



Kirchenblatt January 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 January 2018



KIRCHENBLATT



Happy New Year! But what's *new* about it? Perhaps we feel that changing the number of the year when we write the date is the only thing new. Perhaps newness doesn't excite us much anymore.

When the newspapers hit the streets on V.E. Day or V.J. Day, they were probably snatched up very quickly and read with great enthusiasm and excitement! There was elation and celebration over the *new* news of victory. But now we yawn as we pass by an old brown copy of that same newspaper displayed in a museum somewhere. It's old news. We've heard it all before. It's no big deal anymore.

Does the good news of our faith ever get like that? A *new* year ought to excite us as it is a *new* chance to proclaim the good news of our faith. But sometimes our response to the Good News of the victory won for us through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is as if this good news were in some old browning newspaper tucked away in a museum somewhere.

PASTOR'S LETTER FOR January 2018



"Sing to the Lord a *new* song!", the psalmist writes (Psalm 98). So what does that word *new* mean to you? Soon the new 2018 pennies will be out. We'll notice them because they will be bright and shiny compared to the other old worn ones. Qualities of newness are brightness, freshness, crispness. And add excitement, enthusiasm, and joy. They are the kind of qualities Jesus is talking about when he says, "...that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be full." (John 15: 11)

The good news of the New Testament is *new* news for us every year and every day! The New Testament is full of a proclamation of newness. "This cup is the *new* covenant shed for you for the forgiveness of sin." And there is a *new* commandment of love, *new* life in Christ, *new* hope in a *new* heaven and a *new* earth that God is going to bring about. St. Paul proclaims, "If anyone is in Christ he is a *new* creation; the old has passed away; the *new* has come." Daily we can *renew* our relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Daily we may wake and say "Walk with me today, Jesus." For St. Paul also writes, "As Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too may walk in *newness* of life." Now that is something to get excited about! So let's sing to the Lord a *new* song in this *new* year! ***Happy New Year!***

--*Pastor Carol*

Contribution & Attendance Summary

October 2016

Contributions \$3,105
Average Weekly Attendance: 26

October 2017

Contributions \$1,929.00
Average Weekly Attendance: 26

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

October 1, 2017 - October 31, 2017

INCOME

\$.04

Bank Interest

Contributions

General \$1,829.00

Designated \$100.00

Special \$016.49

Other Income \$3,050.00

\$4,995.53

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration \$3,350.12

Worship & Music \$745.74

Office \$1,503.58

Custodial & Property \$922.64

Uncategorized \$1,756.23

\$8,278.31

**January Flower Chart
and Bulletin's**

Altar:

- 7
- 14
- 21
- 28

Bulletins:

- 7
- 14
- 21
- 28

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

January Birthdays

 Edna Emswiler	1/11
 Carolyn Feather	1/5
 Cathy Good	1/1
 Delores Hoover	1/29
 Ariel Manbeck	1/24
 Sienna Mayo	1/7
 Alysia Tyler	1/18
 Elliott Wilt	1/20

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

(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

Garvey Manor
Phyllis Spinazzola

Presbyterian Village in Hollidaysburg:
Charlie Green
Patti Green

In their own homes:

Deborah Manbeck
Glenn Dell
Marlene Leonard
John Wiederkehr
Janet Kauffman

Remember In Your Prayers

From the Office of the Bishop....

Please keep *Allegheny Synod seminarian Ted Williams and his family* in your prayers. Ted's mother, Donna Williams, passed away December 2nd surrounded by family.

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.



SEQUANOTA
LUTHERAN CONFERENCE CENTER & CAMP

November 20, 2017

St. James Lutheran Church
 1407 8th Ave
 Altoona, PA 16602-2407

Dear St. James Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$300.00 to Sequanota's ministry. Your valued support sustains a ministry that has been forming faith for 70 years. It is generous advocates like you that make Sequanota's ministry possible.

In 2016 Jing and her daughter An found Sequanota through a web search. The cool part of this story is that Jing was in China. She and her daughter were coming to the United States to visit Washington, DC and New York City. Before visiting the cities Jing and An wanted to experience summer camp. They picked Sequanota for our family camp program. After their experience Jing wrote these words to us. (Seeing your names in print) *"helps me a lot to remember you. We have spent a happy time at the camp with all of you. Your kindness, your hard work, your positive attitude, your sense of humor gave us a deep impression. Staying in your camp was the most worthy part of my journey. Thank you very much!"*

Reading her words again makes me smile. Together, we helped make this experience happen. I thank you for being a donor to this unique ministry. We need you to make our ministry flourish. Sequanota is a holy space to engage God, creation and people. We provide guests an amazing place to grow in their faith. The relationships with people though is what really makes it special.

Please keep this letter for use in your 2017 IRS tax return. Thank you for your cash contribution of \$300.00 to Sequanota Lutheran Conference Center and Camp received on November 20, 2017. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

Together we are creating "deep impressions" and "most worthy" memories for our guests. The longer I serve in this position the more I realize people need a place to connect to God, creation and one another. Thank you for partnering with us to create this caring, Christian community for Jing and An and all our visitors.

God's peace,

Rev. Nathan A. Pile
 Executive Director

PO Box 245, Jennerstown, PA 15547
 (814) 629-6627





10 Biblical New Year's Resolutions

- 1** Pray Every Morning
- 2** Study a Book of the Bible
- 3** Memorize weekly Bible verse
- 4** Exercise Regularly
- 5** Eat healthier
- 6** Read a book on prayer
- 7** Save money
- 8** Do something nice for someone
- 9** Give rather than receive
- 10** Pray for wisdom



**Women of the ELCA
Christmas Luncheon Party
December 9, 2017**

WELCA's luncheon was held at the US Hotel in Hollidaysburg. Pastor Scott began our luncheon with a prayer. Our special guest was St. Nickolas of Myra who is known to be a wonder-worker. His history would influence future generations to demonstrate kindness to children. Pastor Carol played the guitar and we sang some Christmas carols.

Desserts were provided by Peggy Thatcher and Richard Steuernagle. The desserts were Cheesecake and pumkin rolls. Both were delicious.

Those in attendance were Pastors Scott and Carol, Donna Foster, her guest Jodi, Jean and Dave Bickel, Dave and Dana Detwiler, Verna Mills, Peggy Thatcher and her guest Richard Steuernagle, Donna and Bill Wilt, Betty Boslet, Sylvia Malsatzki, Evelyn Hoslinger.

We collected items for children under two years old. Peggy will see that they are donated to Family and Children Services.

A big "thank you" to Pastors Scott and Carol, Peggy Thatcher and Richard Steuernagle.

Next year we decided we will go to the Dream in Hollidaysburg for our Christmas Luncheon.



Jan 1—Galatians 3:23-29, Psalm 8

Lord, thank You for making all things new in Christ and for making me Your child and heir. Amen

Jan 2—Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 2

Lord God, heavenly Father, thank You for making me Your child; keep me in Your Son always. Amen

Jan 3—Luke 2:40-52, Psalm 119:97-104

Lord Jesus, thank You for seeking me out and showing me the Father. Amen

Jan 4—Ephesians 1:3-14, Psalm 132

Heavenly Father, thank You for making me Your adopted child. Amen

Jan 5—Isaiah 60:1-5, Psalm 87

O Jesus, light of the world, shine Your Word of truth in the darkness. Amen

Jan 6—Matthew 2:1-12, Psalm 72:1-15

Eternal Lord Jesus, thank You for the never-ending gift of life and salvation in You. Amen

Jan 7—Mark 1:4-11, Psalm 29

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Son, through whom I have made Your child. Amen

Jan 8—Romans 6:1-11, Psalm 16

Thank You, Lord, for Your victory over sin, death, and hell and for Your gift of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Amen

Jan 9—Isaiah 42:1-7, Psalm 13

Thank You, Lord, for continually sustaining me throughout each day of my life. Amen

Jan 10—Romans 12:1-5, Psalm 133

Dear Lord, You have transformed us; help us not to conform to the world. Amen

Jan 11—1 Kings 8:1-21, Psalm 11

O Christ, You have filled us with Your glory; enable us to bring glory to You. Amen

Jan 12—1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Psalm 119:129-136

Lord Jesus Christ, teach me to joyfully boast only in You. Amen

Jan 13—Romans 4, Psalm 32

Lord Jesus, thank You for fulfilling the Law and freely giving us salvation. Amen

Jan 14—John 1:43-51, Psalm 139

Holy Father, thank You for showing us salvation in Your Son. Amen

Jan 16—Amos 9:11-15, Psalm 126

Lord Jesus, keep us firmly planted in Your kingdom both now and for eternity.

Amen

Jan 17—Ephesians 5:22-33, Psalm 127

Thank You, Lord, for making us to be Your radiant and holy Bride. Amen

Jan 18—Matthew 16:13-23, Psalm 65

Lord of life, thank You for the life You have given to us in Christ. Amen

Jan 19—Romans 9:1-18, Psalm 43

Lord God, in Your mercy, You have set us free; thank You for making us dependent upon Your Son, Jesus. Amen

Jan 20—Genesis 18:1-15, Psalm 116

Lord, grant me peace and comfort as You bless me, even in seemingly impossible times. Amen

Jan 21—Jeremiah 1:4-12, Psalm 71

Lord of life, thank You for the life You have given me and for new life through Your Son. Amen

Jan 22—Jonah 3, Psalm 147

Thank You, Lord, for Your powerful Word of salvation. Amen

Jan 23—Mark 1:14-20, Psalm 62

Lord God, forgive me of my sin and keep me in Your kingdom. Amen

Jan 24—1 Timothy 6:11-16, Psalm 112

Give me strength to fight the good fight, O Lord. Amen

Jan 25—Acts 9:1-22, Psalm 27

Lord God, thank You for working through unlikely means to deliver my salvation. Amen

Jan 26—Titus 1, Psalm 3

Cleanse me of my sin, O Lord, that in You I might be pure. Amen

Jan 27—Matthew 8:1-13, Psalm 14

Thank You, Lord, for serving even unworthy sinners in Your grace. Amen

Jan 28—Mark 1:21-28, Psalm 111

Lord of all, drive sin from me and grant me Your salvation. Amen

Jan 29—Deuteronomy 18:15-22, Psalm 25

Thank You for Your faithful prophets, Lord; may I rejoice in Your Word that they proclaim. Amen

Jan 30—Jonah 1, Psalm 50

Thank You for Your faithfulness in all things, Lord. Amen

Jan 31—Matthew 8:23-27, Psalm 46

Lord Jesus, defend us from all danger and harm, even as You have rescued us from death. 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 FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT
IS, MONDAY, JANUARY 15.***

Announcements and Upcoming Events

UN-DECORATE CHURCH

JAN 6 9AM

***PIZZA WILL BE SERVED**

SWEETS AND TREATS

JAN 7 10AM

***BRING YOUR LEFT-OVER CHRISTMAS COOKIES
TO SHARE WITH THE CONGREGATION**

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

**The next Sweets and Treats is
January 7th! Bring your left-over
Christmas Cookies to share with
the congregation.**



2017 Poinsettia

Memorials and Honorariums



Dave and Jean Bickel
IN HONOR OF OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN
IN MEMORY OF BONNIE LEE EICHELBERGER

Betty Jean Boslet
IN HONOR OF JACOB AND ELIJAH SVIDERGOL
IN MEMORY OF IRVIN J BOSLET

Pastors Scott and Carol Custead
IN HONOR OF THE VOLUNTEER EFFORTS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL
MEMBERS

David and Dana Detwiler
IN HONOR VERNA MILLS, OUR CHILDREN AND
GRANDCHILDREN
IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

Donna Jean Foster
IN MEMORY OF
MARGARET AND KENNETH FOSTER SR.
KEN FOSTER JR.
JOAN AND CHARLES REDENBERGER
LOUISA MARSHALL

2017 Poinsettia

Memorials and Honorariums



William A Freeman
IN MEMORY OF CLARA AND CHARLES EBERST
MARY BURKET, CARL AND RUTH BURKET

Bob and Karen Hench
IN MEMORY OF
ROBERT AND VIVIAN HENCH
ROBERT AND BLANCHE SCHROEDER

Bob and Evelyn Holsinger
IN HONOR OF
CHILDREN AND SPOUSE
NICK AND BRANDI, KASEY, AND JR, KELLEY
GRANDKIDS BRAEDEN, ZACH, SAMANTHA, JACK AND MAX
IN MEMORY OF PATTY SHARRAR
WALTER AND MARIAN MULLER

Bob and Marian Holsinger
IN HONOR OF THE HOLSINGER FAMILY
IN MEMORY OF MARIAN, WALTER AND
BETTY MULLER

Mark Hoover
IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

2017 Poinsettia

Memorials and Honorariums

Marlene Leonard
IN HONOR OF MY SONS DAVID, BRIAN AND
WIFE TRACY
GRANDCHILDREN MATT AND TARA
IN MEMORY OF MY HUSBAND
ROBERT LEONARD

Ralph Muller
IN HONOR OF BOB AND MARIAN HOLSINGER
IN MEMORY OF BETTY MULLER AND
WALTER AND MARIAN MULLER

Donna and Bill Wilt
IN MEMORY OF OUR MOTHER AND FATHER
KENNETH AND LOUISE CIVILS
AND LOVED ONES
IN HONOR OF OUR CHILDREN
ERIC AND JULIA WILT
DANA AND TODD MAYO
IN HONOR OF OUR GRANDCHILDREN
ERIKKA, ETHAN, AND ELLIOTT WILT
HALEY, JADA, AND SIENNA MAYO

Joe Yanke
IN MEMORY OF SISTERS:
WANDA YANKE DOUGHERTY,
CLARA YANKE ESWORTHY,
MARTHA YANKE, AMELIA YANKE
BROTHERS:
JOHN ABERTA YANKE, REINHART YANKE,
EDWARD YANKE, JACOB YANKE

Church Council Members

Mark Hoover—President
Shirley Manbeck—Vice President
Dana Detwiler—Secretary
Ralph Grove—Treasurer
Betty Boslet
Carolyn Feather
Donna Foster
Evelyn Holsinger
Sylvia Malsatzki
David Manbeck
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
*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
Mike Savino

Stewardship/Evangelism

***Donna Wilt**

*Dana Detwiler
*Carolyn Feather
Janet Kauffman

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