



Kirchenblatt April 2024

(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	8-25
Financials	4	Daily Readings	5-7	Easter Flower Form	26
Birthdays	4			Committee List	28

**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

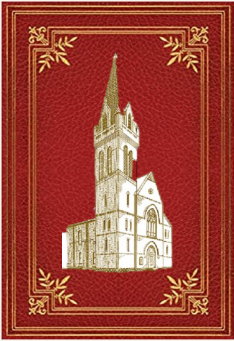
EMAIL: STJAMESALTOONA@GMAIL.COM

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 April 2024

Pastor's April Musings

Christ IS RISEN!!!

We have made it my friends! We made it through Ash Wednesday with putting ashes on our heads (or maybe you received a different kind of blessing that day), we have struggled for a month and a half with fasting or adding a special practice, we attended numerous services leading up to Easter Sunday, we sang and rung in the "Alleluias" on Easter morning as we celebrated the empty tomb. It looks like life can go back to normal, right? Yes, we may have gone through a whirlwind in the past two months with Lent and Easter Sunday, but thanks to the events which took place on that specific morning just a few days ago, things will never go back to "normal," if that is what you wish to call it.

When we gathered together to hear the story of Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Salome as they gathered at the empty tomb to hear and see how Jesus was not there but was risen from the dead, their world would be changed FOREVER. The same goes for us. While it is easy for us to say, "yes Jesus, the guy from over 2000 years ago died for us and then was raised from the dead." I want you to consider this quote again and especially in the realm of John 3:16. God looked at humanity in all our faults, our sins, in all of our shortcomings and saw hope in us. God loved us so much, the Word of God became flesh with Jesus who lived among us and took on all of those faults, sins, and shortcomings to the cross for not only him to die but for all of that bad stuff in our lives to be put to death as well. Through the suffering of Jesus, we have been given a clean slate, a new life, a do-over. Humanity is reminded of this second chance because Jesus, an individual who was thought to be dead was raised by the God of love.

This is why we continue to sing “Alleluias” because we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and the new life we are given, daily. The resurrection of Jesus is what our faith is all about. For some, it is ok just to come and hear the story of an empty tomb but imagine what it means to live your faith through the resurrection.

When we think about our faith, we talk about the various ways in which God has been active in our lives or at least try to talk about it. Many times, we realize days or in some cases YEARS down the road how God was right there in the moment with us. What would it be like this season of Easter and beyond (yes, Easter is more than just one day), we look for the various ways in which Jesus is alive and well in our lives. It would be almost as if, we put on Christ Goggles where we can look and see how Jesus is present in the moment with us. Imagine the impact it would be in your life to see how Jesus is right there. For some of us, it may bring comfort in knowing we are not alone in our troubles. By seeing Jesus in your own life, you might be able to witness the Love of Jesus to someone else, especially someone who is also struggling. By having your Christ Goggles, the celebration you are having for a life accomplishment will be even better. By living in the resurrection of the Risen Christ, we have a different outlook on our faith and our life.

As we are going to see throughout this season of Easter, we are called not only to see the various ways in which Jesus is alive in our lives but we are also called to share that message. This is our mission as the body of Christ. May you continue to see the resurrection of Jesus today and everyday.

Peace

Pastor Drew

Contribution & Attendance Summary
January 2023
Contributions \$1,255
Average Weekly Attendance:12
January 2024
Contributions \$835
Average Weekly Attendance:10



April Birthdays

Betty Boslet	4/12
Judy Dambeck	4/23
Thad Detwiler	4/10
Mark Hoover	4/2
Steve Lightner	4/20
Jeff Marlett Sr.	4/27
Pat McConnell	4/5
Eric Wilt	4/6



INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY
January 1, 2024 - January 31, 2024

INCOME	
Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$835.00
Designated	\$0.00
Special	\$
Other Income	\$35.00
	\$870.00
EXPENSES	
Pastoral Administration	\$
Worship & Music	\$728.84
Office	\$1,591.86
Custodial & Property	\$3,170.56
Uncategorized	\$
	\$5,491.26

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,
 Family of Janet Kauffman,
 Those serving in our military

Homewood
 Sylvia Malsatzki

In their own homes:
 Deborah Manbeck



Apr 1—Ezra 2:1-20, 64, Psalm 126

Father who frees us, as You give us strength for life's journey, help us encourage and support our brothers and sisters along the way. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 2—Nehemiah 2:1-8, 16-18, Psalm 111

Savior Jesus, fire up my heart and hands to do Your work in the lives around me, even when it's not easy. Amen.

Apr 3—Esther 6:1-12, Psalm 25:4-11

Awesome God, help me appreciate and encourage those around me today with uplifting words that point them to You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 4—Psalm 148, Psalm 98

Creator-God, even when my lips grow silent, let my heart sing with the knowledge of Your great love for me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 5—Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133

Holy Spirit, keep me humble and gracious. Help me put others first. And teach me to live in unity with my brothers and sisters. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 6—1 John 1:1-2:2, Psalm 105:1-8

Father, the people You put in my life have stories to share. Help me listen to them, care about their stories, and be ready to offer them the story of Your grace. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 7—John 20:19-31, Psalm 27:1-6

Dearest Jesus, the world frightens me sometimes. Calm my heart, stay by my side, and grant me Your peace. Amen.

Apr 8—Lamentations 3:52-59, Psalm 34:15-22

God in heaven, come to me and take away my fear. Let me offer hands of comfort to those around me today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 9—Ezekiel 3:1-9, Psalm 145:17-21

Dear Jesus, let me speak Your love to those around me today. Amen.

Apr 10—Daniel 3:16-28, Psalm 9:1-10

Mighty Jesus, help me see and stand with my Christian brothers and sisters who strive to follow You. Amen.

Apr 11—Psalm 4, Psalm 67

Dear God, help me be the good I want to see in the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 12—Acts 3:8-21, Psalm 16:7-11

Jesus, healer of all that is hurt and broken, use me to do good in the world, and let me use that good to point others to You. Amen.

Apr 13—1 John 3:1-7, Psalm 33:1-11

Heavenly Father, I am who I am because You are who You are. Make me daily more and more like Your Son, Jesus. In His name. Amen.

Apr 14—Hosea 1:2-9, 2:19-23, Psalm 30

Dear Jesus, You want the people around me to be Yours, whoever they may be. Use me to let them see that they are wanted and loved. In Your holy name. Amen.

Apr 15—Jonah 3:10—4:11, Psalm 65:1-8

God, let me see those around me with eyes of grace. Replace vindictiveness with empathy. When my mind begins to condemn others, remind me of Your endless compassion for me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 16—Micah 7:8-9, 18-20, Psalm 13

Brother Jesus, help me hold out a candle of hope to those in darkness around me. Amen.

Apr 17—Nahum 1:1-7, Psalm 24

Great and mighty King, ignite in me Your fury as I encounter evils and injustices in the world. Make me a warrior for what is good and a defender of the hurting and helpless. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 18—Psalm 23, Psalm 31:14-20

God of joy and mercy, let others see in me the unrelenting love with which You pursue them. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 19—Acts 4:1-12, Psalm 37:30-33

Loving God, make my joy in You contagious. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 20—1 John 3:16-24, Psalm 116:1-7

Brother Jesus, You opened Your heart and gave me all I need for my salvation. Give me eyes to see the need around me and a heart that chooses to help. Amen.

Apr 21—John 10:11-18, Psalm 28:6-9

Jesus, loving Shepherd, fill me with Your love for those who are different from me. Use me to welcome them into Your family. Amen.

Apr 22—Habakkuk 1:1-5, Psalm 59:1-10

God, I make messes every day. Work through them to bless the lives of my neighbors. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 23—Zephaniah 3:14-20, Psalm 90

Dear Father, help me open my arms to those around me and invite them, too, to feast at Your Table. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 24—Haggai 2:1-9, Psalm 91:1-10

Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—strengthen me to make this earthly body and life a fitting home for You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 25—Psalm 150, Psalm 39:4-7

God who made my body and filled it with life, fill my lungs to shout Your praises today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 26—Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 119:17-24

Guiding Spirit, show me who needs my presence in their life today. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Apr 27—1 John 4, Psalm 63:1-5

God, it can be hard to believe I'm loved. By Your Spirit and Word, speak to me again and again those precious words, reminding me that You love me, just as I am. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 28—John 15:1-8, Psalm 92:1-14

Father, when I get too big for my britches, remind me who I am, whose I am, and how much I need You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 29—Zechariah 1:1-6, Psalm 85:1-8

Dear God, call me back to You. Grant me a repentant heart that knows I need You. Renew in my heart a new spirit. Remind me I am forgiven, redeemed, and loved. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Apr 30—Malachi 3:6-12, Psalm 112:1-9

Father God, You pour blessing upon blessing into my life. Let Your goodness spill over from me into the lives of those around me. In Jesus' name. 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 APRIL, 15.***



UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:

SWEETS AND TREATS	APR 7 10 AM
POTLUCK DINNER	APR 21 12 PM
ALLEGHENY CHORALE SPRING CONCERT	APR 28 3 PM
SWEETS AND TREATS	MAY 5 10 AM
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING	MAY 5 12 PM
POTLUCK DINNER	MAY 19 12 PM
CHURCH PICNIC	JUN 23 11 AM

REMINDER: *Worship Service has moved back to the sanctuary.*



SWEETS AND TREATS

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH.



**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS WILL
BE: April 7, 2024
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!



**The next Potluck Dinner is
April 21, 2024
12PM**



**NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING
MAY 5, 2024
12 PM**



Free to the public



***Sunday, April 28, 2024 at 3pm
St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Altoona***

***Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 7pm
First Presbyterian Church, Tyrone***

Deborah Estright, Director

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

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 23, 2024 at Highland Park, Pavilion #2





Feeding Partnership with St Luke's Episcopal

Our neighbor, St Luke's Episcopal Church, have been in the process with the sale of their building. The plan is that St. Luke's will be able to continue to worship in their space as part of this sale but some of their other ministries are having to make some changes. In conversation between St James' council and representatives from St Luke's we made sure that St Luke's Monthly Feeding Ministry would continue in our neighborhood. Starting this month, we unfortunately were impacted by the snow in January, St Luke's will be hosting a free community luncheon. If you are interested in helping, please let Pastor Drew know and he will get you in touch with St Luke's point person.

Synod/Camp Sequanota Events:

Summer Camp at Sequanota starts in June with plenty of options for individuals of all ages. Check out Camp Sequanota's website for registration and details.

LOVE YOUR MOTHER (EARTH) RETREAT (APRIL 19-21)

COST: LODGING AND MEALS BY DONATION.

We all need to be outside more. Whether it is a five minute walk, resting by a stream, or a new year's goal to hike more - nature tells us who we are and whose we are. Join us this weekend for a 5K walk through nature as it springs to life, some Bible study, tree planting and an engaging session on how practicing our role in caring for our home. We only have one planet - this weekend is designed to help us appreciate and take ideas home to live more faithfully as a steward of it.

Tend Festival (June 23-25 at Camp Sequanota): Where are you filling up your faith? As the church begins to shift to live in our new post-Christian culture. God's people still need a place to be inspired and grow in our faith. It is hard to do weekly Sunday school or Bible study. Come to the Tend Festival to share in intentional time of faith discussions, good music, art, worship, ecology and fellowship. We all still need community support and nurture and this event has been a great way to find that community. This event will have an open schedule allowing participants the freedom to pick what is right for them. It will include options for multiple workshops, open recreation & hiking, food and time to refresh yourself and the family. More information about the event and workshop topics will be released on Camp Sequanota's website.

The Weekend (December 6th-8th in Huntingdon): We know the lives of those in High School can be difficult. Not only striving for the academic requirements of class but also the social demands of trying to be star athletes, president of 4 organizations, a noble prize winner, and starting a small business. Some of these seem unrealistic but are sometimes a real burden placed upon youth and all individuals. Our society has bred the need for people to be the top 1% of everything. *The Weekend* is a time where individuals can come and be you without any expectations. This 3 day event will have youth come to be in community, learn how they have special and unique gifts, and just come to have no requirements. *Further details will be forth coming.*



HE IS RISEN. HE IS RISEN INDEED

ALLELUIA

Easter 2024

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

There are over 775,000 words in the Bible and not one of them makes sense without these six: Jesus is risen from the dead.

There are roughly 2 billion Christians in the world and not one of them has a thing to say without these six words: Jesus is risen from the dead.

These are the words the women carried from the tomb. These are the words that have been passed from person to person and from community to community. These six words have found countless people whose lives were already dead—broken by pain and suffering, sin and darkness and given them new life.

The impact these words have had on countless lives since the first time they were spoken is immeasurable. How have these words changed your life? How have these words helped you emerge from the tomb of sin to new life?

Friends, Jesus is risen from the dead. May you live in the hope and promise of those words and experience the joy and hope of this Easter message every day of your life.

The Staff of the Office of the Bishop, Allegheny Synod
Bishop Paula, Pastor Kevin, Sue Ellen and Michelle.



Easter Flower Memorials 2024



*IMO Dave and Bonnie
By Barb Bickel*

*IMO Irvin J. Boslet
IMO Charles & Ora Hetrick
IMO Delores Hoover
IHO Andrea Boslet, Doug Price, Jacob and
Elijah Svidergol, Jeffrey and Carol Marlett and Family
IHO Alan & Carol Weaver and Family
IHO Andrea Boslet,
By Betty J Boslet*

*IMO My parents Harold and Ruth Hartley
By Susan Hartley*

*IMO Robert, Vivian and Hench
IMO Robert and Blanche Schroeder
IMO Dr. Anne Hench
By Bob & Karen Hench*

*IHO Parents Bob and Toots Holsinger
IMO Walter & Marian Muller
IHO Children Kasey and spouse (Jr), Nick (Brandi),
Nick, Kelley
IHO Grandkids Braeden, Zach, Samantha,
Jack & Max
IMO Grandparents Walter and Marian Mueller
Aunt Betty Mueller and Mother Patty Sharrar
By Bob & Evelyn Holsinger*





*Easter Flower Memorials
2024*

*IMO Delores Hoover
By Mark Hoover*

*IMO Our father and grandfather Robert Leonard
IMO Our mother and grandmother Marlene Leonard
By David, Brian, wife Tracy, Tara, Matthew Leonard*

*IMO my nephew Brian Smith
By Sharon Lightner*

*IMO David, Nathan, and Shelia
By Shirley Manbeck*

*IMO Lois and Dan Shultz
By Diane Shultz*

*IMO Our parents, brothers and sisters,
All loved ones*

*IHO great grandchild Rory
Grandchildren*

*Eric, Erikka,
Ethan, Ashley and Elliott
Todd and Dana Mayo,
Eric and Julia Wilt
By Donna & Bill Wilt*



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
Robin Kessler—Vice President
Evelyn Holsinger—Secretary
Ralph Grove—Treasurer
Betty Boslet
Sharon Lightner
Shirley Manbeck
Mike Savino
Diane Schultz
Bill Wilt
Donna 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—Victor 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

- *Evelyn Holsinger
- *Sharon Lightner
- *Donna Wilt
- *Mike Savino

Worship & Music

- ***Mark Hoover**
- *Sharon Lightner
- Pat McConnell
- *Diane Shultz

By-Laws

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

Christian Education/
Social Ministry

- ***Evelyn Holsinger**
- *Robin Kessler
- *Sharon Lightner
- *Shirley Manbeck
- *Diane Schultz
- *Donna Wilt

Finance

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

Property

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

Stewardship/Evangelism

- ***Donna Wilt**
- *Betty Boslet
- *Sharon Lightner

* Denotes Council Member
Thrivent Rep.—
Betty Boslet