



# Kirchenblatt November 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**

**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  
November 2019**

KIRCHENBLATT



As you may know, we spend four of our days each week providing day care for two of our grandsons. One is about two and a half. The other is about 9 months. I actually go over at eight o'clock each morning to get them both ready for the day and their older brother off to school.

As you can imagine, this is a great deal of work. It does not leave a great deal of time to take care of the basic business of life. Going to the doctor, grocery shopping, bill paying, car maintenance... these things get pushed into the one day we have off or left crowded into nap time. A constant prayer in our house is "let them stay asleep."

But on the other side is the joy. They are cute and it is an awesome gift to be able to be a part of their day to day lives. We are getting the chance to see first steps, learning to speak, and experiencing things for the first time. We get to cuddle and rock, giggle and squirm, and experience the wonder of innocence.

**PASTOR'S LETTER FOR  
November 2019**

So is it a burden or a joy to watch these little guys as much as we do? The answer, of course, is both. The trick for me is to keep my focus on the joy and privilege. There is an old spiritual exercise that says in your time of morning devotion you should look over the tasks that are on your plate for the day. Then you should carefully and intentionally say to yourself, “Today I get to...” Notice the statement is not, “Today I have to....”. It is “I get to”. These are the tasks the Lord has given me for this day of faithful living.

I am not saying I do this perfectly, but it really does help make each item on my to-do list an opportunity rather than an obligation. God is our partner in every task that lays before us. Each day is a day the Lord has made and given to us as a gift. Whether the task is going out to dinner, changing a diaper, watching a movie, or balancing the checkbook, God invites us to be present in those tasks. He invites us to find the joy and purpose He intended to be in the center of all our life.

*Pastor Scott Custead*

**Contribution & Attendance Summary**

**August 2018**

Contributions \$1,836.45

Average Weekly Attendance: 19

**August 2019**

Contributions \$1,778.00

Average Weekly Attendance: 20

**INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY**

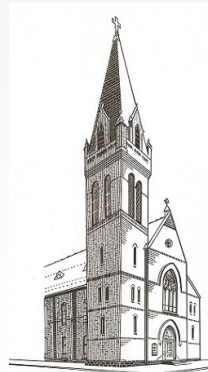
**August 1, 2019 - August 31, 2019**

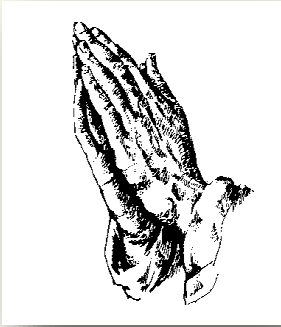
**INCOME**

Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$1,778.00
Designated	\$.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,778.00

**EXPENSES**

Pastoral Administration	\$2,016.58
Worship & Music	\$511.86
Office	\$1,168.75
Custodial & Property	\$1,687.21
Uncategorized	\$.1,430.40
	<hr/>
	\$6,814.80





## *Remember In Your Prayers*

### **Our Prayer List:**

Tim Surkovich  
Joe Yanke  
Shelby Savino

(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  
John Wiederkehr

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

On Friday, September 27, we learned of the tragic and sudden death of Pastor Ken Diable as the result of a car accident in the Williamsburg area. In these very difficult days, please keep Pastor Ken's wife, ***Romayne, and their family*** in your prayers.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in memory of Pastor Ken may be sent to the Williamsburg Food Bank, c/o Zion Lutheran Church, 217 Plum St., Williamsburg, PA 16693.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at 622 W. Third Street, Williamsburg, PA 16693.

***Pastor Bob Way's brother, Johh Way,*** joined the Saints of Heaven Sunday, October 6, 2019.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at 310 ½ E. Cherry St., Clearfield, PA 16830. May the family know the peace of Christ's presence and be comforted by promise of the resurrection.

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, November 17, 2019 the Allegheny Synod will be holding a worship service to kick off our year of celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's ordination in the Lutheran Church in America. The service will be at 4pm and hosted at Evangelical Lutheran in Duncansville. All are welcome and clergy will be invited to vest and process.

I wanted to share with you that we are honored to have **Pastor Elizabeth Platz** joining us to preside at the service. Pastor Platz was the first woman ordained a Lutheran Pastor in the United States. She was ordained by the Delaware/Maryland Synod and spent much of her career as campus minister at the University of Maryland. There will be a reception after the service and Pastor Platz has been gracious enough to join us for a question and answer time about her ministry.

Additionally, we will welcome **Bishop Barbara Collins** of the Upper Susquehanna Synod as our guest preacher for the service. We are thankful that Bishop Collins can join us for this day of celebration.

I hope you will mark your calendar and plan on joining us for this special service as we begin our year of celebration. As we proceed through the year, our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee will be sharing information on events and services we will be hosting throughout the year. I also ask you to please help us by sharing this announcement with your congregations.

Thank you and God bless you,

*Bishop Michael*





## Seminarian Support Sunday NOVEMBER 17

Your gift to the  
Seminarian Support Fund  
makes a difference.

Even with the offer of free tuition, seminary education is not free. There are many other costs associated with answering God's call to ministry. Your generosity helps to support our candidates as they continue to discern and learn.

Choose one candidate to support or support them all. Every gift is important. Make checks payable to Allegheny Synod with "Seminary Support" on the memo line.

Mail checks to:  
Allegheny Synod, ELCA,  
701 Quail Ave., Altoona, PA 16602

*To support a particular candidate,  
send checks directly to the seminary  
listed with a letter indicating which  
student account the gift will support.*

### Allegheny Synod Seminarians

Brent Betz  
United, Gettysburg

Tyler Graham  
United, Gettysburg

Regina Holliday  
United, Gettysburg

Carlton Jacobson  
United, Gettysburg

Penny Koontz  
United, Gettysburg

David Pencek  
United, Gettysburg

Marty Jo Stellabotte  
United, Philadelphia

Laura Waltermire  
Wartburg, Iowa

Rebecca West  
United, Philadelphia

Ted Williams  
Luther, Minnesota





CONGRATULATIONS TO ETHAN WILT AND ASHLEY BRUCE on exchanging their wedding vows on September 14, 2019 at an outdoor wedding at LaFerme Rouge in Patton. The Rev. Ralph Hamer officiated at the ceremony. BEST WISHES FOR A LIFE FULL OF HAPPINESS AND LOVE IN THE YEARS TO COME. Blessings to Mr. and Mrs. Ethan Wilt. They are residing in Hollidaysburg.



The Allegheny Synodical Organization Event.....Renew, Relax, Refresh that took place on September 28th at The Altoona Grand Hotel was a big success. We had over 75 ladies attend the event. Rev. Susan Winger did the opening Scripture "Spiritual Renewal" and closed with the Eucharist. Rev. Traci Bowman accompanied us with her guitar while singing our hymns. The workshops were great and lots of fun. Also, the buffet luncheon was delicious. A great day for all of us. Thank you to all who attended and helped with the Renewal.





## RETIRE TO YOUR OWN BEAT



When your savings and spending plans are in harmony,  
retirement can be music to your ears.

Achieving this balance starts with a plan that helps ensure you can cover  
your expenses and still have enough money to sustain the retirement  
lifestyle you've always wanted.

I am here to help you get started.

**Contact me today.**



*Thrivent was named one of  
the "World's Most Ethical  
Companies" by Ethisphere  
Institute 2012-2018.*



**Andrea K. Paul, RICP®, CLTC®, FIC**  
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Nov 1—Hebrews 12, Psalm 103

Father, thank You for the witness of the saints through the ages, who testify with their lives to one God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

Nov 2—Romans 5:1-11, Psalm 29

Christ our Redeemer, thank You for giving Yourself as an atoning sacrifice for our sin, that we may give glory to Your name for eternity. Amen

Nov 3—Matthew 6:25-34, Psalm 5

Heavenly Father, give us direction in the maze of this life, shelter us in Your hands, and help us to trust You when we feel lost and alone. Amen

Nov 4—Hebrews 10:19-25, Psalm 89:1-18

Almighty God, help us rest in Your unchanging promises of forgiveness, salvation, and life everlasting. Amen

Nov 5—Jeremiah 1:4-9, Psalm 127

Father, God, we praise You for Your magnificent handiwork of forming children in the womb and gifting them salvation through Baptism in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Nov 6—Matthew 25:34-46, Psalm 112

Father, help us to joyfully serve our neighbors as thanks for Jesus giving His life for us. Amen

Nov 7—Galatians 6:1-10, Psalm 65

Precious Savior, thank You for sacrificing Your body and pouring out Your blood for us to save us from our sin and purchase us eternal life. Amen

Nov 8—Mark 9:30-50, Psalm 34

Dear God, grant us patience and love for the young lives that color our lives and our churches with wonder and exuberance. Amen

Nov 9—1 Corinthians 12:1-20, Psalm 136

Dear God, lead us to live our lives in glory to Your holy name. Amen

Nov 10—Ephesians 4:1-16, Psalm 86

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gifts You give Your Church. Help us use these gifts in loving our neighbors and glorifying Your name. Amen

Nov 11—Romans 12:9-21, Psalm 15

Lord Jesus, thank You for laying down Your life for our sins that we may have life eternal. Amen

Nov 12—Ephesians 6:1-9, Psalm 71

Father, we rejoice in the love You have lavished on us, the gift of friends and family and the promise of eternal life in Your presence through Jesus, our Savior. Amen

Nov 13—Matthew 11:25-30, Psalm 130

Lord Jesus, thank You for bearing the sin that we are incapable of ridding ourselves. We rejoice in the forgiveness You won for us. Amen

Nov 14—Ecclesiastes 4:7-12, Psalm 119:57-64

Dear Jesus, thank You for coming to earth as man, bearing our sins, and comforting us with the promise of eternal life in Your presence. Amen

Nov 15—Isaiah 64, Psalm 139:1-18

Dear Father, we praise You for Your created and loved children, which You molded with fear and wonder, and we repent of our pride in critiquing Your work. Amen

Nov 16—1 Corinthians 10:6-22, Psalm 42

Father, please turn us away from temptation and toward the path of righteousness. Amen

Nov 17—1 Corinthians 3, Psalm 37:25-40

Father God, help us to stand resolute in our faith and not to be shaken by the voices of the world. Amen

Nov 18—Matthew 5:1-12, Psalm 3

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your great mercy to us through the gift of Your Son. Amen

Nov 19—Matthew 6:1-15, Psalm 51

O Holy God, forgive us our sins and help us draw near to You with confidence in Your saving grace. Amen

Nov 20—Mark 11:12-25, Psalm 104:24-35

Loving Father, out of thanksgiving for Your great gift of forgiveness and salvation to us, help us to forgive those who have wronged us. Amen

Nov 21—1 Thessalonians 5:12-24, Psalm 18:6-20

Lord Jesus, sanctify us through Your body and blood, water and Word, that we may live our lives to the glory of Your holy name. Amen

Nov 22—Philippians 2:1-18, Psalm 81

Father God, let us reflect the good gifts You give us by sharing the burdens of our neighbors and pointing them to the true source of hope, Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen

Nov 23—1 Peter 4:1-11, Psalm 123

Lord Jesus, thank You for serving us with Your body and blood and securing for us that which was inaccessible before Your loving sacrifice—eternal life in Your presence. Amen

Nov 24—John 14:15-31, Psalm 147:12-20

Lord Jesus, help us look forward to the day of Your coming, not with fear, but with joy. Amen

Nov 25—Isaiah 55, Psalm 92

Heavenly Father, give us our daily bread and help us hunger and thirst for time at Your Table and in Your Word. Amen

Nov 26—Proverbs 3:13-24, Psalm 13

Lord God, we stand in awe of Your created world, and we ask for Your wisdom to accompany us as we go about our days on earth. Amen

Nov 27—Hebrews 13, Psalm 84

Holy Lord, help us to trust and thank You for our daily bread and to be content and generous with what You provide. Amen

Nov 28—James 1:12-18, Psalm 85

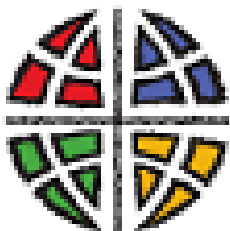
Father, thank You for the perfect gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who sacrificed Himself and rose again to atone for our sins and win us eternal life. Amen

Nov 29—2 Thessalonians 1, Psalm 91

Lamb of God, thank You for serving as a living sacrifice to take away the sins of the world and as our Good Shepherd to guide us through all our days. Amen

Nov 30—Mark 4:35-41, Psalm 4

Lord of hosts, please help us remain calm in life's stormy seasons, knowing You have us safely in the palm of Your hands. 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 DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT  
IS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15.***

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

OCTOBERFEST  
 BULLETIN DEADLINE  
 CHOIR PRACTICE  
 BULLETIN DEADLINE  
 CHOIR PRACTICE  
 SWEETS AND TREATS  
 BULLETIN DEADLINE  
 CHOIR PRACTICE  
 WELCA MEETING  
 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
 BULLETIN DEADLINE  
 COUNCIL MEETING  
 CHOIR PRACTICE  
 KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE  
 BULLETIN DEADLINE  
 CHOIR PRACTICE  
 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY  
 BULLETIN DEADLINE  
 POINSETTIA ORDER DEADLINE  
 THANKSGIVING (NO SERVICE)

OCT 20TH  
 OCT 22ND 10:30AM  
 OCT 24TH 7 PM  
 OCT 29TH 10:30AM  
 OCT 31ST 7 PM  
 NOV 3RD 10AM  
 NOV 5TH 10:30 AM  
 NOV 7TH 7 PM  
 NOV 9TH 10 AM  
 NOV 10TH 12 PM  
 NOV 12TH 10:30AM  
 NOV 12TH 6 PM  
 NOV 14TH 7 PM  
 NOV 15TH 12 PM  
 NOV 19TH 10:30AM  
 NOV 21ST 7 PM  
 NOV 24TH  
 NOV 26TH 10:30AM  
 NOV 27TH 12 PM  
 NOV 28TH



Mark Your Calendars

# EVENTS



# ***SWEETS AND TREATS***

## **THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS WILL BE  
November 3rd  
SPONSORED BY: Joe Yanke**

\* 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!







The Annual Congregational meeting will be held:

**November 10th**

after the service. There will be nominations for council members and then the election for council. The budget will be discussed and then anything else that the congregation may bring to our attention.





### Christmas Poinsettias

Bless our Sanctuary and your home this Christmas with a beautiful red poinsettia! For each \$7.50 you contribute to the St. James Flower Fund, a flower will be placed in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve and will be available for you to take with you following our Christmas Eve Service. If you would rather donate the flower for a shut-or or friend of St. James, you may indicate that choice on this order form.

Please complete the form and return it to the church. **The deadline for poinsettia orders and payments is Wednesday, November 27, 2019.** Thank you for your generosity in this endeavor!

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 (as you wish it to appear in the bulletin)

This donation is made:

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Or

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Contribution: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Christmas Poinsettias: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I do want to take the poinsettia (s) home with me.

\_\_\_\_\_ No. I don't want to take the poinsettia (s). I would like them to be given to a shut in or friend of St. James

***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