



# Kirchenblatt June 2025

(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 Eli Hess  
Phone: 814-943-3972**

**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 June 2025

Dear Members of St. James:

Grace, mercy and peace from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As we begin the month of June, we are reminded that Father's Day is approaching. Father's Day is a day that we celebrate the fathers in our lives and being a father to our children and to those who are our adopted children. As we remember our fathers, we should also remember our spiritual Father in Heaven. We need to remember our Father in Heaven more than just a single day each year. We should remember Him each and every day as we pray to Him just as Jesus taught us to pray "Our Father who art in heaven." When we pray, we share with God everything that is going on in our lives including all that troubles us and causes us to worry and fears. But Jesus tells us don't let your hearts be troubled and don't be afraid. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we have peace with God. If we have His peace, then we also need not fear anything, nor do we need to be troubled or worried about anything. Because God is with us, He is there on our side to protect us and care for us. This is God's promise to us.

In the church, we tend to talk about God as an Almighty Being, who is in Heaven far away from us and looking over us in judgement? But Jesus tells us that we should have the same relationship as He had with God, one in which God is our Heavenly Father. Jesus taught us that God is our Father. If God is our Father, then we should have a very close and personal relationship with Him, just as Jesus had a close personal relationship with God. God is not some Heavenly Judge that has no attachment to us, but we have a God that is a Father to us. A God who is interested in us and knows us personally. So that we know Him, as Jesus knew Him as Our Father, who art in Heaven. This is the type of relationship that God wants with us, a loving, caring relationship with us as His children and He as our Father. What better relationship could we ever ask for with God than one in which He is our Father? A loving Father who cares for his children and who looks for out for them and protects them. This is the God that we have, the God who is our Father in Heaven.

May God truly bless you as a Father blesses His Children and may in this Summer be a time of great happiness and claim for you,

*Mark Hoover*

*President of Saint James Lutheran Church*

Contribution & Attendance Summary

March 2024

Contributions \$2,021  
Average Weekly Attendance: 10

March 2025

Contributions \$906  
Average Weekly Attendance: 9

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

March 1, 2025    March 31, 2025

INCOME

Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$726.00
Designated	\$180.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,906.00

EXPENSES

Pastoral Administration	\$632.48
Worship & Music	\$617.74
Office	\$1,006.54
Custodial & Property	\$4,379.29
Uncategorized	\$0.00
	<hr/>
	\$6,636.05

June Birthdays

Dave Detwiler	6/24
Karen Hench	6/28
John Kessler	6/14
Robin Kessler	6/24
Sharon Lightner	6/10
Verna Mills	6/6



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    Jeff Bickel    Bill Wilt  
Bob Holsinger Sr    Staff Sgt John Hiles  
Donna Foster    Donna Wilt    Bill Dambeck  
Bob Holsinger    Carolyn Feather  
Judy Dambeck    Evelyn Holsinger  
The soul and family of Debbie Thomas  
The soul and family of Debra Morgan  
The soul Marian Holsinger

Homewood

Sylvia Malsatzki

In their own homes:

Deborah Manbeck



Jun 1—Genesis 1:1-27, Psalm 8

Father, it's our joy to be Your children. Help us treat others as Yours also. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 2—Genesis 2:15-25, Psalm 133

Father, thank You for the companions You've given us and for always being our companion. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 3—Genesis 3, Psalm 5

Father, our sins are terrible and our guilt heavy. Forgive us and keep us safe in new life through Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Jun 4—Genesis 4:1-15, Psalm 55:12-22

Christ Jesus, teach us to serve our brothers and sisters in faith as You serve us. Amen.

Jun 5—Genesis 6:11-22; 8:13-22, Psalm 90

Drown my sins each day, Father, and grant me a spirit of gratitude for each day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 6—Genesis 11:1-9, Psalm 55:1-11, 23

Father, thank You for giving us Your Son's name and His forgiveness. It is in that name that we pray. Amen.

Jun 7—Genesis 12:1-7, Psalm 105:1-11

Father, thank You for fulfilling all Your promises and saving us through Your Son. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 8—Exodus 3, Psalm 105:23-45

God, we rejoice in being chosen by You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 9—Deuteronomy 5:1-29, Psalm 19:7-14

Lord Jesus, thank You for keeping God's Law for us to free us. Amen.

Jun 10—Joshua 1, Psalm 135

Savior, lead us on until we rest in Your eternal home. Amen.

Jun 11—Judges 2:1-5, 11-23, Psalm 32

Father, help our fickle hearts cling to Your faithful Son. Amen.

Jun 12—1 Samuel 8:4-20, Psalm 145:1-13

Lord, as You choose and serve us, help us to serve others. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 13—Ezekiel 39:21-29, Psalm 147

Jesus, thank You for making us part of history's greatest comeback, our redemption from sin and death. Amen.

Jun 14—Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 110

Lord, strengthen all those You've called to preach and teach about You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 15—Luke 1:26-38, Psalm 98

Let us praise You, Father, for the grace You show through Your Son! In His name. Amen.

Jun 16—Mark 1:1-11, Psalm 2

Dearest Father, thank You for holding us in Your hands. Support us with Your strength and gentleness. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 17—John 1:35-51, Psalm 66

Behold, the Lamb of God, who gives us blessings beyond belief! We pray in the name of Lamb, Jesus. Amen.

June 18—Matthew 8:1-17, Psalm 103

Savior, as You have taken every burden, I give You every praise. Amen.

June 19—Mark 4:35-41, Psalm 107:17-32

Lord, may Your peace reign in our hearts every day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

June 20—Matthew 5:17-20, 43-48;6:9-15, Psalm 78:1-8

Lord Jesus, restore our sense of wonder at what You have done for us. Amen.

June 21—Matthew 21:1-11, Psalm 118:14-29

Lord, thank You for being a king mighty enough to serve the entire world. Amen.

Jun 22—Matthew 26:17-29, Psalm 116

Lord, only You can wash away our sin. Thank You for sending Jesus to shed His blood for us. In His name. Amen.

Jun 23—Matthew 26:45-56, Psalm 64

Father, replace our fearful hearts with hearts of love for You and others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 24—Luke 23:1-25, Psalm 37:27-40

Father, thank You for speaking life into us through Your Lamb's sacrifice. In His name. Amen.

Jun 25—Luke 23:32-49, Psalm 22:1-19

Thank You, Jesus, for choosing the cross and choosing to save us. Amen.

Jun 26—Luke 24:1-12, Psalm 22:20-31

Lord, Jesus, we rejoice that You have conquered all our foes. Alleluia! Amen.

Jun 27—Mark 16:14-20, Psalm 96

Father, speak through us Your words of salvation for all to hear. In Jesus' name.  
Amen.

Jun 28—Acts 2:22-47, Psalm 67

Unite Your church, O lord, in spreading Your truth to the world. Amen.

Jun 29—Ephesians 2:1-10, Psalm 143

O Lord, stir up our hearts to hear and believe Your Word. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jun 30—Revelation 21:1-4, Psalm 27

Father, in love, help us to pray, "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20) In our Lord Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

# Your Daily Prayer



# Announcements and Upcoming Events

**IN THE CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY,**  
In the event of a Pastoral Emergency, please contact Pastor Eli Hess  
Phone: 814-943-3972

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 JULY ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS,  
SUNDAY JUNE, 15.***





## **UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:**

<b>Sweets and Treats</b>	<b>Jun 1 10 AM</b>
<b>St Lukes Community Lunch</b>	<b>Jun 11 12 PM</b>
<b>Church Service and Picinic</b>	<b>Jun 22 10 AM</b>
<b>*Highland Park Pavillion #2 with Bethany</b>	
<b>Church Service and Picinic</b>	<b>Jul 27 10 AM</b>
<b>*Highland Park Pavillion #1 with Bethany</b>	
<b>ST James Church Picnic</b>	<b>Aug 10 11 AM</b>
<b>*Highland Park Pavillion #1</b>	
<b>*<i>Please note date change</i></b>	
<b>Church Service and Picinic</b>	<b>Aug 24 10 AM</b>
<b>*Highland Park Pavillion #2 with Bethany</b>	
<b>Church Council Meeting</b>	<b>Sep 9 5:30 PM</b>



## SWEETS AND TREATS

### THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.



**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS WILL  
BE: June 1, 2025  
Provided By: Carol and Tina**

\* 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!



**NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL  
MEETING  
September 9, 2025  
5:30 PM**

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE FOR

*Marian (Toots) Ruth Kolsinger 05-18-2025*

Here is the link for the service on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5mRiUIrknc>



## ST LUKES COMMUNITY LUNCH

**June 11th 12 PM**

- Hosted by St James Lutheran Held 2nd Wednesday of each month in the St James Social Hall

## **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 August 10, 2025 at Highland Park, Pavilion #1

**PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!**





# Outdoor worship & Church Picnic



Please plan to attend our  
outdoor worships &  
picnics on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
of June, July, and August.



WORSHIP BEGINS AT 10:00 AM,  
FOLLOWED BY PICNIC LUNCH.  
MAIN DISH WILL BE PROVIDED.  
PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH,  
SALAD OR DESSERT TO SHARE.



**Location: Highland Park, Altoona**  
**June 22<sup>nd</sup> - Pavillion #2**  
**July 27<sup>th</sup> - Pavillion #1**  
**August 24<sup>th</sup> - Pavillion #2**





*Thank you to Shirley  
Manbeck for making the  
gorgeous Wreaths for  
Mother's Day Gifts for the  
Mother's of St. James which  
were donated by  
St. James WELCA.*



*Thank you!*



# *St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church*

**1407 Eighth Avenue  
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**[stjamesaltoona@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesaltoona@gmail.com)**  
**[www.stjamesaltoona.org](http://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**

*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