



Kirchenblatt December 2015

(Parish Newsletter)

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



Join us for Worship Sundays at 10:45 am

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In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor James Rill by Phone at 814-880-1612 or email LionPrJim@aol.com

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-THURSDAY 9 AM-1PM

EMAIL: STJAMESALTOONA@VERIZON.NET

WEBSITE: WWW.STJAMESALTOONA.ORG

PHONE: 814-944-6835

MISSION STATEMENT:

**TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST THROUGH WORD AND
SACRAMENT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

CHRISTMAS . What incredible things Mary must have pondered in her heart as she rested from delivering Jesus and struggled to care for him, as new mothers do. . . As she watched the world, one that had already been so radically changed for her, become even stranger and more filled with mystery. There seemed no ending to the ways that God was turning her and Joseph's lives upside down.



This story, one that we hear again year after year, brings good news into our lives. The peace of Christmas may seem to many of us like a welcomed break in the midst of sometimes stressful and storm-filled lives. For others of us, Christmas is a time we reflect and remember the joys of our youth. Yet for others of us, we get together with family and friends, sometimes in joy, sometimes with sadness, and often with both. And we wonder again at the birth of Jesus, an event buried deep in history and tradition; a new thing born into our hearts and relationships year after year.

This is the mystery of what we Christians have called for centuries, "incarnation." God being born into humanity. And we are reminded by Luke's Gospel that this birth does not happen when the house is in order, everyone has cleaned up, and the world is a tidy place. No, Jesus is born into a world every bit as complicated and difficult as ours. He is born into a community and a family that suffers from many fears and anxieties, torn by its own conflicts and confusion. He is born into a place where the first witnesses to who he is and who he is to become are not the experts or the high and mighty. They are but lowly folks residing - and barely surviving in the world.

The story itself opens up so many more questions than answers for us as Christians. It shines light, as does the coming of Christ, into all the dark and strange places of our lives and communities. Christ's coming breaks the world open in a new way, shatters all the things we once thought to be true, and ushers in new and deeper truths. Just as a newborn child changes the lives of any family and community. Just as a stranger coming into our midst causes us to stop and consider ourselves and everything else anew. Christ comes into our world of violence, terrorism, hatred.

The peace of Christmas comes with the angels. It comes into the center of our busy and messy lives, into our world. As the gospel reminds us, it comes not only to bring a break in our complex lives, but a transformation, a renewed vision that **God is with us**. We are called to behold the mystery of a God born into our humanity in the most unexpected ways. And like Mary, we are called to be transformed, as we treasure all these words and ponder them in our hearts.

May each of you have a joy filled and loving Christmas, Pastor Jim

Pastor Jim

LionPrJim@aol.com

Intentional Interim Pastor

St. James Lutheran Church, Altoona

\$\$\$ Financials \$\$\$

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

Contribution & Attendance Summary

October 2014

Contributions \$
Average Weekly Attendance

October 2015

Contributions \$
Average Weekly Attendance

October 1, 2015 - October 30, 2015

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$.05
Contributions	
General	\$1,692.26
Designated	\$255.00
Special	\$62.00
Other Income	\$
	<hr/>
	\$2,009.31

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$701.17
Worship & Music	\$764.62
Office	\$1,284.68
Custodial & Property	\$666.68
Uncategorized	\$
	<hr/>
	\$3,297.15



\$\$\$ Financials \$\$\$



News and Notes from Council

ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING November 2, 2015 AT 6:00PM

PASTORS REPORT: He has spoken to Pastor Drew McCaffery in regards to Lenten and Ash Wednesday for 2016. Requests for food are growing. He has purchased Weis gift cards and has been reimbursed by Ralph. Pat McConnell would like a hand bell choir for Christmas Service. He has contacted Pastor John Telya to do a show next year. He is looking into having a Contemporary Service starting next year with the possibility of using Pat McConnell's band.

Discussions on Finances took place. Motion to move budget forward to Congregational Meeting was approved.

They following will remain on Council: Louisa Marshall, Donna Foster, Evelyn Holsinger, Shirley Manbeck, Debby Morgan, Carolyn Feather, Dana Detwiler, and Donna Wilt. Council will recommend Sylvia Malsatzki, Betty Boslet, and Dave Manbeck.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: Council voted by standing and saying the Lord's Prayer.

ST JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 8, 2015 – 11:45A.M.

Devotions read by Pastor Rill from Matthew 25: 14-30

Motion to accept the minutes from last year's Congregational Meeting on November 9, 2014 and the Special Congregational Meeting on January 11, 2015 Motion Carried.

Election of Church Council. Council recommends the following:
Betty Boslet, David Manbeck and Sylvia Malsatzki. Mark asked for nominations from the floor. No additional nominations were made. Staying and finishing their term are Mark Hoover, Donna Foster, Louisa Marshall, Debby Morgan, Carolyn Feather, Dana Detwiler, Evelyn Holsinger and Donna Wilt.

Motion made to accept the nominations were made. Motion carried to close the balloting. Pastor Rill will install at the next Sunday service.

Two funds were discussed.



News and Notes from Council

Pastor's Discretionary Fund – this is for people outside of the congregation. Pastor has been giving out gift cards from Weis Market.

White Gift Fund – this is for people of the congregation.. The White Gift Annual Report for 2015 is listed in the program.

No old business was reported.

Pastor's Annual Report for 2015, is listed on pages 8 and 9 in the program. He reported the Music Camp in August went well. We collected money for the Mountain Lion Back Pack Program. We moved a small altar down in front of our regular altar in order to make it more accessible and a more friendly meal environment. He attended many conferences while being at St. James. The summer picnic was a success. The luncheons on Tuesday with a Bible Study did well. This will continue in the spring. Council Retreat went well and was attended by all. We are all looking ahead to the future. The possibility of a Contemporary Service being held along with our regular service is being discussed. Many other tasks were performed by Pastor.

Mark remarked about Pastor Rill and his wife, Tere. They are both so active and helping St. James become more people friendly.

New business: Mark Hoover went over The Ministry Spending Plan for October 2015 through September 2016. He addressed each column and explained the figures. A motion to accept the Ministry Spending Plan was made, Motion Carried.

Additional comments; Joe Yanke was wondering if we have money to finish the front of the church with the re-pointing and painting.

Mark mentioned we need to keep our heat turned back when we leave on Sundays. This is also important when we have any special meeting that are being held here. This will save on the heating.

At the end of the meeting, Mark and Pastor Rill spoke on St. James growing and being positive. Many good things are happening at St. James. The SPIRIT is working.

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

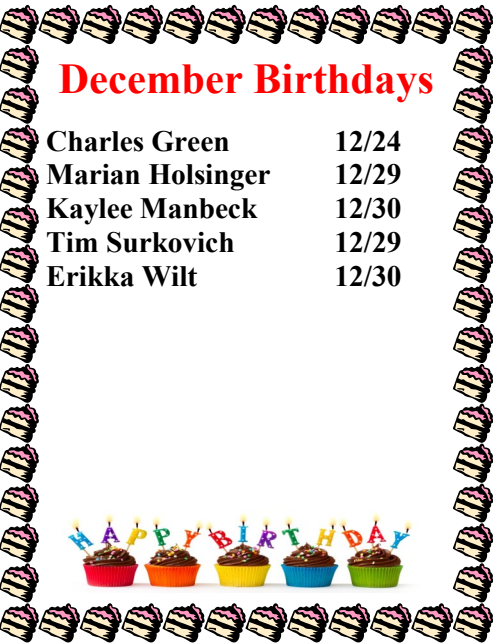
December Flower Chart and Bulletin's

	<u>Altar</u>	<u>Niches</u>	<u>Bulletins</u>
6			
13			
20			
27			

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!



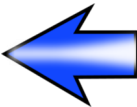
December Birthdays

Charles Green	12/24
Marian Holsinger	12/29
Kaylee Manbeck	12/30
Tim Surkovich	12/29
Erikka Wilt	12/30



	Altar Guild	Srv. Cord.	Elev. Oper.
Dec	Volunteer Needed	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Jan	Volunteer Needed	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Feb	Volunteer Needed	Volunteers of St. James TBA	

	Greeters	Usher
Dec	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Jan	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Feb	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.e.l.c.a.

What is WELCA? It's an easy way to say "WOMEN of the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH in AMERICA" Quite a mouthful, I know. St James organization includes women who gather in 7,000 locations all over the U.S. and the Caribbean. Women come together for service, study, advocacy, fellowship, and much more. WELCA embraces all kinds of ministries that support our mission of mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.



December 12 The WELCA Christmas Party will be held at Marzoni's in Greenwood at 12:30PM PAM Townsend will sing and bring holiday wishes from her friendly puppet .

Thank you to all the women who took part in the WELCA service. Excellent turn-out for Luncheon was catered by PB catering provided by St James WELCA.... food was excellent. Special thanks to Tere Rill for the lovely WELCA tote bags given to all who stayed for the luncheon.



So.....St James women... join us and mark your calendar for next meeting:

February 13, 9am

Thank you for the hat and mittens on the tree. Over 40 mittens and hats will be given to Family Services this month before the weather gets too cold.
No WELCA meetings in December or January

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
 David & Jean Bickel
 Susan Boston
 Dorie Hoover
 Those serving in our military



Homewood of Altoona:

Dick Potter

Presbyterian Village in Hollidaysburg:

Charlie Green
 Patti Green

In their own homes:

Becky Manbeck

From the Office of the Bishop....

See the Bishop's letter next page.

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.



"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior," (Luke 1: 46b-47)

Friends,

Grace and peace to you as we move into the season of Advent and walk toward the celebration of the birth of our Savior.

This is the time of year when we remember the great gift that Jesus Christ is to us. He was born among us to save us from sin, death and the devil and to bring us into Christ's eternal life. In the tender compassion of our almighty God, our Lord has come to bring us to himself. In mercy, charity, and love our Lord Jesus gives us his life.

At this time of year generosity, charity, and love are on our hearts. Many of you will support the ministries and organizations that help care for people in our communities and in our world. Ministries such as our partners ALSM, Camp Sequanota, and Lutheran Campus Ministry at Penn State as we move toward the end of the year.

I write to ask you to remember a place that continually reaches out to your community, that shares the love and mercy of Jesus, and works to bring hope and comfort to this world: your congregation. Your congregation is a place where Christ Jesus has called you into community, and week after week Jesus is with you as you gather to worship and celebrate the meal that our Lord gave us.

As you enter into this time of year when you are supporting organizations and ministries that do good and worthwhile work, please remember your congregational home. Consider making an additional Advent or Christmas gift to the mission of your congregation. You could decide to increase your weekly offering \$10, \$25, or \$50 a week during Advent. Or, you could make a special Christmas gift to the congregation of \$100, \$250, or \$500. Any gift will go toward continuing the ministry and outreach of your congregation. These gifts are all about helping us to reach out together to share the love of Christ with the world around us.

May God continue to bless you in the seasons of Advent and Christmas. May you have safe travels. May you be comforted by the presence of our Lord Jesus and by those you love.

Happy Advent and may Christ's blessings be with you,

+ Bishop Michael L. Rhyne
+Bp Michael Rhyne

Daily Readings and Prayers

December 1—Isaiah 60:1-3, Psalm 24

Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,...Anxiously we wait for Thee!. Amen

Quote of the Day: Purpose is what gives life a meaning...A drifting boat always drifts downstream. Charles H. Parkhurst

December 2—Isaiah 40:28-31, Psalm 62

Lord, my hope is in You alone, my only Savior!. Amen

Quote of the Day: A man's god is that for which he lives, for which he is prepared to give his time, his energy, his money, that which stimulates and rouses him. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

December 3—Psalm 46, Psalm 18

My loving God, may I seek and find refuge in You. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Pride alienates man from heaven; humility lends to heaven. Bridget of Sweden

December 4—Ephesians 6:10-18, Psalm 147

Help me, Lord, always to accept Your will for me . Amen

Quote of the Day: He rides at ease whom the grace of God carries. Thomas A Kempis

December 5—Luke 17:11-17, Psalm 103

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good because His steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Work becomes worship when done for the Lord. Anonymous

December 6—Matthew 4:1-11, Psalm 27

Jesus, daily strengthen me in my faith toward You and in my love for my neighbor. Amen.

Quote of the Day: According to the New Testament, God wills that the church be a people who show what God is like. Stanley J Grenz

December 7—Matthew 1:18-25, Psalm 46

Lord, may I ever confess the saving truth that You were conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary. Amen.

Quote of the Day: A Christian has a union with Christ more noble, intimate, and perfect than the members of a human body have with their head. John Eudes

December 8—Luke 1:26-28 Psalm 95

My Savior, may I ever confess the saving truth that You kept the Law for me. Amen

Quote of the Day: God His own doth tend and nourish; in His holy courts they flourish. Caroline Sandell-Berg

December 9—Isaiah 7:10-14, Psalm 148

Jesus, You alone are the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The person you are now, the person you have been, the person you will be—this person God has chosen as beloved. William Countryman

December 10—Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 115

Lord Jesus, Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us, From Your lowly manger cheer us, Gently lead us and be near us Till we join Your choir above. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Untilled ground, however rich, will bring forth thistles and thorns; so also the mind of man. Teresa of Avila

December 11—Matthew 5:1-12, Psalm 71

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged—Take it to the Lord in prayer. Amen.

Quote of the Day: All fear is bondage. Anonymous

December 12—Isaiah 53:3-12, Psalm 118

Thanks be to Thee, my Lord Jesus Christ, For all the benefits which Thou has given me, For all the pains and insults Which Thou hast borne for me. O most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother, May I know Thee more clearly, Love Thee more dearly, And follow Thee more nearly. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Faith tells us of things we have never seen, and cannot come to know our natural senses. John of the Cross

December 13—John 20:30-31, Psalm 8

Lord, help me to keep CHRIST in CHRISTmas. Amen.

Quote of the Day: In Christ we can move out of our past into a meaningful present and a breathtaking future. Erwin Lutzer

December 14—Psalm 138, Psalm 7

O come, O come, Immanuel! You came in Bethlehem! Keep coming to me in Word and Sacrament. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The future belongs to those who belong to God. This is hope. W.T. Purkiser

December 15—Revelation 21:1-4, Psalm 48

As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again And His true members all unite With Him in heav'n to reign. Amen.

Quote of the Day: There is no torment like the inner torment of an unforgiving spirit. Charles Swindoll

December 16—Psalm 119:105-112, Psalm 34

My Lord and my Savior, may Your Word live richly in me daily. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Love is the only spiritual power that can overcome the self-centeredness that is inherent in being alive. Arnold J Toynbee

December 17—Matthew 26:36-45, Psalm 25

Jesus, we are in Your hands, hands that have nail marks in them. Amen.

Quote of the Day: All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on His being with them. Hudson Taylor

December 18 —Romans 5:1-5, Psalm 85

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The same power that brought Christ back from the dead is operative within those who are Christ's. Leon Morris

December 19—Luke 12:22-34, Psalm 84

My Lord, help me to trust in You. Amen.

Quote of the Day: There is no salvation save in truth, and the royal road of truth is by the mind. Martin Cyril D'Arcy

December 20—Romans 8:31-39, Psalm 37

Gracious Lord, thank You for Your past, present, and future love. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Christians are the only people in the world who have anything to be happy about. Billy Graham

December 21—John 20:24-29, Psalm 145

We may not touch His hands and side, Nor follow where He trod; But in His promise we rejoice And cry "My Lord and God!". Amen.

Quote of the Day: He who knows how to suffer will enjoy much peace. Thomas A Kempis

December 22—Luke 2:8-20, Psalm 138

Lord, help me to share the true joy of Christmas. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Christ became what we are that He might make us what He is. Athanasius of Alexandria

December 23—Hebrews 2: 1-11, Psalm 32

We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a wonder? Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The coming of Jesus into the world is the most stupendous event in human history. Malcolm Muggeridge

December 24—Luke 2: 1-20, Psalm 100

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled, A quiet chamber set apart For You to dwell within my heart. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The fact of Jesus' coming is the final and unanswerable proof that God cares. William Barclay

December 25—1 John 4:7-12 , Psalm 96

O Lord, we welcome Thee, Our hearts for joy are leaping. Thou Jesus, dearest Child, Thy precious promise keeping, Art come from heav'n to earth To be our Brother dear; Thou gracious Son of God Wilt banish all our fear. Amen

Quote of the Day: Christmas is the day that holds all time together. Fulton John Sheen

December 26—Acts 7:54-60, Psalm 20

Enable me to stand firm for You, Lord. Amen.

Quote of the Day: His wisdom's vast, and knows no bounds, a deep where all our thoughts are drowned. Isaac Watts

December 27—John 3: 1-21, Psalm 139

Jesus, my Savior, help me to share Your saving Gospel. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The voice of God, having once fully penetrated the heart, becomes strong as the tempest and loud as the thunder. Ignatius of Loyola

December 28—Matthew 2:13-18, Psalm 10

Jesus, who is the Life and the Lord of life, help me to open my mouth for the mute. Amen.

Quote of the Day: All unbelief is the belief of a lie. Horatius Bonar

December 29—John 14: 1-16, Psalm 98

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen

Quote of the Day: Human salvation demands the divine disclosure of truths surpassing reason. Thomas Aquinas

December 30 —Ephesians 2:1-10, Psalm 130

Jesus, help me always to put my trust in You alone for the forgiveness of my sins. Amen

Quote of the Day: The whole science of the saints consists in finding out and following God's will. Isidore of Seville

December 31—Psalm 145, Psalm 90

My Lord, I know I can enter the new year and all the future with confidence because You are there. Amen

Quote of the Day: What is offered to man's apprehension...is not truth concerning God, but the living God Himself. William Temple

Announcements and Upcoming Events

A festive graphic for a vendor show. At the top, three Christmas ornaments (red, yellow, green) are on the left and right. The text "YOU are Invited to" is in a cursive font, followed by "The Ring The Bells Vendor Show" in a larger, elegant font, and "Friday, December 11, 2015" in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Below the text is a collage of images: a stack of colorful plastic cups, a small animal (possibly a dog) lying down, a green gift box with a red bow, several bottles of essential oils, and a plate of food. The background is white with a subtle snowflake pattern.

YOU are Invited to
The Ring The Bells Vendor Show
Friday, December 11, 2015

JOIN US at St. James Lutheran Church on 8th Ave. in Altoona between 4 and 8 PM. There will be 30 vendors attending. Visit vendors with a chance to win at vendor drawings! Some of our vendors are Essential Oils, Silpada, Pampered Chef, Tupperware & Paint a Pot and many more with homemade crafts too!

Finish or start your holiday shopping or find great items to start 2016!

Email Joanie Yanusas at CoachJoanie@hotmail.com or Sara Jubeck at SarahJubeck@gmail.com for more information.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
December 24, 2015, 7:30 pm.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Allegheny Chorale
featuring

Allegro String Quartet
and Benjamin Cossitor, Oboist

Caroling, Caroling



Sunday, December 6, 2015 at 3pm
St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Altoona

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 7pm
First Presbyterian Church, Tyrone

Deborah Estright, Director

Announcements and Upcoming Events

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY, please contact **Pastor James Rill** by phone at **814-880-1612** or email **LionPr.Jim@aol.com46**.
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.

REMINDER AND IMPORTANT

***BULLETIN ADDITIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER
THAN TUESDAY AT 10:30 AM.***

***For corrections, please contact the church
office secretary Tim Surkovich, I'm in the office
Monday-Thursday 9-1.***

******IF AN ARTICLE FOR THE KIRCHENBLATT CANNOT
BE SUBMITTED BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH, PLEASE
CALL AND RESERVE A SPACE FOR YOUR ARTICLE SO
THAT THE KIRCHENBLATT CAN BE FORMATTED AHEAD
OF TIME TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR ALL THE CONGREGA-
TIONAL NEWS. ******

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH

***DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE OF THE
KIRCHENBLATT IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER, 15.***

Announcements and Upcoming Events

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.

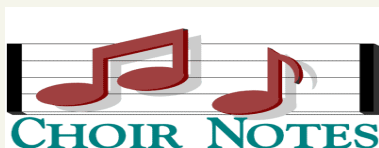
IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

5th December - Decorate the Church for Christmas – 10:00

6th December - Allegheny Chorale - 3:00PM

13th December - Pot Luck Dinner, Following Worship with Carol Singing and Guest Leader

24th December - Christmas Eve Service – 7:30PM



Choir Practice
every Thursday 7PM
Everyone is welcome!

The Story League, Here is our 2016 March 5, 2016, April 2, 2016
May 7, 2016 2PM-4PM

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

COUNCIL MEETING

DEC 8

6PM

**Serving Elementary Children in the Altoona Area School District**

Tere and St James Lutheran Church,

We want to thank you for your generous support of the Mountain Lion Backpack Program with a donation of \$370. It was such an encouragement that you would consider our program in this way.

We are now serving nearly 850 students in four of the eight elementary schools in Altoona with food for the weekend. We are planning to be in the remaining four schools by the end of the year, possibly feeding 1400 students weekly. We want to see them taking full advantage of opportunities at school and ultimately see them succeed.

Thank you for this demonstration of concern for the children in our schools, and we look forward to working together in the future to find solutions to fight hunger in our community. We appreciate how often you think of us.

Sincerely,

Jim & Heather
Jim and Heather Little, Program Directors
Mountain Lion Backpack Program



The Allegheny Synod

40,000 Can Challenge

**Advent to Super Bowl Sunday
November 29 – February 7**

Your donation of non-perishable food items to the 40,000 "Can" Challenge will benefit local food banks and service agencies who serve the people in your community

To participate, record how many non-perishable items are collected and call the office at 814-942-1042

Results will be publicized through the Allegheny Synod Facebook page, the Lutheran Letter, and e-mails to congregations.



Admissions and Campus Ministry staffs invite youth groups and their advisers to a special youth event!

Dec. 4-5, 2015

RiseUp Together at Thiel College

"Rise up and shine, for your light has come!"

Isaiah 60:1a

Dec. 4 – Dome Opening Event and Lock-in

with games, fun activities, great food and more!

- 5-6 p.m. – Registration, Howard Miller Student Center (HMSC)
- 6-9 p.m. – Youth groups attend the dome opening with Thiel College students and staff
- 9:30 p.m. – Lock-in and devotions in the Lutheran Heritage Room, HMSC

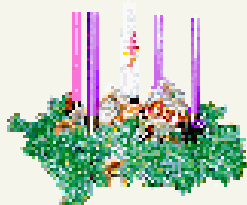
Dec. 5 – RiseUp Service projects at St. Paul's Senior Homes

- 8-9 a.m. – Breakfast and devotions
- 9:30 a.m. – Travel to St. Paul's with students and staff
- 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. – Work projects with the seniors and staff
- 2:15 p.m. – Closing worship at the David Johnson Memorial Chapel
- 3 p.m. – Homeward bound!

Download a campus map or get directions at
www.thiel.edu/about/visiting-thiel

Reserve your place soon as space is limited! RSVP by Dec. 1 to
admissions@thiel.edu or 724.589.2345

Free to attend but a \$5 per person donation for supplies is appreciated!



**ADVENT BEGINS - 1st Sunday
in Advent is November 30,
2015. We begin lighting Advent
Wreath.**

Interested in making beautiful music with hand bells?

We are forming a group to begin playing next year. As soon as we are ready we will start playing in services. Easter Service will be a high point for our hand bells.



If you have played hand bells before or even if you have not, ability to count is a priority.

Let us know if you are interested. Speak with Pastor Jim or Tere.

They have hand bell playing experience.

Hand bells make beautiful music and are fun to play.



Date: December 12, 2015

Time: 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Place: Main Camp Dining Hall

Cost: \$5.00 Kids; \$10.00 Adults

Come and enjoy a hearty breakfast with your family and let your kids talk to Santa at the same time. We will print a complimentary photo for you to take home. You may take your own photos as well! At 10:00 AM we will tell the story of St. Nicholas and talk about living generously.

RSVP: (814) 629 - 6627 or contact@sequanota.com

www.sequanota.com

35,000 members, 116 Congregations, 7 counties...

We are the Allegheny Synod



Pictured clockwise: Bishop Michael with Dr. Pat Savage, president of Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries; Alicia Anderson, Lutheran Campus Ministry at Penn State; Camp Sequanota Board of Directors.

Partners

The Allegheny Synod works with several different partners in ministry to this area. We support the work of Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries in their effort to provide quality care for children and adults. Camp Sequanota provides a ministry of learning, recreation, and fun to children and adults throughout this Synod and its surrounding areas. Our Lutheran Campus Ministry at Penn State is an important touchpoint for our young people when they are away from home. We value the relationship we share with our partners and encourage congregations to offer their support, too.

The Allegheny Synod

Office of the Bishop

701 Quail Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 + 814-942-1042
www.alleghenysynod.org + office@alleghenysynod.com

35,000 members, 116 Congregations, 7 counties...

We are the Allegheny Synod



Programs

The people Allegheny Synod—you—know how to give! Through programs like The Kenya Motorbike Challenge, The 25,000 Can Challenge, The National Youth Gathering, and God's Work, Our Hands Sunday you have provided needed resources to people all across the world. The Office of the Bishop coordinates with local leaders to help launch these programs and monitors their success. You are the reason our Synod continues to be a leader in giving to ELCA World Hunger and other outreach programs.

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Church Council Members

Mark Hoover—President
—Vice President

Donna Wilt—Secretary
Ralph Grove—Treasurer
Betty Boslet
Dana Detwiler
Carolyn Feather
Donna Foster
Evelyn Holsinger
Louisa Marshall
Sylvia Malsatzki
David Manbeck
Pastor Jim Rill

*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*

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

Finance

***Mark Hoover**

*Betty Boslet
John Wiederkehr
*Donna Wilt

By-Laws

Mark Hoover

*Betty Boslet
*Carolyn Feather
Maizie Emswiler
*Debra Morgan
Edith Trink

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