

# Kirchenblatt February 2019

(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](mailto:STJAMESALTOONA@GMAIL.COM)**

**WEBSITE: [WWW.STJAMESALTOONA.ORG](http://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 February 2019



KIRCHENBLATT



I am writing this filled with expectation. I am beginning to get things done to prepare for our annual winter trip to northern Michigan, and I am expecting some great skiing. I am wondering what happens at a meeting of home owner's association executive committee, and I am expecting to be present for my first meeting as a member in a few hours. I have stack of tax materials on my desk next to me, and I am expecting this year to be confusing due to all the changes in the tax code.

However, the biggest bundle of expectations is about the coming a new grandchild. My daughter-in-law has begun her maternity leave and is scheduled to have labor induced on Friday morning. It is exciting and scary. Carol and I will soon be providing "day care" for baby and a toddler. I am expecting some noise, tears, messes, diapers, hugs, love, and laughs. I am expecting a need for naps, and I hope the children let me take them.

The problem with all of that expectation is that it is about what *will* be, not what *is*. It is all about the future, not the present. Scripture does proclaim God as the God of the future, but Scripture also reminds us that "*this* is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in *it*."

## PASTOR'S LETTER FOR February 2019



While it is good for us to be filled with expectation and to prepare for what it is coming, our call is to live this moment to the fullest. God gives us each day as a gift, and intends for us to treasure each day and find God's presence in it.

I am expecting some exciting stuff, but I am living in this moment writing a newsletter article. I can "get it done", or I can do it as my call of this moment. When I have finished I will move on to something else, and I have the same choice. I can "get that done," or I can do it as the call of that moment.

Imagine how exciting every moment would be, if we truly paid attention to each moment as a gift and a calling. Expectations are fine, but they are not reality. Reality is this moment and this moment alone. *This* is the day the Lord has made.

***Pastor Scott Custead***

**Contribution & Attendance Summary**

**November 2017**

Contributions \$1,793.50  
 Average Weekly Attendance: 26

**November 2018**

Contributions \$1,70.50  
 Average Weekly Attendance: 23

**INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY**

**November 1, 2018 - November 30, 2018**

**INCOME**

Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$1,659.25
Designated	\$111.25
Special	\$
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	\$5,770.50

**EXPENSES**

Pastoral Administration	\$1,900.59
Worship & Music	\$496.08
Office	\$962.99
Custodial & Property	\$1,424.90
Uncategorized	\$430.75
	\$5,215.31

**February Flower Chart  
and Bulletin's**

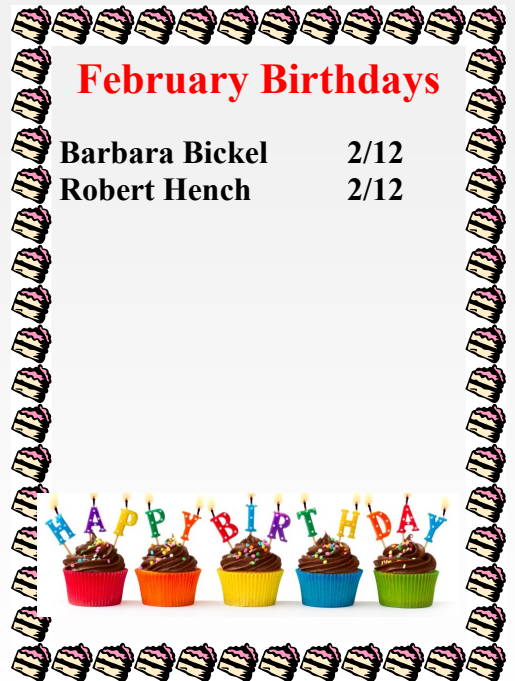
**Altar:**

3  
10  
17  
24

**Bulletins:**

3  
10  
17  
24

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



*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:**

Tim Surkovich  
Joe Yanke  
Mark Hoover  
Peggy Thatcher



(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:**

Patti Green

### **Allegheny Lutheran Home:**

Janet Kauffman

### **In their own homes:**

Deborah Manbeck  
Glenn Dell  
Marlene Leonard  
John Wiederkehr

## *From the Office of the Bishop....*

Colleagues,

I wanted to share with you that former Synod Vice President and Treasurer, Mr. Spence Garvin, has agreed to serve as acting Synod Treasurer.

We will be electing a new Treasurer at our Assembly in June.

Spence will be serving through the Synod Assembly and will help with the transition over the summer.

We are thankful for Spence's service as we continue to be thankful for the service of former Treasurer, Vickie Hravniak.

Thank you and God bless  
Bishop Rhyne

### **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.



ALSO, a letter was sent to The Altoona Story League for their generous donations.

St James WELCA and The Altoona Story League trimmed the tree located in the narthex. The items will be donated to the Toasty Toddler Program with United Way of Blair County. It was a huge success. Thanks to everyone from the congregation that helped.

### **Thank You's**

United Way of Blair County sent a note saying: Thank you so much for contributing to Toasty Toddler. Your donation helps us provide warm hats and gloves to so many wonderful children in our community. To date, 545 children received help from generous donations like yours. We appreciate your continued support and look forward to helping children for many years to come.

With much thanks,  
Denise Adams,  
Director, Family Resource  
Center at United Way of Blair  
County

## 2019 Northeast US Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends

**Special: half-price registration fee of \$50 for 2019!**

### SPRING WEEKENDS:



**April 5-7, 2019**

Country Inn & Suites—A brand known for being a warm and inviting gem in lodging. A terrific facility with a convenient, quiet location just off Hwy 99 in State College, PA.



**April 26-28, 2019**

Heritage Hotel Lancaster, Lancaster, PA  
500 Centerville Road, just off of Hwy 30.  
All newly-renovated hotel, home of the unique treehouse-inspired restaurant, "Loxley's."

### FALL WEEKENDS:



**October 11-13, 2019**

Hyatt Place Pittsburgh/Cranberry—Just off PA Turnpike I76 in Cranberry Township, PA  
Spacious modern décor guestrooms with couches and an inviting ambiance.  
A half hour north of Pittsburgh, PA.



**November 1-3, 2019**

Hampton Inn Berkshires, Lenox, MA  
A lovely award-winning Hampton hotel beautifully situated on the edge of a 100-acre nature preserve in the heart of the Berkshires. An hour from Springfield, MA.

Costs are: the price of 2 nights lodging and 5 meals (see website for each Weekend's price) plus a special half-price registration fee of \$50 for 2019 Weekends as we are celebrating 50 years of Worldwide Marriage Encounter making a positive impact on marriages & families! Your lodging and meal costs are refundable up to around a month before the Weekend, so **SIGN UP NOW** to avoid being on a waiting list. Weekends run from Friday evening at 8 PM to Sunday afternoon around 3 PM, and all faith expressions are welcome. To sign up, go to: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org), or for questions contact: Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber at: [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net) or 724-325-3166. Registrations are limited by the size of conference rooms, so sign up now for this special and beautiful Weekend designed to have you fall in love with your spouse all over again!

Feb 1—2 Timothy 4:1-18, Psalm 28

Lord, keep Your Church steadfast in the proclamation of Your truth. Amen

Feb 2—Luke 2:22-32, Psalm 75

We praise You, Jesus, for keeping the Law for us. Amen

Feb 3—Luke 4:31-44, Psalm 71:1-6

Jesus, teach me to trust Your Word. Amen

Feb 4—Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 5

Lord, kill my pride and make me alive by the two-edged sword of Your Word. Amen

Feb 5—Job 2:1-10, Psalm 31:1-2, 23-24

Jesus, thank You for being my advocate before the Father. Amen

Feb 6—John 1:35-51, Psalm 77:1-3, 7-12, 15

Holy Spirit, help me remember my Baptism. Amen

Feb 7—1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13, Psalm 4

Jesus, help me to love sacrificially, as You have loved me. Amen

Feb 8—John 2:13-25, Psalm 2

Jesus, thank You for being God's temple. Amen

Feb 9—John 3:1-21, Psalm 23

Lead us, O Good Shepherd, out of the valley of death to eternal life. Amen

Feb 10—Luke 5:1-11, Psalm 138

Father, forgive my sins for Jesus' sake. Amen

Feb 11—Isaiah 6:1-7, Psalm 130

Worthy are You, O God, to receive all honor, worship, and praise. Amen

Feb 12—1 Corinthians 14:12-20, Psalm 99

Lord, help me to faithfully embrace Your Word. Amen

Feb 13—John 4:46-54, Psalm 95

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer and Creator. Amen

Feb 14—Ephesians 5:1-10, Psalm 119:153-160

Jesus, help me to love others as You have loved me. Amen

Feb 15—John 5:19-29, Psalm 57:1-10

Father, teach me to rejoice in the life that is already mine in Christ. Amen

Feb 16—John 5:30-47, Psalm 120

Father in heaven, help me to see Jesus on every page of Scripture. Amen

Feb 17—Luke 6:17-26, Psalm 92

Father, bring me to paradise through Your Son. Amen



Feb 18—Romans 1:16-17, Psalm 125  
We praise You, Jesus, our righteousness. Amen

Feb 19—John 6:41-59, Psalm 53  
Jesus, thank You for Your body and blood. Amen

Feb 20—1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Psalm 110  
Lord, give me hope for the day of Your return. Amen

Feb 21—Jeremiah 17:5-8, Psalm 84  
Jesus, help me trust in You for all things. Amen

Feb 22—Job 17, Psalm 25  
God, strengthen me in times of suffering. Amen

Feb 23—Romans 8:18-25, Psalm 97  
Come soon, Lord Jesus! Amen

Feb 24—Luke 6:27-38, Psalm 103:1-13  
Lord, help me to love my enemy. Amen

Feb 25—Genesis 45:3-15, Psalm 112  
Father, help me to forgive others as You have forgiven me. Amen

Feb 26—1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42, Psalm 3  
Thank You, Jesus, for Your cross, our tree of life. Amen

Feb 27—John 9:1-23, Psalm 146  
Father, thank You for saving me by grace. Amen

Feb 28—Hebrews 12:3-11, Psalm 66  
Father, train me in the way of Your commands. Amen



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



Two members of St James were at Blair County New Attorney Ceremony on December 18, 2018 at The Court House. Left is Bob Hench, right is Ethan V. Wilt, Esq. Bob Hench sang a Rendition of "God Bless America " and Ethan V. Wilt taking his oath. Congratulations to Ethan!

# **Announcements and Upcoming Events**

During our pastors' absence (January 31 - February 26) pastoral emergencies are being covered by Pastor Drew McCaffery of Bethany Lutheran Church. He can be reached at Bethany's office (944-7560) or on his cell phone (814-538-9036).

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 MARCH ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15.***

## **Announcements and Upcoming Events**

<b>BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE</b>	<b>JAN 22ND 12 PM</b>
<b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b>	<b>JAN 24TH 7 PM</b>
<b>BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE</b>	<b>JAN 29TH 12 PM</b>
<b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b>	<b>JAN 31ST 7 PM</b>
<b>SWEETS AND TREATS</b>	<b>FEB 3RD 10 AM</b>
<b>BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE</b>	<b>FEB 5TH 12 PM</b>
<b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b>	<b>FEB 7TH 7 PM</b>
<b>COUNCIL MEETING</b>	<b>FEB 10TH 12PM</b>
<b>BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE</b>	<b>FEB 12TH 12 PM</b>
<b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b>	<b>FEB 14TH 7 PM</b>
<b>KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE</b>	<b>FEB 15TH 12PM</b>
<b>BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE</b>	<b>FEB 19TH 12 PM</b>
<b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b>	<b>FEB 21ST 7 PM</b>
<b>BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE</b>	<b>FEB 26TH 12 PM</b>
<b>CHOIR PRACTICE</b>	<b>FEB 28TH 7 PM</b>



In preparation for the Food Bank distribution at St. Luke's Episcopal, we are gathering food. There are boxes in the narthex in which to place your donations. Here is what is especially needed (of course, other items are welcome).

Instant Mashed Potatoes Mix	Bisquick	Cake
Baked Beans	Peanut Butter	Tuna
Jelly	Condiments	Fruit Juice
Canned Vegetables		
Dry (powdered) milk	Ramen Noodles (beef or chicken)	



## SWEETS AND TREATS

February 3, 2019

Sponsored by Donna Foster

***Church Council Members***

Mark Hoover—President  
Donna Wilt—Vice President  
Evelyn Holsinger—Secretary  
Ralph Grove—Treasurer  
Betty Boslet  
Dana Detwiler  
Carolyn Feather  
Donna Foster  
Sylvia Malsatzki  
Bill Wilt  
Sharon Lightner  
Kim Vandevander  
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—Tori Gragar*

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  
\*Sharon Lightner

Worship & Music

**\*Mark Hoover**  
\*Dana Detwiler  
\*Donna Foster  
\*Sylvia Malsatzki  
Pat McConnell  
\*Sharon Lightner

By-Laws

**\*Mark Hoover**  
\*Betty Boslet  
\*Carolyn Feather  
Edith Trinks

Christian Education/  
Social Ministry

**\*Evelyn Holsinger**  
\*Carolyn Feather  
\*Sylvia Malsatzki  
\*Donna Wilt  
\*Kim Vandevander  
Shirley Manbeck

Finance

**\*Mark Hoover**  
\*Betty Boslet  
\*Donna Wilt  
\*Bill Wilt  
Ralph Grove

Property

**Bob Holsinger**  
Bill Dambeck  
\*Evelyn Holsinger  
\*Bill Wilt  
Mike Savino  
Shirley Manbeck

Stewardship/Evangelism

**\*Donna Wilt**  
\*Dana Detwiler  
\*Carolyn Feather  
\*Kim Vandevander

\* Denotes Council Member