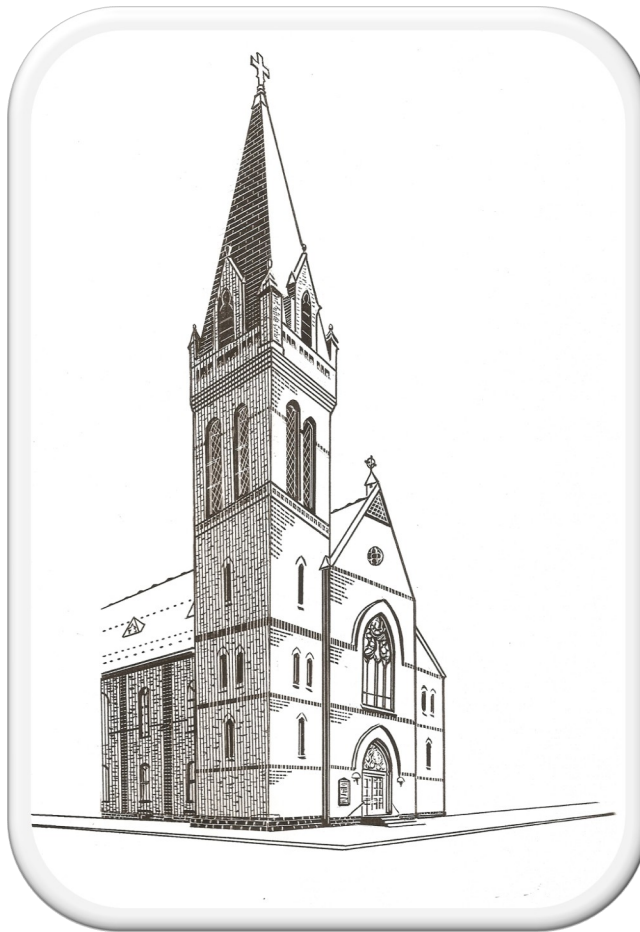




ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 9, 2025

1861 - 2025

**164 years of service
to our Lord and the community**

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Opening of Annual Meeting

A Reading From: Ephesians 4:1-7

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

*Prayer

Almighty God, you have called us to labor in your vineyard, and without you we can do nothing. Grant your gracious presence at this annual meeting, that what we do will build up your whole church. Let your Holy Spirit govern and direct us, that we may consult together peacefully, pleasing you with all that we say and do; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



**Saint James Evangelical Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes**

**ST JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 10, 2024- 11:45 AM**

The meeting was called to order by Council Vice President Robin Kessler at 11:43 am with a reading from Ephesians 4:1-7.

Members present: Robin Kessler, Sharon Lightner, Diane Schultz, Betty Boslet, Evelyn Holsinger, Lori and Mike Savino, Bob Hench and Donna and Bill Wilt.

Members absent: Mark Hoover and Shirley Manbeck.

Robin Kessler went over last year's Congregational Report. Diane Schultz made a motion to accept the report and Betty Boslet seconded.

New Business: All Committee reports were reviewed by the Congregation with Robin Kessler emphasizing certain items in the report. Evelyn Holsinger made a motion to accept the Committee reports and Betty Boslet seconded. Betty Boslet, Robin Kessler, Sharon Lightner, Shirley Manbeck and Mike Savino accepted another 3-year term on Council. Donna Wilt made a motion to accept the individuals to Council for a 3-year term and Diane Schultz seconded. The White Gift Fund balance was \$634.95. Council decided to no longer have a White Gift Fund so the money was moved to the General Fund. Council went over the proposed spending plan with no objections. Sharon Lightner made a motion to accept the spending plan and Diane Schultz seconded. Bob Hench made a motion to adjourn and Bill Wilt seconded.

**Church Council
Meeting Minutes**

Saint James Evangelical Lutheran Church Ministry's Annual Report 2024

That this time, Saint James has not Pastor, but the Congregation continues to be involved in Ministry. During the last year, the Congregation has continued to have Weekly Worship Services lead by Lay Worship Leaders and Ordained Pastors.

Saint James during this past year has been rather stable. Our average worship attendance for this year was 9 which is slightly down by 1 weekly worshipping member from last year, when it was 10. This decline is due to deaths and illness. Our finances are pretty much a repeat of last year with a slight decrease in giving. We continue to draw upon our accumulated resources, but we are still not in any danger of depleting these investment funds in the near future.

The number of homebound members to whom home communion was taken to has remained the same with about 2 compared to 4 from last year. Of course, this list can grow if currently active members become homebound. As always, the question before us is what would the Lord ask of us now that Saint James has no permanent pastor? What are the possibilities of calling another Transitional Interim Pastor at Saint James? What is our future? We do not need to be afraid of those questions, because the Lord will be with us whatever the future brings. The possibilities that we could call a Transitional Interim Pastor are slim and we will have to continue to have Pulpit Supply for the foreseeable future. The Lord is with us now. Saint James has seen bigger and flashier days, but the Lord is still in our midst. We know that Jesus is present whenever two or three gather in His name. Well, we are nine souls, and the Lord is with us moving us toward God's good conclusion for us and all of God's creation.

Mark Hoover

President of Saint James Lutheran Church

Election of Church Council Members 2025

**Council recommends the following individuals to serve on
Church Council:**

No Recommendations at this time



Saint James Evangelical Lutheran Church Finance Committee Annual Report 2025

Members: Betty Boslet, Ralph Grove, Mark Hoover, Robin Kessler, Bill Wilt, and Donna Wilt

The Finance Committee met yearly to discuss the financial issues of the church; including review of the investment portfolio with Raymond James and GBU as follows:

Total Investment Summary

<i>Beginning Balance 10/1/24</i>	<i>\$ 409,017.06</i>
<i>Earnings/(Losses)</i>	<i>\$ 32,830.09</i>
<i>Withdrawals</i>	<i>(\$ 57,500.00)</i>
<i>Raymond James Acct \$73,000.00 - funds needed to cover operating expenses</i>	
<i>Ending Balance 9/30/25</i>	<i>\$ 384,347.15</i>

The 10/1/23 – 9/30/24 audit was done by Church Council. The Church Council has been reviewing all church transactions and no irregularities were found.

Attendance continues to decline, and contributions have slightly decreased. The total transfers from the Raymond James account were \$57,500.00 to cover expenses.

Church Year 10/1/23 – 9/30/24

Contributions \$13,171.82

Ministry Spending \$110,078.00

Operating & Ministry Spending \$80,353.73

Average Sunday Attendance 10

Raymond James Transfers \$ 73,000.00

Church Year 10/1/24 – 9/30/25

Contributions \$9,773.00

Ministry Spending \$96,513.00

Operating & Ministry Spending \$74,268.22

Average Sunday Attendance 9

Raymond James Transfers \$ 57,500.00

A Ministry Spending Plan was prepared for the church year 10/1/25 – 9/30/26 and submitted to Council for approval. The Church Council proposed an annual spending plan of **\$95,525.81**; a decrease of **\$987.19** from last year. This is due to the loss of our Interim Pastor Drew McCaffery and other cost savings; and a slight increase in utilities, general cost, and salaries.

Submitted by

Mark F. Hoover
Finance Chairperson and President of Church Council

**Saint James Evangelical Lutheran Church
By-Law Committee Annual Report 2025**

The members of the By-Law Committee are Betty Boslet, Mark Hoover, and Mike Savino.

No Report.

Submitted by,
Mark Hoover
Chair of the By-Law Committee

**Saint James Evangelical Lutheran Church
Stewardship/Evangelism Committee Annual Report 2025**

The members of the Stewardship/Evangelism Committee are Donna Wilt, Betty Boslet, and Sharon Lightner..

Donna Wilt will be resigning her position due to moving out of state.
No Report.

**Saint James Evangelical Lutheran Church
Property Committee Annual Report 2025**

The members of the Property Committee are Evelyn Holsinger, Bill Dambeck, Bob Holsinger, Robin Kessler, Shirely Manbeck, Mike Savino, and Bill Wilt.

Bill Wilt will be resigning her position due to moving out of state.
No Report

Saint James Evangelical Lutheran Church Worship and Music Committee Annual Report 2025

The members of the Worship and Music Committee are Mark Hoover, Sharon Lightner, Diane Shultz, and Pat McConnell.

The Worship and Music Committee plans and implements the worship services to incorporate the spiritual gifts of the members of Saint James all to the glory of Jesus Christ.

The Worship and Music Committee has not met to discuss and recommend items to improve the worship experience of the members of Saint James.

During this past year, pulpit supplies including Pastor Scott Custead and other lay worship leaders have provided a joyous Worship service and inspiring messages. Pat McConnell has continued to provide excellent music as our Organist. The Committee would also like to thank Bob Hench for sharing his God-given talents in his solos during the Worship Services. The Committee would like to express its appreciation to both Pat and Bob for their musical gifts.

The Carillon has hymns selected for the entire years of 2025 and 2026. But due to an electrical surge, the carillon's amplifier has been destroyed. But a new amplifier has been purchased and will be installed soon.

The Worship and Music Committee has scheduled the special worship services during Advent, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Reformation, and All Saint Sunday. The committee will be reviewing and commending to Church Council the Special Service and Communion Schedule for 2026.

Pat McConnell continues to work on the selection of Hymns and different Worship Settings for the Sunday Worship services and is trying to choose hymns that are familiar to the Congregation.

Pat McConnell has had some special music at several Worship Services. The Worship and Music Committee would like to express their thanks to Pat McConnell for her performances over this past year.

The Worship and Music Committee is encouraging the continual use of the self-contained bulletin that would contain liturgy, Scriptural Readings, hymns, etc.

Submitted by: Mark Hoover,
Member of the Worship and Music Committee

Saint James Evangelical Lutheran Church St. James WELCA Annual Report 2025

Membership has declined to a point that we do not conduct regular meetings. Our activities for the year only consisted of providing gifts to the mothers and fathers of the parish on Mother's and Father's Day.

Saint James Evangelical Lutheran Church Christian Ed/Social Ministry Committee Annual Report 2025

The members of the Christian Ed/Social Ministry Committee are Evelyn Holsinger, Robin Kessler, Sharon Lightner, Shirely Manbeck, Diane Shultz, and Donna Wilt.

The Social Ministries have had multiple Sweets and Treats and Pot Luck meals throughout the year and all have gone well.

Donna Wilt will be resigning her position due to moving out of state.



Church Committees

9:46 AM

10/01/24

Cash Basis

St James Lutheran Church
INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT
 October 2023 through September 2024

	Oct '23 - Sep 24
Income	
CONTRIBUTIONS - GENERAL	
Christmas & Easter Envelopes	71.00
General Church Envelope	9,904.00
General Church Plate	1,023.00
General Reimbursement	810.00
Total CONTRIBUTIONS - GENERAL	11,808.00
CONTRIBUTIONS-DESIGNATED	
Flower Reimbursement	402.50
Total CONTRIBUTIONS-DESIGNATED	402.50
CONTRIBUTIONS-SPECIAL	
Memorial Fund	100.00
Special Donations	690.00
White Gift	512.95
Total CONTRIBUTIONS-SPECIAL	1,302.95
INVESTMENT TRANSFER IN	
Raymond James	69,000.00
Total INVESTMENT TRANSFER IN	69,000.00
OTHER INCOME	60.87
Total Income	82,574.32
Gross Profit	82,574.32
Expense	
Shared Ministry	16,418.52
Property Taxes - Parish House	2,409.08
Local City W/H Payroll Taxes	100.93
0100 PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION	
0100 Pastor's Salary	2,792.50
0102 Auto Allowance	38.91
0106 Supply Pastoral Fees	1,028.33
Total 0100 PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION	3,859.74
0200 WORSHIP & MUSIC	
0200 Choir Director Organist Sa	7,144.68
0203 Supply Organist	75.00
0210 Altar Flowers	475.50
Total 0200 WORSHIP & MUSIC	7,695.18
0300 OFFICE	
0303 Treasurer Stipend	3,343.64
0306 Postage	319.64
0307 Office Secretary Salary	7,871.23
0309 Telephone/Internet	1,669.17
0310 Copier Lease	2,694.72
0311 Publicity & Church Directo	318.00
0312 Office Supplies	2,505.89
0316 Web Design & Maintenance	462.00
Total 0300 OFFICE	19,184.29
0400 CUSTODIAL & PROPERTY	
0400 Custodian Salary	4,750.18

9:46 AM
10/01/24
Cash Basis

St James Lutheran Church
INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT
October 2023 through September 2024

	Oct '23 - Sep 24
0403 Heat Church & Lights (elec	10,424.65
0404 Heat Parish House (gas)	1,586.32
0405 Water & Sewage	1,556.27
0407 Insurance	8,550.66
0408 Maintenance Church & Paris	688.30
0409 Property Miscellaneous	173.20
0412 Trash Removal	540.00
0414 Snow Removal	1,150.00
Total 0400 CUSTODIAL & PROPERTY	29,419.58
0500 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	
0511 Devotional Materials	154.80
0512 Synod & Conference Activit	160.00
Total 0500 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	314.80
0900 CHURCH FUNCTIONS	
Fellowship	
Sweets & Treats	58.29
Fellowship - Other	106.61
Total Fellowship	164.90
0900 CHURCH FUNCTIONS - Other	78.39
Total 0900 CHURCH FUNCTIONS	243.29
Total Expense	79,645.41
Net Income	2,928.91

Saint James Lutheran Church
Ministry Spending Plan
October 2025 through September 2026

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ANNUAL SPENDING PLAN 10/1/24 - 9/30/25	ACTUAL EXPENSE 10/1/24 - 9/30/25	DIFFERENCE	PROPOSED SPENDING PLAN 10/1/25 - 9/30/26	INCREASE/ (DECREASE)
0100 PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION					
0100 Pastor's Salary	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	(\$3,500.00)
0102 Auto Allowance	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	(\$300.00)
0103 Housing Allowance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
0104 Pension/Disability/Medical	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
0105 Synod & Conference Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
0106 Pulpit Supplies	\$10,400.00	\$6,774.20	\$3,625.80	\$10,400.00	\$0.00
0107 Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	\$14,200.00	\$6,774.20	\$7,425.80	\$10,400.00	(\$3,800.00)
0200 WORSHIP & MUSIC					
0200 Choir Director/Organist Salary	\$7,369.00	\$7,467.37	(\$98.37)	* \$7,547.10	\$178.10
0202 Altar & Worship Supplies / Sundays & Seasons / Copyright Licence	\$500.00	\$730.72	(\$230.72)	* \$500.00	\$0.00
Communion Contributions		\$0.00			\$0.00
0203 Supply Organist	\$150.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
0204 Organ and Pianos Maintenance	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
0205 Music Supplies	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
0210 Altar Flowers	\$300.00	\$549.00	\$2.25	\$300.00	\$0.00
Flower Contributions		(\$251.25)			
WORSHIP & MUSIC TOTAL	\$8,919.00	\$8,570.84	\$348.16	\$9,097.10	\$178.10
0300 OFFICE					
0303 Treasurer Stipend	\$3,550.00	\$3,809.40	(\$259.40)	* \$3,850.06	\$300.06
0304 Offering Envelopes & Folders	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	(\$100.00)
Bulletin Contributions		\$0.00			
0306 Postage	\$500.00	\$435.60	\$64.40	\$500.00	\$0.00
0307 Office Secretary Salary	\$8,620.00	\$8,860.07	(\$240.07)	* \$8,954.65	\$334.65
0309 Telephone/Internet	\$1,700.00	\$1,612.94	\$87.06	\$1,800.00	\$100.00
0310 Copier Lease	\$3,000.00	\$1,166.57	\$1,833.43	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
0311 Publicity & Church Directory	\$500.00	\$315.10	\$184.90	\$500.00	\$0.00
Publicity & Church Directory		\$0.00			
0312 Office Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$1,389.74	\$1,610.26	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
0314 Computers, Accessories & Web	\$600.00	\$473.00	\$127.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
OFFICE TOTAL	\$21,570.00	\$18,062.42	\$3,507.58	\$22,204.71	\$634.71
0400 CUSTODIAL & PROPERTY					
0400 Custodian Salary	\$5,323.00	\$5,257.73	\$65.27	\$5,323.00	\$0.00
0403 Heat Church & Lights (electric)	\$16,000.00	\$15,075.38	\$924.62	\$16,000.00	\$0.00
0404 Heat Parish House (gas)	\$2,500.00	\$2,525.76	(\$25.76)	* \$2,600.00	\$100.00
0405 Water & Sewage	\$1,600.00	\$1,865.14	(\$265.14)	* \$2,000.00	\$400.00
0406 Janitorial Supplies	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
0407 Insurance	\$8,700.00	\$9,805.61	(\$1,105.61)	* \$10,000.00	\$1,300.00
0408 Maintenance Church/Parish House	\$5,000.00	\$231.34	\$4,768.66	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Renovation Contributions		\$0.00			
0412 Trash Removal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
0413 Kitchen & Bath Supplies	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
0414 Snow Removal	\$3,000.00	\$2,775.00	\$225.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
0415 Parish House Property Taxes	\$3,000.00	\$2,683.08	\$316.92	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
CUSTODIAL & PROPERTY TOTAL	\$45,423.00	\$40,219.04	\$5,203.96	\$47,223.00	\$1,800.00

Saint James Lutheran Church
Ministry Spending Plan
October 2025 through September 2026

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ANNUAL SPENDING PLAN 10/1/24 - 9/30/25	ACTUAL EXPENSES 10/1/24 - 9/30/25	DIFFERENCE		PROPOSED SPENDING PLAN 10/1/25 - 9/30/26	INCREASE/ (DECREASE)
0500 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION						
0501 Christian Education Material	\$200.00	\$394.55	(\$194.55)	*	\$400.00	\$200.00
0512 Synod & Conference Activities	\$500.00	\$150.00	\$350.00		\$500.00	\$0.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TOTAL	\$700.00	\$544.55	\$155.45		\$900.00	\$200.00
0600 Social Ministry Committee	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00		\$500.00	\$0.00
0700 Evangelism & Stewardship	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00		\$150.00	\$0.00
0900 Church Functions	\$500.00	\$97.17	\$402.83		\$500.00	\$0.00
<i>Church Function Donations</i>		\$0.00				
0910 Gifts & Special Occassions	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00		\$350.00	\$0.00
0950 Camp Sequanota Scholarships	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$1,500.00	\$97.17	\$1,402.83		\$1,500.00	\$0.00
BENEVOLENCE						
1102 FAITH COMMITMENT						
Allegheny Synod	\$3,200.00	\$0.00	\$3,200.00		\$3,200.00	\$0.00
ELCA National Church	\$1.00	\$0.00	\$1.00		\$1.00	\$0.00
TOTAL 1102 BENEVOLENCE OFFERING	\$3,201.00	\$0.00	\$3,201.00		\$3,201.00	\$0.00
1103 Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
1104 Gettysburg Seminary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
1105 Camp Sequanota	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
1106 Council's Discretionary Fund	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00	\$0.00
<i>Council's Discretionary Fund Donations</i>		\$0.00				
BENEVOLENCE TOTAL	\$4,201.00	\$0.00	\$4,201.00		\$4,201.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$96,513.00	\$74,268.22	\$22,244.78		\$95,525.81	(\$987.19)
Beginning Balance 10/1/24		\$13,449.78				
General Contributions 10/1/24 - 9/30/25		\$9,773.00				
Raymond James Transfers 10/1/24 - 9/30/25		\$57,500.00				
TOTAL INCOME	\$67,273.00					
Ending Balance		\$6,203.31				

** SS COLA was 2.7%

All Salaries are increased 2.7%

Closing of Congregational Meeting

-A Prayer:

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

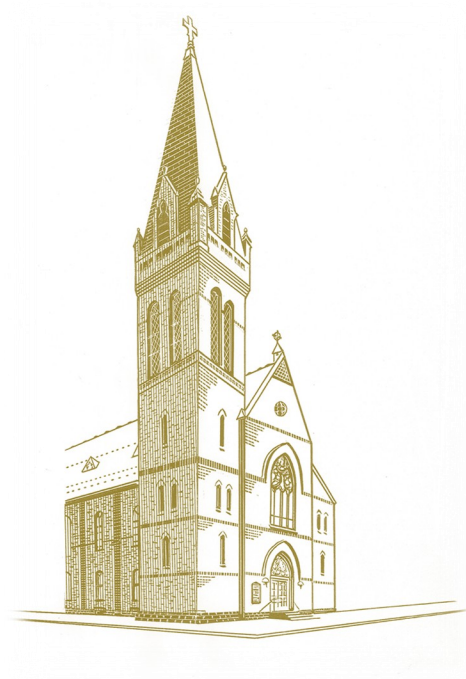
Amen.

-Dismissal

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!





St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

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