



Kirchenblatt October 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 October 2020



KIRCHENBLATT



Pastor Carol and I were scheduled to go to Ethiopia in October. It has been a place of fascination for me for many years. I was eager to get the chance to see the churches carved out of stone that civil unrest had made unapproachable until about 5 years ago. Unfortunately a worldwide pandemic has made travel even to places like Paris impossible, so there is no way we can even consider heading off on dirt roads in the Ethiopian highlands. We postponed the trip until next October. Hopefully by then the pandemic restrictions will be in the past.

I am eager to travel again. I also want to feel like I can stop by Starbucks for a cup of coffee. I also want to go to an occasional movie. I want to have a church potluck. I want to be able to go visit our daughter and her husband in Marquette, Michigan. I want to sing loudly in church. I want things to start up again. I want to be done waiting for life to restart.

Of course, life has not really stopped. It has been going on with the exact same number of hours in each day, the same number of days in each week. It makes me wonder what I am missing that is going on while I am waiting for that which is not happening. What gifts am I failing to notice by focusing on the things I cannot have? What blessing is God trying to bestow that I am leaving unopened?

This is still “the day that the Lord has made.” We are still invited to “rejoice and be glad in it.” I would like some things to be different, but when has concentrating on that which you cannot have ever been in the recipe for peace and contentment? Maybe an attitude adjustment is needed.

**PASTOR'S LETTER FOR
October 2020**

KIRCHENBLATT



Maybe it's not that I cannot travel, it is that I get to work on getting the garden in shape. It isn't that I have to wear a mask, it is that I don't have to be concerned with bad breath. It isn't that I don't get to sit and read in Starbucks, it is that I get to save what I would have paid for the coffee. It isn't that I won't get to be with my daughter on Thanksgiving, it is that I get to have a quiet holiday at home with my wife. It isn't that it is weird to go to church with the pandemic policies in place, it is that I can go to church at all.

The old clichés are true. It is best to count your blessings. It is most helpful to concentrate on what you have rather than what you don't have. I trust that this pandemic stuff will eventually be over, but in the meantime God has still graciously given me another day of life. I assume God means to treasure it and live it to the fullest, even if I have to incessantly wash my hands like a surgeon.

Pastor Scott Custead

Announcements and Upcoming Events

COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY OCTOBER 13 6:00 PM!!

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall and sit socially
distanced, and you need to wear a mask

Contribution & Attendance Summary**July 2019**

Contributions \$1,830

Average Weekly Attendance: 18

July 2020

Contributions \$1,837

Average Weekly Attendance: 18

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

Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$1,837.00
Designated	\$.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,837.00

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$2,117.97
Worship & Music	\$1,023.84
Office	\$1,086.68
Custodial & Property	\$986.66
Uncategorized	\$828.67
	<hr/>
	\$6,043.82

October Birthdays

Justin Eger	10/11
Valerie Feather	10/20
Paulette Fredrick	10/12
Robert Green	10/8
Dana Mayo	10/13
Debra Morgan	10/24
David Parsons III	10/31
Michael Savino	10/26
Gabrielle Tyler	10/29

***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.)

Shirley Manbeck, Joe Yanke, Jean Bickel

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

Oct 1—2 Kings 6:8-23, Psalm 35:1-6,23-28

Dear Lord Jesus, focus our eyes on You so that we may not be blind to how much You love us! With eyes open, let us share Your love with others. Amen

Oct 2—Genesis 22:1-18, Psalm 27

Dear God, when following You is hard and we can't see Your full plan, let us lift our eyes to You. Keep us moving in obedient faith. In Jesus' name . Amen

Oct 3—Luke 10:38-42, Psalm 42

Lord, let Your good Word remind me daily of Your love and care. Amen

Oct 4—Matthew 14:22-33, Psalm 10

Dear Jesus, when the winds of change and uncertainty rock our boats, remind us that You are there to calm our fears and that You promise to navigate us safely home. Amen

Oct 5—Mark 9:14-29, Psalm 25

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust, let me not be put to shame. Amen

Oct 6—Acts 3:1-16, Psalm 9:9-12

With You, O Lord Jesus, anything is possible! Praise Your holy name! Amen

Oct 7—Matthew 16:1-20, Psalm 86

Father, remind me daily of the gift of Your Son and of the blessed assurance of Your faithfulness and favor. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Oct 8—James 1:1-8, Psalm 119:113-120

Lord, keep my eyes focused and my arms out as I wait in eager expectation for You to guide me safely in the right direction. In Jesus' name. Amen

Oct 9—Jeremiah 32:14-43, Psalm 37:1-25

Lord God, You are good; all the time, You are good. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Oct 10—1 Samuel 1, Psalm 20

Lord, in Your mercy, hear my prayer and grant me Your peace. Amen

Oct 11—Isaiah 53, Psalm 47

O great King, thank You for this better-than-fairy-tale life that You have bestowed upon us common sinners so that we may truly live happily ever after with You! In Jesus' name. Amen

Oct 12—Colossians 3:1-17, Psalm 105:1-6

Lord Jesus, let Your peace rule in our hearts, and let thankfulness overflow in our praises and actions Amen

Oct 13—Mark 2:1-12, Psalm 66:1-12

Dear God, let nothing get in the way of us experiencing abundant life with You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Oct 14—Hebrews 12:3-11, Psalm 91

Jesus, brother, friend, thank You for setting us free to fly victoriously in the shadow of Your wings. Amen

Oct 15—John 3:1-21, Psalm 36

Beautiful Savior, I praise You, my light and my salvation! Amen

Oct 16—Romans 5:12-21, Psalm 85

Lord Jesus, thank You for choosing not to abandon us, and for being willing to pay the price to restore us to usefulness again. Amen

Oct 17—2 Chronicles 20:1-22, Psalm 46

Lord Jesus, let us be examples of Your steadfast love, without judgement, that we may draw others to Your Church. Amen

Oct 18—Luke 15:1-10, Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

Good Shephard, thank You for being the ultimate seeker of lost souls. Amen

Oct 19—2 Timothy 1:1-14, Psalm 147:4-5

Lord, we've got Your Spirit, yes we do. Let our spirits glorify You! In Jesus' name. Amen

Oct 20—John 4:7-18, 31-42, Psalm 23

Lord Jesus, You are the answer to quality living and the restorer of my soul! Amen

Oct 21—Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-17, Psalm 119:1-16

Lord Jesus, let me die to myself, walking only in the light of Your love. Amen

Oct 22—Leviticus 19:9-18, Psalm 26

Lord Jesus, wash me clean, that I may learn to wash my neighbors' feet. Amen

Oct 23—Micah 7:1-10, 18-20, Psalm 13

Lord, there is no God like You, who pardons iniquity, passes over transgression, and delights in steadfast love. In Jesus' name. Amen

Oct 24—John 16:16-33, Psalm 126

Lord of the harvest, bless our efforts to share Your message of love with those around us. Amen

Oct 25—2 Corinthians 4:7-18, Psalm 139:13-16

Almighty God, we are weak, but You give us a new, strong identity in Christ Jesus. It is in His Strong name, Jesus, we pray. Amen

Oct 26—Ruth 1:1-18, Psalm 103

Dear Lord, may each one of us be a reflection of Your Love, that others may copy our faith and be saved! In Jesus' name. Amen

Oct 27—John 15:1-17, Psalm 1

Lord, help me to abide in You, Apart from You, I can do nothing. In Jesus' name. Amen

Oct 28—Galatians 5:16-26, Psalm 128

Lord, let us walk and live by the Spirit, that we may enjoy the sweet blessings of life with You. In Jesus' name. Amen

Oct 29—Mark 12:28-34, Psalm 145:1-12

Dear God, let us be on the same page with You. Let Your kingdom come; let Your will be done in our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Oct 30—Matthew 6:9-21, Psalm 45:6-7

Lord, the finest things of this earth cannot compare with the treasures You have prepared for me in heaven. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Oct 31—Romans 12, Psalm 119:25-32

Lord Jesus, let me stand on the truth of Your Word alone. 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 NOVEMBER ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT
IS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 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