



Kirchenblatt August 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 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 August 2020



KIRCHENBLATT



I guess when all this coronavirus stuff started in March I assumed by July we would have come into some sort of new normal. I don't think that happened. I think we seem to be moving into new and expanding realms of abnormal. Further, with the presidential election inescapably coming upon us, I imagine it is all going to get even more intense. It is rather exhausting.

There are some things we can do to lessen the stress. Many of these are available to all people, not just people of faith. Here are some: limit the amount of time spent on social media, ration the amount of news and commentary programming watched, cultivate interests in things other than politics and viruses, steer conversations away from things over which we have no control, take a walk, pull some weeds, and maybe enjoy a good book or movie.

These are rather obvious, aren't they? We all know that our minds will be filled with the things we fill them with. If we spend hours scanning through doom and gloom news stories and social media rants, we will be overwhelmed by feelings of raging disaster. If we keep ourselves reasonably informed and then move onto other things, we will find our mind drifts to more things that just the turmoil of the moment.

It also helps to keep it all in perspective. Pastor Carol and I hope to travel to Egypt next year. Of course, that depends on the coronavirus being tamed, but it has given me something to plan and ponder. I have been reading and listening to podcasts about Egyptian history. In the 1830's Egypt had an outbreak of the bubonic plague.

PASTOR'S LETTER FOR August 2020



KIRCHENBLATT



It killed one third of the population. Did you know that it is estimated that smallpox killed 90% of the Native American population across the entire continent before most of the Native Americans even knew that a few Europeans had shown up on the Atlantic coast? And our political and social turmoil is not quite to the point of the Gothic invasions of the Roman Empire. Perhaps these are not the best of times, but they are certainly not the worst of times.

Our faith offers us some special tools to meet the challenges of this time as well. The first is prayer. I don't mean asking God to fix it all, although it is very appropriate for us to do exactly that. I mean the chance to rest in God's presence. Just a couple of weeks ago we read that famous passage in church. Jesus says, "Come to me all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28) Our faith also gives us the confidence of knowing the end of the story. We and all of God's creation end in God's good and loving presence. We may not know how it will all come about, but we do not that God has not abandoned us. Crucifixion is not the end of the story. Resurrection is!

I am ready for all of this to be over, and I imagine you are too. However, while I am waiting for that day, I am going to try to pray, learn more about the Pharaohs, stay informed (but not obsessed), and trust God. I don't know what tomorrow will bring, but I do know what the final tomorrow has in store.

Pastor Scott

Contribution & Attendance Summary

May 2019

Contributions \$2,673.75
Average Weekly Attendance: 24

May 2020

Contributions \$1,001.00
Average Weekly Attendance: N/A

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

May 1, 2020 - May 31, 2020

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.05
Contributions	
General	\$1,001.00
Designated	\$.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,001.05

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$2,089.49
Worship & Music	\$525.08
Office	\$1,121.14
Custodial & Property	\$1,673.93
Uncategorized	\$992.44
	<hr/>
	\$5,877.00

August Birthdays

Douglas Kauffman 8/8
Sylvia Malsatzki 8/17
Gigi Manbeck Stahl 8/29
Sarah Sakoff 8/26
John Wiederkehr 8/2



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

Aug 1—John 5:36-40, Psalm 130:7-8

Lord God, help me know You more through the pages of Your Word. Amen

Aug 2—Hebrews 12:1-3, Psalm 57

Dear Lord, help me look to You this week instead of relying on myself. Amen

Aug 3—Matthew 5:1-12, Psalm 103:13-22

Lord Jesus, thank You that my good deeds can be done out of love for You, not to earn Your favor. Please reveal and self-righteousness in me and point me to Your cross
Amen

Aug 4—Matthew 23:37-39, Psalm 91:1-8

Lord, give me a heart to recognize my sin and my Savior. Amen

Aug 5—Matthew 26:47-54, Psalm 37:8-17

Lord, help me be still and wait patiently for You. Amen

Aug 6—Ephesians 4:17-24, Psalm 97

Precious, perfect Lord, thank You for clothing me in Your righteousness. Amen

Aug 7—Matthew 9:9-13, Psalm 86:8-13

Where would I be without You, Lord? Give me a fresh understanding of people's deep need for You and then the courage to share You Amen

Aug 8—Matthew 18:1-6, Psalm 119:9-16

Give me a pure heart, O Lord, so that I may fully enjoy You! Amen

Aug 9—John 15:1-11, Psalm 80:8-18

Thank You for bearing fruit in me, Lord Jesus! Amen

Aug 10—Mark 3:31-35, Psalm 68:4-6

Lord, help me see people who need to be included as family today. Amen

Aug 11—Mark 4:35-41, Psalm 56:8-11

Oh, Lord, let my faith always win out over fear. Amen

Aug 12—Mark 5:21-34, Psalm 147:7-11

Thank You, Lord, that I can approach Your throne of grace with confidence because of Your worth and not mine. Amen

Aug 13—Mark 8:27-30, Psalm 107:1-3

Lord, help me know You in the truth of who You are. Amen

Aug 14—Mark 8:31-38, Psalm 112

Lord Jesus, thank You for loving us so much that You didn't turn back. Amen

Aug 15—Mark 12:13-17, Psalm 119:33-40

Lord, Incline my heart to Your testimonies and not to selfish gain! Amen

Aug 16—Mark 15:33-39, Psalm 22:1-21

Glory then to Jesus, Who, the Prince of light, To a world in darkness brought the gift of sight; praise to God the Father; in the Sprit's love praise we all together Him who reigns above (LSB 512:7) . Amen

Aug 17—Exodus 3:13-17, Psalm 147:1-6

Great are You, Lord, and abundant in power! I praise Your holy name! Amen

Aug 18—Genesis 32:22-29, Psalm 20:1-5

Thank You, Jesus, for my identity in You! May I wear it to Your glory! Amen

Aug 19—Exodus 20:1-7, Psalm 99:1-5

May I use Your name rightly today, dear Lord! Amen

Aug 20—Ezekiel 36:16-27, Psalm 79:8-10

My mouth will speak the praise of You, Lord, and let all flesh bless Your holy name forever and ever. Amen

Aug 21—Matthew 1:21-25, Psalm 8:3-4

Dear Jesus, help me remember the great worth of myself and others today. Amen

Aug 22—John 14:12-14, Psalm 9:9-10

Thank You, Lord, for listening to me today! Amen

Aug 23—Philippians 2:5-11, Psalm 145:1-3

Amen!!

Aug 24—2 Corinthians 12:1-10, Psalm 95:1-6

Precious Savior, thank You for Your grace! Thank You for the cross and the proof it gives of Your love. Amen

Aug 25—Ephesians 1:3-10, Psalm 86:1-7

Lord, thank You for Your glorious grace for me. Amen

Aug 26—Matthew 6:25-34, Psalm 31:19-20

Lord God, thank You for today's grace. Help me not be anxious for tomorrow, but to trust in Your goodness, care, and provision. Amen

Aug 27—John 6:1-13, Psalm 81:10

Dear Lord, help me believe that whatever comes from Your hands will be sufficient. Please reveal Your strength through my weakness, to Your glory! Amen

Aug 28—Romans 8:31-39, Psalm 85

Dear Lord, thank You for being for me. Help me walk in that confidence today. Amen

Aug 29—John 21:18-24, Psalm 62

Lord, help me live in the power of Your grace today. Amen

Aug 30—Luke 10:25-37, Psalm 40:11-12

Lord, teach me to love like You do! Display Your love through me today. Amen

Aug 31—Ephesians 5:1-2, Psalm 25:4-5

Lord God, help me to imitate the way You love in all my relationships today. 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 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.

***DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT
IS, SATURDAY, AUGUST 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

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