

Kirchenblatt May 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 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 2019**

There are so many things I could share about our recent travels in Australia...the kangaroos, wallabies, colorful birds, and koalas; the Outback experiences and snorkeling along the Great Barrier Reef; the various aboriginal people we met, touring in Melbourne and Sydney (worshiping on our last Sunday at St. James Church—Anglican)! But during the Easter Season, as I reflect on the Resurrection of Christ and how that event has given us the promise of our personal resurrection in Christ, I cannot help but think of all the time changes we went through on our trip!

First we lost a day on our flight from L.A. to Melbourne as we crossed over the International Dateline, plus we had to set our watches forward by 15 hours! Then when we flew to the Outback we had to set our watches back a half-hour...perhaps the only place in the world that has a time zone that is half an hour different! Then when as we flew to Cairns on the East Coast we set our watches ahead an hour and a half. Now we were in the same time zone there as Sydney so we didn't have to change our watches on the flight from there to Sydney, but during our days in Sydney they went off of Daylight Savings Time, so we had to set our watches back an hour that night! Then on the flight back we set our watches 18 hours back, plus we regained the day we had lost as we crossed over the International Dateline again!

**PASTOR'S LETTER FOR
May 2019**

Are you confused? Believe me, so were we! Time is a fascinating part of God's Creation! But what about the passing of time from God's perspective? What will the passing of time be like in the resurrection? I believe that we may find some insights into this if we look at the creation story in Genesis 1:3-5... "And there was evening, and there was morning, the first day." Could it be that where God exists in Heaven there is no passing of time? And when we pass with Jesus into our joyful resurrection perhaps we will experience no passing of time?

In the meantime, as we celebrate the joy of Christ's Resurrection during these 50 days of the Easter Season, may we all enjoy the extra daylight of spring! Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

-Pastor Carol Custead

Contribution & Attendance Summary

February 2018

Contributions \$1,210.00
 Average Weekly Attendance: 26

February 2019

Contributions \$2,314.00
 Average Weekly Attendance: 23

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

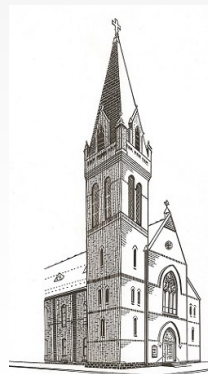
February 1, 2019 - February 28, 2019

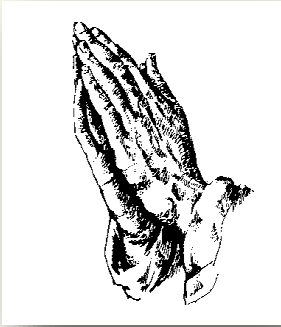
INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.03
Contributions	
General	\$2,314.00
Designated	\$0.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$8,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$10,314.03

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$0.00
Worship & Music	\$511.86
Office	\$1,136.52
Custodial & Property	\$12,330.08
Uncategorized	\$.628.78
	<hr/>
	\$14,607.24





Remember In Your Prayers

Our Prayer List:

Tim Surkovich
Joe Yanke
Mark Hoover

(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....

Sara “Sally” Sander, spouse of deceased Pastor Robert Sander, joined the Saints of Heaven Friday, April 5, 2019. Please hold the *Sander family* in prayer.

Elaine Stetser, wife of the late Rev. Harry Stetser, joined the Saints of Heaven after an extended illness. Please hold the Stetser family in your prayers.



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

◆If anyone knows of someone needing prayers, contact the church office.

Easter 2019

Sisters and Brothers,

May God's grace and peace be with you as we celebrate the great victory of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. On Easter Sunday, we celebrate that our Lord Jesus Christ has defeated the powers of sin, death, and the devil by opening the way for you and me to be brought into his eternal life.

We celebrate that in Jesus we receive the great gift of salvation, a gift that is poured into us through the grace and mercy of almighty God. We proclaim today that, "Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!" and we rejoice that because he is risen we too shall rise. Thanks be to God!

There is something interesting about our Easter gospel reading, Luke 24:1–12. You might have noticed on the day we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus doesn't actually show up in this reading or chapter. We might think this strange. The whole story of the gospel has been building up to this great victory of the resurrection, but when the resurrection occurs in Luke, we don't see Jesus because this account is about the mission of Jesus Christ and how he is calling us into his life.

When we read on, we find Jesus in chapter 25 where he appears to the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus. The risen Lord is not hanging around the tomb waiting to be discovered. The risen Jesus has work to do and he is immediately out on the road looking for his people and bringing them the good news of his resurrection.



I always find this a very poignant moment in the gospel—the first time we see the resurrected Jesus in Luke we see him on the road seeking out his people. When he walks with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, he is teaching them, comforting them, and eventually he will feed them.

Had we been betrayed, abandoned, mocked, beaten, and wrongfully killed, our first reaction upon resurrection would most likely not be mercy, grace, and forgiveness but rather anger and perhaps even seeking vengeance. Our Lord Jesus reaches out in love to those who betrayed him and brings salvation to the world that tried to destroy him. This is the true love and mercy of our Lord and our God.

That same Jesus is the one who is with us now. We follow the Jesus who comes after us and seeks us out. Our Lord is continually calling and welcoming us to him. This Jesus also sent the Holy Spirit to do that continual work of pursuing us and bringing us back to our life with God and with our Lord Jesus.

This Easter we thank God for the victory of Christ Jesus—the one who is always calling, inviting, and looking for us. Jesus loves you so much. He doesn't give up on you or me--ever. He always welcomes us into his life and invites us to walk with him.

May you know the presence of Jesus Christ who is with you now and always.

God bless you and Happy Easter
Bishop Michael L. Rhyne



Easter Flower Memorials

IMO Irvin J. Boslet

IMO Charles & Ora Hetrick

IMO Delores Hoover

IHO Andrea, Jacob, and Elijah Svidergol

By Betty J Boslet

IHO Our Grandsons

Killian, Tristan & Declan

By Pastors Carol & Scott Custead

IMO Dave Bickel

By David & Dana Detwiler

IMO Margaret & Kenneth Foster Sr.

IMO Ken Foster Jr.

IMO Louisa Marshall

IMO Joan & Charles Redenberger

By Donna Jean Foster

IMO Robert & Vivian Hench

IMO Robert & Blanche Schroeder

By Bob & Karen Hench

IHO Bob & Toots Holsinger Children

Kasey (Jr), Nick (Brandy), Kelley

Grandkids Braeden, Zach, Samantha, Jack & Max

IMO Walter & Marian Muller

IMO Patty Sharrar & Betty Muller

By Bob & Evelyn Holsinger



Easter Flower Memorials



*IMO Delores M Hoover
By Mark F Hoover*

*IHO My Sons David, Brian & wife Tracy
My Grandchildren Matt & Tara
IMO My Husband Robert
IMO My Parents Kenneth & Louise Civils
IMO Loved Ones
By Marlene Leonard*

*IHO My Grandchildren
Kathryn, Nathan & Jacob
IMO My Sister-In-Law
Renee
By Sharon Lightner*

*IHO Our Children and Grandchildren
Eric & Julia Wilt and Family
Dana & Todd Mayo and Family
IMO Our Parents
Louise & Kenneth Civils
Ira & Dorothy Wilt
IMO All our Loved Ones
By Donna & Bill Wilt*



Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization 31st Annual Convention held at Zion Lutheran Church on April 6, 2019



First row starting to the left,

Becky Shurson, Executive Board Vice President of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (from Eugene, Oregon) Jeanne Fleegle, new board member, Fay Dellinger, Secretary, Donna Wilt, Treasurer, Margaret Thatcher, Vice President.,

Second row starting to the left,

Peggy Steinfurth, new board member, Carol McClure, President, Terri Lingenfelter, new board member, Sue Nelson, new board member, Donna College, new board member

SEQUANOTA ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER



Friday, April 26, 5:00 pm

Main Camp Dining Hall

Suggested donation, \$55.00

Call the camp office (814-629-6627) to sign up.

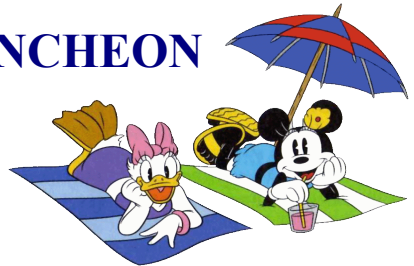
Women of the
ELCA 



WELCA'S SUMMER LUNCHEON

June 8, 2019

Time/Place: TBD



Our Summer Luncheon is in the planning stages. We will once again be asking for children's swimsuits and beach towels so we can donate them to United Way /Family Services. In advance we are asking members to help us out by donating to this worthwhile cause. We will have a set up in the vestibule of the church to place these items. We will continue this until our summer function which will take place June 8th. Remember everyone is invited to attend and to participate in this function.

May 1—Acts 4:23-31, Psalm 138

Grant us boldness, Lord, to speak of Your salvation to a world that desperately needs to hear it. Amen

May 2—Hebrews 13:1-16, Psalm 50:1-15

Lord Jesus Christ, when we feel lost, remind us that You have already found us; anchor our hearts in Your love and enable us to live in Your grace. Amen

May 3—Isaiah 43:1-13, Psalm 18:25-36

Abide with us, O Lord our God, throughout our lives, that we may share with all the wonder of Your love for us in Christ. Amen

May 4—Galatians 3:10-29, Psalm 142

We thank and praise You, our Lord Jesus Christ, for the merciful love You poured out on us; grant us faith to see and walk in the new life You give us. Amen

May 5—Luke 24:36-49, Psalm 132

Lord, let Your selfless love fill us so that we, too, may seek to fill the needs of others, to the glory of Your name. Amen

May 6—Matthew 8:5-13, Psalm 107:1-22

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for Your love, through which You cleanse us and make us a worthy dwelling place of Your Holy Spirit. Amen

May 7—1 Peter 5:1-11, Psalm 61

We pray, Lord Jesus, that we may in humility recognize Your hand in our lives; You are leading us and will never leave us. Amen

May 8—Acts 7:54-8:3, Psalm 35:1-10

We give You thanks, Jesus, that You have given us hope; turn our eyes to You in all things. Amen

May 9—Ephesians 3:1-13, Psalm 147

Give us sight, Lord Jesus, to see Your cross when we suffer; may it comfort us and encourage us with the shining light of Your Gospel. Amen

May 10—2 Corinthians 6:1-13, Psalm 119:25-32

Open our hearts, Lord, to Your Word, Your will, and call witness, that we may live lives of love and care for those around us. Amen

May 11—Hebrews 12:18-24, Psalm 68:1-18

Continue to restore us, Jesus, as we live in this paradox; strengthen our faith as we live as Your witnesses in this world. Amen

May 12—Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 37:1-24

We thank and praise You, Lord, for sustaining us in every season of life; continue to strengthen us to serve You. Amen

May 13—1 John 2:18-25, Psalm 121

Lord, draw us to Your Word that we may be comforted by and kept in the truth; open our eyes to those around us who need to hear it. Amen

May 14—John 10:1-18, Psalm 29

Let us hear Your voice, Lord, as we read Your Word and speak it to one another; guard us, Lord, that we may be kept among Your sheepfold until the day that we are brought home to live with You forever. Amen

May 15—Hebrews 9:11-15, Psalm 130

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for the atonement You made for our sins by Your blood. Let us in faith keep Your Easter and look forward to the final resurrection at the end of time. Amen

May 16—John 5:30-47, Psalm 71:12-24

Lord, grant that Your Spirit fills us and leads us to do the works that will witness to Your love. For the sake of Your kingdom we pray. Amen

May 17—Romans 12:1-8, Psalm 66:5-20

Lord Jesus Christ, enable us to live out our Christian vocation in Your Body, the Church, even as we seek those who need to hear the good news of Your grace. Amen

May 18—Ephesians 6:10-20, Psalm 28

Lord, strengthen us for witness; so many people desperately need the hope that is offered only in You. Amen

May 19—Matthew 8:14-22, Psalm 115

Lord, help us as we follow You; give us strength and courage, and comfort us with Your Words of eternal life. Amen

May 20—Isaiah 65:17-25, Psalm 84

Refresh us in Your Word and embolden us for witness, O Lord, as we await the day that all things will be made new. Amen

May 21—Galatians 2:11-21, Psalm 25

Lord, open our eyes to the needs of those You place in our lives; give us willing and cheerful hearts to serve, knowing that as we do, You are serving them through us. Amen

May 22—2 Corinthians 7:2-16, Psalm 38

Thank You, Lord, for the gift of repentance; through it, keep our eyes fixed on You, the only One in whom forgiveness may be found. Amen

May 23—Galatians 4:21-31, Psalm 73

Lord Jesus Christ, keep our eyes fixed on You. May we rest in the knowledge that You alone make atonement for our sin, and You alone free us. For Your sake we pray this. Amen

May 24—Ephesians 4:25-5:2, Psalm 56

Take our hands, lord, and lead us to walk with You in love. Open our hearts wide to love and share Your Gospel with those in our lives who so desperately need to hear it. Amen

May 25—1 John 2:7-14, Psalm 91

Lord, abide in us that we may abide in Your light; let Your love grow in our hearts that we may be Your light in this world. Amen

May 26—2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Psalm 30

Lord, we thank You for making us new and giving us new purpose, as we spread the message of Your love. Amen

May 27—1 Corinthians 13:4-13, Psalm 33

Lord, let Your love fill our hearts, overflowing into the lives of those around us, for Christ's sake. Amen

May 28—Ephesians 3:14-21, Psalm 103

Lord, ground us in Your love and Your Word, that we may grow and flourish, offering thanks and praise to You. Amen

May 29—Philippians 4:4-9, Psalm 13

Lord Jesus Christ, all good things come from You; grant us to consider Your work in us as good and beneficial as we live in Your love. Amen

May 30—1 John 3:11-24, Psalm 146

Lord, let Your love grow in us, that we may love one another as You commanded. Amen

May 31—Matthew 5:17-20, Psalm 104:24-35

Lord Jesus Christ, fulfiller of the Law and restorer of mankind, open our eyes to those around us who need to hear of Your restoring power. 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,
WEDNESDAY, MAY 15.***

Announcements and Upcoming Events

SEQUANOTA ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER	APR 26TH 5 PM
ALLEGHENY CHORALE	APR 28TH 3 PM
BULLETIN DEADLINE	APR 30TH 12 PM
CHOIR REHEARSAL	MAY 2ND 7 PM
SWEETS AND TREATS	MAY 5TH 10 AM
BULLETIN DEADLINE	MAY 7TH 12 PM
COUNCIL MEETING	MAY 7TH 6PM
CHOIR REHEARSAL	MAY 9TH 7 PM
WELCA MEETING	MAY 11TH 10 AM
BULLETIN DEADLINE	MAY 14TH 12 PM
KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE	MAY 15TH 12PM
CHOIR REHEARSAL	MAY 16TH 7PM
WELCA SUNDAY	MAY 19TH
BULLETIN DEADLINE	MAY 21ST 12 PM
CHOIR REHEARSAL	MAY 23RD 7PM
BULLETIN DEADLINE	MAY 28TH 12 PM
CHOIR REHEARSAL	MAY 30TH 7 PM
CHURCH PICNIC	JUN 23RD 11 AM



Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS





WELCA NEWS

We are going to decorate the bulletins boards in the Fellowship Hall. We plan on decorating them for the seasons. Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. If you have any ideas or if you want to help, please let us know.



SWEETS AND TREATS
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH.

OUR NEXT SWEETS AND
TREATS WILL BE MAY 5TH
SPONSORED BY
PEGGY THATCHER

* We are always looking for volunteers to sponsor Sweets and Treats. If you're interested there is a sign up sheet in the Sunday School Room. Your support is appreciated!



Allegheny Chorale
featuring
Allegro String Quartet

***Sing
and
Rejoice***

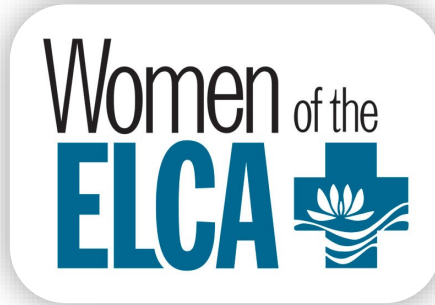
Sunday, April 28, 2019 at 3PM
St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Altoona

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at 7PM
First Presbyterian Church, Tyrone

Deborah Estright, Director

Free to the Public

The congregation are asked to please donate cookies and treats for the reception following the concert. Thank You.



WELCA SUNDAY

May 19, 2019

10:45 AM

Members will be participating in the Sunday Service.
Pastor Carol will be providing music with her guitar.
Invite your friends!

A Potluck Dinner will also be served that day at 12 PM

Please come and join us for the service and a meal!
Everyone is invited!



CHURCH PICNIC

Planning for the church picnic has begun. You can use the sign up sheet on the stand in the narthex or on the foyer bulletin board. Or use the sheet on the next page.

Church Picnic will be held June 23, 2019 at Highland Park, Pavilion #1





June 23, 2019
 Highland Park, Pavilion #1

11:00 AM Communion Worship Service

12:00 PM Meal

Rokkandy

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
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