



Kirchenblatt July 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 July 2025

Dear Members of St. James:

Grace, mercy and peace from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As we enter the month of July, we celebrate The 4th of July. This will be the 249th anniversary of the United States declaring its independence from the British Empire and the British Crown. July 4th has always been a day when we celebrate freedom from tyranny and the United States of America became an independent country. We celebrate on this date our freedoms. But are we really free? That's the question that I always have had. Are we really free to do whatever we want or are we free only with limitations?

In Galatians chapter 5, the Apostle Paul discusses the freedoms that we have as Christians. These Christian freedoms come from the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Paul tells us that we are no longer under the requirements of the law and the wrath that comes from the breaking of the law and sinning. He says that we are free to do whatever we want, but with limitations. God calls us not to go out and sin as much as we want and to be self-indulgent, but God calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to love one another. Thereby fulfilling the Holy Law.

As we can see from our own history that when the United States declared it freedom, the result was war and death. Immediately after the Declaration of Independence was signed, there was the great Revolutionary War. The Revolutionary War resulted in the deaths of many colonialists who believed in freedom and independence. Freedom always comes along with a price that price is death.

The same can be said of our Christian freedoms which we have gotten through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus was willing to fight the war and to win the victory through His Death on the Cross. By His Dying, He gives us freedom to live our lives within God's will. Through the Death of Jesus Christ, we are free from sin, death, and the Devil. No longer is sin, death and the Devil in control of our lives, so we are truly free. No longer do we have to worry about sin and the penalty for our sin which is death and the power of the Devil in the world. The freedom that Jesus gives us is a different type of freedom than the freedom that one gets from just signing a document. Jesus gave us true freedom. By giving up His Life and pouring out His Blood, we have forgiveness of sins and have eternal life. Therefore, we have victory over sin, death and the Devil by the power of Jesus Christ's Sacrificial Death on the Cross. We are truly free, if we believe in Jesus Christ.

May God truly bless you with the freedom that Jesus Christ win for us on the Cross 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

April 2024

Contributions \$785.00
Average Weekly Attendance: 10

April 2025

Contributions \$0.00
Average Weekly Attendance: 9

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

April 1, 2025 April 30, 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	\$644.72
Worship & Music	\$617.74
Office	\$1,658.31
Custodial & Property	\$3,564.03
Uncategorized	\$0.0057.03
	<hr/>
	\$8,220.48



July Birthdays

Bob Beahm	7/28
Dana Detwiler	7/29
Evelyn Holsinger	7/15
Bob Holsinger	7/29
Donna Kauffman	7/12
Shirley Manbeck	7/20
Lori Savino	7/2



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



Jul 1—Titus 2:11-14, Psalm 86:12-17

Dear gracious God, may I model my life after Your gracious example. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 2—Luke 6:27-36, Psalm 86:1-7

Dear merciful God, thank You for not giving me what I really deserve for my ungratefulness. Thank You for being so merciful to me, a sinner. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 3—Mark 10:17-27, Psalm 34:1-10

Dear good God, we praise You for Your perfect goodness. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 4—2 Timothy 2:8-13, Psalm 91:1-7

Faithful Lord, we praise You for Your unswerving favor and blessings in our lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 5—Romans 3:21-28, Psalm 9:1-10

Dear just God, thank You for fulfilling Your justice for my sin in Yourself, in Your Son, Jesus. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 6—Hebrews 4:14-16, Psalm 96:4-13

Dear holy God, thanks for Your holy life and for sacrificing it for my sinful one. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 7—Jeremiah 23:20-24, Psalm 139:1-10

Dear God, to have You beside me every moment of every day is such a comfort. Thank You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 8—1 John 3:16-24, Psalm 147:1-6

Dear all-knowing God, You are awesome in every way. Thank You for knowing and providing for our every need. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 9—Matthew 19:23-26, Psalm 68:28-35

Dear all-powerful God, help me trust Your almighty power and rely on You for all my needs. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 10—Hebrews 13:8-16, Psalm 100

Dear God, Your unchangeable nature brings me so much comfort. Thank You for Your stability in my life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 11—Hebrews 1:8-12, Psalm 90:1-6

God, eternity with You is going to be so unbelievably joyful that I can hardly wait. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 12—John 4:19-24, Psalm 51:10-19

Dear invisible but ever-present God, help me see You with eyes of faith and know You are always present in my life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 13—2 Peter 3:8-16, Psalm 27:6-14

Dear patient God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I pray that You will send people into my life with whom I can share Your patient love. Amen.

Jul 14—Revelation 5:6-12, Psalm 145:1-12

Dear God, there are no words to express how wondrous You are. Our hearts extol the greatness of Your love and mercy. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 15—John 14:1-7, Psalm 145:17-21

Dear Jesus, we thank You for the truth of Your life-giving death and resurrection. Amen.

Jul 16—Isaiah 53:3-12, Psalm 23

Dear restorer God, thank You for laying our sins on our Holy Savior so that we might be clean and new again. In His name. Amen.

Jul 17—2 Samuel 22:1-7, Psalm 5

Powerful Father, thank You for the protection of Your protecting Son. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 18—John 3:16-21, Psalm 103:1-19

Dear God, we do not deserve Your tolerance of our pitiful lives. Thank You for not dealing with us according to our sin, but instead laying our sins on Jesus. In His name. Amen.

Jul 19—Zephaniah 3:14-17, Psalm 65

Dear God, ruler of all, thank You for Your overwhelming generosity. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 20—2 Timothy 4:1-8, Psalm 7:8-13

Dear righteous Judge, forgive me of all my sins, and thank You for Jesus' life-giving death and resurrection. In His holy name. Amen.

Jul 21—Philippians 4:10-19, Psalm 55:16-23

Dear God, thank You for sustaining us in this life and the life to come. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 22—Isaiah 40:25-31, Psalm 119:73-80

Dear loving Comforter, surround us with Your arms of love and care and carry us on Your wings as an eagle in flight. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 23—John 2:1-11, Psalm 77:11-20

Dear God, thank You for Your miraculous power. For Your work in my life, help me give all glory to You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 24—1 Timothy 6:17-19, Psalm 22:1-19

Dear God, thank You for Your big heart. Grant me the grace to be tenderhearted toward others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 25—1 John 1:5-10, Psalm 89:11-18

Dear God of light, illumine my heart and mind so that I might worship You alone all my life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 26—John 15:12-17, Psalm 25:1-15

Dear Jesus, I love that we can be called friends. Help me be a good friend to others, all to Your glory. Amen.

Jul 27—Philippians 4:4-9, Psalm 46

Immanuel, thank You for Your closeness. Amen.

Jul 28—Isaiah 55:6-13, Psalm 104:1-30

O Lord, vast can hardly describe You. You are so big and so wonderful! We magnify You. We exalt You. We adore You! In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 29—Genesis 1:1-8, Psalm 19:1-6

Dear ingenious Creator, thank You for creating me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 30—Isaiah 41:10-20, Psalm 30

Dear tenacious God, thank You for never letting go. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jul 31—1 John 4:7-16, Psalm 107:1-15, 21-31

Dear loving God, we praise You for a sacrificial love for us that sent Your Son to the cross for the forgiveness of our sin. In Jesus' name. 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 AUGUST ISSUE OF THE KIRCHENBLATT IS, TUESDAY JULY, 15.



UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:

Sweets and Treats	Jul 6 10 AM
St Lukes Community Lunch	Jul 9 12 PM
Church Service and Picinic	Jul 27 10 AM
*Highland Park Pavillion #1 with Bethany	
St James Church Picnic	Aug 10 11 AM
*Highland Park Pavillion #1	
*<i>Please note date change</i>	
Church Service and Picinic	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 AND TREATS

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.



**OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS WILL
BE: July 6, 2025**

Provided By: Bob and Evelyn Holsinger

* 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



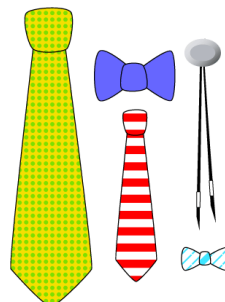
ST LUKES COMMUNITY LUNCH

July 9th 12 PM

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

Thank you!

*Thank You to St Jamesa WELCA for
providing the
Father's Day Treat.*



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 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