



Kirchenblatt May 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	Announcements	8-15
Financials	4	Daily Readings	5-7	Committee List	16
Birthdays	4				

**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

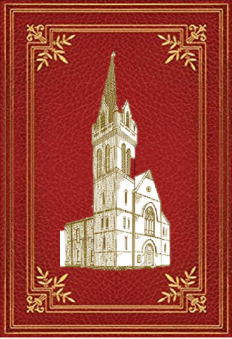
EMAIL: STJAMESALTOONA@GMAIL.COM

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 May 2023

Pastor's May Musings

The Spirit is on the move

The time after Easter is always a unique one, especially in the life of the church. We just come off of the Easter experience which we have been preparing for weeks, we take part in the all the additional services (especially with Holy Week), we put the extra energy into special music and activities for Easter and then it's done. We begin to wonder what is next. Many churches tend to move on with their church lives and we see the mark downs on Easter decorations and candies in stores but the celebration of Easter continues until Pentecost (which is Memorial Day weekend if you are thinking ahead). Another high day within the Church as we think of the Holy Spirit, images of fire, wind, movement, change (Pastor...do not curse in your newsletter), and so much more. Then it seems like we go into this wait mode until fall because we deserve a little rest after a busy 3-4 months.

Rest is not the word I would use when I consider some of my clergy colleagues, whom I primarily work with, because we are always getting roped into something else (mostly by each other). We tend to take part in the various events and volunteer with Camp Sequanota or we are participating somewhere else within the life of the Church. My roping, this year, was to help organize a synod wide youth trip to do disaster relief in SW Florida (you can see further details in this newsletter). This Summer, we are trying something new in teaming up with Bethany for their monthly outdoor worships at Highland Park. Those are just a glimpse of something things which I know of as I write this musing.

Why do I share this information? I think it is easy for us to consider how the Church is only busy or active between Nov-Apr aka Advent-Easter. This is far from the truth because just as life continues to be in action, so does the Church. It is important to know how the Spirit continues to be in movement, always dialoging with us, and helping us discern where we are as a community of faith in this world. We especially played with some of that dialogue during our Lenten Dinner Worship Series and are hoping to play with it again throughout the summer worship times. While being in dialogue and dreaming with the Spirit can be exciting cause it provides an opportunity to see ways in which we can engage our faith, our community, and our Church, it can also be a little scary because it provides a space to remind us how things are different from what they use to be and can sometimes leave a lot of wiggle room of where we could go. I don't know how the Spirit continues to blow in our midst. I will say that, so far, I have seen various ways in which the Spirit bubbling up at St James and I am interested where those conversations will continue to arise.


Let us take, this new season of the year & church to hear and join in the moving Spirit which Jesus promises to join with us.

Pastor Drew

Contribution & Attendance Summary	
February 2022	
Contributions \$1,624.00	
Average Weekly Attendance: 14	
February 2023	
Contributions \$1,214.00	
Average Weekly Attendance: 13	

May Birthdays

Donna Foster	5/22
Betsy Manbeck	5/14
Mike Savino Jr	5/29
Andrea Svidergol	5/16
Donna Wilt	5/24
Ethan Wilt	5/1



INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY
February 1, 2023 - February 28, 2023

INCOME	
Bank Interest	\$0.08
Contributions	
General	\$1,114.00
Designated	\$100.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$14,020.00
	\$15,234.08
EXPENSES	
Pastoral Administration	\$706.29
Worship & Music	\$587.54
Office	\$1,210.16
Custodial & Property	\$12,022.34
Uncategorized	\$0.00
	\$14,526.33

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, Bill Wilt, Staff Sgt John Hiles
Donna Foster, Jean Bickel, Donna 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



May 1—Genesis 17:1-22, Psalm 105:1-10

Loving Father, thank You for the gift of laughter. Help us to have a posture of faith, joyfully resting on the promises of Your covenant with us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

May 2—Genesis 18:16-33, Psalm 17:1-8

Lord, trusting in Your love, let our closeness to You be evident in the boldness of our prayers. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 3—Genesis 24:34-58, Psalm 20:1-6

Lord, let faith light each step and make all of our what-ifs become clear. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 4—Genesis 28, Psalm 128

Lord, always allow us to see the blessing in being obedient to You and being part of Your plan. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 5—Genesis 29:1-20, Psalm 100

Lord, when obedience doesn't seem worth it, let us see that You love us more than we even know. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 6—Genesis 29:35—30:24, Psalm 82

Lord, use my weakness and humble my heart so that I might glorify You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 7—Romans 3:19-31, Psalm 12

Lord, we praise You. Through faith in Jesus alone, we stand righteous before You. In His name. Amen.

May 8—Matthew 15:21-28, Psalm 37:1-25

Lord, thank You for making me part of Your family and for all of the blessings that come with it. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 9—Judges 3:1-15, Psalm 78:41-61

Lord, "see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!" In Jesus' name. Amen. (Psalm 139:24)

May 10—John 7:1-18, Psalm 62

God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit— to You be all glory, honor, and praise. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 11—Jonah 1-2, Psalm 69:1-16

Lord, allow me to grasp Your great mercy for me and willingly share it with others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 12—Luke 5:1-11, Psalm 25:4-14

Lord, let us humbly trust You to be the Master of our lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 13—Romans 10, Psalm 96

Lord, let our words and actions testify to Your Word and Your love at work in our hearts. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 14—Proverbs 31, Psalm 22:9-10

Lord, let us honor the women of faith in our lives, whom You bless in many ways to further Your kingdom. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 15—Proverbs 9:1-6, Psalm 90:1-12

Lord, help me to live and walk in the insight of Your love for me in Jesus, in whose name I pray. Amen.

May 16—Matthew 6:25-34, Psalm 127:1-2

Lord, "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You" (Isaiah 26:3). In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 17—2 Samuel 7, Psalm 27:1-6

Lord, like David, all we can do is thank and praise You for Your unmatched gift! In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 18—John 16:4-15, Psalm 51:10-17

Lord Jesus, thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit to guide us while we wait for Your return. Amen.

May 19—Philippians 1:12-18, Psalm 138:1-8

Lord God, when I feel down and out, let Your Gospel message continue to be shared through my circumstances. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 20—Judges 7:1-23, Psalm 33:10-22

Lord, You are our God. We are chosen and blessed. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

May 21—Jeremiah 29:1-14, Psalm 102

Lord, let me never decrease in my faith that You are always seeking my welfare. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 22—2 Chronicles 30, Psalm 86:5-12

Lord God, let us never forget all we have to celebrate in You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

May 23—Ephesians 4:1-16, Psalm 133

Lord, let each one of us continue to grow in Christ so that we may cause the whole body to grow and function together with love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 24—Malachi 3:6-18, Psalm 50:1-15, 23

Lord, all we have is Yours. Let us glorify You with Your gifts. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 25—2 Corinthians 9:6-15, Psalm 112

Lord God, make us cheerful givers, sowing seeds of generosity out of thankfulness for all Your good gifts. Use our giving to Your glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 26—Romans 7:14-25, Psalm 139:1-12

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the light that dispels our darkness. Amen.

May 27—Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 39:4-13

Lord, breathe Your Spirit upon us and make us live for You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 28—Acts 2:1-8, 12-21, 36-47, Psalm 107:1-7

Lord God, Your Word is packed with meaning from start to finish. Let us keep asking, "What does this mean?" to discover all that You want to reveal to us through the power of the Holy Spirit, who was given to God's people at Pentecost. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

May 29—Joshua 4, Psalm 89:1-4

Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness. Make me recall Your faithfulness often and share about it with others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 30—Matthew 16:13-26, Psalm 40:1-10

Lord, help me "go big" with You now, and then take me home! In Jesus' name. Amen.

May 31—Luke 1:38-56, Psalm 34:1-7

Lord God, heavenly Father, keep us in sync with all You are doing in our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Your Daily Prayer




pray
EVERY DAY



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

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 MAY ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,
MONDAY, MAY 15.***



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

ALLEGHENY CHORALE CONCERT	APR 30 3 PM
BIBLE STUDY @ BETHANY	MAY 3 1 PM
SWEETS AND TREATS	MAY 7 10 AM
BIBLE STUDY @ BETHANY	MAY 10 1 PM
KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE	MAY 15 12 PM
WELCA MEETING	MAY 20 10:30AM
COUNCIL MEETING	MAY 21 12 PM
BIBLE STUDY @ BETHANY	MAY 24 1 PM
BIBLE STUDY @ BETHANY	MAY 31 1 PM
SUMMER PICNIC WORSHIP	JUN 11 10 AM
KIRCHENBLATT ARTICLE DEADLINE	JUN 15 12 PM
CHURCH PICNIC	JUN 25 11 AM
SUMMER PICNIC WORSHIP	JUL 9 10 AM
SUMMER PICNIC WORSHIP	AUG 13 10 AM



WHAT'S HAPPENING!!



NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

May 21, 2023

SWEETS



TREATS

SWEETS AND TREATS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS
WILL BE**

May 7, 2023

Provided by Shirley Manbeck

* 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!



Bible Study Update

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Studies: Wednesday Bible Study group will be returning on May 3rd at 1pm in the Basement Fellowship Hall, at Bethany, as we begin a brand new series with the Gospel of John. A lot of excitement is buzzing for what we will encounter through John's story. Some dates we will not be meeting during the summer because Pastor Drew will be gone for various points due to other commitments but this will not hinder our experience. Hope to see there!

Faith on Tap: We continue to meet on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month as we will be reading Kate Bowler's book, *Everything Happens for a Reason*. This book will shed light on Dr. Bowler's experience as she is diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and how she wrestles with the typical language, we as Christians, use when individuals go through difficult situations. Below is the schedule for the upcoming months:

<u>May Months</u>	<u>June Months</u>
<p>May 2nd: <i>Preface & Diagnosis</i> May 17th: Will not meet as Pastor will be away at Camp Sequanota</p>	<p>June 6th: <i>Object Lessons & Magic Tricks</i> June 20th: <i>Seasons & Surrender</i></p>

CHURCH PICNIC

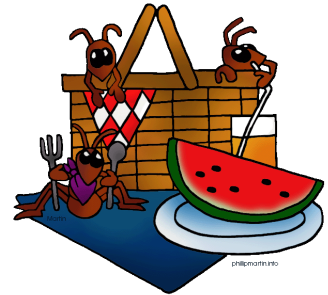
Planning for the church picnic has begun. You can use the sign up sheet on the stand in the narthex or on the foyer bulletin board. Or use the sheet on the next page.

Church Picnic will be held June 25, 2023 at Highland Park, Pavilion #1



Early Announcement-Summer Picnic Worship!

With summer upon us, we figured we would enjoy the weather and outdoors as part of worship. Traditional, Bethany has held Picnic Worship during the summer months and is inviting St. James to join them as well. *We will still be having our traditional Picnic in Late June, so further information will be coming. We will be gathering at Highland Park for these Outdoor Picnic Worship once a month during the summer at 10am as a combined service between Bethany & St. James. Those dates are June 11th, July 9th, and August 13th. We will have an abridged communion worship service and will then enjoy the picnic festivities. Bethany will provide the main dish for the picnics. We are asking for individuals to bring a side and/or a dessert to be shared with those in attendance. We also ask for you to provide your own appropriate beverage. We are also planning to have some form of entertainment once our worship service has concluded. If something changes with these picnics, we will keep you in the loop.



See you on June 11th at 10:00am at Highland Park!



Allegheny Chorale
presents

Listen to the Music



Sunday, April 30 at 3pm
St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Altoona

Tuesday, May 2 at 7pm
First Presbyterian Church, Tyrone

Deborah Estright, Director

Free to the Public

*** Congregation is asked to bring cookies for the reception after the concert.**



WELCA NEWS

Our Next Meeting is May 20th at 10:30 AM

WELCA will purchase a potted flower to the Mothers on Mother's Day, May 14th 10:30 AM.



We will provide a meal to the poor individuals that meet at Bethany Lutheran Church on May 27th (Saturday) and help serve the meal.

We are planning our summer luncheon at The Spruce Creek Tavern and a trip to Martins Farm Market in Spruce Creek on June 15th (Saturday). This is a treat from WELCA. Everyone in the congregation is invited. Closer to the time we will have a contact name and number to call for your reservations. Please come and joy us on this summer day.



St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church



**1407 Eighth Avenue
Altoona, PA 16602**



814-944-6835

**stjamesaltoona@gmail.com
www.stjamesaltoona.org**

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

Worship & Music

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

By-Laws

- ***Mark Hoover**
- *Betty Boslet
- *Mike Savino

**Christian Education/
Social Ministry**

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

Finance

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

Property

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

Stewardship/Evangelism

- ***Donna Wilt**
- *Dana Detwiler
- *Sharon Lightner

* Denotes Council Member
Thrivent Rep.—
Robin Kessler