
ELCA Presiding Bishop

It is with heartfelt gratitude that we thank you and your congregation for providing us with a beautiful performance venue for our Christmas Concert. We appreciate your hospitality, graciousness, and welcoming spirit. We look forward to continuing our performances in your church.

With sincerest thanks,  
Board of Directors and  
Members of the Allegheny Chorale

## Thank You

*Join us in  
remembering our  
fallen soldiers.*

*Memorial Day  
May 26, 2014*



# Financial Reports

## CHARITABLE DONATIONS

October 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014

### MEMBER SPECIAL GIVING

Allegheny Synod - Designated	\$525.00
Blanket Sunday	\$77.00
Harvest Home	\$320.00
Mission	\$75.00
White Gift	\$105.00

## INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

March 1, 2014 - March 31, 2014

### INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.10
Contributions	
General	\$2,565.00
Designated	\$399.00
Special	\$353.00
	<u>\$3,317.10</u>

### BENEVOLENCE

Allegheny Synod - Designated Support	\$1,950.00
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

### EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$1,729.12
Worship & Music	\$400.61
Office	\$909.09
Custodial & Property	\$8,466.41
Benevolence	\$495.00
	<u>\$12,000.23</u>

### March 2013

Contributions \$5,263.00	Average Weekly Attendance	40
	Easter Sunday Attendance	87

### March 2014

Contributions \$2,964.00	Average Weekly Attendance	24
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# News & Notes From Council

—A council meeting was held on April 8, 2014.

—The agenda was adopted as presented.

—A brainstorming session was held regarding the future of St. James.

—The Council Minutes from the previous meeting were adopted as presented.

—The Pastor's report was submitted, discussed, and accepted.

—The investment reports were not available due to the early date of the meeting.

—The church directory fund had an account balance of \$185 as of 3/31/14.

—The special music fund had an account balance of \$155 as of 3/31/14.

—All banking/investment accounts have been updated with new signers or will be updated within a week of the meeting.

—The Treasurer's report was accepted.

—An announcement for offering counters was requested as well as a meeting to learn the method used for counting and possible simplification of that method.

—Elizabeth Richards will contact Kooman & Associates regarding notifications of a class action lawsuit and investments.

—Interviews were scheduled for treasurer candidates.

—It was reported that the potluck luncheon and hymn sing was well attended.

—Organization for the church picnic is progressing well. Most jobs have at least one volunteer.

—Planning for the summer day camp program in cooperation with Bethany and St. Luke's is under way. Cost per congregation is \$275.

—A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the \$275 that is St. James' cost for the summer day camp.

—Bill Dambeck reported that he is attempting to meet with Mark Rispoli to look over the parish house roof and get an estimate on repairs.

—A meeting to plan the clean-out project will be scheduled for sometime after Easter. It was noted that the deadline for people to retrieve items they have donated is April 30.

—A congregation member has offered to cover the costs of a letter to all members in order to update church records.

—Procedure to pay any future guest musicians was discussed, but nothing was decided at this time.

—A possible summer music program was mentioned.

—Edith Trinks has agreed to be the third member of the by-laws committee.

—Approximately one dozen names were submitted for consideration for a Call Committee.

—St. James still needs volunteers for Synod Assembly delegates.

—A letter will be sent to the Platinum Steppers. This letter will be in regard to ending their use of St. James at the end of May.

—The Good Samaritan funds for the Hollidaysburg Fire Victims will be forwarded.

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.**

**\*\*Special Meeting April 20, 2014\*\***


Council Took The Following Actions:

—Hired Rispoli Construction to repair Parish House roof.

—Accepted resignation of Earl Walters as sexton and hired Martha Otto as temporary sexton.

—Hired Colleen Garlick as bookkeeper to replace Lori Savino who had resigned as treasurer.

# May Flower Charts & Bulletins

	Altar	Niches	Bulletins
4			
11			
18			
25	<b>IMO Margaret &amp; Kenneth Foster</b> <b>By Donna J. Foster</b>		<b>IMO Louise Civils on Mother's Day</b> <b>From daughters, Marlene &amp; Donna</b> <b>and son, Bob</b>

## 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!

### May Birthdays

- 1 Brun Hilde Badorrek
- 1 Ethan Wilt
- 4 Phyllis Spinazzola
- 7 Helen Brickley
- 14 Betsy Manbeck
- 21 Anne Butler
- 21 Kathyrn Hetrick
- 22 Donna Foster
- 24 Randy Albright
- 24 Donna Wilt
- 25 Clara Esworthy
- 29 Michael Savino Jr.

**Happy Birthday!**

	Altar Guild	Srv. Cord.	Elev. Oper.
May	Robin Kessler	5/4 Dave Bickel 5/11-25 Bill Wilt	5/4 Dave Bickel 5/11-25 Bill Wilt
Jun	Kim Vandevander	TBA	TBA
July	TBA	TBA	TBA

	Greeters	Usher
May	Robin Kessler	5/4 Dave Bickel 5/11-25 Bill Wilt
Jun	Kim Vandevander, Barb Good	TBA
July	Barb Good	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 Harshbarger at 414-9588, or through  
the church office at 944-6835.  
The church office email is [stjamesaltoona@verizon.net](mailto:stjamesaltoona@verizon.net)  
The church's website is [www.stjamesaltoona.org](http://www.stjamesaltoona.org)  
Find us on Facebook to get up-to-date information.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Visitation Team	May 1, 11:45 AM
Council Meeting	May 13, 7:00 PM
Finance Meeting	May 27, 6:00 PM
Kooman Review	May 27, 7:00 PM



**W.e.l.c.a.**

WELCA meets:  
May 17, 2014  
8:30 AM



June 8, 2014  
Highland Park  
Pavilion #1

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



Please join us for choir rehearsal every  
Thursday at 7:00 PM.  
There is room for everyone!

Be sure to sign up on the bulletin board  
in the church foyer or on the clipboard  
in the narthex by the guestbook.

## POT LUCK LUNCHEON

A potluck luncheon is held the  
first Sunday of each month di-  
rectly following worship service.

## Offering Counters Needed

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



## VISITATION TEAM LUNCHEON/VISITS

Join the visitation team for  
lunch at the Allegro in Altoona  
on May 1st at 11:45 AM. Then  
share in the meaningful experi-  
ence of visiting with the home-  
bound of the church.

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

### Attention Church Organizers

In order to ensure that all events and meetings are listed properly, you are asked to submit your announcements and advertisements to the church secretary with the following information: Exact wording, all listing locations (i.e. Kirchenblatt announcements section, bulletin announcements, church calendar, etc.), and the length of time you would like your announcement to run. Please keep in mind that the bulletin deadline is Tuesday morning and the newsletter deadline is the 15th of the preceding month.

## Senior Lunch At St. Luke's

St. Luke's Episcopal Church welcomes all to their Senior Lunch, the first Wednesday of each month – September through May.

Lunch begins at 12:15, but come a bit early to socialize and choose your seats.

Lunch is held in the Parish Hall – entrance on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

On street parking is available as is parking in the vacant lot across the street (providing that the ground is frozen!).

A free will offering will be collected.  
All are welcome!

## THEM PREACHERS Benefit Concert

Friday, May 16  
7:00 p.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church  
200 3rd Avenue, Altoona

Free Will Offering Will Be  
Accepted To Benefit  
The Altoona Food Bank

*non-perishable food items  
will also be accepted*



# *Reduce Renew Rejoice*

**Volunteer today to be a member of the St. James  
Reduce, Renew, and Rejoice Crew.**

**Teams will be formed shortly for this summer  
project to begin in early June.**

**To volunteer contact the church office.**

<p><b><i>Church Council Members</i></b></p> <p>Pastor Ed Harshbarger—President  Elizabeth Richards—Vice President  Donna Wilt—Secretary  Lori Savino  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 &amp; Choir Director - Pat McConnell</i>  <i>Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper - Colleen Garlick</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

Mike Fanelli

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