



Kirchenblatt December 2016

(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 Pastors Scott & Carol Custead
Phone: 814-254-3072 Email: scustead@atlanticbb.net or ccustead@atlanticbb.net**

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.

PASTOR'S LETTER FOR DECEMBER 2016



This is the time of year that I get out one of my favorite Christmas CD's and play it often, especially in my car while driving...Amy Grant's *"Home for Christmas"*. Home for Christmas...What does it mean to you? Perhaps it conjures up images of Christmases long past, when you were a child. Or perhaps it brings memories of Christmases when your own children were little. Perhaps you imagine the smells of certain foods that have been a Christmas tradition for you, or certain sounds--certain music. Perhaps it brings some special faces of special people to mind.

I remember vividly going home for Christmas in 1977. I had moved that fall to Berkeley, California to attend seminary, and it felt like a strange place at first! It had been a radical change in my life, for I was 2000 miles away from my home and my family. I got on the airplane, loaded with California goodies—perfect Christmas gifts to bring back to family. The weather was typical for winter in the San Francisco Bay Area--foggy, rainy and about 60 degrees, with a dampness in the air that had seemed to chill me to the bone more than any Minnesota winter I had ever known. I looked forward to going home to the snow and the below zero crisp dry cold.

Many hours later, I was awakened by my parents as we turned into the long driveway of my home. What a beautiful sight it was to the weary eyes of a sojourner come home for Christmas! There was at least two feet of freshly fallen snow blanketing everything in wondrous quiet and beauty. The blue spruce that my father and I had planted together when I was five years old now stood taller than the house, lit in multi-colored and snow-covered Christmas lights. It was so familiar, so comforting to be home for Christmas!

**PASTOR'S LETTER FOR
DECEMBER 2016**

What is home? For many, it has to do with a place familiar, a place of comfort, and it certainly has to do with the people who dwell there with you. Home is such a human thing. After living in Pennsylvania for most of my adult life, I can say that this state is my home state. I certainly felt at home in Hollidaysburg after living there for 22 years, and leaving that home in 2008 to move and take calls as pastors in Johnstown's Richland area was difficult. Experts in such things say that it takes 18 months to feel "at home" in a new place after a move. And after 8 years, we recently sold our home in Richland and moved back to Hollidaysburg. So now we must adjust again to a new home. Home for Christmas. What does it mean for you?

What does it mean for God? That is the real question of Christmas! For the miracle of the Christmas story is that it is about God leaving his heavenly home to come and make a home with us. This is the meaning behind the Hebrew name Immanuel: *God with us*, and even more literally God making his home with us, dwelling among us. God came home for Christmas on that first Christmas! "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us," so scripture proclaims.

Can we fathom what this means? It surely means that God is at home with any situation that we human beings can find ourselves in! He is at home in our joy and in our sorrow, in our suffering and in our grief, in our pain and in our comforts. God is at home with us even when we are far away from home. God has come to make his home with us *so* that we may be truly at home wherever we are—at home with God always until that Day when he will take us with him to his *eternal* home forever. What a comfort it is to know that God came to make his home with us on Christmas! This is truly something to ponder during Advent and celebrate at Christmas! Hope to see you in church!

—Pastor Carol Custead

News and Notes from Council

ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
November 15, 2016 AT 6:00PM

DEVOTIONS: A prayer was given by Pastor Scott Custead

ELECTION OF CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Mark Hoover

Motion made by Evelyn Holsinger. Seconded by Donna Wilt.

VICE PRESIDENT – Shirley Manbeck

(Shirley will be notified to see if she is willing to be elected again.)

SECRETARY – Dana Detwiler

Motion made by Donna Wilt. Seconded by Donna Foster

All motions carried. Pending Shirley's response.

CHURCH MINUTES: Minutes from October 11, 2016 were reviewed with no corrections.. Betty Boslet made a motion to accept. Donna Foster seconded the motion. The motion carried. Pastor Scott and Tim will take care of the Hymnal Boards with card stock, etc.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES: Two correction were made on the minutes, Louisa Marshall's name was misspelled. Donna Wilt was appointed to one year term. Not re-elected. Evelyn Holsinger made a motion to accept with corrections. Seconded by Donna Foster. Motion was carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Scott called the ALTOONA MIRROR again to see when they can come to the church and take a picture and a write up on their being at St James. The Board of Pension Tax Efficiency Comp will be done in Pastor Scott's name and he will be sponsored. This will not affect the budget nor St. James. He wanted a motion for the request. Dana Detwiler made a motion to accept. Seconded by Evelyn Holsinger. Motion carried. They are visiting shut-ins. Request to have the prayer list updated. It was suggested to keep the names on for one month. If needed they can be added on again by calling the church office. Dana Detwiler made a motion to accept. Seconded by Donna Wilt. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mark went over the figures with just a few questions. Evelyn Holsinger made a motion to accept. Seconded by Betty Boslet. Motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Annual Audit Committee will be Betty Boslet, Ralph Grove, Dana Detwiler and Joe Yanke. Mark will check to see when Ralph Grove is available. Motion to accept made by Donna Wilt. Second by Evelyn Holsinger. Motion carried.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/SOCIAL MINISTRY: Pot Luck Luncheon will be held on November 20th. Sweets and Treats are going well and they will be held in the winter months, also. Mark Hoover is going to look into credit card sales to be used for those who would use this instead of cash or checks. More on this later. Allegheny Chorale Christmas Concert on December 4, 2016 at 3:00PM. No Pot Luck in December, too many things going on with everyone.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Bob Holsinger put a new light up on the porch. We are checking on LED lights for the Sanctuary. Bob Holsinger will be checking on the sound system in the Sunday School room. Joe Holsinger is going to check on the hot water boiler for the Sanctuary. Lights for church signs on outside of the building are now fixed. Items from the fire escape room and paint fire escape are removed. Ralph is still checking on carpeting bids for the Sunday School Room. Mark Hoover replaced thermostat batteries. Chairperson is still needed.

STEWARDSHIP/EVANGELISM COMMITTEE: Church member's names are in the process of being updated. Pastors Scott and Carol would like to attend the meeting the next time Dana Detwiler and Donna Wilt have a meeting.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE: We will decorate the church for Christmas on December 3rd at 10:00am. Evelyn Holsinger will call around to find more people to help. This needs to be done for the Allegheny Chorale. Reminder for the Poinsettia orders to be into to the office by November 27th. They will be delivered to the church before December 4th. Mark Hoover took the oil candles home and now they are fixed. Earl cleaned up the pew racks except for personal items that were left there. Pastor Paula Schmitt will be doing the service on November 27th. Pastors will be on vacation.

MUTUAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE: We are organizing a committee now.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE: They will be having a meeting soon.

OLD BUSINESS: Call committee and Ministry Site Profile is being delayed. Bible Study before Sunday Worship Service will held December 11th and December 18th from 9:30-10:30am.

NEW BUSINESS: Christmas Services will be advertised in the ALTOONA MIRROR. It will be a 2 x 4 and the cost is \$135. Donna Foster made a motion to accept. Seconded by Evelyn Holsinger. Motion carried. White Gift Offering will be December 11th. This needs to be addressed to Ralph Grove and Shirley Manbeck. Donna Wilt made a motion to accept. Seconded by Evelyn Holsinger. Motion carried. Mark Hoover is be doing the Thanksgiving Service on November 24th. Pastors Scott and Carol Custead will be on vacation starting November 22nd until November 28th. Pastor Paula Schmitt will do the service on November 27th. Pastors Scott and Carol will also be away 18/19 January until 20/21 February, 2017. This is not a paid vacation. More update later.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

Donna Wilt made a motion to adjourn, Donna Foster seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned by standing and reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Contribution & Attendance Summary
September 2015

Contributions \$2,660
 Average Weekly Attendance: 25

September 2016

Contributions \$3,104
 Average Weekly Attendance: 27

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

September 1, 2016 - September 30, 2016

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$.23
Contributions	
General	\$2,886.00
Designated	\$218.00
Special	\$175.00
Other Income	\$70.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,349.23

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$1,730.07
Worship & Music	\$559.50
Office	\$1,216.51
Custodial & Property	\$1,578.95
Uncategorized	\$372.83
	<hr/>
	\$6,323.28

**December Flower Chart
 and Bulletin's**

Altar:

4
 11
 18
 25 Poinsettia's

Bulletins:

4
 11
 18
 25

***Flowers will now be supplied by
 Warner's Florist. Cost \$40**

December Birthdays

Charles Green	12/24
Marian Holsinger	12/29
Kaylee Manbeck	12/30
Tim Surkovich	12/20
Erikka Wilt	12/11



Christmas Poinsettias

Bless our Sanctuary and your home this Christmas with a beautiful red poinsettia! For each \$7.25 you contribute to the St. James Flower Fund, a flower will be placed in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve and will be available for you to take with you following our Christmas Eve Service. If you would rather donate the flower for a shut-or or friend of St. James, you may indicate that choice on this order form.

Please complete the form and return it to the church. **The deadline for poinsettia orders and payments is Sunday, November 27, 2016.** Thank you for your generosity in this endeavor!

Your Name _____
(as you wish it to appear in the bulletin)

This donation is made:

In Honor of: _____
Or

In Memory of: _____

Amount of Contribution: _____

Number of Christmas Poinsettias: _____

Envelope Number: _____

Please check one:

_____ Yes, I do want to take the poinsettia (s) home with me.

_____ No. I don't want to take the poinsettia (s). I would like them to be given to a shut in or friend of St. James

WELCA MINUTES – NOVEMBER 12, 2016

Peggy Thatcher called the meeting to order. Devotions were led by Peggy. We all had to take two slips of papers with questions for us to discuss. We read our questions and gave our answers as we went around the table. A good way to interact with one another and discuss our feelings.

Edie Trinks resigned from keeping the least coin offering. Donna Wilt made a motion for Donna Foster to take over this position. Seconded by Pastor Carol. Motion carried.

Peggy invited us to attend The American For Prosperity Program held on Monday, December 5th at 12:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church. The program is Holiday Gifts Ideas and Tips. Please let Peggy know if you plan on attending.

Christmas Party is December 10th at the US Hotel. Please spread the word to the congregation. Optional is a \$5 exchange gift. Pastor Carol gave us a sheet with the info on Saint Lucia. This will be our entertainment along with Pastor Carol playing the guitar and singing Christmas Carols. A fun time for all.

The tree is up in the Narthex so please bring us your mittens and gloves to donate to the Family and Children Services. Sylvia Malsatzki brought in the tree.

Donna Wilt will bring up at at the Congregational Meeting in regards to the Christmas Party and bring a clipboard to ask for signups for lunch.

WELCA SUNDAY to be held in the spring of 2017. Peggy Thatcher will do the sermon. Pastor Carol will provide some music. Maybe lite refreshments will be served. Discussion later. Maybe even ask for donations at that time.

St. Matthews in Martinsburg will host the Allegheny Synod Women's Association Annual Convention on April 29th, 2017 from 9:00AM – 3:00pm. Please try to attend this and represent St. James. A fee of \$20 is asked for attending. More info to come later.

NO MEETING in January or February.

Our least coin offering will go into WELCA'S account and will be used for White gift. Motion was made by Sylvia Malsatzki . Seconded by Donna Foster. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30am with Pastor Carol giving a Prayer and we all said the Lord's Prayer.

W.e.l.c.a.

December 13th, is the Festival of St. Lucia. All over Sweden families will be awakened in the darkness of early morning by the brightness of candlelight as a daughter in the family plays Sancta Lucia. She will be wearing a long white dress tied at her waist with a red sash. On her head she will wear a crown of lighted white candles intertwined with huckleberry or holly leaves. She will carry a tray with coffee and coffee cake. Those awakened by her candle light will hear her say, "The people who have walked in darkness shall see a great light." This custom grew out of the story of the Italian St. Lucia. During a time of Christian persecution Lucia was betrayed by her betrothed. Because of her new-found Christian faith and her zeal for that faith she became a martyr in 300 A.D. Dressed in her bridal gown she was burned at the stake at the young age of 17. Her face, however, was transfigured with an angelic heavenly light at her death. Her story was brought to Sweden where she became known as the bringer of light in the midst of the dark and cold winters of that far north country. **On December 10th St. Lucia will visit the members of St. James and their guests who will be attending the WELCA Christmas Luncheon at the US Hotel in Hollidaysburg!** Join us and hear more of the Swedish legend of St. Lucia! Also, Pastor Carol will have her guitar to lead us in singing a few favorite Christmas Carols.

Help WELCA to help others. Trim the small tree located in the narthex. Let's fill the tree with hats and gloves for cold weather! Many children have none and we ask all of you to give to someone who has less than you. Hats and gloves will be donated to Family and Children Services.



Almighty God, giver of every good gift; look upon this congregation with grace. Guide the minds of our Call Committee members as they discern which of your servants will be our next pastor. Please grant that we might receive a faithful shepherd who will care for us and continue to equip us for ministry in this place. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our Prayer List:

The Manbeck family

Doug Kauffman

Ann Bartley

John Wiederkehr

Jean Bickel

Tim Surkovich

Debra Morgan

Tom Bartley

Terry Bartley

Dave & Jean Bickel

Jake & Marlene Leonard

Those serving in our military

Homewood of Altoona:

Dick Potter

Graystone Manor//Bellmeade

Robert Civils

Presbyterian Village in Hollidaysburg:

Charlie Green

Patti Green

In their own homes:

Becky Manbeck



Remember In Your Prayers

From the Office of the Bishop....

None.

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.



The Allegheny Synod

50,000 Can Challenge

Can we raise 50,000 or more items to be donated for the local foodbanks? That is the challenge that has been laid before the Lutheran churches of our synod. Each congregation is asked to gather and deliver the items as best fits their ministry. The number of items collected is to be reported to the bishop's office, and they will keep a running total of all the congregations.

At Saint James we will gather the donated items in the narthex downstairs, and the pastors will deliver the items to a local foodbank at the beginning of January. So bring your items beginning next week.

Food banks particularly like to receive such things as canned meats, tuna, soups, chili, macaroni and cheese, and other protein and "full meal" items. Of course, monetary donations are acceptable and the amount will be added to our challenge total.

Dec 2—Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 27

O Lord, my light and salvation, keep me firm in Your Word. My confidence is in You.
Amen

Dec 3—Isaiah 6:8-13, Psalm 119:65-72

O Lord, may Your Law be better to me than gold and silver. Teach me to receive the preached Word with gratitude to Christ. Amen

Dec 4—Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72:1-7

The righteous flourish and peace abounds, because of Your great love and mercy, Lord. Hold me in the promises of my Baptism that I may never fall from the branches of Your grace. Amen

Dec 5—Isaiah 9:18-10:4, Psalm 83:13-18

O Lord, my sin is shameful, but You put Your name on me in Baptism and cooled my burning face. You saved me from the eternal fire. Amen

Dec 6—Isaiah 10:20-27, Psalm 37:1-11

Hold me, O Lord, as I lean on You. Your Word in my heart and Your true body and blood strengthen me. Amen

Dec 7—Isaiah 12, Psalm 118:14-24

O Lord, my strength and my song, I thank You that You have answered me. You have become my salvation. Amen

Dec 8—Isaiah 14:1-23, Psalm 121

I look up to the hills, O Lord. I see the cross on which You hung, and the holy heavens to which You call me. Amen

Dec 9—Isaiah 24:4-23, Psalm 91

Amid the terror of life, I find refuge in You, dear Lord. Your dwelling place is my joy.
Amen

Dec 10—Isaiah 27, Psalm 1

You have made me like a tree firmly planted, dear Lord. Keep me firm in Your grace every moment of my life. Amen

Dec 11—Isaiah 35, Psalm 146

Lord, You will return to free the prisoners, open the eyes of the blind, and lift up those who are bowed down. Praise the Lord, O my soul! Amen

Dec 12—Isaiah 28:14-29, Psalm 127

You build the house and You are Lord of it. When You chasten me, let me see that it is Your work as my heavenly Father to call me back to You. Amen

Dec 13—Isaiah 31, Psalm 94:16-23

When my foot slips, You are my help, Lord. You rise up for me against the wicked. Amen

Dec 14—Isaiah 37:1-29, Psalm 20

Lord, You answer me in the day of trouble and every day! Help me to trust in You and call upon Your name. Amen.

Dec 15—Isaiah 38:1-8, Psalm 21:1-7

I ask life of You, O Lord, and You give it to me—length of days forever and ever with You in eternity. Amen

Dec 16—Isaiah 39, Psalm 25:8-15

Lord, forgive my pride and teach me gratitude. Keep me humble, and lead me in what is right. Amen

Dec 17—Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 68:4-6

O Lord, at the end of these earthly struggles, You will settle me in my eternal home. Amen

Dec 18—Isaiah 7:10-25, Psalm 24

Who will stand in Your holy place, Lord? I will! I, along with all who have saving faith in the promised Messiah. Amen

Dec 19—Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 16

I am not forsaken, O Lord. In Your presence, there is fullness of joy. Amen

Dec 20—Isaiah 41:1-16, Psalm 149

You adorn the humble with salvation, Lord. Thank You for making me a new creation. Amen

Dec 21—Isaiah 42:10-17, Psalm 150

I praise You, Lord, according to Your excellent greatness! From the ends of the earth, we praise You. Amen

Dec 22—Isaiah 43, Psalm 51

My sin is ever before me, O Lord, but You have blotted out my iniquities. Amen.

Dec 23—Isaiah 48, Psalm 147:1-6

You gathered the outcasts of Israel. You also rescued me. I praise You, Lord!
Amen

Dec 24—Isaiah 9:1-7, Psalm 96

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice. The Lord reigns! Amen

Dec 25—Isaiah 52:1-12, Psalm 2

Blessed are all who take refuge in You, dear Lord. Thank You for Your precious gifts on Christmas morning and every day. Amen

Dec 26—Isaiah 55, Psalm 23

You prepare a table before me, Lord, and all of it is free. Help me hunger for Your righteousness. Amen

Dec 27—Isaiah 59, Psalm 7:9-17

You are a righteous God. For Your Son's sake, You have heard my plea for mercy. Amen

Dec 28—Isaiah 49:14-26, Psalm 54

Lord, the upholder of my life, You will never forget me! Amen

Dec 29—Isaiah 64, Psalm 36

Let me not flatter myself with my own good works, but rather cling to Christ's perfect work for me. Amen

Dec 30—Isaiah 66:7-14, Psalm 71:6-16

O my God, make haste to help me. I hope continually for the new creation. Amen

Dec 31—Isaiah 30, Psalm 90:1-12

O Lord, our dwelling place in all generations, Your truth hasn't changed, and neither have Your promises. Amen



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
December 24, 2016,
7:30 pm.
St. James Lutheran Church

READY OR NOT?

When Christmas is in the air, it's easy to get caught up in the holiday spirit. We jam-pack our schedules—planning family gatherings, decorating and going shopping. In our busyness, we often ask each other, "Are you ready for Christmas?"

What if we asked ourselves (and others) a similar question from a different point of view? Something more like: "How am I preparing for the arrival of Jesus?" This question encourages us to consider what we can do during the Christmas season to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Five pastors started a project called the Advent Conspiracy (AdventConspiracy.org) to encourage their faith communities to focus on the arrival of Jesus rather than exchanging gifts. Here's what they came up with:

Worship fully: It's the season to lay our burdens down and lift up God's greatness through passionate praise and worship. Psalm 150 encourages us to praise God however we'd like—with our voices, a trumpet, cymbals or by dancing. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

Spend less: Spending less doesn't mean to stop giving gifts! But if spending outside of our budget goes on a credit card, the joy of giving ends up being a burden of debt. By setting limits and spending wisely, we'll have more money to give later.

Give more: The best things in life are free. Instead of buying someone a gift, perhaps the best thing we can give someone is our time and attention. For you, this may look like planning a date night or spending time on the floor playing a board game with your kids. Your presence is much more valuable than presents.

Love all: Love is the ultimate gift that we are free to give and to receive. If we don't go overboard on holiday spending, we can use our funds to contribute to causes that help us show the love of Jesus in life-changing ways.

Worshipping fully, spending less, giving more and loving all will help remind us of the true meaning of Christmas: That Jesus is the reason for the season!



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.®

Provided by:

Andrea K. Paul, CLTC, FIC

Financial Associate

(814)-695-3496 • andrea.paul@thrivent.com

Announcements and Upcoming Events



**White Gift Offering will be collected at the
December 11, 2016 Sunday Service.**



**Our Christmas Day service on Sunday,
December 25, 2016 will be in the Sunday
School Room downstairs not in Sanctuary.**

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Choir Schedule



SCHEDULE:

DECEMBER 7TH	7PM
DECEMBER 14TH	7PM
DECEMBER 21ST	7PM
DECEMBER 28TH	7PM

Reminder:

Choir practice has changed from Thursday evening to Wednesday evening. All are welcome!

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

Announcements and Upcoming Events

IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY, please contact Pastor s Scott & Carol Custead at
 Phone: 814-254-3072 Email: scustead@atlanticbb.net or ccustead@atlanticbb.net
 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 CONGREGATIONAL NEWS.*****

DEADLINE FOR POINSETTIA ORDERS	NOV 27TH
CHOIR PRACTICE	NOV 30TH 7PM
DECORATE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS	DEC 3RD 10AM
SWEETS AND TREATS	DEC 4TH
ALLEGHENY CHORALE CONCERT	DEC 4TH 3PM
CHOIR PRACTICE	DEC 7TH 7PM
WELCA CHRISTMAS PARTY	DEC10TH12PM

(US HOTEL HOLLIDAYSBURG)

THIS IS OPEN TO EVERYONE INCLUDING GUESTS. PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF NUMBER ATTENDING ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1st. WE WILL NEED A COUNT FOR THE U S HOTEL. LUNCH AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE! ALL ARE WELCOME!

COUNCIL MEETING	DEC 14TH 6PM
CHOIR PRACTICE	DEC 15TH 7PM
KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE	DEC15TH 12PM
CHOIR PRACTICE	DEC 21ST 7PM
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE	DEC24TH7:30PM
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE (Held in Sunday School Room)	10:45AM

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.



A two-week Advent Sunday School Bible Study will be led by the pastors on Sundays, December 11 and 18, 9:30-10:30 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!



Allegheny Chorale
featuring
The Blair County Brassworks



Gloria!



Sunday, December 4, 2016 at 3PM
St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Altoona

Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 7PM
First Presbyterian Church, Tyrone

Deborah Estright, Director

FREE TO THE PUBLIC



Join us before Worship for Fellowship
and
Sweets and Treats.

Sunday December 4th
and each First Sunday of the month.

Sign up to bring your favorite treat to
share with the congregation!

Sweets and Treats at 10AM each
1st Sunday of the Month!

**Treats donated by Evelyn and Bob Holsinger.
Thank you Evelyn and Bob!**

Church Council Members

Mark Hoover—President
Shirley Manbeck—Vice President
Dana Detwiler—Secretary
Ralph Grove—Treasurer
Betty Boslet
Donna Wilt
Carolyn Feather
Donna Foster
Evelyn Holsinger
Sylvia Malsatzki
David Manbeck
Debra Morgan
Bill Wilt
Pastors Carol & Scott Custead

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

*Pastors— Revs. Scott & Carol Custead, Transitional
Pastors
Church Administrative Assistant - Tim Surkovich
Organist & Choir Director - Pat McConnell
Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper - Ralph Grove
Custodian—Earl Walters*

Chairpersons are listed in bold at the top of each committee.

BELOW YOU WILL FIND THE COMMITTEES AS OF THIS DATE. PLEASE NOTIFY EITHER THE CHAIRMAN OR CHURCH OFFICE IF YOUR NAME DOES NOT APPEAR WHERE IT SHOULD OR APPEARS WHERE IT SHOULDN'T. ALSO, PLEASE NOTIFY US IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SERVE ON ANY OF THESE COMMITTEES.

Mutual Ministry

*Donna Foster
*Evelyn Holsinger
Joe Yanke
*Dana Detwiler
*Donna Wilt

Worship & Music

*Dana Detwiler
*Donna Foster
*Mark Hoover
*Sylvia Malsatzki
Pat McConnell
Phyllis Spinazzola

By-Laws

Mark Hoover
*Betty Boslet
*Carolyn Feather
*Debra Morgan
Edith Trinks

Christian Education/

Social Ministry

Janet Kauffman

*Carolyn Feather
Janet Kauffman
*Sylvia Malsatzki
*Evelyn Holsinger
*Debra Morgan
*Donna Wilt
*Shirley Manbeck
*David Manbeck

Finance

***Mark Hoover**

*Betty Boslet
*Donna Wilt
*Bill Wilt
Ralph Grove

Property

Bob Holsinger

Bill Dambeck
*Evelyn Holsinger
*David Manbeck
*Shirley Manbeck
*Bill Wilt
Earl Walters

Stewardship/Evangelism

***Donna Wilt**

*Dana Detwiler
*Carolyn Feather
Janet Kauffman

* Denotes Council Member
Thrivent Rep-Robin Kessler
A.L.S.M. Rep—?