



Kirchenblatt August 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 August 2025

Dear Members of St. James:

Grace, mercy and peace from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. One of the interesting things that occurs within the Gospels is that the Disciples hardly ever asked Jesus to teach them many things. We know the Disciples never asked Jesus to teach them how to be a charismatic preacher or how to heal people. One of the things that His Disciples asked Jesus to do was to teach them how to pray. One of Jesus' disciples ask Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray as John taught his disciples to pray." From this request, Jesus taught His Disciples the Lord's Prayer. The Disciples knew that prayer was very important to Jesus. He was always slipping away and praying in the morning or late at night and sometimes Jesus would pray all night. They saw that prayer was how Jesus connected with God and they believed that Jesus' power came from His prayers, because He was talking to His Father in Heaven.

The Lord's Prayer should be called the Disciples' prayer. Jesus didn't need to ask for forgiveness of his sins, because Jesus was sinless. Therefore, we know that this prayer was for the Disciples to pray. Jesus taught the Lord's Prayer as an example for His Disciples to pray so that they would understand this was how we should pray. Jesus taught us that we need to first pray to our Father. We are not to pray "Oh, Holy, Eternal, Almighty God of Heaven's Army", but pray to "Our Father who is in Heaven hallow be your name." "Father" is different than what we think that it should mean. It is not a formal title, but it is a common name, Abba, that a son calls his father. This name Father in Aramaic basically means Daddy. It's a very personal and informal way of speaking to one's father. In this prayer, the Disciples were to pray that God is Holy and is in Heaven. That God's Kingdom will come to us here on earth or at least we will become a part of that Kingdom during our lives here on Earth. We are also to pray about our daily physical needs, our Daily Bread. Also we are to pray for our spiritual needs. In that we should forgive the sins of others that have been committed against us, just as God has forgiven our sins. Jesus said that we should pray that we should not come into a time of temptation or trial or tribulation.

Jesus also taught His Disciples that God's Kingdom and Power and Glory is now and is around us each and every day and is forever.

Jesus also taught His Disciples to be diligent and persistent in their prayers. This persistence isn't meant to change God's mind, but simply by persistently praying for something or someone, we start, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to see God's Will at work and we will start to form our prayers around God's Will. God already knows what He's going to do, and how He's going to answer our prayers. We understand that God may sometimes say "Yes", sometimes "No", and sometimes "Wait"; all in accordance with God's Will. Jesus also tells us that when we pray that we should ask, search, and knock. Because if we ask, we will receive; if we search, we will find, and if we knock, the door will be open to us. You may ask How much will God give us? Well, if God gave his Son to die for us so that our sins might be forgiven, don't you think that God will then give us anything that we ask for. Because what we asked for, is very minor in comparison to what God give us when He ask Jesus to die on a cross for us. Don't you know that God has the tendency to give us even more than we could possibly deserve or want, because He is a good, loving Father. Plus, He gives us His Holy Spirit so that we will know God's Will.

I encourage you to continue in your prayer life and to pray for your family and friends and for the members of Saint James Lutheran Church. This is what God has called us to do, to persistently and earnestly pray for those who we love, and to pray that God's Will is carried out in this world.

I pray that God may truly bless you with the grace that Jesus Christ win for us on the Cross and may our Summer be a time of great peace for you,

Mark Hoover

President of Saint James Lutheran Church

Contribution & Attendance Summary

May 2024

Contributions \$1,622.00
Average Weekly Attendance: 10

May 2025

Contributions \$0.00
Average Weekly Attendance: 9

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

May 1, 2025 May 31, 2025

INCOME	
Bank Interest	\$0.00
Contributions	
General	\$0.00
Designated	\$0.00
Special	\$0.00
Other Income	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,000.00
EXPENSES	
Pastoral Administration	\$914.72
Worship & Music	\$617.74
Office	\$1,873.19
Custodial & Property	\$626.19
Uncategorized	\$13.93
	<hr/>
	\$4,045.77

August Birthdays

Doug Kauffman 8/8
Sylvia Malsatzki 8/17



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
The soul of Deborah Manbeck

Homewood

Sylvia Malsatzki



Aug 1—Luke 19:1-10, Psalm 31:1-5, 16

Thank You, Jesus, for saving me FROM sin and death and saving me FOR a life of humble service to You. Amen.

Aug 2—Luke 1:26-38, Psalm 9:1-2

Thank You, Jesus, for coming into our world and calling us to follow You into Your heavenly kingdom. Amen.

Aug 3—John 20:26-29, Psalm 18:4-6

Thank You, Jesus, for rising from the dead, just as You had promised. Strengthen us to believe all that You reveal to us. Amen.

Aug 4—John 6:1-14, Psalm 74:9-17

Thank You, Jesus, for proclaiming to us the Word of God and being the Word become flesh, full of grace and truth. Amen.

Aug 5—Mark 14:53-62, Psalm 110

Thank You, Jesus, for being our great High Priest and bringing us to know the Lord our God. Amen.

Aug 6—John 18:33-37, Psalm 145:1-3

Thank You, Jesus, for being our King who rules and reigns within our hearts and lives by Your grace and mercy. Amen.

Aug 7—Acts 2:22-26, Psalm 33:18-22

Thank You, Jesus, for being our hope, which is built on nothing less than Your blood and righteousness. Amen.

Aug 8—Luke 2:8-14, Psalm 85:8-9

Thank You, Jesus, for being our peace in the midst of all troubling storms of life. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Aug 9—Luke 1:39-44, Psalm 32:11

Thank You, Jesus, for coming to earth and for being the source of joy in our heart and life. Amen.

Aug 10—John 3:1-2, Psalm 119:97-99

Thank You, Jesus, for teaching us what we need to know about You and Your kingdom here on earth. Amen.

Aug 11—Luke 4:40-41, Psalm 30:1-3

Thank You, Jesus, for being the one that I can depend upon to grant me healing and wholeness in body, mind, and spirit. Amen.

Aug 12—Luke 9:12-17, Psalm 111:1-5

Thank You, Jesus, for being our bread of life and for providing for all of our physical and spiritual needs. Amen.

Aug 13—Matthew 5:1-12, Psalm 119:49-50

Thank You, Jesus, for being our source of comfort, especially in the face of sorrow, grief, and pain. Amen.

Aug 14—John 14:25-26, Psalm 119:24

Thank You, Jesus, for giving us the counsel of Your Word and will. We continue to look to You for guidance and strength. Amen.

Aug 15—Luke 11:1-13, Psalm 25:14-15

Thank You, Jesus, for being my best friend who not only listens to my cries for help but also responds with a loving heart. Amen.

Aug 16—Matthew 28:16-20, Psalm 16:5-8

Thank You, Jesus, for being with us always. It is reassuring to know that we are not alone and that You are always close at hand. Amen.

Aug 17—Matthew 28:16-20, Psalm 116:5-7

Thank You, Jesus, for being with us in every moment of every day. Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Amen.

Aug 18—Matthew 6:25-34, Psalm 127:1-2

Thank You, Jesus, for going on before us to prepare the way and to be “the way, and the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). Amen.

Aug 19—John 14:1-7, Psalm 32:8-9

Thank You, Jesus, for leading us to our heavenly Father, for You and the Father are one. When we see You, we see the Father also. Amen.

Aug 20—John 8:31-32, Psalm 119:159-160

Thank You, Jesus, for being the source of all that is true and for setting us free from sin, death, our own sinful flesh, and the power of the devil. Amen.

Aug 21—Matthew 20:24-28, Psalm 27:2-4

Thank You, Jesus, for being my life. “Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee” (LSB 783:1/784:1). Amen.

Aug 22—Mark 4:35-41, Psalm 50:7-15

Thank You, Jesus, for being our place of rest. Thank You for delivering us from all the storms of life. Amen.

Aug 23—Luke 15:3-7, Psalm 78:52-55

Thank You, Jesus, for favoring us and finding us when we go our own separate way and for bringing us back to Your flock. Amen.

Aug 24—Luke 2:68-75, Psalm 19:14

Thank You, Jesus, for being our Redeemer and for purchasing our salvation with the shedding of Your blood on the cross. Amen.

Aug 25—Luke 9:1-6, Psalm 68:32-35

Thank You, Jesus, for conveying that same power on us who seek to serve You as we serve others in Your name. Amen.

Aug 26—Matthew 5:14-16, Psalm 27:1

Thank You, Jesus, for being our light and for making us sons and daughters of light in a world of spiritual darkness. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Aug 27—Luke 6:39-40, Psalm 77:13-15

Thank You, Jesus, for being the goal of our life. Make us holy and perfect, just like You. Amen.

Aug 28—John 10:11-16, Psalm 23

Thank You, Jesus, for being our Good Shepherd, who seeks us when we stray, provides for all of our needs, and leads us to our eternal safe place in heaven. Amen.

Aug 29—Matthew 7:24-27, Psalm 18:1-3

Thank You, Jesus, for being the solid foundation upon which we can build our lives. Amen.

Aug 30—Revelation 1:1-8, Psalm 150

Thank You, Jesus, for being our Alpha and Omega. Thank You for being with us at the beginning of our life and also at the very end of our life. Amen.

Aug 31—Luke 24:44, Psalm 138:1-2

Thank You, Jesus, for being everything to us, especially for being our closest and dearest friend and our Savior. 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 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 SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS, FRIDAY AUGUST, 15.



UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:

Sweets and Treats

Aug 3 10 AM

St James Church Picnic

Aug 10 11 AM

***Highland Park Pavillion #1**

Church Service and Picnic

Aug 24 10 AM

***Highland Park Pavillion #2 with Bethany**

Lutheran Day at the Curve

Aug 24 5 PM

Church Council Meeting

Sep 9 5:30 PM



SWEETS



TREATS

SWEETS AND TREATS

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH.

OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS WILL
BE: , 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

COMMUNITY LUNCH



ST LUKES COMMUNITY LUNCH

September 10th 12 PM

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

Thank you!

*Thank You to Bob and Evelyn Holsinger for providing the
July Sweets and Treats.*



pray
for
peace





Outdoor worship & Church Picnic



Please plan to attend our
outdoor worships &
picnics on the 4th 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 22nd - Pavillion #2
July 27th - Pavillion #1
August 24th - Pavillion #2



Come enjoy fun, food, and fellowship
at
Lutheran Day
at the
Altoona Curve

Sunday, August 24



Buffet begins at 5pm

Game begins at 6 pm

Please order your tickets by Sunday, August 10.

**Email alleghenysynodcurvetickets@gmail.com
or call/text 814.934.9941. Please mail payments
to the Allegheny Synod Office, 916 Hickory St.,
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648**

Tickets: \$15/each

Price includes all-you-can-eat
buffet one hour before the game
at the first base picnic area at
PNG Field and a Terrace level
(200-level) game ticket.

*Please note: Children 2 and under
are free.*

If you are unable to join us for the
buffet and wish to attend
ONLY the game, individual tickets
are \$11/each.

Fireworks following the game!
Kids 14 and under run the bases!



Ticket Order Form

Contact Name			
Contact Phone Number			
Number of Adults/Children 3+ Buffet and Game tickets		X \$15.00	= \$
Number of Adults/Children 3+ GAME ONLY tickets		X \$11.00	= \$
Number of Children Ages 2 and under	<small>Children ages 2 and under must sit on an adult's lap to receive a free ticket.</small>	FREE	= \$0.00
Postage & Envelope Cost if Requesting Mailed Tickets			+ \$0.75
Total Amount Enclosed			= \$
Mailing Address (If Requesting Mailed Tickets)			

If you wish for your tickets to be mailed to you, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope, or add an additional \$0.75 to your total.

Order Deadline - August 10

Mail completed order form and payment to:
Allegheny Synod, 916 Hickory St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
If you have questions, email alleghenysynodcurvetickets@gmail.com

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

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