



Kirchenblatt May 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 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.

PENTECOST SEASON

Pentecost Sunday, May 15, 2016



How much joy do we experience at church? We feel hope at a baptism. The music can fill our souls. The fellowship of other Christians sustains us. A word from God can either comfort or confront us. How much frustration do we experience at church? We are concerned about the bills and the giving. Meetings may seem to take forever. People disappoint us.



If we look at the larger picture, church attendance is OK, but we wish it were better. Why don't former members return to our congregation? Our synod and national church leaders struggle to help the church with decreasing resources and a drastically changed society.

We find church a place of nurture, but also a place of struggle. We experience church as both joy and burden. Our critics have it right: We do find hypocrites in church. But so did Paul, way back when.

We should not turn a blind eye to the problems of the church, but we shouldn't give up in despair either. The church sets aside the day of Pentecost and the Pentecost season to celebrate what it considers its birth, as told in the Book of Acts.

We rejoice that after producing his gospel, Luke continued his writing and composed the book of Acts. He helps us understand the mission of the church. Should we still consider ourselves as waiting for an act of power and glory that we might experience as on that first Pentecost?

When we read that the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost with "a sound like the rush of a violent wind," we get the impression of uncontrollable power. Just as the wind can blow gently, or with such force that it knocks us down, the Spirit can gently comfort us or move us to places we never thought we would go. How different the rush of power at Pentecost seems from the struggles of the church and our congregation today.

We could use a stiff breeze, even if it knocked us over, to pump some energy into us, to unleash the power for good that we might wield. We could use a wind that would blow away our complacency, a wind that would pick us up and would fill us with God's Spirit in Christ. During the coming Pentecost Season, pick up your Bible and read the Book of Acts.

COME on Pentecost Sunday and pray with us for God's Spirit to fill each of our lives and our mission and ministry together at St. James.

Pastor Jim



**Contribution & Attendance
Summary**

February 2015

Contributions \$2,509
Average Weekly Attendance: 30

February 2016

Contributions \$2,778.30
Average Weekly Attendance: 29

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

February 1, 2016 - February 31, 2016

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.07
Contributions	
General	\$2,580.30
Designated	\$198.00
Special	\$250.00
Other Income	\$6,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$9,028.37

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$4,183.42
Worship & Music	\$723.98
Office	\$1,014.44
Custodial & Property	\$3,397.88
Uncategorized	\$207.03
	<hr/>
	\$10,701.37

**May Flower Chart and
Bulletin's**

Altar:

- 1
- 8
- 15
- 22 IMO Margaret & Kenneth
Foster From Donna Jean Foster
- 29

Bulletins:

- 1
- 8
- 15
- 22
- 29

May Birthdays

Randy Albright	5/24
Brun Hilde Badorrek	5/1
Anne Butler	5/21
Clara Esworthy	5/24
Donna Foster	5/22
Kelsey Ganz	5/28
Betsy Manbeck	5/14
Michael Savino Jr	5/29
Phyliss Spinazzola	5/4
Ethan Wilt	5/1
Donna Wilt	5/24

News and Notes from Council

ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
April 12, 2016 AT 6:00PM

DEVOTIONS: A prayer was offered by Pastor Jim.

CHURCH MINUTES: Minutes from March 8, 2016 were read and approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor gave an update on the condition of Deb Morgan. New Members will be received on May 8th. A short reception following worship was suggested. The Synod Assembly has been changed to only 2 days. June 3rd and 4th. Pastor Jim introduced the Mission Profile Statement to plan for the future of St James. A Call Committee will need to be established and a separate meeting with Pastor Paula to get the process started. Betty Boslet made a motion to accept the Pastor's Report and Donna Foster seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURE'S REPORT: Ralph presented his reports, with all details. Betty Boslet made a motion to accept. Donna Foster seconded the motion. The motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Future meeting with Kooman Associates is being planned.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/SOCIAL MINISTRY: The next Pot Luck Dinner will be changed from May 15th to May 22nd. A motion was made by Betty Boslet to accept this change and Evelyn Holsinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

St James will be hosting the Allegheny Chorale Sunday May 1st. At least 3 dozen cookies will be needed. A meeting needs to be scheduled for this committee.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: A sign is still needed for the Handicap Entrance. Still working on a lighting solution for going into the Janitor's Room. Still need to look into the lighting in the sanctuary. Still looking into a motion light is needed for the office entrance. Looking into a boiler for hot water heat for the sanctuary. Bob Holsinger Jr and his father will begin the process when Bob Sr returns from Florida. Either new fluorescent tubes or a ballast needs replaced in the church office. A new chairperson is still needed. A meeting needs to take place to discuss these issues.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE: Ralph Grove gave a report on the tuning of the pipe organ and the remaining issues that need addressed. The idea of a Hand Bell Choir is still being investigated. Contemporary Service. This is essentially put on hold until the Mission Plan is completed. Pastor Jim and Mark Hoover will still continue to gather information.

News and Notes from Council Cont.

ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
April 12, 2016 AT 6:00PM

MUTUAL MINISTRY: A meeting will be scheduled upon Dana Detwiler's return.

OLD BUSINESS: ALL COMMITTEES NEED TO MEET SOON. This is so all decisions do not have to take place at the council meetings.

NEW BUSINESS: Renewal of our church envelopes are due soon. A list of the current members receiving envelopes will be printed and sent to the council members. They are to review the list and make suggestions for those that are to be removed and new members to be added before placing the order.

A vote was taken to accept new members Brad Stehle and Paulette Frederick. The vote was unanimous.

The Ministry Profile discussed. A separate meeting will be held with Sister Paula to present the plan. Pastor Jim will get dates when Pastor Paula is available and then Tim will email council members those dates to determine the date that suits the majority of the council members.

Donna Wilt presented the idea of a welcoming center. It was decided to call the event "Sweets and Treats". Beginning the first Sunday in June and then every first Sunday of the month a welcoming event will take place at 10am. Signup sheets will be available for members to bring a treat to share. The event will be advertised in the Kirchenblatt and the bulletin.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm with the Lord's Prayer



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.

Attention: ALL WOMEN

St James WELCA meeting May 14 at 9:00am. This is an important meeting as the election of a new WELCA president will take place. Follow up meeting June 11. No meeting JulyAugust

The Allegheny Synod WELCA which will meet at St. James for there annual meeting April 30. Watch the LUTHERAN letter for more registration details.

Peggy Thatcher President St. James WELCA .
WELCA Board member Allegheny Synod.

Allegheny Synod (all churches) WELCA Event
April 30 at St James
8:30 am -3:30 pm.

Women of the
ELCA

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
 Dave Bickel
 Joe Yanke
 Brun Hilde Badorrek
 Janet Kauffman
 David & Jean Bickel
 Susan Boston
 Dorie Hoover
 Tim Surkovich
 Debra Morgan
 Those serving in our military



Homewood of Altoona:

Dick Potter

Presbyterian Village in Hollidaysburg:

Charlie Green

Patti Green

In their own homes:

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

From the Office of the Bishop....

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



**YOUR CAR. YOUR MARRIAGE
BOTH RUN SMOOTHER WITH A TUNE UP!**

Attention Married Couples: So you've done maintenance for your car—how about your marriage? Make 2016 the year you decide to attend a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend to learn how to make your marriage a more intimate, loving, Christian union.

Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends run from Friday night at 8 PM to Sunday around 4 PM and have been enriching marriages of couples of all ages for 40 years! In addition to the \$100 per couple registration fee, you will be given an opportunity near the end of the weekend to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish toward the continuation of the program. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included.

The 2016 Pennsylvania Weekends are:

- **September 16-18, 2016** at Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA, a new, hotel-style facility on Spruce Lake in the heart of the Pocono Mountains – an hour north of Allentown
- **October 21-23, 2016** at Olmsted Retreat Center, Ludlow, PA, a stunning, hotel-style retreat center adjacent to the Olmsted Mansion situated on a hillside in the Allegheny National Forest, an hour north of DuBois

Registrations are limited, so act today to ensure that you can attend the Weekend of your choice. To sign up online, go to: www.GodLovesMarriage.org and pay the registration fee using your credit card, or mark the option to mail in a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, contact Pennsylvania Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or email: fjschamber@comcast.net.

May 1—Acts 16:9-16, Psalm 108

Lord, help me pay attention to Your working life. Amen

May 2—Numbers 6:21-27, Psalm 67

Loving Lord, let me show Your face of love to my neighbor today. Amen

May 3—Revelation 21:9-14, 22-27, Psalm 27

Lord, shine in me and through me, that I may be Your light in the lives of those around me. Amen

May 4—John 16:23-33, Psalm 30

Father, give me today all that I truly need. Amen

May 5—Acts 1:6-11, Psalm 13

Lord Jesus, reassure my heart that You are always, always there. Amen.

May 6—Acts 1:12-26, Psalm 145:1-9

Dear Jesus, thank You for choosing me. Amen.

May 7—John 17:6-19, Psalm 133

Father, send Your Spirit to strengthen my feet, my hands, my mouth to serve You, and in doing so to equip others to serve You too. Amen.

May 8—Revelation 22:1-6, 12-20, Psalm 51

Lord Jesus, let me rest today in the cleanness You have won for me. Amen

May 9—John 17:20-26, Psalm 134

Father, put Your words in my mouth, that my neighbor also may be with You where You are. Amen

May 10—Genesis 22:1-19, Psalm 54

Lord Jesus, strengthen me to help my brother carry his burdens. Amen

May 11—Galatians 6:1-10, Psalm 85

Faithful Lord, energize me to serve those around me in Your name. Amen

May 12—Genesis 11:1-9, Psalm 19

Lord God, give me Your words of love and forgiveness as I speak to others today.
Amen

May 13—Galatians 5:16-26, Psalm 119:129-136

Gentle Spirit, guide my feet into paths where You would have me go. Amen

May 14—John 14:23-31, Psalm 119:1-16

Lord, teach me to obey. Amen

May 15—Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104

Holy Spirit, let others see my actions Your presence in my life. Amen

May 16—2 Corinthians 8:1-15, Psalm 68:4-10

Good Father, may the joy of Your blessings overflow and fill us with generosity as we love and serve our neighbor. Amen.

May 17—Daniel 1, Psalm 72

Heavenly Father, feed me each day with Your Word. Amen.

May 18—1 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Psalm 25

Lord Jesus, help me to stand fast in my faith so that others may see the life You give. Amen.

May 19—Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31, Psalm 111

Forgiving Father, give me ears to hear Your voice, and help me be wise in the choices I make today. Amen.

May 20—Acts 2:22-36, Psalm 110

Lord of Life, fill me with the joy of the hope of everlasting life. Amen.

May 21—1 Corinthians 1:18-25, Psalm 96

Jesus, let Your cross be my only defense. Amen.

May 22—John 8:48-59, Psalm 68

Heavenly Father, Savior Jesus, loving Spirit, Your love for me makes no sense. Thank You for loving me anyway. Amen.

May 23—Jeremiah 31:1-14, 33-35, Psalm 8

Mighty God, fill me with awe and wonder of Your love. Amen.

May 24—Philemon 1-25, Psalm 71

Father, teach me to love with all my heart. Amen.

May 25—1 Samuel 3, Psalm 32

Father in heaven, Your love for me is astounding. Teach me to show mercy instead of anger to those around me. Amen.

May 26—1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43, Psalm 111

Majestic God, may the joy of Your love overflow from my heart today. Amen.

May 27—John 14:1-4, Psalm 103

Dear heavenly Father, help me to remember that there is room in Your house for my neighbor too. Amen

May 28—Colossians 3:1-17, Psalm 96

Heavenly Father, help me to slow down and savor Your Word today. Amen

May 29—Galatians 1:1-12, Psalm 86

Lord Jesus, You won for me the approval of my heavenly Father. Guard me from pride and grant me a humble spirit. Amen.

May 30—John 15:1-17, Psalm 116

Loving Lord, fill me with Your great love, that I may lay down my life for others. Amen.

May 31—Lamentations 3:16-41, Psalm 27

Father, teach me to wait quietly for Your salvation and to trust in You alone. Amen.

***YOUR PLEDGE FOR
ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ALTOONA, PA***

- I will talk positively about my church.
- I will invite others to come and share in our ministry.
- I will attend services regularly.
- I will share that God lives through us - - - and smile regularly.
- I will give thanks to God every day for the blessings of my church family.



Announcements and Upcoming Events

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.



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.

Our goal is to start this coming fall.

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

The Story League, Here is our upcoming schedule
May 7, 2016 2PM-4PM

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.
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.******

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS:

ALLEGHENY SYNOD MEETING	APRIL 30TH 9-3
ALLEGHENY CHORALE	MAY 1ST 3PM
RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS	MAY 8TH
COUNCIL MEETING	MAY 10TH 6PM
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	MAY 15TH
SYNOD ASSEMBLY CAUCUS	MAY 17TH 7PM
POTLUCK DINNER	MAY 22ND
SYNOD ASSEMBLY CONVENTION	JUNE 3RD-4TH
CHURCH PICNIC	JUNE 12TH
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	JUNE 15TH

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.



June 12, 2016
Highland Park, Pavilion #1

11:00 AM Communion Worship Service

12:00 PM Meal

Name: _____

Plan to attend # _____

Plan to bring # _____

I can help. Sign me up to do:

Shopping _____

Set up the day of the picnic _____

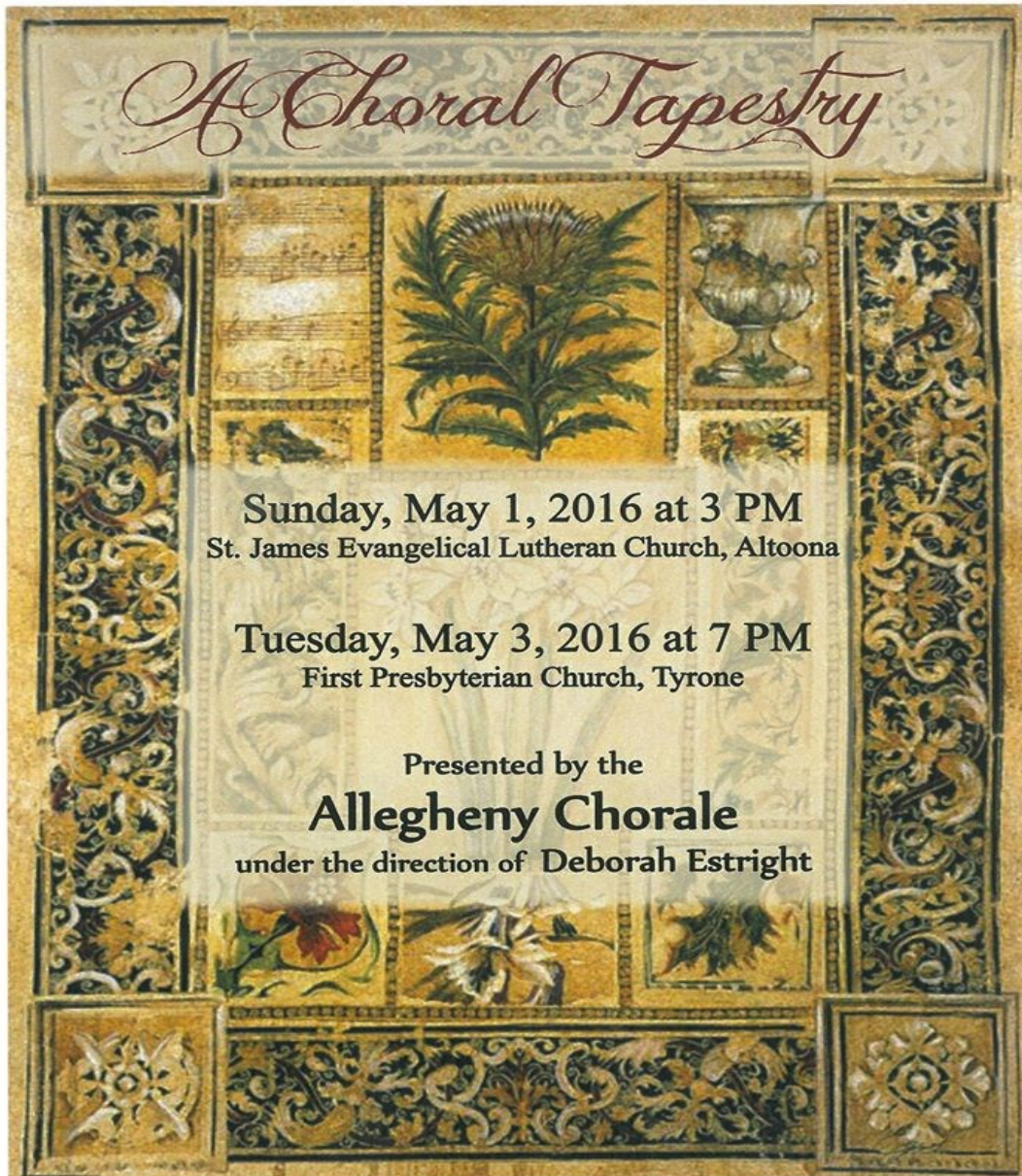
Transporting Supplies _____

Plan bingo games _____

Cooking/Grilling _____

Clean Up _____

For details on any of these jobs,
please contact the church office.



Free to the Public

Cookies are needed for this event. Please sign up to donate a dozen of your favorite type of cookies.

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
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—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

Worship & Music

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

By-Laws

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

Christian Education/
Social Ministry

Janet Kauffman

Maizie Emswiler
*Carolyn Feather
*Evelyn Holsinger
*Sylvia Malsatzki
*Shirley Manbeck
*David Manbeck
*Debra Morgan

Stewardship/Evangelism

***Donna Wilt**
*Dana Detwiler
Janet Kauffman
*Louisa Marshall

Finance

***Mark Hoover**
*Betty Boslet
John Wiederkehr
*Donna Wilt
Ralph Grove

Property

Bob Holsinger
*Shirley Manbeck
*David Manbeck
Earl Walters

* Denotes Council Member
A.L.S.M. Rep—?