



Kirchenblatt October 2023

(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 Drew McCaffery
Phone: 814-944-7560 Cell: 814-538-9036**

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-THURSDAY 9 AM-1PM

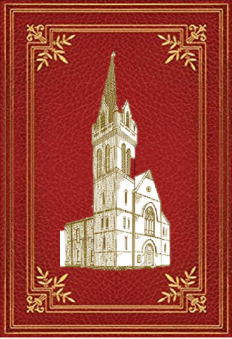
EMAIL: STJAMESALTOONA@GMAIL.COM

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 October 2023

Pastor's October Musings

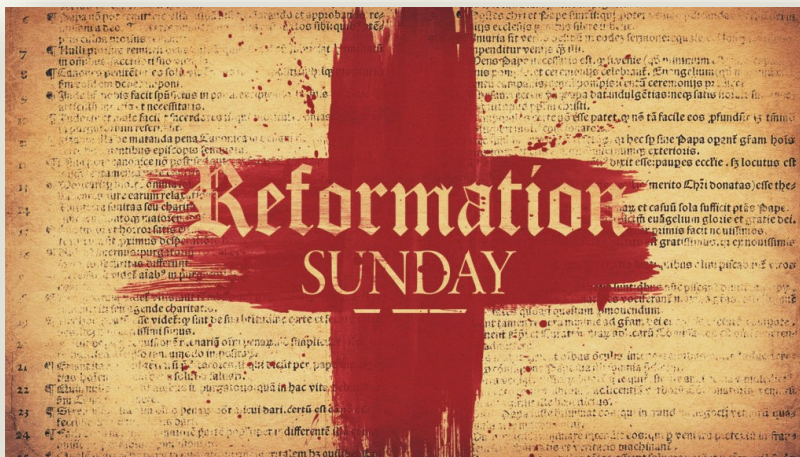
We are entering into what I find to be some of the richest portions of the Church year. Now don't get me wrong, I am a huge fan of Advent/Christmas because there is something about the music, decorations, and aura of the season. I enjoy Lent/Easter because it brings together the deep meaning and understanding of our faith because of the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Over the past few years, I have found a fondness for the specialty which the fall Sundays bring because of their deep connection to the past.

Reformation Sunday reminds us of our Lutheran roots in not only when Martin Luther nailed the 95 Thesis but it serves as this extra day in which are to be reformed in our faith. Not only is this day important to our Lutheran heritage, but Reformation Sunday also reminds us of the continued work of the Spirit. Through the Spirit, we are called into a relationship which is always renewed and we are to engage in the work of the Church and world which is also in constant motion. I will also admit a mini-fondness for Reformation as I am not a cradle Lutheran or someone who has been Lutheran all my life. *Ask me some time if you want to know more.*

While this should be more of a November reflection but in my top 3 favorite services of the Church Year has to be All Saints Sunday. It is on this day, we gather with our community to honor and give thanks for those who have gone before us, not only in the past year but beyond. I know for many congregations, it only feels as though it is worthy of celebrating when we have lost members to the church triumphant in this past year. In my time of reflection, it serves as a day we should give thanks for all members of our wider church and community. All Saints may seem like a rehashing of a funeral and for some this can be difficult feeling because of our experiences around death. All Saints Sunday is again another time we come together to celebrate the beauty and grace found in our baptism which connects us with our faith and our siblings in this world and the next.

As we enter into this newer, ever changing, and rich season, may we not only reflect on our past but celebrate in the ways our faith connects us to Spirit leading us into the future.

Pastor Drew



Contribution & Attendance Summary

July 2022

Contributions \$1,61
Average Weekly Attendance: 9

July 2023

Contributions \$848
Average Weekly Attendance: 10

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

July 1, 2023 - July 31, 2023

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$848.00
Designated	\$0.00
Special	\$186.79
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	\$5,034.79

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$583.26
Worship & Music	\$587.54
Office	\$1,207.49
Custodial & Property	\$928.14
Uncategorized	\$967.23
	\$4,273.66

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.)

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

Oct 1—1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Psalm 126

We give You thanks, Lord Jesus, for being so strong for us. Amen.

Oct 2—1 Kings 19:1-8, Psalm 25:11-18

Heavenly Father, give me strength for this day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 3—Romans 8:18-25, Psalm 62:1-8

Lord Jesus, grant us patience as we wait for You. Amen.

Oct 4—Leviticus 19:1-4, 9-18, Psalm 119:57-64

Fill us with love for Your commands and desire for Your precepts, O Lord our God. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 5—Luke 5:27-32, Psalm 70

Lord Jesus, our Great Physician, help us, for we are still not well. Amen.

Oct 6—Isaiah 44:21-23, Psalm 36:5-9

Lord God, I praise You for redeeming me from all my sins. Strengthen my faith to trust in Your mercies toward me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 7—Ephesians 6:10-20, Psalm 91

Be my sword and my song on this day as I struggle against the enemy, O Jesus. Amen.

Oct 8—Habakkuk 3:17-19, Psalm 108

Father in heaven, renew my joy this day, even in the midst of suffering. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 9—Matthew 19:16-30, Psalm 69:1-18

O Christ, through whom all things are possible, give me the courage to follow You wherever You may lead me. Amen.

Oct 10—Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 29

Father in heaven, let us ever keep Your name holy. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 11—Titus 3:1-8, Psalm 101:1-4

Lord Jesus, help me to love others as You love them. Amen.

Oct 12—Daniel 3:8-30, Psalm 13

You alone are Lord of all, O God. We trust in Your salvation. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 13—John 11:17-44, Psalm 56:8-13

Lord Jesus, stay with me. Amen.

Oct 14—Deuteronomy 4:1-14, Psalm 119:9-16

Heavenly Father, grant that all parents would faithfully teach their children Your Word and ways. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 15—2 Timothy 2:8-13, Psalm 136:1-16, 23-26

Thank You, Jesus. Though I have failed You many times, You have never failed me. Amen.

Oct 16—Job 26, Psalm 8

O loving Creator, look with favor upon us. In Jesus' name and for His sake. Amen.

Oct 17—Mark 10:46-52, Psalm 40:11-17

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us. Amen.

Oct 18—Jeremiah 2:20-32, Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Lord God, let us ever be mindful of Your abiding, continued presence in our lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 19—1 Peter 1:13-21, Psalm 116:1-9

Lord Jesus Christ, fix our eyes on You alone as our hope in this life. Amen.

Oct 20—Joel 2:18-27, Psalm 48

Draw near to us, Lord Jesus, for we long to receive everything You provide. Amen.

Oct 21—Colossians 3:1-17, Psalm 51:1-12

Help us to put off the old and embrace the new, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Oct 22—Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, Psalm 147

Our lives lie ever before You, Lord. Be our God in every moment, giving us all that we need, according to Your plan and in Your time. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 23—Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Psalm 22:1-18

Lord Jesus, thank You for giving Your life for mine. Let me always rejoice over the salvation You have won for me. Amen.

Oct 24—Jonah 4, Psalm 103:8-14

Hear us when we cry to You, Lord God. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 25—John 15:12-17, Psalm 33:13-22

Lord Jesus, my truest friend, help me to love others as You love me. Amen.

Oct 26—Lamentations 3:22-33, Psalm 86:1-13

Lord, as You will, and as You know, have mercy. Amen. (attributed to Macarius the Egyptian)

Oct 27—James 3:1-12, Psalm 19:7-14

May everything that we say to others point to You as our loving God and Father. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 28—Isaiah 52:1-10, Psalm 135:1-14

Lord Jesus, thank You for making us heirs of all the benefits of Your kingdom. Amen.

Oct 29—Luke 24:50-53, Psalm 57:7-11

Let us ever be mindful of Your promises, Lord Jesus, and may we be watchful for how You fulfill them. Amen.

Oct 30—Genesis 3:1-19, Psalm 94:8-15

Forgive me for where I have wandered, Lord. Draw me close to You by the work of Your Spirit in my heart. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Oct 31—1 Corinthians 15:12-28, Psalm 46

Alleluia, You are risen, Lord Jesus! We praise You for filling our lives with purpose and meaning. Help us to live as witnesses of Your great love for the world. 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 NOVEMBER ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15.***



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

SWEETS AND TREATS	TODAY	OCT 1 10 AM
BLESSING OF PETS	TODAY	OCT 1 4 PM
*Bethany Lutheran Parking Lot		
ASWO COVENTION REGISTRATION DUE		OCT 2
*Registration Form on Page 17		
COUNCIL MEETING		OCT 8 12 PM
ASWO CONVENTION		OCT 21
OCTOBERFEST		OCT 22 12 PM
WELCA MEETING		OCT 28
*Time and Place TBD		
REFORMATION SUNDAY		OCT 29
ALLEGHENY CHORALE CONCERT		DEC 3 3 PM



WHAT'S HAPPENING!!



NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

October 8, 2023

SWEETS



TREATS

SWEETS AND TREATS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS
WILL BE
OCTOBER 1, 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 Allegheny Chorale presents their 39th Season
Christmas Concert**



St. James Lutheran Church

December 3, 2023

3PM





Bible Study Update

Faith on Tap (NEW SERIES ALERT)- We just finished our series by Kate Bowler. We are switching gears to do a book study on Richard Rohr's *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*. A description about Rohr's book-*In the first half of life, we are naturally preoccupied with establishing ourselves; climbing, achieving, and performing. But as we grow older and encounter challenges and mistakes, we need to see ourselves in a different and more life-giving way. This message of falling down - that is in fact moving upward - is the most resisted and counterintuitive of messages in the world's religions.* Join us on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the Month at Marzoni's in Greenwood at 6p.

Wednesday Bible Study: We are continuing our series on the Gospel of John. Join us at 1pm on Wednesdays, downstairs in the Fellowship Hall!

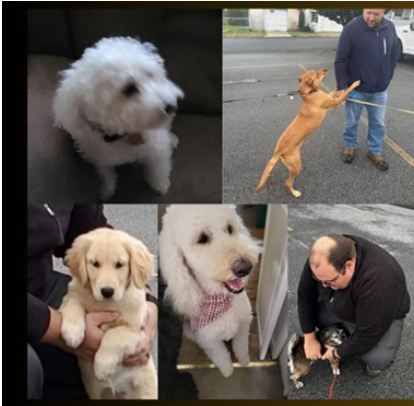
We hope you will take part in our various Bible Study offerings.



REFORMATION SUNDAY

Reformation Sunday is around the corner. Wear Red on Oct 29th.

Reformation Sunday is a special day for those of us in the Lutheran Church. We as Lutherans and many Protestant Churches celebrate on the Last Sunday of October “Reformation Sunday” where Martin Lutheran called for a conversation of the Church. We celebrate this moving of the Holy Spirit by wearing RED for the day. See you on October 29th as we celebrate the Spirit which continues to move in the Church.



BLESSING OF THE PETS

Bethany Lutheran Church , Parking Lot
October 1st, 2023 at 4:00 pm

Bring your Pet (on a leash or in a crate) or
 a photo to be blessed and receive a treat!

206 3rd Ave, Altoona, PA 16602



Blessing of the Pets: Oct 1st

On Sunday, October 1st at 4:00 p.m. in Bethany’s church parking lot, we will celebrate The Blessing of the Animals and commemorate the memory of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. This is especially special because St. Francis of Assisi is celebrated on October 4th every year!! Because of this, we will celebrate The Blessing of the Animals and commemorate them. Bring your furry, scaly, or fishy friend for a blessing and short liturgy. We ask that pets are either in crates or on a leash. Even though, snakes are Pastor’s least favorite animal (no offense), he will bless them as well. If your pet has problems with other animals, please be sure you can control them or you are welcome to bring a photo of your pet for blessing.



October 22, 2023

Dinner will be served following the Worship Service.

Dinner to include Sauerkraut, Pork, Mashed Potatoes, Kneadles (German Bread Dumpling) with Gravy, Hot German Potato Salad, Hot Dogs & Rolls, applesauce and drinks.

We are asking members to bring a side dish, vegetable or dessert.

Hosted By: Robin and John Kessler





WELCA NEWS

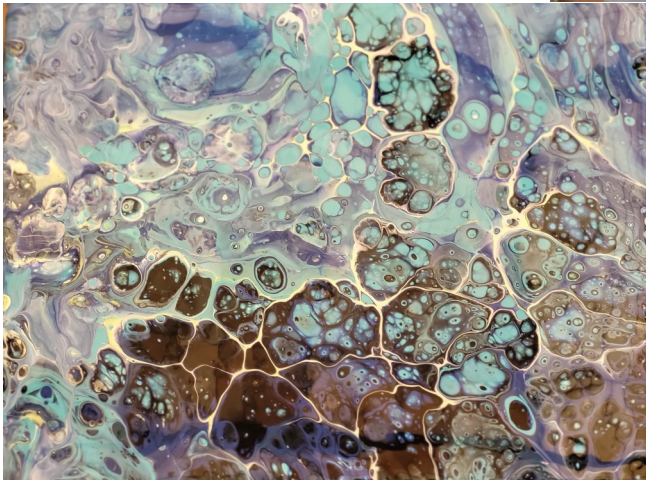
ALLEGHENY SYNODICAL WOMEN EVENT Day of renewal "THE OLD IS GONE, THE NEW IS HERE"

Highlights:

Our Keynote Speaker and Pastor for the day was Pastor Rebecca West, from Moxham Lutheran Church Johnstown Pa. Approximately 45 attended a day of fellowship and fun. We prepared global health kits, simple exercise, and paint pouring. A wonderful lunch was served and was enjoyed by all.



Pictured: Diane Schultz, Peggy Thatcher, Donna Wilt, Diane Santella, Shirley Manbeck, Paulette Stehle



ASWO CALL TO CONVENTION

The Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization Board and Convention Planning Committee invite you to attend the **Thirty-fourth Annual Convention on Saturday, October 21, 2023. Registration will begin at 8:30. We will gather at Newry Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1030 Shamrock Lane, Newry, PA** The theme for the day is *"The Old is Gone, The New is Here."*

We convene once yearly to conduct the business of the ASWO. **The agenda for the convention will be similar to last year. We are planning a half day convention.** We will enjoy a hot breakfast and then move on to the worship and business meeting. There will be no workshops.

Each affiliated unit is encouraged to send a voting member, formerly called a delegate, who will attend the business meeting and vote on issues affecting our synodical unit. The future of the Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization will be decided. This year we need to elect a president, vice-president, treasurer, and three board members. It is getting increasingly difficult to find women willing to take on these leadership rolls. **We ask for your help in recruiting qualified women to fill these positions. If not, we may have no choice but to dissolve the organization.** Carol McClure is chair of the nominating committee. Please feel free to contact her if you are interested in any of these openings. Her phone number is (814) 695-6904.

We invite all women of the Allegheny Synod to attend the convention whether you have an affiliated women's group or not. The convention is a time for you to take advantage of learning about the Women of the ELCA, worship, and lots of fellowship with your sisters in Christ from across the Allegheny Synod.

It is our hope that you will come and be a part of this annual gathering and help us celebrate 34 years of Women of the ELCA.

In this newsletter you will find three different forms to complete. One sheet is the **Registration Form. All persons attending the convention must register and pay the \$15 registration fee.** Also, you will find a form for the **Voting Member** from your unit. **Each Voting Member must fill out this form.** There is also a **Nomination Form. Anyone willing to fill any of the positions on the board should complete both sides of the Nomination Form. All forms are due October 2, 2023.**

You notice that the fee for attending the 2022 ASWO Convention is **\$15. We hope that this will encourage more women to attend.**

Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization
Thirty-fourth Annual Convention
 Newry Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1030 Shamrock
 Lane, Newry, PA
 Saturday, October 21, 2023 - Registration Begins at 8:30
 a.m.

REGISTRATION FORM

(Please complete a separate form for each person attending. Make copies as needed.)

ALL REGISTRATIONS ARE DUE OCTOBER 2, 2023

Name (First)

(Last)

Mailing Address

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Congregation Cong. # _____

City _____ Conference _____

Check all categories that apply to registrant:

Voting Member Alt. Voting Member Guest Officer Board First Time Attendee

Registration fee \$15.00

Please send check or money order (payable to **Allegheny SWO**) to the

Registrar: **Donna College**
188 Graybill Rd
Osterburg, PA 16667

Specify any dietary restrictions/special needs _____

I am willing to serve in worship as:

Reader Acolyte, Usher, or as needed



Thank You Pastor Drew!

St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

**1407 Eighth Avenue
Altoona, PA 16602**

814-944-6835

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



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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