



# Kirchenblatt July 2020

(Parish Newsletter)

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1407 Eighth Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16602



**Join us for Worship Sundays at 10:45 am**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastors Corner 2-3

Financials 4

Birthdays 4

Prayer List 4

Daily Readings 5-7

Committee List 8

**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 July 2020



KIRCHENBLATT



Dear Friends in Christ,

I am writing this during the week after our Re-Gathering Communion Service of Celebration this past Sunday. I am still marveling at how well it seemed to go! I am grateful for those who assisted in helping to carry it out according to the guidelines set by our Church Council. And I am grateful for Bob Hensch for singing a beautiful solo while I stepped back into the sacristy to wash my hands for 20 seconds before distributing the communion wafers to those in attendance. And I am especially grateful for all who attended and followed the guidelines quite well! Everyone wore a mask and kept socially distanced appropriately. It was so good to be together again in worship of our Lord, even though we were all masked!

These masking, social distancing guidelines will be in place for awhile yet to come. No one knows how long. We are simply following the guidelines set by the CDC, the PA Department of Health, and recommended by our Bishop. In years to come, we may look back and laugh at some of the things we thought were necessary, but better that than looking back at all the people we lost because we didn't follow these recommendations!

After all, COVID-19 is still out there! We are friends with a couple whose 10-month-old tested positive for the virus last week! She's recovering fine, thank God, but her grandmother reminded everyone on Facebook that it is out there still! And most of us at St. James are at that higher risk age. Pastor Scott has asthma and heart arrhythmia which make him at an even higher risk. So thank you all for following the guidelines! As they say, "My mask protects you and your mask protects me." And as Christians, this is an opportunity for us to be witnesses for Christ by being polite, kind, peaceful, and patient with others.

I saw that polite patience and kindness demonstrated yesterday at the Dollar Tree store I went in to buy a couple of Father's Day cards. I found them within a minute or so and went to get in line to pay for them.

## PASTOR'S LETTER FOR July 2020



KIRCHENBLATT



To my surprise, the line extended all the way down the aisle! There were nine people in front of me and only one cashier. She was dealing with a couple of women who had a return and a whole cartful of stuff to buy. Yes, it was a bit frustrating, but it was also joyful to see the reactions of the 9 people in line in front of me and the one woman who came after me. Everyone was being polite and courteous. We all got into a wonderful conversation about the masks on our faces and the lines on the floor to make for social distancing which we followed. We laughed about this way of life being the “new normal”. And someone mentioned all the “Black Lives Matter” protests that have been going on all over our country. She said that while the horrible killing of George Floyd was terribly wrong, and people had every right to protest peacefully, it was certainly strange that they would gather for those protests but not attend church because it wasn’t safe. They were huge nods of agreement from everyone in line! There was also agreement about the fact that we do still have a long way to go in correcting racism in our country, and about expressing our appreciation for all the good police officers out there, even though some corrections need to be made in many police departments. It was one of these rare moments of agreement in conversation between ten total strangers! When I finally checked out and left the store, I did so with a good feeling of hope for our world in spite of all the troubles going on everywhere.

I do not believe that God causes bad things to happen in this world. But I do believe, and know, that God can work His goodness in everything that happens. So, as I close, I am reminded of the third verse of the hymn, “This Is My Father’s World”. “This is my Father’s world; oh, let me not forget that, though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father’s world; why should my heart be sad? The Lord is king, let heaven ring; God reigns, let the earth be glad!” Hope to see you in church!

-Pastor Carol

## Contribution & Attendance Summary

### April 2019

Contributions \$3,330.85

Average Weekly Attendance: 27

### April 2020

Contributions \$1,596.50

Average Weekly Attendance: N/A

## INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

April 1, 2020 - April 30, 2020

### INCOME

Bank Interest	\$ .03
Contributions	
General	\$1,575.00
Designated	\$.21.50
Special	\$
Other Income	\$4,234.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,830.53

### EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$3,351.89
Worship & Music	\$525.08
Office	\$1,099.82
Custodial & Property	\$4,207.51
Uncategorized	\$907.56
	<hr/>
	\$10,091.86

## July Birthdays

Dana Detwiler	7/29
Gary Feather	7/17
Evelyn Holsinger	7/15
Robert Holsinger	7/29
Donna Kauffman	7/12
Shirley Manbeck	7/20
Lori Savino	7/2
Jacob Svidergol	7/20
Lynn Trinks	7/1

## 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

Jul 1—2 Timothy 1:6-14, Psalm 141

Dearest Jesus, help us to trust You to guard and protect us. Amen

Jul 2—Ephesians 4:1-7, Psalm 148

Thank You, God, for life through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.  
Amen

Jul 3—1 John 5:6-11, Psalm 45

Lord God, thank You for being our “all as one” God and for Your gift of faith. In Jesus’ name. Amen

Jul 4—Exodus 6:1-8, Psalm 46

Thank You, Jesus, for the glory of equality in Your kingdom. Amen

Jul 5—Hebrews 1:1-3, Psalm 29

Majestic God, we praise You for all Your gifts by which we have been made sons of God. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen

Jul 6—1 Peter 1:1-2, Psalm 145

O Lord and Savior Jesus, help us to believe even what we do not understand. In Jesus’ name. Amen

Jul 7—2 Corinthians 13:11-14, Psalm 93

Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit, we rejoice in Your gifts and thank You for giving us life. Amen

Jul 8—Genesis 1:1-27, Psalm 33:1-9

God, thank You for Your good creation and steadfast love. In Jesus’ name. Amen

Jul 9—Jeremiah 23:23-29, Psalm 113

Jesus, praise to You for Your infinite love. Amen

Jul 10—Deuteronomy 33:26-27, Psalm 102:12-28

Almighty, eternal God, thank You for Your bountiful provision. In Jesus’ name.  
Amen

Jul 11—Genesis 17:1-8, Psalm 91

God, You are Almighty—for us. You brought us victory over sin, death, and the devil. In Jesus’ name. Amen

Jul 12—Isaiah 42:5-12, Psalm 96:1-9

God, thank You for hearing us when we call upon Your name. In Jesus’ name.  
Amen

Jul 13—John 10:1-18, 22-30, Psalm 95:6-11

Lord Jesus, God’s Son, lead us into Your presence with thanksgiving. Amen

Jul-14—John 15:18-26, Psalm 51:10-12

Jesus, thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit to work faith into our hearts. Amen

Jul 15—John 14:8-11, Psalm 86:1-10

Jesus, we glorify You for revealing Yourself in the Holy Scripture. Amen

Jul 16—Matthew 3:13-17, Psalm 2:7-9

Thanks be to Jesus that we are all the Father's favorites. Amen

Jul 17—Hebrews 9:11-15, Psalm 139:7-16

God, thank You for the gift of faith. In Jesus' name. Amen

Jul 18—1 Corinthians 12:1-13, Psalm 138

Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thank You for Your love and life everlasting. Amen

Jul 19—Romans 10:5-17, Psalm 51:1-9

God, thank You for the gifts of Word, Spirit, and faith so our lives proclaim Jesus as Lord and Savior. In His name. Amen

Jul 20—Galatians 4:4-5, Psalm 8

Jesus, true God and true man, thank You for the gift of life, here and eternally. Amen

Jul 21—1 Timothy 1:12-17, Psalm 90:1-2

Jesus, eternal Lord, have mercy on us. All praise and honor to You. Amen

Jul 22—Isaiah 9:6-7, Psalm 40:1-5

Lord Jesus, may we cling only to the hope found in You. Amen

Jul 23—Luke 1:31-35, Psalm 18:1-3, 28-30

Lord Jesus, perfect God and perfect man, thank You for ransoming us so that we might have life! Amen

Jul 24—Ephesians 2:1-9, Psalm 118:1, 14, 17-24

Thanks to You, God, for You are good. Your steadfast love endures forever. We pray in the name of Jesus, Your Son, our Lord. Amen

Jul 25—Isaiah 53:3-12, Psalm 22:1-5, 14-18

Perfect Lord Jesus, thank You for suffering to heal us. Amen

Jul 26—Colossians 2:6-15, Psalm 30

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your victory lap to validate us as Your own dear children, forgiven, claimed, and loved. Amen

Jul 27—Job 19:25-27, Psalm 16

Lord Jesus, we praise You that You make all things beautiful in Your time. Amen

Jul 28—Luke 24:36-53, Psalm 121

Resurrected, ascended, Lord Jesus, thank You for always being with us. Amen

Jul 29—2 Peter 3:8-10, Psalm 24

Christ, be my leader as I wait in the lines of earthly life for Your return. Amen

Jul 30—John 3:25-36, Psalm 97

Eternal Savior, thank You for the fire-quenching gift of faith through Your Holy Spirit, that we might have life everlasting. Amen

Jul 31—Galatians 2:19-21, Psalm 62

Lord Jesus, thank You for giving all we need. Amen

**Worship will happen on Sundays at 10:45 AM,  
following the guidelines in recognition of the  
continuing coronavirus pandemic.  
All other activities and events are cancelled  
until further notice.**

**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.**

***DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15.***

### ***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