

# Kirchenblatt June 2020

(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 June 2020



KIRCHENBLATT



We don't usually spend a great deal of time examining the risk/reward equations in our life. Most of these decisions are pretty automatic. We know there is a risk in traveling in an automobile, but we long ago decided the rewards of getting out and about outweighed the risks. If the driver had been drinking, we just knew the risks outweighed the rewards. We made these sorts of decisions all the time. We would eat in a restaurant, despite the risks of food poisoning; well, unless the restaurant was really dirty.

Sometimes we trusted someone else to influence our decision. The doctor said the benefit of the medication was worth the risk of the side effects. Someone we love and trust told us it would be okay. Everyone else was getting in line, so maybe we should be willing to do so also.

What about now? This coronavirus has it all messed up. Should I go to the store? Is it safe to have my family member in my home? Can I visit with my neighbor? What if we stay on the porch? How extreme are the risks of this illness? Is this a bad flu or the bubonic plague?

And the experts, our loved ones, "everyone else"? They all say different things. We hear we must sanitize every box that comes into our house from the grocery store, but we also hear that the virus does not transmit from surfaces. The CDC says to social distance 6 feet apart. The World Health Organization says 1 meter (3 feet). Maybe our daughter says to loosen up, but our father says to head for the basement. The politicians and the media seem to be confusing it all by turning it into the predictable blue team versus red team reality show.

And what about church? Should we have church services? Should I go, if church services are offered?

## PASTOR'S LETTER FOR June 2020



KIRCHENBLATT



It would be nice if these questions could be as comfortably answered as the ones we make routinely about riding in a car or taking a medication. However, these decisions are much murkier. I cannot help but think of 1 Corinthians 13.12 in the King James Version. “For now we see through a glass, darkly.”

Our fellow church members, family members, and neighbors will all come to different answers about the questions of how to live out these months of pandemic. There is no common wisdom, and these decisions will only end when a vaccine or “herd immunity” are in place.

In the meantime we as Christians are called to treat each other with grace. Some people may be willing to take risks we might think are too great, or maybe we will think some people are giving up living and hiding in fear. I personally haven't worked out what the perfect balance is for myself, how can I know what it is for someone else? Pray about your decisions for living this needed pandemic lifestyle. Most of us thought this would be a short term affair, but it looks like is going to be a while. Prayer and devotion offers a chance to quiet ourselves and to look carefully at the choices we have to make. It puts those choices into the context of our faith and deepest values.

We cannot simply surrender to fear, but we also cannot simply throw caution to the wind. What does that mean for you, for me, for St. James? I'm not sure, but I leave you with a prayer by Martin Luther.

“Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

*Pastor Scott Custead*

**Contribution & Attendance Summary****March 2019**

Contributions \$2,325.00

Average Weekly Attendance: 23

**March 2020**

Contributions \$1,608.00

Average Weekly Attendance: N/A

**INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY****March 1, 2020 - March 31, 2020****INCOME**

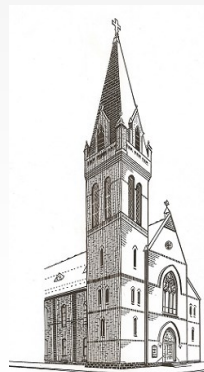
Bank Interest	\$ .05
Contributions	
General	\$1,370.00
Designated	238.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$12,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$13,608.05

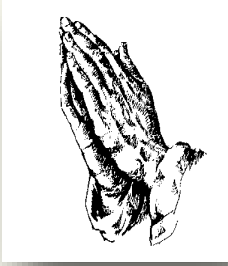
**EXPENSES**

Pastoral Administration	\$3,397.88
Worship & Music	\$1,137.50
Office	\$1,181.26
Custodial & Property	\$4,189.33
Uncategorized	\$459.34
	<hr/>
	\$10,365.31

**June Birthdays**

Michael Boston	6/11
Dave Detwiler	6/24
Karen Hench	6/28
Janet Kauffman	6/16
John Kessler	6/14
Robin Kessler	6/24
Sharon Lightner	6/10
Verna Mills	6/6
Nellimae Parsons	6/20
Lynzi Vandevander	6/10
Julia Wilt	6/5
Joe Yanke	6/7





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

## *Remember In Your Prayers*

### **Our Prayer List:**

(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.)

Tim Surkovich  
Joe Yanke  
Jean Bickel  
Judy Dambeck

Those serving in our military

### ***Graystone Manor//Bellmeade***

Robert Civils

### ***Allegheny Lutheran Home:***

Janet Kauffman

### ***Homewood:***

Sylvia Malsatzki

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

Deborah Manbeck

John Wiederkehr

✕  
PRAY FOR  
ALL THE  
SICK PEOPLE  
IN THIS  
WORLD



Jun 1—Ephesians 2:1-10, Psalm 40:1-8

So we with all our hearts each day to You our glad thanksgiving pay, then walk obedient to Your Word, and now and ever praise You, Lord. (LSB 615:6) Amen

Jun 2—Micah 6:6-8, Psalm 25:8-22

Tribune God, be Thou our story; O let us perish never! Cleanse us from our sins, we pray, and grant us life forever. Keep us from the evil one; uphold our faith most holy, and let us trust Thee solely with humble hearts and lowly (LSB 505:1). Amen

Jun 3—Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 27:11-14

Holy Spirit, light divine, shine upon this heart of mine; chase the shades of night away, turn the darkness into day (LSB 496:1). Amen

Jun 4—Genesis 17:1-8, Psalm 119:73-80

Give me a healthy frame, and may I have within a conscience free from blame, a soul unstained by sin (LSB 696:1). Amen

Jun 5—John 6:60-69, Psalm 31:1-5

Let me be Thine forever, my faithful God and Lord; let me forsake Thee never nor wander from Thy Word (LSB 689:1). Amen

Jun 6—1 Peter 5:6-11, Psalm 7:1-7

I walk with Jesus all the way. His guidance never fails me; within His wounds I find a stay when Satan's pow'r assails me (LSB 716:5). Amen

Jun 7—John 17:6-19, Psalm 86:14-17

O keep our faith from failing; bright star aglow. Let nothing from truth turn us while living here below (LSB 658:1). Amen

Jun 8—Hebrews 1:1-14, Psalm 91:9-16

I walk with angels all the way, they shield me and befriend me; all Satan's power is held at bay when heav'nly hosts attend me (LSB 716:4). Amen

Jun 9—Amos 3:1-8, Psalm 133

Unite all those who walk apart; confirm the weak and doubting heart (LSB 839:4). Amen

Jun 10—Ephesians 5:15-21, Psalm 119:57-64

O keep me watchful, then and humble; permit me nevermore to stray. Uphold me when my feet would stumble, and keep me on the narrow way (LSB 694:4). Amen

Jun 11—Isaiah 43:1-5, Psalm 66:5-12

Thine wholly, Thine alone I am; be Thou alone my constant flame (LSB 683:1). Amen

Jun 12—Isaiah 40:27-31, Psalm 103:1-5

May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart (LSB 702:2). Amen

Jun 13—Genesis 3:1-21, Psalm 51:7-12

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee (LSB 761:1). Amen

Jun 14—2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10, Psalm 32

Lord, when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light we may behold You as You are, with full and endless sight (LSB 720:5). Amen

Jun 15—Romans 6:1-11, Psalm 33:1-9

O make us die to ev'ry sin, each day create new life within, that fruits of faith may flourish (LSB 693:2). Amen

Jun 16—2 Thessalonians 3:6-12, Psalm 90

Lord, grant that I in ev'ry place may glorify Thy lavish grace and help and serve my neighbor (LSB 708:2). Amen

Jun 17—Job 2:1-10, Psalm 26

Thus, Lord Jesus, ev'ry task be to You commended; may Your will be done, I ask, until life is ended (LSB 869:5). Amen

Jun 18—Galatians 5:16-26, Psalm 143:1-10

But since my strength will nevermore suffice me to crucify desires that still entice me, to all good deeds O let Thy Spirit win me and reign within me (LSB 439:11). Amen

Jun 19—Revelation 3:1-6, Psalm 93

Your death on the cross has death wholly defeated and thereby my righteousness fully completed; salvation's white raiments I there did obtain, and in them in glory with You I shall reign (LSB 536:4). Amen

Jun 20—John 20:1-2, 10-18, Psalm 23

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with Thee, dear Lord, beside me, Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me (LSB 709:4). Amen

Jun 21—Genesis 5:18-24, Psalm 145:4-7

Lord, give me "faith and hope to walk with God in the way that Enoch trod" (LSB 611:3). Amen

Jun 22—Matthew 14:22-33, Psalm 95:6-11

Jesus, Savior, pilot me over life's tempestuous sea (LSB 715:1). Amen

Jun 23—Ephesians 6:10-17, Psalm 18:31-36

Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee (LSB 783:2). Amen

Jun 24—Luke 1:57-80, Psalm 85:7-13

O grant, dear Lord of love, that we receive, rejoicing, the word proclaimed by John, our true repentance voicing, that gladly we may walk upon our Savior's way until we live with Him in His eternal day (LSB 346:4). Amen

Jun 25—Acts 12:1-5, Psalm 56

For these, passed on before us, we offer praises due and, walking in their footsteps, would live our lives for You (LSB 517:4). Amen

Jun 26—Romans 12:1-8, Psalm 1

Make me walk in Thy commands—'Tis a delightful road—nor let my head or heart or hands offend against my God (LSB 707:4). Amen

Jun 27—Isaiah 42:5-9, Psalm 139:1-16

Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life's way; direct, protect, and feed me from day to day (LSB 722:1). Amen

Jun 28—Isaiah 61:10-11, Psalm 63

And there, in garments richly wrought, as Your own bride shall we be brought to stand in joy beside You (LSB 438:4). Amen

Jun 29—Matthew 5:38-48, Psalm 100

And for Your Gospel let us dare sacrifice all treasure; teach us to bear Your blessed cross, to find in You all pleasure (LSB 647:4). Amen

Jun 30—Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 25:1-7

Remember not our sins' dark stain: Give peace, O God, give peace again! (LSB 751:2) 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](mailto:scustead@atlanticbb.net) or [ccustead@atlanticbb.net](mailto:ccustead@atlanticbb.net)  
The church office email is 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 JULY ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,  
MONDAY, JUNE 15.***

## **Announcements and Upcoming Events**

**BULLETIN DEADLINE  
COUNCIL MEETING**

**MAY 26TH 10:30 AM  
MAY 26TH 6 PM**

**\* IN THE SOCIAL HALL, WEAR A MASK**

**BULLETIN DEADLINE  
SWEETS AND TREATS**

**JUN 2ND 10:30 AM  
JUN 7TH 10 AM**

**BULLETIN DEADLINE  
KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE**

**JUN 9TH 10:30 AM  
JUN 15TH 12 PM**

**BULLETIN DEADLINE**

**JUN 16TH 10:30 AM**

**BULLETIN DEADLINE**

**JUN 23RD 10:30 AM**

**BULLETIN DEADLINE**

**JUN 30TH 10:30 AM**

**CHURCH PICNIC**

**JUN 14TH 11 AM**

**PLEASE NOTE, ALL ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT MONTH OR TWO ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.! WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO KEEP YOU INFORMED THROUGH EMAIL, OUR WEBITE, FACEBOOK, AND PHONE CALLS. PLEASE KEEP IN CONTACT WITH YOUR FRIENDS WHO YOU KNOW DO NOT USE SOCIAL MEDIA.**





## **SWEETS AND TREATS**

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

**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS  
WILL BE JUNE 7TH**

\* 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!

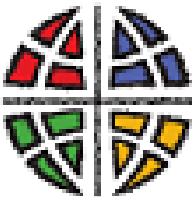


**Next meeting:**

**May 26th 6PM**

**In the Social Hall**

**Please wear a mask!**



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

**God's work. Our hands.**

### ***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*

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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  
\*Sharon Lightner

#### Christian Education/

#### Social Ministry

#### **\*Evelyn Holsinger**

\*Carolyn Feather  
\*Sylvia Malsatzki  
\*Donna Wilt  
\*Kim Vandevander  
Shirley Manbeck  
\*Sharon Lightner

#### Worship & Music

#### **\*Mark Hoover**

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

#### Finance

#### **\*Mark Hoover**

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

#### Stewardship/Evangelism

#### **\*Donna Wilt**

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

#### By-Laws

#### **\*Mark Hoover**

\*Betty Boslet  
\*Carolyn Feather  
Edith Trinks

#### Property

#### **\*Bill Wilt**

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

\* Denotes Council Member