



Kirchenblatt October 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.**

Greetings Lutherans,

498 years ago, on the eve of All Saints' Day (a day we know as Halloween), October 31, 1517, a young Roman Catholic Priest by the name of Martin Luther posted on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, a list of 95 theses, or statements, and requested a meeting of the church leaders to discuss and debate the substance of these 95 theses.

At the time, Martin Luther had no idea what drastic changes this simple act would bring upon the church, but posting those 95 Theses began a chain reaction that resulted in the events that we know today as the Protestant Reformation. We Lutherans celebrate and observe this last Sunday in October as Reformation Sunday, the birthday of the Lutheran Church.

As a young man, Luther decided early on that he did not want to spend all of eternity in hell and suffering, so he set out to make himself right and pleasing before God:

- He left a promising future in law school
- And took on the disciplines of becoming an Augustinian monk.
- He continued his schooling and was ordained as a priest in the Church.
- Later, he earned his Ph.D. in Bible and Theology.
- And eventually he became a professor at the University of Wittenberg in Germany, one of the new and upcoming schools of the Church.



But through all of this, Luther did not find what he wanted the most, what he longed for and searched for: peace with God and a sense of assurance and rest for his troubled spirit. One day as Luther was preparing for a series of lectures on Paul's letter to the Romans, he was reading and studying chapter 3, a portion of Scripture that he had surely read many times before. But this time as he read it, his eyes were opened, the light came on! As Luther describes it, "It was as though the gates of heaven were opened to me!"

Romans 3:22-24: *"But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed...since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified (put right with God) by God's grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.... For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law."*

Suddenly Luther knew the truth of the Gospel, and suddenly Luther was set free! He was set free from trying to make himself worthy and acceptable before God, something he could never achieve for himself, no matter how hard he tried. He was free to simply rest in the grace and favor and love of God, grace and forgiveness freely given to us because of what Jesus Christ accomplished for us on the cross of Calvary.

This year we celebrate the Reformation on Sunday, October 25, at the worship service. We will affirm what the Gospel tells us and what Luther rediscovered: "We are saved by grace through faith." COME - join us as for this special Sunday in our church year and in our congregation. Celebrate with us the Reformation and our ministry in the Lutheran Church at St. James. Pastor Jim

Pastor Jim

LionPrJim@aol.com

Intentional Interim Pastor

St. James Lutheran Church, Altoona

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

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

Contribution & Attendance Summary

August 2014

Contributions \$3,093
Average Weekly Attendance 29

August 2015

Contributions \$2,731
Average Weekly Attendance 26

August 1, 2015 - August 31, 2015

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.05
Contributions	
General	\$2471.00
Designated	\$260.00
Special	\$475.36
Other Income	\$518.89
	<hr/>
	\$3726.30

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$2487.93
Worship & Music	\$499.76
Office	\$1070.99
Custodial & Property	\$270.02
Uncategorized	\$701.00
	<hr/>
	\$5354.70



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



News and Notes from Council

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 AT 6:00PM

COUNCIL MINUTES: Minutes from August 11, 2015 were read, and approved. Donna Wilt made a motion to accept. Betty Boslet seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

SPECIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING ON AUGUST 16, 2015.

Correction for a Women's Bible Study should have read starting September 1, and every Tuesday in September and October. Shirley Manbeck made a motion to accept with the corrections. Dana Detwiler seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Jim reported on continued visitations.

He and Tere attended the PSU outreach on campus on August 27, 2015 from 2-4 PM. It was a high success and they hope to send emails to approximately fourteen students that seemed interested in attending our services. Pastor will email info in regards to our Pot Luck Dinners and The Octoberfest.

Pastor reported on "A Conversation on Racism, Awareness, and Hope". The meeting held at St. James on August 20, 2015 was well attended with 30-40 people present. It was a lively discussion.

He will be attending the Bishop's Convocation on September 21-23, 2015 in Ligonier, PA.

Pastor has another letter that he will be mailing out to the congregation inviting them back to worship and future events. Louisa Marshall made a motion to accept the Pastor's Report. Donna Foster seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report at this time. Ralph Grove said his computer is not working. Mark Hoover will check on this for him.



News and Notes from Council

FINANCE: Kooman Associates gave Mark three dates in September to meet with the Finance Committee. Mark will get back to him once he hears from the other members. Pastor is going to check with John Wiederkehr and see if he can attend this meeting.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/SOCIAL MINISTRY: Pot Luck Dinner was a great success in August. They are working on the Oktoberfest which will be held on October 25, 2015. Evelyn Holsinger and Robin Kessler will decide if they want to open it up to the public and if R.S.V.P.'s are needed.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Repointing of the mortar was already started.

STEWARDSHIP: A meeting will be set up in October with the committee.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE: Harvest Home Sunday will be October 4th. Dana Detwiler will let Pat McConnell know that we decided on this date. Betty Boslet made a motion. Seconded by Dana Detwiler. **Motion carried.**

A Thanksgiving Service was mentioned and decided to be held at our church on November 26, 2015 at 10 AM. Pastor will chose his replacement for this service, possibly Mark Hoover. Shirley Manbeck made a motion. Seconded by Donna Wilt. **Motion carried.**

Ralph Grove reported the tuning of the pipe organ is still pending because of the weather.

MUTUAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE: Pastor still needs to set up a meeting.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: Council Retreat will be held September 27, 2015 in the Fellowship Hall. Subway sandwiches will be ordered.



News and Notes from Council

NEW BUSINESS: Youth Ministry Account with monies amounting to \$223.61 will be closed and put into the church account and marked “Youth Ministry” to be used at a later date. Betty Boslet made a motion. Seconded by Louisa Marshall. **Motion carried.**

WELCA would like to conduct the church service on November 22, 2015, the same as last year. All members will participate including the sermon. A catered lunch will be provided by WELCA.

Shirley Manbeck made a motion. Seconded by Donna Foster. **Motion carried.**

WELCA would like to put up a tree and have donations for winter hats or mittens to be given to a charity of their choice. Shirley Manbeck made a motion. Seconded by Donna Wilt. **Motion carried.**

Ralph Grove would like to clean out the old bulletins from years past, so he can have more room in the file room. He will pack them up and store in the attic. This will be brought up at the Congregational Meeting in November as to what we should do with them.

Also, would it be possible to have the Pot Luck Dinners be delivered to the shut-ins if they are not able to attend. Discussion followed.

COMMUNICATIONS: Bill Dambeck grandson, Kyle Dambeck, is attending St. Francis and he has to do 10 hours of community services for a Religious Class. He would like to do this at St. James. Everyone was in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: Louisa Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Debby Morgan seconded the motion. **Motion carried.** Council voted by standing.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

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.

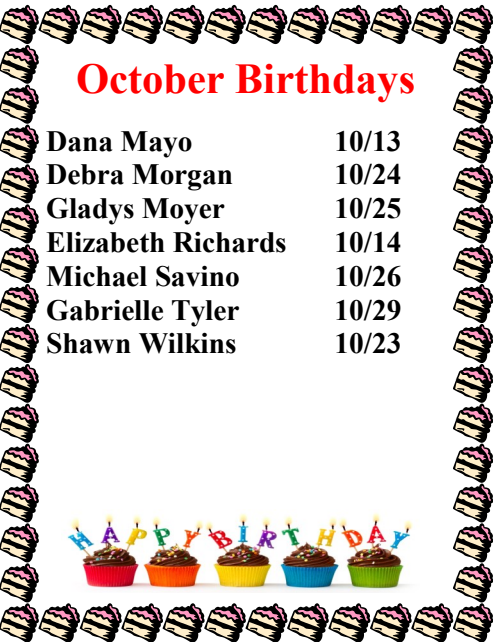
October Flower Chart and Bulletin's

	<u>Altar</u>	<u>Niches</u>	<u>Bulletins</u>
4			
11			
18	IMO Marian Muller from the Hollsinger Family		
25			

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!



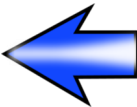
October Birthdays

Dana Mayo	10/13
Debra Morgan	10/24
Gladys Moyer	10/25
Elizabeth Richards	10/14
Michael Savino	10/26
Gabrielle Tyler	10/29
Shawn Wilkins	10/23



	Altar Guild	Srv. Cord.	Elev. Oper.
Oct	Volunteer Needed	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Nov	Volunteer Needed	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Dec	Volunteer Needed	Volunteers of St. James TBA	

	Greeters	Usher
Oct	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Nov	Volunteers of St. James TBA	
Dec	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.



St James women will provide for the congregation a small Christmas tree to fill with new **gloves and hats**. We need all of your help during the month of October and November. Winter will be here soon. Give from your heart, to some one who has no hat or gloves. Share your blessings and show your love.



November 22 St James will celebrate our yearly 'THANKS' service. Women of this congregation will do parts of the morning worship service while the men sit and listen. Sounds like a good idea. Bring a friend, relative or a neighbor.

Immediately after church a catered LUNCH will be provided by WELCA of St James congregation. Come and join us for a day of "THANKS".

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

October 10th, 9am

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
 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

From the Office of the Bishop....

Please keep **Pastor Bob Wagner** in prayer as he was admitted to the hospital with atrial fibrillation.

The funeral for **Bishop Michael's father-in-law, Victor Ashland**, will be Thursday, September 17, at Freedom Congregation Church in Freedom, Maine with the interment at Pine Hall Cemetery in Belgrade, Maine.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Bishop Michael and Karen Rhyne, 140 Shaw Rd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, and we ask that you continue to hold them in prayer.

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.



ALLEGHENY SYNOD

701 Quail Avenue 814-942-1042
 Altoona, PA 16602-3010 Fax 814-941-9259
 The Rev. Michael L. Rhyne, Bishop

www.alleghenysynod.org
office@alleghenysynod.com

Companions in Christ's Mission with the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church

Dear Friends,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On this the first anniversary of serving with you as Bishop of our Allegheny Synod, I share with you the exciting ministry opportunities we have worked on together as well as the challenges that lie before us.

The blessing of serving as Bishop is that I get to meet all of you: joining you for worship, visiting with your Councils, and seeing you at events in and around our Synod. What I have learned in this last year is that we are a Synod of wonderful people. I get to see firsthand that our congregations are full of good people who love Jesus and want to serve him. Even in places that may find themselves in times of struggle (since our Synod Office works with our sisters and brothers in conflict), we find people who really want what is best. I thank God for all of you, and the many ways you serve Jesus in your congregations and the way you reach out to your community.

We are in this together, and as we work together, we are able to do so much more than we ever will apart. During this past year, we as a Synod have done remarkable things from the 25,000 Can Challenge in December and January that together we gathered over 36,000 items of food to care for our sisters and brothers in need in our local communities. In April and May we had the Kenya Motorbike Challenge to help purchase motorbikes for our companion synod in Kenya. Our goal was one bike at \$5,000. Together we raised over \$12,500 and look to be close to \$15,000 for three bikes! These funds make it possible for pastors to reach their more remote churches and take the gospel to places that are hard to reach. When the Allegheny Synod works together we do amazing things.

We have also seen the Spirit at work in our Synod in this last year sending us new leaders and opening people's hearts to consider the ministry. The Lord has sent us nine new leaders to our Synod in this past year. Five of these were newly ordained pastors, two were pastors new to our Synod, and two were pastors who were returning to our Synod. We thank God for them.

The more amazing thing the Spirit has done is in forming new leaders. When I began in our Synod office we had two people from our Synod in Seminary. In this past year we have had seven people start the process of preparing to go to Seminary. By this Fall we will have seven Seminarians taking classes at ELCA Seminaries, and two preparing to start in the spring or summer. In addition to this, we are blessed by those people who participate in our DYD program (Lay Worship Leader Training) to become authorized to lead Sunday services in congregations where a pastor is not available. We authorized seven new Lay Worship Leaders for our Synod this year. We thank God for them and for their openness to serve their sisters and brothers in our Synod.

I hope you hear all of that as good news. There are many wonderful things going on in the Allegheny Synod.

I told you that there was also a challenge and an opportunity. The challenge is a financial one, which is the same challenge many of our congregations are facing. Our Synod has seen support from congregations decrease between \$20,000 and \$25,000 a year since 2004. In spite of the valiant efforts of our Synod's Stewardship and Finance teams, we have continued this steady downturn. The first few years our Synod budget was able to absorb the reduction in support. Eventually we had to begin cutting financial support to our partner ministries. Now there is not a lot more to cut. We find ourselves in a place where we need to first plug up the leaks in the boat and it is time for us to work together to try and turn this around.

Now the great and good news is that we can turn this thing around. To shore up and better support our congregations and our Synod we are not talking about major capital investments from each of us. Here is an example. We have 8,100 people in church in the Allegheny Synod on an average Sunday. If each of those people gave an additional dollar a month to support the mission of the Synod, we would produce \$97,200 a year for extending the mission and ministry. It is not hard when we all work together.

I also understand that times can seem tough. I know that you are doing the best that you think possible. I also know that sometimes we think that maybe we could give a little more, but what would another \$5 or \$10 dollars do. The truth is that God takes what we have, and combines it with what our sisters and brothers have, and pretty soon God makes a pretty big difference.

So working with the Stewardship/Mission Interpretation and Finance teams of our Synod, we are going to be intentional about reaching out, working with, and putting forth programs to help congregations. We have a program we are starting this fall with our new leaders to our Synod that is intentional stewardship training. We are also going to be working intentionally to help tell the story of what we do together as a Synod. It is a whole lot easier to support the mission and work of your congregation, our Synod, and the greater church when we know the wonderful things we are doing together.

We can do it. We can turn the trend that we are seeing in our Synod and in many of our congregations around. This is not something that we are simply going to fix tomorrow. It is going to take some time, and that time starts now.

I want you to hear that is much to be excited about in our Allegheny Synod. We are doing wonderful ministry. We have a financial challenge in front of us, but we can turn this around. As we do, we will be able to extend the ministries of our Synod and be able to reach out further with the love of Jesus to this world.

Please know that you, the churches, leaders, and individual members of our Allegheny Synod are in my prayers always. Thank you for the many ways you reach out to this world and the ways that you share the love of Jesus Christ with this world.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bishop Michael Z. Rhyne". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Bishop" is written in a larger, more prominent script than the rest of the name. The signature is contained within a white rectangular box.



G R E E D Y T I L I B A R T G
 G V T C P I H S R E D A E L E
 N O I T C A F S I T A S S G N
 I L M O H E T E C A R G P N E
 K U E G E C S N E E D S E I R
 A N O I E I I G A D N H C T O
 E T S F R V A N N S S A T I U
 P E U T F R C I T I A R F S S
 S E O S U E K L F E S E U I D
 L R I O L S R L O D G S L V R
 O R C I L B E I K T R R E P O
 N N A U Y S T W N C H A I L W
 E Y R G N U H I O G I I W T B
 L N G U G O O D N E S S N E Y
 Y L U F P L E H E L P I N G R

Ability, Blessings, Cheerfully, Clothing,
 Encourage, Generous, Gifts, Goodness,
 Grace, Gracious, Greedy, Helpful,
 Helping, Hungry, Integrity, Kind,
 Leadership, Lonely, Needs, Offerings,
 Pleasant, Respectful, Reward,
 Satisfaction, Service, Share, Sick,
 Speaking, Time, Unselfish, Visiting,
 Volunteer, Willingness, Words

Answer:
 Contribution

Kids Page

BAGS

A central illustration featuring a large, empty plastic bag. Surrounding the bag are several other items: a pencil, a bottle of glue, a notepad with a pencil, a pair of socks, a pair of gloves, a tube of glue, and a small box. The word 'BAGS' is written in large, bold, black letters above the central bag.

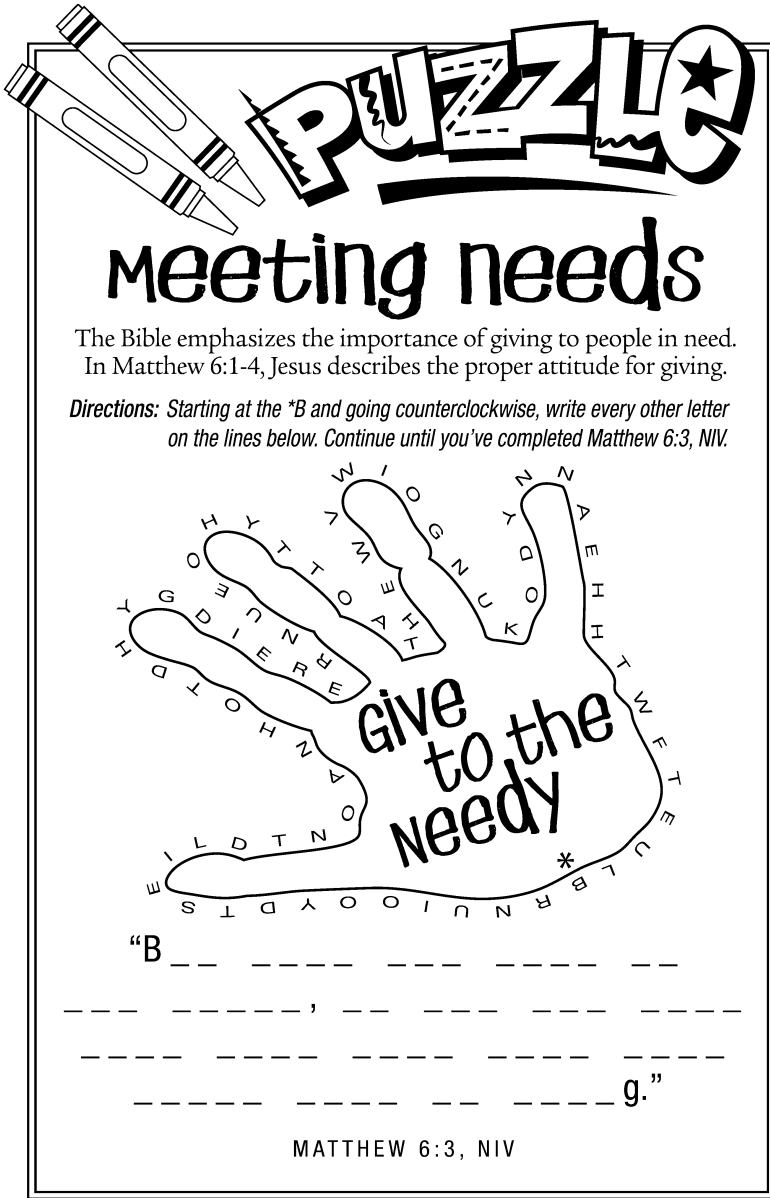
Make these practical gifts to share blessings with homeless people and others in need.

What you need:

- Gallon-size zippered baggies
- Clothing (socks, mittens, scarves, rain ponchos)
- Travel-size toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, sunscreen, lip balm, lotion, tissues, bandages)
- Snacks
- Water bottles
- Paper
- Pencil

What you do:

1. Pack baggies with supplies listed above (and more, if desired).
2. Write encouraging notes (including Bible verses), and add them to the baggies.
3. Keep the gifts in your car, and give them to people who are homeless or asking for help.



Answer: "But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." Matthew 6:3, NIV

what your right hand is doing." Matthew 6:3, NIV

A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

When we think about stewardship we typically think about giving financially to the church. We view stewardship as how we manage our finances and our faithfulness in giving to God's people and to God's church.

What if we begin to think about stewardship in a different way? Not about what we are called to give, but how we are called to be and to live.

In the most basic sense, stewardship is managing what belongs to someone else. Psalm 24 tells us: "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it ..." The concept of stewardship refers to how we manage the life God has given us: How we use our time, what we do with our gifts, talents and possessions, and how we care for ourselves and the physical environment around us.

The following principles help us to better understand the idea of stewardship:

- **Caretaking** – God owns it, we care for it.
- **Responsibility** – God trusts us by placing things into our hands.
- **Accountability** – We strive to ensure that our use of what has been entrusted to us reflects the heart of God.
- **Blessed** – It's rewarding to use our gifts for a greater purpose. And sometimes we find ourselves entrusted to care for even more.

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Stewardship is a privilege calling us to wisely manage all that we have been given. Do our work with excellence. Care for our bodies. Seek opportunities to serve.

Stewardship motivates the follower of Christ to move into action, living in ways that manifest our belief in God. Begin today by reflecting on the principles of stewardship: Caretaking, responsibility, accountability and blessed.

This article provided compliments of Thrivent Financial and Andrea K. Paul, CLTC, FIC, Financial Associate, (814)-695-3496, andrea.paul@thrivent.com.



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Daily Readings and Prayers

October 1—Matthew 6:24-34, Psalm 104: 1-30

Create in me a clean heart, O God, to thank You for clothing me with Your righteousness. Amen

Quote of the Day: Confidence in the natural world is self-reliance; in the spiritual world, it is God-reliance. Oswald Chambers

October 2—Matthew 7:1-12, Psalm 56

Thank You, Lord for freeing us from sin so that each of us may count on you. Amen

Quote of the Day: I know not the way God leads me, but well do I know my Guide. Martin Luther

October 3—Matthew 7:13-23, Psalm 125

Holy Spirit, keep us who have been baptized into the Body of Christ in Him and the one true faith. Amen.

Quote of the Day: On every level of life...hurry and impatience are sure marks of an amateur. Evelyn Underhill

October 4—Matthew 7:24-29, Psalm 93

As You did for Noah, bring us safely through the water, Lord. Amen

Quote of the Day: The voice of God is a friendly voice. No one need fear to listen to it unless he has already made up his mind to resist it. A.W. Tozer

October 5—Matthew 8:5-13, Psalm 16

Heavenly Father, keep me in Your Word that I may count on you in all things. Amen.

Quote of the Day: There are no disappointments to those whose wills are buried in the will of God. Frederick William Faber

October 6—Matthew 8:28-34, Psalm 123

Our Father, thank You for sending the bread of heaven to beggars! Amen.

Quote of the Day: Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blessed, finding as He promised, perfect peace and rest. Francis Havergal

October 7—Matthew 9:1-8, Psalm 97

Let my near and dear ones be Always near and dear to Thee. Amen.

Quote of the Day: What is impossible to God? Not that which is difficult to His power, but that which is contrary to His nature. St. Ambrose

October 8—Matthew 9:18-26, Psalm 131

Lord, thank You that truly You can handle all things! Amen

Quote of the Day: God desires and is pleased to communicate with us through the avenues of our minds, our wills, and our emotions. A.W. Tozer

October 9—Matthew 10:5-23, Psalm 141

Thank You, Jesus, for giving us Your safety and Your saving Word. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Never forget that only dead fish swim with the stream. Macolm Muggeridge

October 10—Matthew 10: 23-26 , Psalm 41

Let us receive You, Your Word, and Your servants. Amen.

Quote of the Day: It is only the fear of God that can deliver us from the fear of man. John Witherspoon

October 11—Matthew 11:1-6, Psalm 106:1-12

Lord, may our hunger before the redemption Your Son gives to us through Your Word. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Patience is our martyrdom. Gregory the Great

October 12— Matthew 11: 25-30, Psalm 19

Yoke Yourself with me, O Lord, that I may rest in you. Amen.

Quote of the Day: God's gifts, put man's best dreams to shame. Elizabeth Barrett Browning

October 13—Matthew 12: 1-8 ,Psalm 146

Jesus, thank You for Your careful attention, which You use to save and give life! Amen.

Quote of the Day: We like to be deceived. Blaise Pascal

October 14—Matthew 12:33-37, Psalm 92

Lord, sew the seed of Your Word, and plant it within me. Amen.

Quote of the Day: O for a heart to praise my God, a heart from sin to set free; a heart that always feels Thy blood so freely shed for me. Charles Lesley

October 15—Matthew 12:38-42 , Psalm 124

Father, send us Your Son as You send us Your servants of Word and deed. Amen.

Quote of the Day: When we speak about wisdom, we are speaking about Christ. St. Ambrose

October 16—Matthew 13; 1-17, Psalm 36

Lord, help me to taste Your Word and see the goodness of Your Son! Amen.

Quote of the Day: Hold everything earthly with a loose hand. Charles Spurgeon

October 17—Matthew: 13;10-17, Psalm 119; 33-40

Lord, fill the void with Your Word and Your Son. Amen

Quote of the Day: Grace is love that cares and stoops and rescues. John Stott

October 18— Matthew 13;44-45, Psalm 126

Thank You, Lord, for treasuring us and making us Your own! Amen.

Quote of the Day: Nothing sets a person so much out of the Devil's reach as humility. Jonathan Edwards

October 19 —Matthew 14;13-26, Psalm 11

Christ, keep us in Your care as Your redeemed and beloved flock. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Every day the choice between good and evil is presented to us in simple ways. William Sangster

October 20—Matthew 14;22-27, Psalm 80

Lord, may Your Word guide me always to You. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Christianity is about acceptance and if God accepts me as I am, then I better do the same. Hugh Montefiore

October 21—Matthew 15;1-9, Psalm 119;9-16

Lord, by Your Word may we worship you in spirit and truth. Amen.

Quote of the Day: We never better enjoy ourselves than we most enjoy God. Benjamin Whichcote

October 22—Matthew 21-28, Psalm 142

Lord, sustain us in Your Son as we await the resurrection to come. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Prayer is none other but the revelation of the will or mind of God. John Salt Marsh

October 23—Matthew 16;1-5, Psalm 119;137-144

Lord, send Your Word that all may rest as brothers and sisters in Your care. Amen.

Quote of the Day: We seem to have lost the vision of the majesty of God. John Stott

October 24—Matthew 16; 21-28, Psalm 42

Lord, take me aside that I may forever remain at Your side. Amen.

Quote of the Day: More crucifixion, more resurrection. The more we suffer, the more we are drawn to Christ and His power. A persecuted Christian in Nepal

October 25—Matthew 17; 1-13 , Psalm 99

Father, make us eager to share Your Word and all Your Gifts from Your Son. Amen.

Quote of the Day: The Christian life is not a playground; it is a battlefield. Warren Wiersbe

October 26—Matthew 18; 10-20 , Psalm 12

Thanks you, Father, for all You do for Your family and for mine! In Jesus' name.
Amen

Quote of the Day: What is most necessary for understanding divine things is prayer. Origen of Alexandria

October 27—Matthew 18; 21-35, Psalm 116

Lead us, Lord, to compassion, grateful for your redemption! Amen.

Quote of the Day: Meditation is...allowing the Holy Spirit to take the written word and apply it as the living word to the inner being. Campbell McAlpine

October 28—Matthew 19; 1-12, Psalm 60

Lord, sustain us as only You can. Amen.

Quote of the Day: I know of no other single practice in the Christian Life, more rewarding practically speaking than memorizing Scripture. Charles Swindoll

October 29—Matthew 19;16-30, Psalm 3

Jesus, thank You that Your good deeds give me eternal life. Amen.

Quote of the Day: Words, those precious cups of meaning... Saint Augustine

October 30—Matthew 20; 1-16, Psalm 17

Lord, thank You for Your generosity. Amen

Quote of the Day: Do good with what you have, or it will do you no good. William Penn

October 31 —Matthew 20; 20-28, Psalm 46

Grant us faith, dear Jesus, to trust You daily and set our minds on things above.

Quote of the Day: Christians are not Lone Rangers. Chuck Colson



***"I hope you don't think I'm presumptuous.
I died at a costume party."***

Announcements and Upcoming Events



Sunday Oct. 25th - Dinner will be served following the Worship Service.

Entertainment by the Altoona Maennerchor (Men's German Singing group) will follow the dinner.

Dinner to include sauerkraut, pork, mashed potatoes, kneadles (German Bread dumpling) with gravy, spinach casserole, bratwurst, hot dogs & rolls, rye bread & butter, apple sauce, desserts, & assorted beverages.

We are asking members to donate desserts.

Sign up in church or call the office with a count of how many will attend. Bring your friends & family. Please call the church office 944-6835 if interested.

RSVP By October 12th

Announcements and Upcoming Events



COUNCIL RETREAT

Sunday, September 27, 12 pm-4 pm
Interested in attending?
Contact Mark Hoover or Pastor Jim



Choir Practice
every Thursday 7PM
Everyone is welcome!

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

COUNCIL RETREAT	SEP 27	12PM
WELCA	OCT 10	9AM
COUNCIL MEETING	OCT 13	6PM
THRIVENT	OCT 27	6:30PM

***DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF THE
KIRCHENBLATT IS TUESDAY, OCTOBER, 15.***

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.com**46.

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.

The Story League, Here is our 2015-16 schedule: October 3, 2015,
November 7, 2015, March 5, 2016, April 2, 2016 May 7, 2016 2PM-4PM

Part 2: A Conversation on Racism, Awareness, and Hope

Monday, October 12 + 6:30 p.m.

Evangelical Lutheran Church
1200 Fourth Ave., Duncansville

The event is free and open to the public, but we do need reservations.

Please call the Allegheny Synod Office at 814-942-1042 or e-mail:

paula.schmitt@alleghenysynod.com

Our facilitator is Dr. Tim Konhaus. Dr. Konhaus is a resident of Johnstown, a member of Moxham Lutheran Church and holds degrees in African American History, Appalachian Regional History and Multicultural Feminist Theory with a specialization in the history of race relations in America.

We are thrilled to have Dr. Konhaus lead us in conversation,
awareness, and hope.

This is the second in a series of conversations hosted by The Allegheny Synod. All are welcome, whether or not you attended the first conversation.

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.



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:

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.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Sequanota Upcoming Events

Fall Work Day

September 12, 9:00 a.m.

FREE and includes lunch!

Volunteers needed. Contact the camp with the number of volunteers to expect.

Adult Day Bible Study

October 8, 9:00 a.m. to

2:30 p.m.

\$10, includes lunch.

Pastor Nathan Fife will discuss

"Whose Money Is It Anyway?"

Bring a Bible and pen or pencil.

Call the camp office to register.

Fall Women's Retreat

October 9-11

\$115 double occupancy. \$75 one night. \$40 no lodging.

Yoga, free time, conversation on ways to rest and renew. Call the camp office to register.

Benefit Auction

October 10, 5:00 p.m.

\$10 suggested donation for food.

A FUNdraiser to support the summer camping ministry of Sequanota. Quilts, handmade art, sports tickets and more.

Allegheny Synod

Upcoming Events

Fall Work Day

September 12, 9:00 a.m.

Camp Sequanota

God's Work. Our Hands.

Sunday

September 13, 2015

Bishop's Convocation

September 21, 22, 23

Antiochian Village

WELCA Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, October 3, 8:30 a.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church,

Martinsburg

Call 793-2413 for reservations

before 9/28

Fall Women's Retreat

October 9-11

Camp Sequanota

Benefit Auction

October 10, 5:00 p.m.

Camp Sequanota

Allegheny Synod Conversation on Racism

October 12, 6:30 p.m.

Evangelical Lutheran Church,

1200 Fourth Ave., Duncansville

First Call Theological Education

November 10, 11, 12

Capital Retreat Center,

Waynesboro PA



BIBLE QUIZ

In response to Jesus, Zacchaeus vowed to repay people he had defrauded; by how much did he promise to do so?

- A. In full
- B. Twice the amount he had stolen
- C. Threefold
- D. Fourfold

Answer: D (See Luke 19:8.)

+Christian Symbol+



Oak

Oak trees are common in Israel, and, according to tradition, Jesus' cross may have been made of oak. In the Old Testament, oaks often symbolize strength and longevity. In Hebrew, the words for oak and providence are related, and some important biblical events take place near, or are marked by, oak trees; for example, "The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre ..." (Genesis 18:1, NRSV).

The beauty of growing old



“How beautifully leaves grow old,” wrote 19th-century essayist John Burroughs. “How full of light and color are their last days.”

Society doesn’t think highly of old age. Beauty products tout the supposed virtues of maintaining a youthful appearance. Older adults’ wisdom, born of much life experience, is often disparaged, ignored or not sought. But God says this about the righteous, whose lives are rooted in him: “In old age they still produce fruit; they are always green and full of sap, showing that the LORD is upright” (Psalm 92:14-15, NRSV).

The aging leaves of autumn can prompt us to look for beauty in the seniors among us, to notice the light and color that still abound. From all the fruit they still produce — service, prayer, love — may we learn about living faithfully until our own last days.

—Heidi Mann

Change of heart

God has nothing but the best, and he offers it to us, weeds us, sustains us and cares for us through his Son. That’s the way our hearts are changed to follow Christ.

—Martin Luther

Reformation cornerstones

Every October, many Protestants celebrate the work of reformers who brought about much-needed change in the Christian church. At the center of their contributions were four teachings:

- Scripture alone: The supremacy of the Bible as the surest guide for faith and life.
- Grace alone: The supremacy of God's undeserved love. God counts us "right" with him when we accept his free gifts of forgiveness and salvation.
- Faith alone: The supremacy of faith. Only by believing and trusting in God's promises, and through no works or achievement of our own, do we receive eternal life.
- The priesthood of all believers: Christians are "members of one another" (Ephesians 4:25, NRSV). In God's eyes, Christians are all on the same level. We each have a ministry to fulfill to one another and to people outside the faith. Martin Luther said we're "reciprocally and mutually one."



Church Council Members

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
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 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