

Kirchenblatt December 2021

(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 Pastor Dave Bowman
Phone: 814-696-0091 Cell: 814-330-8025

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-THURSDAY 9 AM-1PM

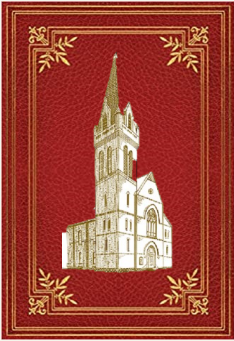
EMAIL: STJAMESALTOONA@GMAIL.COM

WEBSITE: WWW.STJAMESALTOONA.ORG

PHONE: 814-944-6835

MISSION STATEMENT:

**TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST THROUGH WORD AND
SACRAMENT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.**



FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S DESK December 2021

Dear Members of Saint James,

The Holiday Season as seen by the world is very different from what we as Christians celebrate. During this Holiday Season, our society worries about getting together as friends and family and giving gifts to each other. This results in anxiety and stress in people and among people and families. The Holiday Season is filled with depression, anger, and suicides; because people get caught up in what the world defines as the joyous time of the year. But what the world wants us to portray and what we as people feel inside are two different realities. We as people don't feel happy or joyous. This is the trouble with the world during the Holiday Season.

We as Christians see this time of the year as the Advent season as we prepare our hearts for the Christmas Season. In Advent, we look forward to the coming of Jesus Christ into the World on Christmas Day. Instead of worrying about giving the perfect gift to our friends and family, Christians should be worried about preparing our hearts to receive the most perfect gift that was given to us by God in the Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ which was found in a manger in Bethlehem and on a Roman Cross 2000 years ago. This gift of Jesus Christ was given not because we were naughty or nice. But because we are naughty and are dead in our sins, and we need the perfect Savior Jesus Christ who died for our sins on a cross to give us forgiven of sins and eternal life through His resurrection. We have been given the best gift possible by God which is salvation through Jesus Christ's Death on the Cross. His Gift of Jesus doesn't give us joy for a single or a few days, but this Gift of Christ is a joyous gift that gives us forgiven of sins for a lifetime.

The Perfect Gift of all times given for each of us. This love of Christ for us should encourage us to love each other and to share the love of Christ with each other by giving gifts to our friends and family as we share the Christmas Gift of Love. The best gift that we can give to our friends and family is to share the joyous proclamation of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. This is the true joy of the Season of Christmas. This is the true joy of Christ in our lives that lasts a lifetime and not the false joy of the world of its Holiday Season which only lasts for a single day.

It is time to put Jesus back into our Christmas Celebration and not follow the false reality of the world in its Holiday Season of anxiety, stress, and depression. God calls us to proclaim the message of John the Baptist to be "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" (Luke 3:4). Thereby preparing our hearts and the hearts of our friends and family for the Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in this Christmas Season. In every time and place in this Christmas Season, proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection to all whom you meet so that "all flesh shall see the Salvation of God" (Luke 3:6).

Merry Christmas and God's Blessings,

Mark Hoover



Contribution & Attendance Summary

September 2020

Contributions \$1,244
Average Weekly Attendance: 16

September 2021

Contributions \$1,390.94
Average Weekly Attendance: 13

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

September 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$1,390.94
Designated	\$0.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,390.94

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$1,968.56
Worship & Music	\$530.40
Office	\$1,930.60
Custodial & Property	\$7,581.09
Uncategorized	\$326.60
	<hr/>
	\$12,337.25



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, Tim Surkovich,
Debbie Thomas, Debbie Thomas

Those serving in our military

Graystone Manor//Bellmeade

Robert Civils

Allegheny Lutheran Home:

Janet Kauffman

Inglennook Sr. Apts.:

Sylvia Malsatzki

In their own homes:

Deborah Manbeck



Dec 1—Genesis 3:8-15, Psalm 139:7-16

Heavenly Father, may Your word of promise ring in our ears, that we find strength in knowing that Jesus has come for us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 2—Genesis 21:1-7, Psalm 126

Gracious Father, we delight in the way You work to fulfill Your promises, even when we do not understand Your plan. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 3—Deuteronomy 26:16-19, Psalm 148

Lord, we praise You for making us Your treasured possession. Fill us with peace for today and eagerness for the joys ahead. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 4—1 Kings 9:1-5, Psalm 10:12-18

Heavenly Father, God of promise, we praise You for sending Your Son, our King, to rule over us forever. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 5—Luke 1:68-75, Psalm 106:40-48

God of mercy, we praise You for Your faithfulness. Preserve us from doubt and strengthen our faith. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 6—Acts 2:37-41, Psalm 18:31-50

Holy Spirit, open us and all people to the call of the Gospel. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 7—Jeremiah 33:12-16, Psalm 89:19-37

Loving Lord God, we rejoice in the righteousness of Jesus, which You have made ours. Reveal Your righteousness in us. In His name. Amen.

Dec 8—Lamentations 3:19-26, Psalm 103

Giving God, strengthen our hope as we recall Your work. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 9—Acts 26:2-8, Psalm 119:41-48

God of hope, when trials come, strengthen our hope through the work of Jesus. In His name. Amen.

Dec 10—Isaiah 8:11-18, Psalm 17

Gracious God, let us not stumble over Your Word but continuously find hope in Your merciful work for us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 11—Romans 5:1-9, Psalm 65

Lord Jesus Christ, we praise You for the hope with which You fill us. May that hope form and shape our lives. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Dec 12—Ecclesiastes 9:1-10, Psalm 33:13-22

Heavenly Father, give us strength and tenacity as You build us up in hope, which You bestow upon us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 13—Matthew 12:9-12, Psalm 146

Lord Almighty, may Your hope abound for all people as they come to know Your saving love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Dec 14—1 Kings 17:8-16, Psalm 130

God of hope, let us be fed with Your Word so that we are filled with hope. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 15—Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 72:12-19

Heavenly Father, may Your peace be known as we behold Jesus. Cause that peace to flourish among us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 16—Judges 6:11-24, Psalm 129

Precious Savior, Jesus, may Your peace remove our fear that we may go forth to serve in Your name. Hear us, for Your sake. Amen.

Dec 17—Matthew 10:26-39, Psalm 4

Lord Jesus, bridge our separation and bring us with You to everlasting life. We ask this in Your name. Amen.

Dec 18—Ephesians 4:1-7, Psalm 133

Precious Savior, fill us with an eagerness to share with one another the peace You have brought us. Amen.

Dec 19—Philippians 4:4-9, Psalm 145:10-21

Mighty God, whose ways are beyond our understanding, keep us in faith that we may know Your peace. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 20—Micah 5:2-5a, Psalm 72:1-11

Gracious God, You have brought us peace by sending Your Son. Bless us so we dwell in it always. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 21—Isaiah 54:1-8, Psalm 98

God our Redeemer, You have restored us to a peaceful relationship with You by working forgiveness for us. Now lead us in Your ways. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Dec 22—Romans 14:10-19, Psalm 28

Loving Lord, bring Your kingdom among us so we know Your joy. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 23—Luke 1:39-49, Psalm 34:1-10

Good and loving Father, fill us with joy at the news of Jesus' coming. In His name we pray. Amen.

Dec 24—1 John 4:7-16, Psalm 110

Loving Father, Your gift of love in Jesus has met all our needs. Guide us with Your Spirit to share it with others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 25—Hebrews 1:1-6, Psalm 2

Gracious God, we hear Your voice and the name of Jesus, and we rejoice in Your saving Word. Receive our thanks in Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 26—1 Peter 1:3-9, Psalm 100

Merciful God, with thankful hearts, we rejoice in Your coming to us. May our joy be evident to all. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 27—1 John 1:1-7, Psalm 11

Lord Jesus, allow us to share the joy we know over Your birth so others may know it with us. Amen.

Dec 28—Revelation 19:5-9, Psalm 96

O God, we give You glory for the salvation You secured for us through Your gracious work. Hear our praise for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Dec 29—1 Chronicles 16:23-34, Psalm 97

Heavenly Father, You come among us, bringing life and salvation. May all creation join with our joyous song. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 30—Luke 2:8-20, Psalm 86:8-17

God of mercy, fill our hearts with joy so that our mouths share the wonder of Jesus' birth. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dec 31—Romans 8:31-39, Psalm 40:4-10

Loving Lord, enable us to see all of Your great gifts so we may enter the new year with peace and hope. In Jesus' name. Amen.



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 The church's website is 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 JANUARY ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15.***

**CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING**

* Pizza for Lunch

DEC 4TH 10 AM**BULLETIN DEADLINE****DEC 7TH 10:30 AM****WELCA CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER****AT THE DREAM****DEC 11TH 12 PM****Must register no later Dec 6th by calling the St James church office***CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING****DEC 12TH 12 PM****BULLETIN DEADLINE****DEC 14TH 10:30AM****KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE****DEC 15TH 12 PM****BULLETIN DEADLINE****DEC 21ST 10:30AM****CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE****DEC 24TH 7:30PM****BULLETIN DEADLINE****DEC 28TH 10:30AM****BULLETIN DEADLINE****JAN 4TH 10:30AM****CHURCH UN-DECORATING****JAN 8TH 10 AM**

* Pizza for Lunch





NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

December 12th 12 PM

COVID Guidelines will be in effect!

*****During the winter months Church Council Meetings
will be held the second Sunday after Worship Service.***



Worship Guidelines

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



**"LOVE IS A
FOUR LEGGED WORD"**



WELCA OF ST JAMES INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE!

WHEN: November 7 - December 19

WHAT: Dog and cat food, treats and small blankets.

WHO: You, you and you

WHERE: Please bring your donations to the church and place them under the WELCA Tree

Did you know our Human Society is a "NO KILL NETWORK!"



Please Help Us



WELCA NEWS

Let's face it, the pandemic has affected every part of our lives, including WELCA. We haven't disappeared or given up on our work for the church. We are in the planning stages for upcoming events and activities. Watch the bulletins, newsletters and website for more news.

To help fulfill our mission WELCA is looking for new members. If you or someone you know would like to join us contact Peggy Thatcher or Donna Wilt.

WELCA's Christmas Get Together *All are invited!*

DATE DECEMBER 11, 2021, WHERE: The Dream

TIME: 12PM

*Must register no later Dec 6th by calling the St James church office

This opportunity provided by
THRIVENT grant.



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WOMEN
of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church



1407 Eighth Avenue
Altoona, PA 16602

814-944-6835

stjamesaltoona@gmail.com
www.stjamesaltoona.org



**Christmas Eve Service
December 24th 7:30 PM**

No Service December 25th

DECORATE
the Church

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on December 4th. We will un-decorate on January 8th. Pizza will be provided for those who come to help.



Poinsettia

Memorials and Honorariums

Betty Jean Boslet
IN MEMORY
CHARLES AND ORA HETRICK
IRVIN J BOSLET, AND DOLORES HOOVER

David and Dana Detwiler
IN HONOR Verna Mills
IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM MILLS AND
MARGARET (PEG) DETWILER

Donna Jean Foster
IN MEMORY OF
LOUISA MARSHALL
JOAN AND CHARLES REDENBERGER
KENNETH, SR AND MARGARET FOSTER
KEN FOSTER JR

William Freeman Family
IN MEMORY OF
CLARA AND CHARLES EBERST
MARY BURKET
CARL AND RUTH BURKET

Bob and Karen Hench
IN MEMORY OF
ROBERT AND VIVIAN HENCH
ROBERT AND BLANCHE SCHROEDER

Marian and Bob Holsinger
IN MEMORY OF
MARIAN, WALTER AND BETTY MULLER



Poinsettia

Memorials and Honorariums



Robert and Evelyn Holsinger
IN HONOR OF
PARENTS, CHILDREN, AND GRANDCHILDREN
IN MEMORY OF
WALTER, MARIAN AND BETTY MULLER, AND PATTY SHARRAR

Mark Hoover
IN MEMORY OF DELORES HOOVER

David, Brian, Tracy, Tara and Matthew Leonard
IN MEMORY OF OUR MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER
MARLENE LEONARD AND
OUR FATHER AND GRANDFATHER
ROBERT LEONARD

Sharon Lightner
IN HONOR OF MY GRANDCHILDREN
KATHRYN, NATHAN AND JACOB

Shirley Manbeck
IN MEMORY OF
DAVID, GRAMMY JEAN, NATHAN AND SHEILA

Donna and Bill Wilt
IN HONOR OF OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN
AND SPOUSES
ERIC AND JULIA WILT AND ELLIOTT WILT,
ERRIKKA AND ERIC KUHSE
ETHAN AND ASHLEY WILT
DANA AND TODD MAYO, HALEY, JADA, SIENNA

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

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

Pastors— Search in Progress
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
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

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