



Kirchenblatt May 2018

(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@GMAIL.COM

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 May 2018



KIRCHENBLATT



During this Easter season something has been sticking with me from the home devotional readings that we used this past Holy Week. The most striking thing to me was hearing those words of Jesus from the cross ...“Father into your hands I commit my spirit.” (*Luke 23:46*)

“Into Your hands...” Oh that we could have the unswerving confidence, trust, and faith of Jesus! For he knew—he FULLY knew all along that he was, is, and ever shall be in his Father’s hands. Well, of course he did...He is God after all!

Yet, we too can have this confidence. Look at some of the Bible passages from the Hebrew scripture that Jesus would have studied as a Hebrew boy in school:

Psalms 139:

¹ You have searched me, LORD, and you know me... ⁷...Where can I flee from your presence? ...⁸If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. ⁹ If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, ¹⁰ even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast... ¹³ For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb... ¹⁸ ... when I awake, I am still with you.

Isaiah 49:

[The Lord God says,] “See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands.”

PASTOR'S LETTER FOR May 2018



KIRCHENBLATT



Psalm 31:

⁵ Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God....¹⁵ My times are in your hands...

Like Jesus, we are all God's creation. We have been in God's creative hands from the moment we came into being. We are in *good* hands, hands whose work we have experienced for as long as we can remember, and even before. We are not the products of some anonymous production line!—Rather, we are “hand-crafted” —Formed by the very hands of God our creator whose spirit breathed into us the breath of life and whose spirit continues to sustain us and give us life with each breath we take.

Jesus said, “Into your hands” and then he breathed his last breathe here on earth...We too *KNOW* those hands...those hands that have a firm grip on us and will never let us go.

You know, these final words of Jesus from the cross can remind us, perhaps, of the prayer we may have learned in our childhood: “Now I lay me down to sleep...If I should die before I wake...” ...Wow, Jesus was actually doing this, wasn't He! This was His final going –to-sleep prayer, and he prayed it with childlike confidence for he knew He was in good hands.

And so are we! May the continuing Easter season remind us that we can face with confidence whatever struggles and trials come our way, and even death itself, like Jesus. For we also know that we are *forever*...in good hands. By the work of the Father's hands, Christ is Risen! This too, is our hope and confidence. Happy remainder of the Easter Season!

—*Pastor Carol*

Contribution & Attendance Summary**February 2017**

Contributions \$1,694

Average Weekly Attendance: 28

February 2018

Contributions \$1,210

Average Weekly Attendance: 26

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY**February 1, 2018 - February, 2018****INCOME**

Bank Interest	\$0.04
Contributions	
General	\$1,160.00
Designated	\$50.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$17,797.00
	<hr/>
	\$19,007.04

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$1,487.06
Worship & Music	\$484.08
Office	\$1,454.50
Custodial & Property	\$12,152.90
Uncategorized	\$2,195.35
	<hr/>
	\$17,773.89

May Flower Chart and Bulletin's**Altar:**

6
13
20
27

Bulletins:

6
13
20
27

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

May Birthdays

Anne Butler	5/21
Donna Foster	5/22
Michael Savino Jr	5/29
Phyllis Spinazzola	5/4
Donna Wilt	5/24
Ethan Wilt	5/1



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:

Tim Surkovich Carolyn Feather

(Names for inclusion on our parish prayer list can be submitted to the church office. The name will remain on the list for one month. At the end of that period please advise the church office, if you would like the name to be continue for another month.)



Those serving in our military

Graystone Manor//Bellmeade

Robert Civils

Presbyterian Village in Holidaysburg:

Charlie Green

Patti Green

Allegheny Lutheran Home:

Janet Kauffman

In their own homes:

Deborah Manbeck

Glenn Dell

Marlene Leonard

John Wiederkehr

Remember In Your Prayers

From the Office of the Bishop....

Pastor Wilbert Boerstler joined the Saints of Heaven Wednesday evening, April 18, 2018, at Conemaugh Hospital after a brief illness.

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@gmail.com

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



WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA MINUTES

April 14, 2018

Peggy Thatcher called the meeting to order. She had a video on her phone of a handicapped little girl named Grace Anna, singing and talking about a Message of Love. She sang "You Are So Beautiful". Minutes from last month's meeting were read by Donna Wilt. Minutes were approved as read. Treasurer report was given by Shirley Manbeck. Shirley was given the past months statement from the bank. Our balance as of date is \$168.76. The statements for each month will be given to Shirley at our monthly meetings.

Pastor Carol was going over the service for the WELCA Sunday being held on April 22th. The service will be led by the ladies of the WELCA and the church. They will be listed in the bulletins on that Sunday. Pastor Carol will make sure everyone is contacted for their part in the service. Pastor Carol and Pat McConnell will go over the music. Donna Wilt will contact Tim in regards to the symbol to be printed on the back of the bulletins. Also, we were given envelopes for WELCA St. James donations and we are going to have Tim insert them in our bulletins that Sunday. Donna will see he gets the envelopes.

Donna Wilt gave a report on the Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization Thirtieth Annual Convention held at the Grace Lutheran Church in State College. We now have a full board of nine members. Peggy Thatcher is the vice president and Donna Wilt is the treasurer, Carol McClure is the president and Fay Dellinger is the secretary. It was a full day with two workshops, one on "Remembering Your Story with Lois Lynn, and one on "# Me Too Movement and Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment with Jen Pencek. Luncheon was held at noon. It was an enjoyable day for all.

Sylvia and Donna Foster stopped and had lunch at Charlotte's Trove located at 819 E. Main Street, Roaring Spring to check things out. The reserved party area is quaint and it has a small variety of items to choose from. Each item is unique. This place has a lot of history. Peggy is checking to see if they have any brochures on the place. We decided to have our June Luncheon there on June 9, 2018. We will meet at the church to see if anyone would like to carpool to Roaring Spring. Everyone is invited. Peggy will bring the dessert. The meal cost is covered, but we ask you please to bring a bathing suit for either a girl or boy under the age of 5 years old OR a beach towel. The items will be given to an organization (yet to be decided) by the members.

Our next meeting is May 12th. Donna W. will be absent. We do not have any meetings in July or August.

Peggy mentioned that if anyone would like to be president of WELCA, she would willingly step aside. She said think about it and let the others know as well.

Peggy closed the meeting with The Knot Prayer.

Recording secretary,

Donna Wilt



WELCA'S SPRING LUNCHEON

Saturday, June 9, 2018

Charlotte's Trove

819 E. Main Street

Roaring Spring, PA

WE WILL MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 11:15 (carpooling if necessary to arrive around 12:00pm).

IF YOU ARE NOT CARPOOLING , DRIVE DIRECTLY TO CHARLOTTE'S TROVE AT 12:00pm.

The cost of the meal is covered, but we ask you to please bring a bathing suit OR a beach towel for a boy or girl under 5 years old.

PLEASE RSVP BEFORE MAY 31st and let us know if you want to carpool or drive.

PEGGY THATCHER @ 943-4749

DONNA WILT @ 942-0379



***Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization Thirtieth
Annual Convention.
Held at the Grace Lutheran Church in State College.***

The picture includes the officers and the board members. President is Carol McClure and Secretary is Fay Dellinger. Peggy Thatcher is the Vice President and Donna Wilt is the treasurer. Approximately 40-50 attended the convention. We now have a full board of nine members!

Allegheny Chorale
presents

*Lift Every Voice
and Sing*

Sunday, April 29 at 3PM
*St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Altoona*

Tuesday, May 1 at 7PM
First Presbyterian Church, Tyrone

Deborah Estright, Director

Free to the Public



May 1—Philippians 4:4-7, Psalm 98

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the Good Shepard who rejoices over us, Your found sheep. Give us joy in knowing You. Amen

May 2—Revelation 4, Psalm 99

Thank You for the privilege of worshipping You, Lord. Keep us in the faith until the day that we see You face-to face. Amen

May 3—Hebrews 2:10-18, Psalm 46

“O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Be Thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home” (LSB 733:6). Amen

May 4—1 Peter 2:9-12, Psalm 96

Dear Jesus, thank You for redeeming us from sin, death, and the devil. Help us to see how You work through Your people for Your glory. Amen

May 5—Ephesians 2:1-10, Psalm 92

Dear Lord, thank You for giving us all good things. Most of all, we give You thanks for the gift of faith in Christ. Amen

May 6—Ephesians 6:10-18, Psalm 93

“God of grace and God of glory, On Your people pour Your pow’r; Crown Your ancient Church’s story; Bring its bud to glorious flow’r. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage For the facing of this hour, For the facing of this hour” (LSB 850:1). Amen

May 7—Ephesians 4:11-16, Psalm 97

Dear Lord, thank You for the gift of pastors to equip us. Help us to support and encourage our pastors in their work. Amen

May 8—1 Peter 1:3-9, Psalm 66

Dearest Lord Jesus, we thank You that Your faithful actions and promises sustain our faith in the face of trials. Give us faith to always trust in You. Amen

May 9—1 Peter 5:6-11, Psalm 94:12-20

Dear Jesus, thank You that You care for me. Today, these are the things that are causing me stress:_____. Please take care of my needs and help me to trust that You are doing so. Amen

May 10—Acts 1:6-11, Psalm 68:1-20

Dear Jesus, on the day of Your ascension, You returned to the right hand of Your Father to reign over us. We pray that we and all people would believe Your Holy Word, that Your kingdom may come among us. Amen

May 11—Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 50

Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner. Amen

May 12—Isaiah 53:1-12, Psalm 23

Dear Jesus, thank You for bearing our griefs and all the pains of this broken world. Give us faith to trust in You when we face inexplicable grief, and help us to comfort our neighbor with Your peace. Amen

May 13—Philippians 4:11-13, Psalm 136

Lord Jesus, we thank You for our mothers. We thank You that Mary was Your mother so that You could come into the world to bear our sin and be our Savior. Help us to give thanks in all circumstances. Amen

May 14—Philippians 2:12-18, Psalm 27

Dear Jesus, You are the light of the world. Be a light to our path. Help us to shine like stars with the light that You give us. Amen

May 15—Philippians 3:1-11, Psalm 116

Lord, thank You for the gifts of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. We can do nothing good in ourselves, so thank You for working through us for the good of others. Help us to live a sanctified life that brings glory to You. Amen

May 16—Isaiah 6:1-7, Psalm 118

Dear Jesus, thank You for wiping away our sin. Thank You for freeing us from our guilt. We hail You as our King! Amen

May 17—Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 57

We thank Thee that Thy Church, unsleeping While earth rolls onward into light, Through all the world her watch is keeping, and never rests by day or night. Amen

May 18—Genesis 50:15-21, Psalm 138

Dear Jesus, thank You for illustrating for us in Holy Scripture that You bring good out of evil. When facing trials, help us to trust that You will fulfill Your purpose. Amen

May 19—Philippians 2:1-10, Psalm 124

“O Trinity of love and pow’r. Our people shield in dangers hour; From rock and tempest, fire and foe, Protect them wheresoe’er they go; Thus evermore shall rise to Thee. Glad praise from air and land and sea” (LSB 717:4). Amen

May 20—Acts 2:1-13, Psalm 103

Dear Holy Spirit, as You enabled the disciples to proclaim the Word the people needed to hear on Pentecost, help us, too, to speak Your Word so that those around us can hear and believe. Amen

May 21—Romans 13:1-7, Psalm 5

Dear Father, thank You for providing government to bring order in our land. Thank You for the gifts of good government and redemption. Amen

May 22—Romans 6:1-11, Psalm 74

Dear Jesus, thank You for the gift of my Baptism, where You made me Yours. Help me to bring all my struggles to You. Amen

May 23—Ephesians 5:17-21, Psalm 89:1-18

Dear Lord, help me to sing a new song to You always. Thank You for the good gift of music. Help me to use it for good. Amen

May 24—Isaiah 26:1-9, Psalm 9:9-20

Lord, give us faith to trust in You always. Amen

May 25—1 John 1:5-10, Psalm 51

Lord, have mercy on me. I have sinned by _____. Thank You for Your forgiveness won for me on the cross. Amen

May 26—Genesis 2:5-25, Psalm 104:1-30

God the Father, thank You for creating and sustaining our lives. Jesus, thank You for redeeming us and making us into a new creation. Holy Spirit, sustain our faith until life everlasting. Amen

May 27—Matthew 28:16-20, Psalm 117

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we praise You that You are three in one and that You have marked us with Your triune name in our Baptism. Amen

May 28—Romans 5:6-11, Psalm 84

Thank You, Jesus, for all those who have given their lives to protect our earthly freedom. We thank You even more that You died to give us freedom from the devil, the world, and our sinful self. Amen

May 29—2 Corinthians 1:3-7, Psalm 102

Lord, please comfort all those who are living in distress. Equip those around them to reach out with Your love. Amen

May 30—John 15:1-9, Psalm 1

Dear Jesus, thank You for always abiding with me. Please keep me connected to You and growing in faith. Amen

May 31—Luke 1:39-45, Psalm 62

Dear Jesus, thank You for entering our world at just the right time. Help us to trust that You will also end our waiting at just the right time. Amen

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@gmail.com 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 THE JUNE ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,
TUESDAY, MAY 15.***

Announcements and Upcoming Events

ALLEGHENY CHORALE CONCERT	APR 29 3PM
CHOIR PRACTICE	MAY 3 7PM
SWEETS AND TREATS	MAY 6 10AM
COUNCIL MEETING	MAY 8 6PM
CHOIR PRACTICE	MAY 10 7PM
WELCA MEETING	MAY 12 10AM
CHOIR PRACTICE	MAY 17 7PM
POTLUCK DINNER	MAY 20
CHOIR PRACTICE	MAY 24 7PM
CHOIR PRACTICE	MAY 31 7PM
SWEETS AND TREATS	JUN 3 10AM
WELCA SPRING LUNCHEON	JUN 9 12PM
CHURCH PICNIC	JUN 24
BETHANY TRIP TO SIGHT AND SOUND TO SEE THE PRODUCTION OF JESUS	AUG 25

**SWEETS AND TREATS
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH.**

**The next Sweets and Treats is
May 6, 2018.
Sponsored by Dana and Dave
Detwiler**





Sight and Sound Trip 2018....JESUS

Last May, Bethany Lutheran took a trip to Sight and Sound Theater to see the production of Jonah and everyone had a wonderful experience. It was such a great experience, we decided to go to Sight and Sound, in Lancaster, PA, again!! **For the 2018 season, Sight and Sound will be unveiling a BRAND NEW show entitled JESUS. We are planning to take a trip to see the production of Jesus on Saturday, August 25th for a 11am show with lunch to follow. Cost for your bus ride, the show, and lunch at Hershey Farms will be \$145 per person and children cost \$99.** We will be having a sign up sheet by the Church Office soon. Hurry and sign up before you lose your chance for what will be a wonderful experience. ****For those signing up, we ask for a \$25 deposit to reserve you space. We also ask for you to have your full payment (\$145) to be paid by August 10th.****

NAME(S) _____

BEST WAY TO CONTACT (phone/address/email)

If you have any questions, please contact Bethany Lutheran's church office 814-944-7560.



Thank you

Thank you to Sylvia Malsatzki for decorating our tables for our Potluck Dinners and adding special treats for us all.

Thank you to the ladies, Betty Boslet, Evelyn Holsinger, Peggy Thatcher and Donna Wilt for making the soups for the Lenten Services and helping to serve at the luncheons.

God Bless!



**ALLEGHENY SYNOD YEAR OF PRAYER 2018
MAY**

SEMINARIANS

"I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all."—Ephesians 4:1-6

We pray for those who are in the Candidacy process both here in this Synod and throughout this Church. We pray for wisdom in discernment for seminarians as they consider calls, prepare for internship, complete classes, and balance their lives with family.

We pray for those who are discerning a call to rostered ministry that they may know the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

Is the Holy Spirit calling you to consider
rostered ministry?



June 24, 2018
Highland Park, Pavilion #1

11:00 AM Communion Worship Service

12:00 PM Meal

Rokhandy

Pat McConnell's band will play following the meal.

SIGN UP SHEET

**** Paper Plates, and Utensils will be provided****
****Iced Tea, Lemon Aid, and Water will be provided****
****Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Rolls will be provided****

Name: _____

Plan to attend # _____ Plan to bring # _____

Name: _____

Plan to attend # _____ Plan to bring # _____

Name: _____

Plan to attend # _____ Plan to bring # _____

Name: _____

Plan to attend # _____ Plan to bring # _____

Name: _____

Plan to attend # _____ Plan to bring # _____

Name: _____

Plan to attend # _____ Plan to bring # _____

Church Council Members

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

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

*Pastors— Revs. Scott & Carol Custead, Intentional
Interim 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

***Evelyn Holsinger**

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

Finance

***Mark Hoover**

*Betty Boslet
*Donna Wilt
*Bill Wilt
Ralph Grove

Property

Bob Holsinger

Bill Dambeck
*Evelyn Holsinger
*Shirley Manbeck
*Bill Wilt
Earl Walters
Mike Savino

Stewardship/Evangelism

***Donna Wilt**

*Dana Detwiler
*Carolyn Feather
Janet Kauffman

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