



# Kirchenblatt January 2023

(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:

Vice Pastor's Report	2-3	Prayer List	4	WELCA	12-13
Financials	4	Daily Readings	5-7	Committee List	20
Birthdays	4	Announcements	9-19		

**In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor Drew McCaffery**  
**Phone: 814-944-7560 Cell: 814-538-9036**

**OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-THURSDAY 9 AM-1PM**

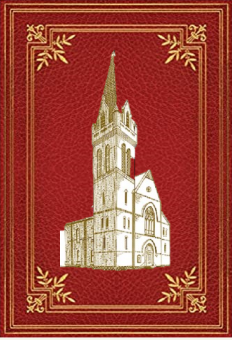
**EMAIL: STJAMESALTOONA@GMAIL.COM**

**WEBSITE: WWW.STJAMESALTOONA.ORG**

**PHONE: 814-944-6835**

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

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



## Vice Pastor's Report January 2023

Dear Members of Saint James,

### *What is God up to?*

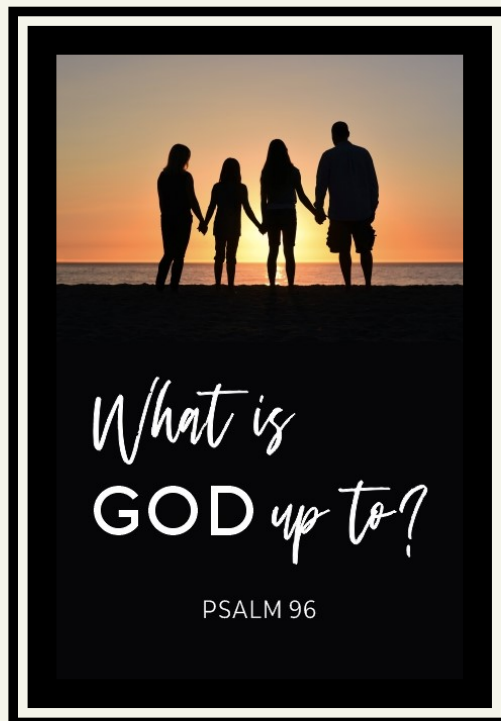
Ah a new year, a new me! At least that is what we typically say a few days after New Years. For many people, we will try a New Year's Resolutions, and as you can guess it—Health is typically one of the top resolutions. For Churches, this is no different because as a new year begins, we try to plan and even set up for the coming year. We make plans for assorted programs, plan trips or retreats, may even begin organizing other activities within and outside of the church. St James is especially no different to this task as. We understand about how the world around us continues to change, this especially was triggered by the Covid Pandemic. We made adjustments which we felt were appropriate at the time and continue to make necessary evaluations.

It is the hope in this coming year, in this new partnership of you and I, we have a year of discernment and conversation of who are we as a congregation by reflecting on our past, seeing where we are now, and listening to where the Spirit is calling us into the future. One of the things I have learned, and trust me...I continue to try to, is the art of listening, especially to what God is trying to say. I want us in this coming year to spend that time in listening and maybe even dreaming where St James is going into 2023 and beyond. This has been something which I believe Council has had some conversations with, in the vacancy since the departure of Pastors Scott & Carol Custead.

Now, I know for many this may sound scary and uncertain because when this kind of conversation bubbles up, many fear the worst. *I am sure you are trying to play various scenarios in your head at this very moment.* We are not going to talk about any drastic shifts, changes, or take any types of votes, I want to make that perfectly clear. This time of sharing will be a time to dream together and listen to one another on where the Spirit is calling us...much like the disciples experienced on Pentecost. Will some of the dreams be far out there, like pastor doing magic tricks during his sermons, maybe or will they be something unique that no one our community offers...quite possible. What I do know, is these conversations will be a time for us to see the gifts and passions of St James which we may have been holding onto for some time. This will also provide a time for you and I to get to know each other and understand why St James continues to be an important community in your faith journey. Over these past few years, we realize that we are not to hoard our gifts and story from the world but are called by God to share. So let us dream with one another and with the Spirit to see where St James can go into a new year and beyond.

Peace ><>

Pastor Drew



**Contribution & Attendance Summary****October 2021**

Contributions \$1,198  
Average Weekly Attendance: 14

**October 2022**

Contributions \$1,331.79  
Average Weekly Attendance: 12

**INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY****October 1, 2022 - October 31, 2022****INCOME**

Bank Interest	\$0.11
Contributions	
General	\$1,331.79
Designated	\$
Special	\$
Other Income	\$4,030.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,361.90

**EXPENSES**

Pastoral Administration	\$0.00
Worship & Music	\$561.62
Office	\$1,126.52
Custodial & Property	\$2,642.25
Uncategorized	\$55.94
	<hr/>
	\$4,386.33

**January Birthdays**

Carolyn Feather	1/5
Paul Feather	1/11
Deanna Kenney	1/19
David Leonard	1/21
Ariel Manbeck	1/24
Sienna Mayo	1/7
Alysia Tyler	1/18
Carol Weaver	1/14
Elliott Wilt	1/20

***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, Debbie Thomas,  
Jeff Bickel, Steve Lightner,  
Carol Weaver, Donna Foster,  
Jean Bickel, Donna Wilt, Bill Wilt,  
Carolyn Feather, Bill Dambeck,  
Judy Dambeck

Those serving in our military

***Allegheny Lutheran Home:***

Janet Kauffman

***Homewood***

Sylvia Malsatzki

***In their own homes:***

Deborah Manbeck



Jan 1—Luke 2:21, Psalm 8

Dear Lord, help me live this new year in the powerful name of Your Son, Jesus.  
Amen.

Jan 2—2 Kings 19:14-19, Psalm 148

God of the universe, forgive me for trying to fix things by my own strength. Help me turn to You for all comfort and help. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 3—Luke 5:1-11, Psalm 32:1-7

Dear God, thank You for blessing and forgiving me even though I don't deserve it. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 4—James 3:1-12, Psalm 34:11-14

Dear God, tame my tongue. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 5—Hebrews 10:19-25, Psalm 62:1-8

Lord, help me put my confidence in You, especially in times of doubt, worry, and trouble. I trust Your promises. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 6—Matthew 2:1-12, Psalm 112:1-4

Dear Jesus, help me share the good news that You are the light of the world.  
Amen.

Jan 7—Isaiah 40:28-31, Psalm 63:1-8

I come, O Savior, to Thy table, For weak and weary is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able To satisfy and make me whole: Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good! Amen. (LSB 618:1)

Jan 8—Romans 6:1-11, Psalm 1

God, help me to consider myself "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Romans 6:11). I pray this in His name. Amen.

Jan 9—Ephesians 2:1-10, Psalm 6

"Lord, help me to abandon my self-confidence and rejoice in Your grace alone" (TLSB, p. 2019). In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 10—2 Corinthians 12:1-10, Psalm 86:1-7

Dear Lord, thank You for Your recurring grace amidst my recurring prayers. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 11—Genesis 3:8-13, Psalm 27

Lord, when I want to run and hide from You, turn me around in repentance. This I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



Jan 12—Matthew 7:24-27, Psalm 40:1-5

Dear Lord, I pray that others may know of Your Son, Jesus, who is the source of eternal stability. In His name I pray. Amen.

Jan 13—1 Peter 4:7-11, Psalm 100

Dear Lord, give me joy in all my vocations. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 14—Titus 2:11-15, Psalm 130

Lord, thank You for buying me back. Help me be zealous for good works in Your name, Jesus, in which I pray. Amen.

Jan 15—2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Psalm 111

God, help us spread the message of Your reconciliation. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Jan 16—Ephesians 2:13-21, Psalm 133

God, bring healing to our broken world, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Jan 17—John 6:53-69, Psalm 61:1-3

Lord, when I don't understand Your Word, "lead me to the rock that is higher than I" (Psalm 61:2), Jesus, the Word, in whose name I pray. Amen.

Jan 18—John 5:25-29, Psalm 16

God, thank You for Your promise to resurrect my body. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 19—Luke 18:9-14, Psalm 147:1-6

Jesus, keep me humble. Amen.

Jan 20—Hebrews 11:8-12, Psalm 119:41-48

Lord, nothing is too hard for You. Give me faith like Sarah to believe Your promises. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 21—Judges 3:7-12, Psalm 25:11-22

God, forgive me again and help me live as Your child. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 22—John 10:7-18, Psalm 139:13-18

Creator God, protect the precious gift of life You give to all people, especially the smallest and most vulnerable among us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 23—Philippians 4:10-13, Psalm 31:1-8

I am content! My Jesus is my light, My radiant sun of grace. His cheering rays beam blessings forth for all, Sweet comfort, hope, and peace. Amen. (LSB 468:3)

Jan 24—2 Timothy 1:1-7, Psalm 119:25-32

God, thank You for the people in my life who told me about Jesus. Help me to do the same. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 25—Joshua 24:6-13, Psalm 81:10-16

Faithful God, forgive my lack of trust and strengthen my faith in You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 26—Hebrews 12:5-9, Psalm 23

I walk with Jesus all the way, His guidance never fails me; Within His wounds I find a stay When Satan's power assails me; And by His footsteps led, My path I safely tread. No evil leads my soul astray; I walk with Jesus all the way. Amen. (LSB 716:5)

Jan 27—Galatians 5:16-25, Psalm 103:1-5

Lord, fill me with gentleness. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 28—Romans 8:26-30, Psalm 38:9-15

Holy Spirit, thank You for lifting up my prayers and sighs. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 29—Romans 8:31-39, Psalm 118:1-7

Dear God, help me not to worry. Keep me firm in the faith all the days of my life. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 30—Luke 13:31-35, Psalm 106:44-48

Lord, "hide me in the shadow of Your wings" (Psalm 17:8). In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jan 31—Joshua 24:14-18, Psalm 2

Lord, help me to worship only You, the one true God. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Your Daily Prayer







## *St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church*

1407 Eighth Avenue  
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814-944-6835



[stjamesaltoona@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesaltoona@gmail.com)  
[www.stjamesaltoona.org](http://www.stjamesaltoona.org)



# Announcements and Upcoming Events

## IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,

In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor Drew McCaffery

Phone: 814-944-7560 Cell: 814-538-9036

Email: [pastordrew0604@gmail.com](mailto:pastordrew0604@gmail.com)

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.

## **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 FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS, SUNDAY, JANUARY 15.***



## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

UN DECORATE CHURCH  
SWEETS AND TREATS  
POTLUCK  
COUNCIL MEETING

JAN 7 10 AM  
MAR 5 10 AM  
MAR 12 12 PM  
MAR 19 12 PM



# WHAT'S HAPPENING!!



## NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2023



## SWEETS AND TREATS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS  
WILL BE

March 5, 2023

\* We are always looking for volunteers to sponsor Sweets and Treats. If you're interested there is a sign up sheet in the Sunday School Room. Your support is appreciated!



The next Potluck Dinner is

March 12, 2023



# WELCA NEWS

It is amazing what a small group of volunteers can accomplish but St. James did it again!

Thrivent made it possible for WELCA to enjoy a delicious lunch at Perkins. Our project for the Helping Hands event was a great success.

If you see the Christmas tree in the St. James church narthex you will see the many items collected for the HOPE DROP INN.

Aimee Burns executive Director of Blair County NAMI spoke to the group regarding "Christmas Stress"

A big thanks to all who participated in the luncheon and also to those who donated the many items for those unable to obtain their own health and beauty care items.

Thank you for Andrea Paul of Thrivent for attending the get together. Special thanks to Peggy Thatcher for writing the grant to Thrivent.

This is the 6th year that Thrivent has awarded St. James Lutheran Church a grant to do various projects. Ask yourself why so many members of St. James have Thrivent tee-shirts? It's because we get them "free" when a Thrivent project is planned.

Did you know Thrivent has 2.5 million members?

**THANK YOU THRIVENT!**

**thrivent®**







Women of the  
**ELCA** 

# *Poinsettia*

## *Memorials and Honorariums*



Betty Jean Boslet  
IN HONOR OF  
JEFFREY AND CAROL MARLETT, SR. FAMILY  
ALAN AND CAROL WEAVER FAMILY  
ANDREA, JACOB AND ELIJAH SVIDERGOL  
IN MEMORY  
CHARLES AND ORA HETRICK  
IRVIN J BOSLET, AND DOLORES HOOVER

Dana and Dana Detwiler  
IN MEMORY OF  
DAVID AND MARGARET DETWILER  
WILLIAM MILLS  
IN HONOR OF  
VERNA MILLS

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

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

Bob and Evelyn Holsinger  
 IN HONOR OF  
 PARENTS BOB AND MARIAN HOLSINGER  
 CHILDREN NICK, KASEY AND KELLEY  
 AND GRANDCHILDREN BRAEDEN, ZACH AND MAX,  
 SAMANTHA AND JACK  
 IN MEMORY OF  
 WALTER AND MARIAN MULLER, BETTY MULLER  
 AND PATTY SHARRAR

Mark Hoover  
 IN MEMORY OF DELORES M HOOVER

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

St. James Lutheran Church  
 IN MEMORY OF  
 BOB CIVILS, TODD WILKINS AND JOE YANKE

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

Mike and Lori Savino  
 IN MEMORY OF  
 OUR PARENTS BOB AND DONNA CIVILS,  
 TONY AND MILDRED SAVINO

Donna and Bill Wilt  
 IN MEMORY OF  
 OUR PARENTS, BROTHERS AND SISTERS  
 IN HONOR OF  
 GREAT GRANDDAUGHTER RORY JEAN WILT,  
 CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN  
 TODD, DANA, HALEY, JADA AND SIENNA MAYO,  
 ERIC, JULIA AND ELLIOTT WILT,  
 ERIC AND ERIKKA KUHSE,  
 ETHAN AND ASHLEY WILT





## JOIN US AS WE DO DISASTER RELIEF IN SARASOTA, FLORIDA



### *Disaster Clean Up*

We will help remove and possibly rebuild designated areas, working with Lutheran Disaster Response, which were hit by Hurricane Ian in Sept 2022.



### *Engage in your Faith*

Every evening, we hope to explore the local community with various excursions which may include some beach fun, sunset worship, devotions, provided by Luther Springs Camp Counselors.



### *Hand out Meals*

We will hand out meals to the local community.



### *Explore the Community*

We also hope to explore Sarasota through snorkeling trip, sunset dolphin excursion or a boat outing. \*Dependant on availability

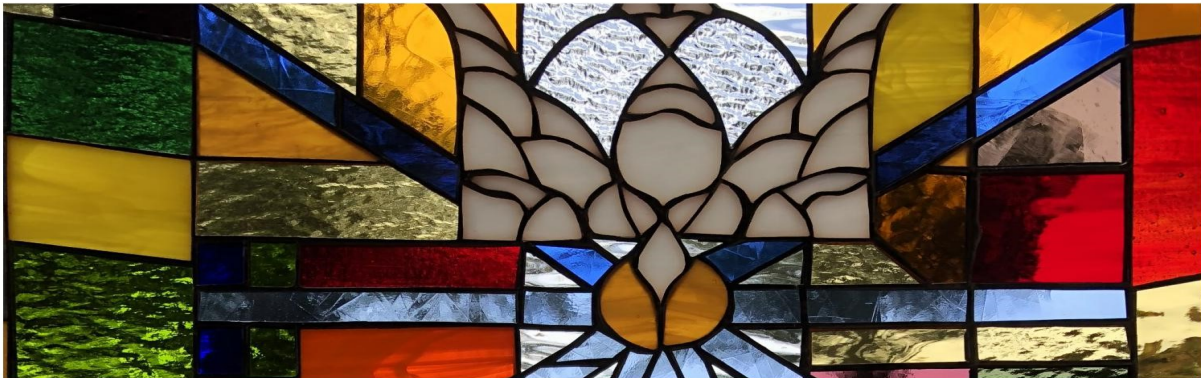


**FOR YOUTH (AGES 15-18)  
REGISTRATION WILL BE AVAILABLE  
IN JANUARY**

**IF INTERESTED, CONTACT PASTOR  
DREW MCCAFFERY**  
pastordrew0604@gmail.com



**Allegheny Synod**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## *Synod Assembly Nominations*

**Where is the Holy Spirit calling you?**

Prayerfully consider how you can serve your Synod

### Synod Council

*2 Year Term:* 1 Lay Male, 1 Youth (Age 15-18)

*3 Year Term:* 1 Lay Female , 1 Lay Male, 1 Clergy

### Discipline Committee

*4 Year Term:* 1 Lay Male

*5 Year Term:* 1 Lay Female , 2 Clergy Female

*6 Year Term:* 1 Lay Female , 1 Clergy Male

### Consultation Committee

*3 Year Term:* 1 Clergy Female

*5 Year Term:* 1 Clergy Male

*6 Year Term:* 1 Lay Female

### Mission Endowment Committee

*3 Yr. Term:* 2 Clergy/Lay, Male or Female

**For further questions or information about the various positions,  
please contact Pastor Drew McCaffery  
([pastordrew0604@gmail.com](mailto:pastordrew0604@gmail.com))**



## Duties of respective committees

**Synod Council** (3 Yr. Term by Assembly Vote, Youth-2 Yr Term)  
*Each person elected to the Synod Council shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod, with the exception of ordained ministers on the roster of this synod who reside outside the territory of this synod. The process for election and the term of office when not otherwise provided shall be specified in the bylaws. A member of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, unless otherwise elected as a voting member of the Synod Council, may serve as an advisory member of the Synod Council with voice but not vote. Meetings are held Bi-Monthly (every other month) or if a special meeting is called by Bishop and/or council members.*

**Consultation Committee** (6 Yr. Term by Assembly Vote)  
*The Consultation Committee of this synod shall consist of at least six persons and not more than 12 persons, of whom half shall be ordained ministers and half shall be laypersons, who shall each be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of six years without consecutive reelection. The functions of the Consultation Committee are set forth in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and in Chapter 17 of this Constitution. The size of the Consultation Committee, in accord with this provision, shall be defined in this synod's bylaws. Committee is on call at the request of the Bishop.*

**Discipline Committee** (6 Yr Term by Assembly Vote)  
*From the ELCA Constitution: There shall be set forth in the bylaws a process of discipline governing officers, ministers of Word and Sacrament, ministers of Word and Service, congregations, and members of congregations. Except as provided in 20.18. or 20.19., such process shall assure due process and due protection for the accused, other parties, and this church. Since synods have responsibility for admittance of persons into the rostered ministries of this church and have oversight of pastoral and congregational relationships, the disciplinary process shall be a responsibility of the synod on behalf of this church. Committee is on call at the request of the Bishop.*

**Thirty-Fifth Annual Allegheny Synod Assembly****NOMINATIONS FORM**June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Please "X" below all positions of interest. (Number) = Number Elected for that position

<u>Synod Council - 3 Yr. Term</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Female (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Male (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy - Male or Female (1)	<u>Discipline - 6 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Female (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy Male (1)	<b>INSERT DIGITAL PHOTO HERE</b>
<u>Synod Council-2 Yr. Term</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Male (1)* <input type="checkbox"/> Youth-Age 15-18 (1)	<u>Discipline - 5 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Female (1)* <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy Female (2)*	
<u>Consultation - 6 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Female (1)	<u>Discipline - 4 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Male (1)*	
<u>Consultation - 5 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy - Male (1)*	<u>Mission Endowment Fund Committee:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Yr. Term (2) Clergy/Lay - Male or Female	
<u>Consultation - 3 Yr. Term:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy Female (1)*	<i>*Terms have been adjusted due to no fulfillments in previous assembly election(s)</i>	

Last Name:			First Name:			Middle Int.:	
Street Address:				City/State/Zip:			
Telephone:				Email:			
Congregation:				Congregation City/Town:			
Current Occupation:				Previous Occupation:			
Year of Birth:		Education:					
Church Service Position / Years of Service (Please print legibly or type if not completed online. List no more than 5):							
Significant Community Service (Please print legibly or type if not completed online. List no more than 3):							
In 100 words or less, describe your unique talents that you could contribute to the position(s) of interest above. (Please print legibly or type if not completed online.)							
Are you willing and able to fulfill the duties of this position? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, with the help of God							

The Nominations form must be completed by **April 24th, 2023** to be included in the Assembly packet. Any received after that date (up until 4PM Monday, April 24th, 2023) will be uploaded digitally at the Assembly.

Please send completed form with picture to the Allegheny Synod, ELCA, Attention: Pr. Drew McCaffery, Nominations Chair, 701 Quail Avenue., Altoona, PA 126602 or email to via email to [pastordrew0604@gmail.com](mailto:pastordrew0604@gmail.com) with Attention: Pr. Drew McCaffery, Nominations Chair.

### **Church Council Members**

Mark Hoover—President  
Donna Wilt—Vice President  
Evelyn Holsinger—Secretary  
Ralph Grove—Treasurer  
Betty Boslet  
Dana Detwiler  
Donna Foster  
Sharon Lightner  
Sylvia Malsatzki  
Shirley Manbeck  
Mike Savino  
Bill Wilt

### **St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff**

*Vice Pastor— Pastor Drew McCaffery*  
*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**

\*Dana Detwiler  
\*Donna Foster  
\*Evelyn Holsinger  
\*Sharon Lightner  
\*Donna Wilt  
\*Mike Savino

#### **Christian Education/ Social Ministry**

**\*Evelyn Holsinger**  
\*Sharon Lightner  
\*Sylvia Malsatzki  
\*Shirley Manbeck  
\*Donna Wilt

#### **Worship & Music**

**\*Mark Hoover**  
\*Dana Detwiler  
\*Donna Foster  
\*Sharon Lightner  
\*Sylvia Malsatzki  
Pat McConnell

#### **Finance**

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

#### **Stewardship/Evangelism**

**\*Donna Wilt**  
\*Dana Detwiler  
\*Sharon Lightner

#### **By-Laws**

**\*Mark Hoover**  
\*Betty Boslet  
\*Mike Savino

#### **Property**

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

\* Denotes Council Member  
Thrivent Rep.—  
Robin Kessler