



# Kirchenblatt September 2021

(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	Birthdays	4	Daily Readings	5-7
Financials	4	Prayer List	4	Announcements	9-11
				Committee List	12

**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 September 2021



KIRCHENBLATT



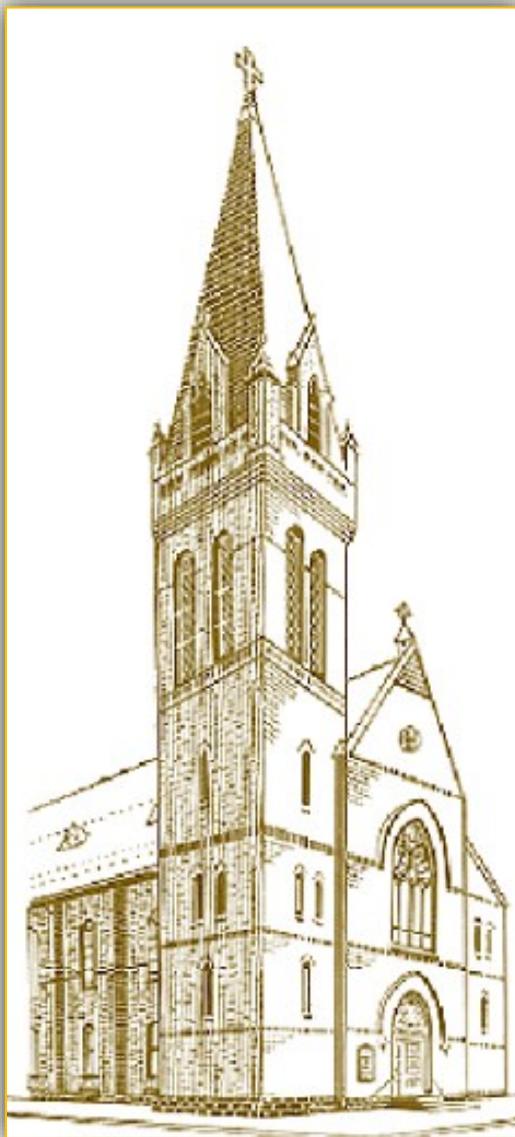
Dear Members of St. James,

We are writing you to inform you that we have found it necessary to resign our positions as transitional pastors for St. James Church. This is not easy for us to do, but Pastor Scott's health is not improving. He is facing a second Cardiac ablation surgery in September. Meanwhile his blood sodium level has dropped. Although we are hopeful that these issues will ultimately resolve, it is the case that we cannot with any confidence predict if or when we would be able to resume any sort of pastoral ministry. We have informed Bishop Schmitt of this decision, and we assume the synod will be working with you to plan for St. James' future.

We would like to thank you for the acceptance and support we have felt from you during our time serving St. James. We would also thank you for welcoming us into what has been our church home for five years. We, like many of you, have come to love the worship space, history, and people that make St. James the unique place that it is. We will miss you.

Please keep us in your prayers, and know that you will be in ours.  
In Christ's Love,

Pastors Carol and Scott Custead



ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Contribution & Attendance Summary**

**June 2020**

Contributions \$2,243  
 Average Weekly Attendance: 19

**June 2021**

Contributions \$1,328  
 Average Weekly Attendance: 15

**INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY**

**June 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021**

**INCOME**

Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$1,328.00
Designated	\$0.00
Special	
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,328.00

**EXPENSES**

Pastoral Administration	\$2,141.63
Worship & Music	\$530.40
Office	\$1,133.63
Custodial & Property	\$847.21
Uncategorized	\$517.86
	<hr/>
	\$5,170.73

**September Birthdays**

Robert Boston	9/16
William Dambeck	9/9
Robert Holsinger	9/5
Jada Mayo	9/15
Brad Stehle	9/18
Kim Vandevander	9/21
Lynn Vandevander	9/25
William Wilt	9/15

*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.)

Pastor Scott, Carol Weaver, Shirley Manbeck, Bill Wilt, Donna Foster  
 Tim Surkovich , Dana Detwiler

Those serving in our military

**Graystone Manor//Bellmeade**

Robert Civils

**Allegheny Lutheran Home:**

Janet Kauffman

**Inglenook Sr. Apts.:**

Sylvia Malsatzki

**In their own homes:**

Deborah Manbeck

Sep 1—Ephesians 1, Psalm 16:5-11

Lord, give us the peace that comes from knowing we will share the inheritance of the saints. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 2—Ephesians 2, Psalm 118:19-24

Dear Lord, let no doubt that Christ secured salvation for me through His death and resurrection. Remind me that nothing I do adds to the gift He has won for me. In His name I pray. Amen

Sep 3—Ephesians 3, Psalm 138

Heavenly Father, continue to fill me with love of Christ that surpasses human Knowledge throughout all my days. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 4—Ephesians 4:1-24, Psalm 71:1-6

O Lord, help my faith to grow through studying Your Word and receiving the forgiveness of sin in Holy Communion at Your Table. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 5—Ephesians 4:25-5:14, Psalm 51:1-12

Lord, make me "whiter than snow" as You forgive my sins, and help me to be forgiving others. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 6—Ephesians 5:15-33, Psalm 127:1-2

Lord Jesus, may I find time on this day of rest from work—and on all my days—to seek to know Your will. Amen

Sep 7—Ephesians 6, Psalm 28:6-9

Heavenly Father, strengthen my faith this day that I may be bold to proclaim Your love to others. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 8—Philippians 1:1-20, Psalm 145:1-7

Lord, help me to follow the example of Christs in my life, giving You praise and glory for the gift of salvation all my days. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 9—Philippians 1:21-2:11, Psalm 25:8-10

Christ Jesus, may I be ever mindful of Your sacrifice for my sins and for the redemption You won for me. In Your name I pray. Amen

Sep 10—Philippians 2:12-30, Psalm 27:1

Lord, help me to reflect the light Your Son brought into the world as I share Your love with others. In His name I pray. Amen

Sep 11—Philippians 3, Psalm 33:12-19

Lord, keep Your eye on us and bless our nation. Deepen our faith in You to deliver us from death. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 12—Philippians 4, Psalm 46:1-7

Lord, help me to face the problems in my life, knowing that Christ has won the victory for me and that I will be with You in eternity. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 13—Colossians 1:1-23, Psalm 40:1-5

Lord, strengthen my faith on the path to salvation and be with me on my journey. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 14—Colossians 1:24-2:7, Psalm 22:16-21

Thank You, Lord, for the sacrifice of Christ for my sins on the cross. In His name I pray. Amen

Sep 15—Colossians 2:8-23, Psalm 145:18-21

Dear Lord, hear my call and save me. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 16—Colossians 3, Psalm 23

Lord, let the Word of Christ dwell in me richly; may I dwell in Your house forever. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 17—Colossians 4, Psalm 67

Lord, accept my thanksgiving for the gift of salvation in Christ and give me an open door to share Christ's love. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 18—1 Timothy 1, Psalm 103:8-19

Lord, may You use Your perfect patience with me, a sinful being, and show me mercy. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 19—1 Timothy 2, Psalm 40:13-17

Lord, we rejoice that Christ has ransomed us from sin. Give us the courage to share this Good News with others. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 20—1 Timothy 3, Psalm 32

Heavenly Father, I confess my love for Christ, who rescued me from sin, death, and darkness. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 21—1 Timothy 4, Psalm 56

Lord, strengthen and heal my physical body and strengthen my faith that I may walk in the light of life. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 22—1 Timothy 5:1-16, Psalm 146:2-10

Dear Lord, bless those in my family and help me to care for them both physically and spiritually. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 23—1 Timothy 5:17-6:2, Psalm 71:17-24

Lord God, bless the church leaders, pastors, and teachers who help guide our path to heaven every day. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 24—1 Timothy 6:3-21, Psalm 46:8-11

Lord, may we find contentment in confessing that Christ has saved us as we fight the good fight. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 25—Matthew 3, Psalm 2:1-9

May God's Anointed One forgive my sins this day. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 26—Matthew 4:1-11, Psalm 1

Lord God, give me the power to resist temptation today, as Your Word guides and directs me. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 27—Matthew 4:12-25, Psalm 51:3-12

Dear Lord, please forgive my sins through the love and sacrifice of Christ, Your dear Son, and create in me a clean heart.. In Jesus' name. Amen

Sep 28—Matthew 5:1-20, Psalm 37:5-6

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, enable me to shine Your light today that others will see Your glory. Amen

Sep 29—Matthew 5:21-48, Psalm 91:9-13

Dear Lord, forgive my sins and make me perfect in Your eyes through Your Son, Jesus. In His name I pray. Amen

Sep 30—Matthew 6:1-15, Psalm 86:1-7

Heavenly Father, in the name of my Savior, Jesus, I lift up my soul to You for Your forgiveness. Amen

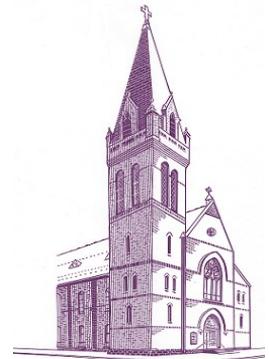
## *St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church*

**1407 Eighth Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16602**

**814-944-6835**

**[stjamesaltoona@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesaltoona@gmail.com)**

**[www.stjamesaltoona.org](http://www.stjamesaltoona.org)**





**Allegheny Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's Work. Our hands.

701 Quail Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 • 814-942-1042 • 814-941-9259 fax • office@alleghenysynod.com

A Pastoral Message of Farewell  
Bishop Michael Rhyne  
August 25<sup>th</sup> 2021

*God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, Till we meet at Jesus feet; God be with you till we meet again.*

*'God Be With You Till We Meet Again'* Jeremiah Rankin and William Tomer

Dearest Friends in the Allegheny Synod,

It has been my greatest honor to serve as your Bishop these last seven years. We have seen times of great joy and times of challenge. But our Lord Jesus continues to walk with us no matter what comes our way. I thank God for you. I will always treasure the time we have had together. I am deeply grateful for the many ways you have blessed me and my family.

I would ask you to remember who and whose you are. You are baptized children of God. In our baptism we were eternally united to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. That gift of life in Jesus changes everything. We do not have to be like the rest of the world. We don't have to put ourselves first, we don't have to look out for number one, and we don't have to fight to see who can accumulate the biggest pile of stuff before we die. Since we belong to Jesus, our lives are a blessing that can be given away and shared for the sake of others. You are agents of the love of God moving in this world. You are vessels through which the Holy Spirit blesses this creation. You are called by Jesus to follow his self-sacrificial life.

I have seen that in you. Repeatedly the Holy Spirit has surprised me in the way you are able to care for God's people. Because of how the Holy Spirit is at work through you; the hungry are fed, the cold have clothes and blankets, children are taught the faith, seminarians are trained to serve God's church, and so very much more. The Spirit does not sit still. Rather the Spirit grabs a hold of us and uses us to care for, love, and help this broken world.

My hope is you will continue to seek out ways you may more fully live into your calling as the body of Christ. God has given the Allegheny Synod everything you need to carry out God's mission. It doesn't mean it is going to necessarily be easy. Following Jesus never promised to be easy. We may even fall into the trap of thinking we don't have enough. However, we remember that we follow the Lord Jesus who took five loaves and two fish and fed five thousand people. We serve a God who brings life from death, who brings healing and hope when we may feel there is no hope left, and who is in the business of surpassing our expectations. Most importantly Jesus promises to be with us always, even until the end of the age.

I pray you continue to see the ways that Christ is active and alive around you. I pray you know the love of Jesus. I pray that you will be continually transformed and reformed by Jesus and used by him to make this world a better place.

Again, I thank God for all of you. The Allegheny Synod will forever be in my prayers. You have marked and blessed my life. May God be with you until we meet again.

Your brother in Christ,

+Bishop Michael Rhyne



**CHURCH COUNCIL  
MEETING TUESDAY**

**September 14th 6 PM**

**COVID Guidelines will  
be in effect!**

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

## **IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,**

**In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor Dave Bowman**

**Phone: 814-696-0091 Cell: 814-330-8025**

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.



## **Worship Guidelines**

The council decided to follow the new CDC guidelines, so for fully vaccinated people, wearing masks is optional.

*DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.*

*Thank  
you*



*To Pastors Carol and Scott Custead and  
members of St. James.*

*We would like to thank you for all your prayers,  
cards, telephone calls and concerns while we  
recovered from our car accident. Also, Bill's  
hospital stay and visits back and forth to the  
doctors. It meant so much to both of us. We  
were and still are so appreciative of your  
kindnesses. God bless you all.*

*Donna and Bill Wilt*

***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  
\*Sharon Lightner

Finance

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

Property

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

Stewardship/Evangelism

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

\* Denotes Council Member