

# Kirchenblatt September 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](mailto:scustead@atlanticbb.net) or [ccustead@atlanticbb.net](mailto: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 September 2018



KIRCHENBLATT



It was 41 years ago, in September of 1977, that I moved from Minnesota to Berkeley, California to begin seminary at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. I had chosen that seminary in California for several reasons—reasons that outweighed the one fear I had about moving there...I was afraid that there might be a bad earthquake! I was recalling all this lately. And I was also remembering that in September of 2011, when we were living in the Johnstown area, there was a magnitude 5.8 earthquake that rattled the East Coast!

*“Did you feel the quake?”* That was the question of the day on the day after that small earthquake hit. I did not feel it. Apparently I was out in the hallway of Mt. Calvary with our administrative assistant talking about the new Sunday School curriculum. But secretary felt it—she was sitting at her desk in the office. And Pastor Scott felt it. He was making a visit on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of hospital in Johnstown. He called me shortly after from his cell to say that he had felt an earthquake right there in Johnstown!

Of course, Pastor Scott knows all too well what earthquakes are about, having grown up in L.A. He lived through two really bad ones when he was growing up there. He can tell you about the morning in 1971 that his mother, sister and he ducked under the kitchen counter and watched the gas stove bounce around. Later they were evacuated because the dam above the valley was weakened and might break. He has a typical Californian instinct to take cover the moment he feels the floor shake—although here, it is usually only a heavy truck driving by.

As he was reading the headlines in the Johnstown Tribune the morning after the quake in 2011, he joked, “People in the East have ‘earthquake envy’. A little moderate shaker and they all want earthquake survivor badges!” He said this with a wry smile. But then I have to admit, I do have “earthquake envy”. Now don’t get me wrong—I only want to feel a *little* shake...none of the 7.8 or 9.2 ones for me.

## PASTOR'S LETTER FOR September 2018



KIRCHENBLATT



But you would think that after having lived in the San Francisco Bay area for three years while in seminary, I would have felt at least one *small* earthquake! After all, we were told that Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary was built right on top of a large fault line. But, woe is me, I never felt one. Oh, why couldn't it have been me who made the hospital visits that day in Johnstown?

But seriously, I do know that earthquakes can be very frightening, and harmful. Scott's father described the one that hit in 1994 as he was walking down the hall one morning in their L.A. home. They were very near the epicenter, and the wave hit their house right at the peak. He said that the floor beneath him suddenly raised a couple of feet and then dropped again. Sadly, as a result of that trauma, he suffered a heart attack hours later—one that damaged his heart permanently and changed the way he needed to live until he died a few years later.

I cannot imagine what it must be like to feel the earth move under your feet. I would think that it would be very disturbing. I have seen tornadoes where I grew up, and here in the East we have experienced the remains of hurricanes blowing through, and although that is scary, at least those are predicted and you can be prepared. But earthquakes are unpredictable. And the one thing we like to assume to be true is the certainly that the earth is solid beneath us...until we feel the shake of a quake like that one in 2011.

The truth is, "God is our *[only]* refuge and strength...a very present help in times of trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though...the mountains tremble with its tumult...The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge." [Psalm 46] Of this we can be certain! May we all grow together in this firm faith and assurance. See you in church!

--*Pastor Carol*

**Contribution & Attendance Summary**

**June 2017**

Contributions \$1,488.90

Average Weekly Attendance: 21

**June 2018**

Contributions \$2,142.00

Average Weekly Attendance: 20

**INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY**

**June 1, 2018 - June 30, 2018**

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**INCOME**

Bank Interest	\$.11
Contributions	
General	\$2,132.00
Designated	\$10.00
Special	\$
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$6,142.11

**EXPENSES**

Pastoral Administration	\$1,736.42
Worship & Music	\$248.04
Office	\$1,190.00
Custodial & Property	\$749.61
Uncategorized	\$.27.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,398.65

**September Flower Chart  
and Bulletin's**

**Altar:**

- 2
- 9
- 16
- 23
- 30

**Bulletins:**

- 2
- 9
- 16
- 23
- 30

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

**September Birthdays**

Robert Boston	9/16
William Dambeck	9/9
Adam Fanelli	9/22
Robert Holsinger	9/5
Brad Stehle	9/18
Kim Vandevander	9/21
Lynn Vandevander	9/25
William Wilt	9/15

*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                      Joe Yanke  
Dolores Foster



(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....*

No report.

#### **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 knows of someone needing prayers, contact the church office.



## Attention Married Couples:

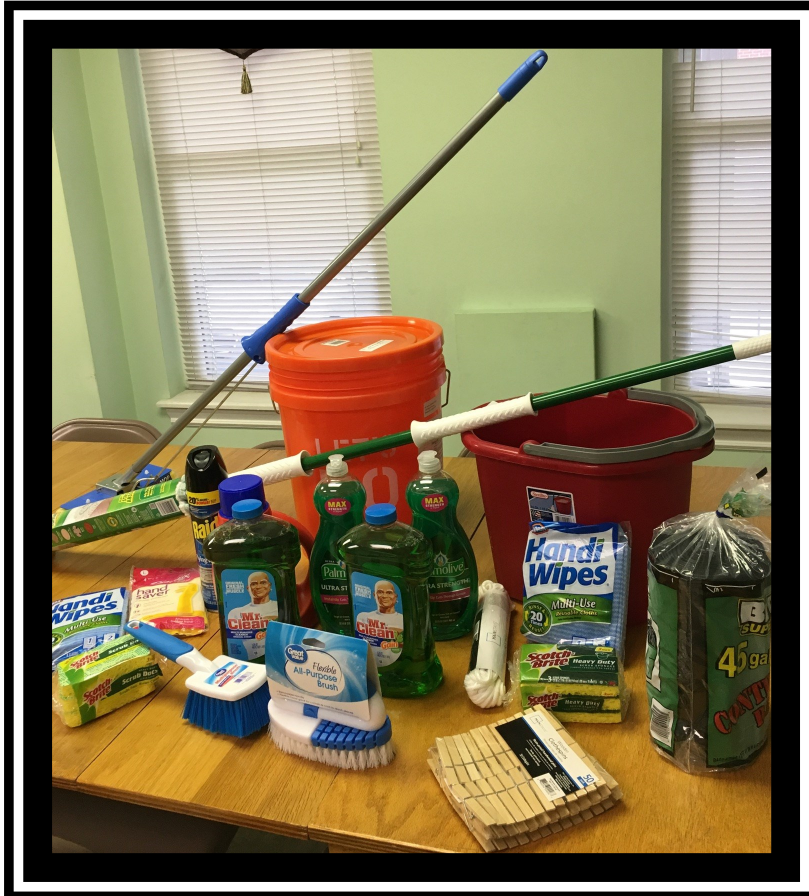
Don't pass up your chance to attend a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend this fall at the beautiful, hotel-style Olmsted Retreat Center in the Allegheny National Forest, 2 hours north of Pittsburgh.

The dates are: October 19-21, 2018.

Plan to attend the number-one-rated marriage enrichment program presented by Lutheran Marriage Encounter! But hurry, register NOW to reserve your spot and avoid being on a waiting list.

If the October Weekend doesn't work for you, please consider road-tripping to the Poconos for the September 14-16 Weekend at Spruce Lake Retreat in Canadensis, PA; or registering for the November 9-11 Weekend at Hampton Inn Berkshires in Lenox Massachusetts.

Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included with your \$100 per couple 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 to help cover expenses and towards the continuation of the program. Simply go to: [GodLovesMarriage.org](http://GodLovesMarriage.org) and pay the \$100/couple registration fee with your credit card, or mark the option to mail a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net).

 Flood  
Buckets

Each congregation in our synod was asked by the Global Ministries Team to prepare a "Flood Bucket". This bucket contains cleaning items needed by those who suffer flooding. The buckets are housed at strategic locations throughout the synod, so that they are quickly available in the time of need. The Wilts agreed to gather the items for the St. James bucket. Your generous donations enabled St. James to donate what is pictured above. Thank you to all that donated and the Wilt's for purchasing everything!

Sep 1—Ephesians 4:25-32, Psalm 130

Lord Jesus, lead us to forgive as we have been forgiven. Amen

Sep 2—Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 67

Jesus, mighty Savior, we long to see You face to face. Amen

Sep 3—Hebrews 4:1-10, Psalm 104:19-35

Lord, bless each Sabbath rest until we rise to live in Your presence. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen

Sep 4—Matthew 6:24-34, Psalm 103

Heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for the precious gift of Your Son. Amen

Sep 5—Daniel 7:9-14, Psalm 104:1-13

God our Creator, thank You for the clouds that remind us of our Lord's return.  
Amen

Sep 6—Revelation 1:1-8, Psalm 36

Holy Spirit, keep us in the one true faith. Amen

Sep 7—John 16:5-15, Psalm 25

Heavenly Father, we praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior. Amen

Sep 8—Acts 4:13-22, Psalm 126

Risen Lord, make us bold witnesses for You. Amen

Sep 9—Luke 7:1-10, Psalm 39

Lord, thank You for Your saving Word. Amen

Sep 10—Revelation 21:1-14, Psalm 19

Lord Jesus, we long for the day of Your return, the day when all things are made new. Amen

Sep 11—1 Peter 2:21-25, Psalm 22:1-11

Lord Jesus, thank You for saving us. Guard and guide all those whose task it is to save others. Amen

Sep 12—John 2:24-25, Psalm 139:15-24

God and Savior, we pray that Your love will flow through us into the lives of others. Amen

Sep 13—Galatians 5:1-6, Psalm 40

Lord Jesus, help us by Your Spirit to live in love and service toward others. Amen



Sep 14—1 Corinthians 1:18-25, Psalm 116

Lord, we praise You for the saving message of the cross, the good news of our salvation. Amen

Sep 15—1 Corinthians 15:3-8, Psalm 119:169-176

Lord and God, lead us to rejoice daily in the study of Your Holy Word. Amen

Sep 16—Daniel 6, Psalm 30

Crucified and living Lord, comfort me with the hope of eternal life. Amen

Sep 17—Deuteronomy 8:1-10, Psalm 145

Lord Jesus, Bread of Life, feed me with Your nourishing Word. Amen

Sep 18—John 3:14-17, Psalm 136:1-9

Merciful Lord, by Your Spirit, empower us for a life of witness and service in Your name. Amen

Sep 19—Matthew 6:5-8, Psalm 4

Heavenly Father, hear and accept my petitions and praise in Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 20—2 Kings 5:1-14, Psalm 16:7-11

God and Savior, continue to work in my life in unexpected ways. Amen

Sep 21—Luke 15:1-7, Psalm 28

Savior and Shepherd, You sought and found me. Keep me in Your loving care.  
Amen

Sep 22—2 Corinthians 5:1-5, Psalm 84:10-12

Lord Jesus, I look forward to living in Your presence forever. Amen

Sep 23—Acts 2:22-24, Psalm 37:1-24

Heavenly Father, may Your will be done among us always. Amen

Sep 24—Luke 10:1-21, Psalm 17

Lamb of God, I rejoice to know that my name is recorded in Your Book of Life.  
Amen

Sep 25—1 Peter 2:9-12, Psalm 139:1-14

Heavenly Father, thank You for choosing me in Christ to be Your child. Amen

Sep 26—2 Corinthians 4:1-6, Psalm 71:9-24

Lord Jesus, we pray that through our witness You will seek and save the lost.  
Amen

Sep 27—John 10:14-18, Psalm 95

Jesus, Good Shepherd, hold me tightly in Your hand. Amen

Sep 28—Romans 3:21-26, Psalm 62  
Jesus, You are enough for me. Amen

Sep 29—Hebrews 1, Psalm 148  
Heavenly Father, send Your holy angels to watch over us. Amen

Sep 30—1 Kings 17:17-24, Psalm 100  
Jesus, I look forward to life in Your presence forever. Amen



# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

# **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](mailto:scustead@atlanticbb.net) or [ccustead@atlanticbb.net](mailto:ccustead@atlanticbb.net)  
The church office email is [stjamesaltoona@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesaltoona@gmail.com) The church's website is [www.stjamesaltoona.org](http://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 OCTOBER ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.***

## **Announcements and Upcoming Events**

**LUTHERAN FALL FESTIVAL  
SEPTEMBER 22ND**

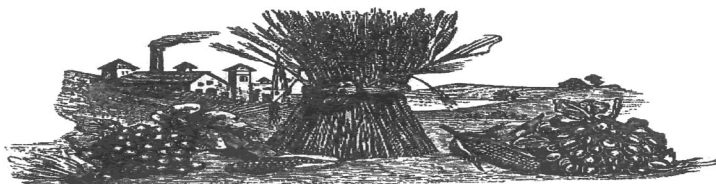
**COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 11TH 6PM**

**POTLUCK DINNER  
SEPTEMBER 23RD**

**CHOIR REHEARSAL STARTS  
SEPTEMBER 5TH 7PM**

**SWEETS AND TREATS  
WILL RESUME  
OCTOBER 7TH**





# Lutheran Fall Festival

Saturday, September 22, 2018

Legion Park, Hollidaysburg

**Vendors, Food, Music**

Festival Hours: 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Candlelight Worship at 6:30 p.m.

**The Festival is FREE**  
**Dinner Tickets are \$10**  
*Dinner provided by Holland Bros.*

**Use the Order Form Below to Order Tickets**

***ALL ARE WELCOME!***

**Allegheny Synod  
Lutheran Fall Festival  
Meal Order Form**

Saturday, September 22. Legion Park, Hollidaysburg

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment *must* be included with order.**  
***Make checks payable to Allegheny Synod***  
***with "Festival" in the memo line***

Mail order form with payment to:  
Allegheny Synod  
701 Quail Ave., Altoona, PA 16602

***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  
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*

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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  
Edith Trinks

Christian Education/

Social Ministry

**\*Evelyn Holsinger**  
\*Carolyn Feather  
\*Sylvia Malsatzki  
\*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

\* Denotes Council Member