

Kirchenblatt November 2026

(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

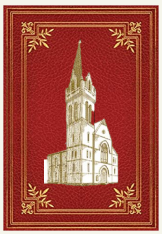
EMAIL: STJAMESALTOONA@GMAIL.COM

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 November 2026

Dear Members of St. James:

Grace, mercy and peace from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As we enter the season of Thanksgiving, I am reminded that we need to thank God for all the things that He has given us. God has given us our entire lives, everything that we own, and our friends and neighbors. All these things come from God. Thanksgiving is a time when we're supposed to be thankful for the things that we have. A time to share a meal together in remembrance of the joys of having family and friends gathered around a table and giving thanks. Some people just give thanks to each other for the food that they have, and the food that they share, and the friends that they share. But as Christians, we believe that all that we have comes from God. All of these are precious gifts that God gives us in this life. In reality, God owns everything that we really have. We have no ownership of anything. If God owns everything that we have, it has been given to us as a gift. We need to be thankful to God for these gifts. But I say to you that we need to be thankful for more than just what we have. But we need to be thankful for the lives that we have and the salvation that we have through God. This salvation comes to us through Jesus Christ who willingly laid down his life for us, so that our sins would be forgiven and that we might have eternal life with Him. These are gifts that are more valuable than anything that God could have given us. God gave us His Son as a sacrifice so that we don't have to worry about our sins or about eternal punishment. We received mercy and grace from God our Father and by the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ, we receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life. These are the things that we should

be thankful for and that we should give God all of our worship and praise and thanksgiving. These are precious gifts that we get not because of what we have done, but because the work has already been done for us by Jesus Christ. Jesus was the one who chose to sacrifice his life for us. Our salvation is based upon what Christ has done for us. Because of that we should be thankful. In this time of Thanksgiving, I remind you to be thankful to God for all that He has given us including His Son. These are gifts that we could never achieve on our own. But are precious gifts given to us by a loving and gracious God. All praise and thanksgiving unto Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

I pray that you will have a joyful Thanksgiving. During this time of Thanksgiving, remember always to give worship and praise unto God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is what reality makes Thanksgiving a special time of the year, when we get thanks to God for all that we have and for all of the joys that we have received from His hand. Praise be Jesus Christ!!!

Mark Hoover

President of Saint James Lutheran Church

Contribution & Attendance Summary

August 2025

Contributions $1,267
Average Weekly Attendance: 9

August 2026

Contributions $1,300
Average Weekly Attendance: 8

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY

August 1 2026 August 31, 2026

INCOME	
Bank Interest	$.12
Contributions	
General	$1,300.00
Designated	$0.00
Special	$0.00
Other Income	$4,000.00
	$5,300.12
EXPENSES	
Pastoral Administration	$331.40
Worship & Music	$0.00
Office	$785.06
Custodial & Property	$614.42
Uncategorized	$0.00
	$3,569.24

November Birthdays

No Birthdays

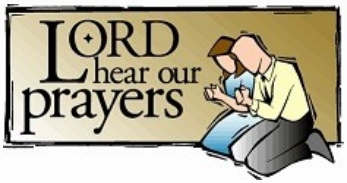


Remember In Your Prayers

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
Carolyn Feather Judy Dambeck
The soul and family of Debbie Thomas
The soul and family of Debra Morgan
The soul Marian Holsinger
The soul of Deborah Manbeck
The soul of Sylvia Malsatzki
The soul of Carol Weaver



Nov 1—Genesis 15:1-5, Psalm 147:1-5

Heavenly Father, draw me in Your Divine Service with all the saints that we see how You gather us now and will gather us all together on the Last Day, saints forgiven by Your Son. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 2—Exodus 18:13-23, Psalm 111

Dear Lord, Your Son took my sin upon Himself. He brings me into His Body, the church, and sustains me in that Body. May I live as those united to Christ and one another. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 3—Isaiah 51:1-3, Psalm 85:8-13

God of grace, send me Your mercy today, as You have from the beginning. Shape me by this grace to pass it on to others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 4—Matthew 28:18-20, Psalm 98:1-3

Jesus Christ, let me look to You for truth and power in Your Word to forgive my sins. Amen.

Nov 5—Mark 1:16-20, Psalm 143:8-11

Lord Jesus, as I await Your return with patience, help me live a godly life today. Amen.

Nov 6—Luke 2:29-32, Psalm 22:26-31

Father, let me rest in Your promise of forgiveness and pass it on to those after me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 7—John 6:22-24, Psalm 145:13-18

Jesus Christ, thank You for satisfying my body and soul. Amen.

Nov 8—Acts 27:27-36, Psalm 46:1-7

Lord of heaven and earth, give peace where there is fear and nourish me by Your Word. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 9—Romans 6:2-23, Psalm 31:1-5

Gracious Father, I thank You for the gift of eternal life in Jesus, my beginning and end. In His name. Amen.

Nov 10—1 Corinthians 15:50-58, Psalm 112:1-6

Gracious Father, employ me as a trusted steward and let me follow in the footsteps of Christ by faith. In His name. Amen.

Nov 11—2 Corinthians 1:3-7, Psalm 8

Lord, give me comfort in affliction that I may comfort others. Thank You for sending Your Comforter, the Holy Spirit, to guide me. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

Nov 12—Galatians 2:16-20, Psalm 89:5-8

Lord, fill me with faith by Your Word and Sacraments that I may have faith in Christ Jesus. In His name. Amen.

Nov 13—Ephesians 1:11-14, Psalm 105:1-8
Lord, thank You for waiting for me. Give me peace until Christ returns. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 14—Philippians 3:8-12, Psalm 81:4-10
Lord Jesus Christ, may I live the days of my life by faith, seeing You in every moment. Amen.

Nov 15—Colossians 3:12-17, Psalm 30:1-12
Heavenly Father, clothe me with Christ and His love to reveal Your love and forgiveness. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 16—1 Thessalonians 1:2-4, Psalm 33:11-22
King of creation, I praise You for bringing me into Your kingdom of peace through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Nov 17—2 Thessalonians 3:1-5, Psalm 68:32-35
Lord Jesus, direct me to You and Your steadfastness by Your Word and Spirit. Amen.

Nov 18—1 Timothy 1:15-17, Psalm 18:1-6
Lord of Life, forgive me this day. Thank You for saving me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 19—2 Timothy 4:1-8, Psalm 135:1-5
Jesus Christ, as I long for You to appear, keep me steadfast in Your Word and truth. Amen.

Nov 20—Titus 3:1-6, Psalm 100
Gracious God, help me to live according to Your will and to share Your Good News with others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 21—Philemon 4-7, Psalm 82:3-4
Loving Father, gather us together regularly to forgive and be forgiven. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 22—Hebrews 2:10-13, Psalm 20:4-9
Heavenly Father, thank You for making me Your family through Your dear Son, Jesus, who lived for me. In His name I pray. Amen.

Nov 23—James 3:13-18, Psalm 37:16-19
God of peace, through Your Son, You give us peace with Yourself by His working out Your love. May we sow that same peace in the lives of others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 24—1 Peter 3:13-18, Psalm 51:12-17
Lord, I do not want to suffer, but if I do, let me share the hope I have in Christ Jesus. In His name. Amen.

Nov 25—2 Peter 3:8-13, Psalm 40:1-5
Father, give us patience for anything by Your Son, who saved us even all these years later. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 26—1 John 1:1-4, Psalm 119:65-72
Father, give us faith to see You in Your Sacraments and bring us to stand with Jesus in the end. In His name. Amen.

Nov 27—2 John 5-9, Psalm 138:2-5
God of love, forgive me when I have not loved, and give me Your love that I may love others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nov 28—3 John 5-8, Psalm 107:28-32
Lord Jesus, bind us as one Body in Your pure Gospel that, through Your church, You would gather others to Yourself. Amen.

Nov 29—Jude 24-25, Psalm 148
Holy Father, who sent Your Spirit to reveal Your Son, may Your name be praised in the highest for who You are and what You have done for me and all saints. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Nov 30—Revelation 3:19-22, Psalm 141:1-3
Lord Jesus Christ, may I ever be in Your Word to hear Your voice. Amen.







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 December issue of the Kirchenblatt is, Sunday November, 15.



UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES:

Sweets and Treats	***Nov 1 10 AM***
Poinsettia Order Deadline	***Nov 1 12 PM***
Annual Congregational Meeting	***Nov 8 12 PM***
Pot Luck Dinner	***Nov 22 12 PM***
Decorate Church for Christmas	***Dec 5 10 AM***
**** Pizza will be provided afterwards***	
Allegheny Chorale Concert	***Dec 6 3 PM***
**** Refreshments following the performance***	
Church Council Meeting	***Dec 15 4 PM***



SWEETS AND TREATS

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.

OUR NEXT SWEETS AND TREATS WILL BE: Nov 1, 2026
Provided By: 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
December 15, 2026

12 PM

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- Sunday Worship Service will remain in the
- Sanctuary until the end of October.
- During November in the Sunday School Room.
- During December through Christmas Eve in the Sanctuary.
- Starting December 27th we will move back to the Sunday School Room until Palm Sunday.





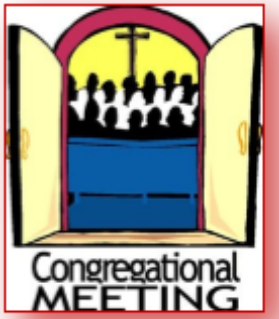
The ***Annual Congregational*** meeting will be held:

NOVEMBER 8, 2026

after the service. There will be nominations for council members and then the election for council. The budget will be discussed and then anything else that the congregation may bring to our attention.







The Allegheny Chorale presents their 42nd Season Christmas Concert

St. James Lutheran Church

December 6, 2026

3PM

Refreshments provided by funds from St James WELCA.

WOMEN of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



November 22, 2026

12 PM

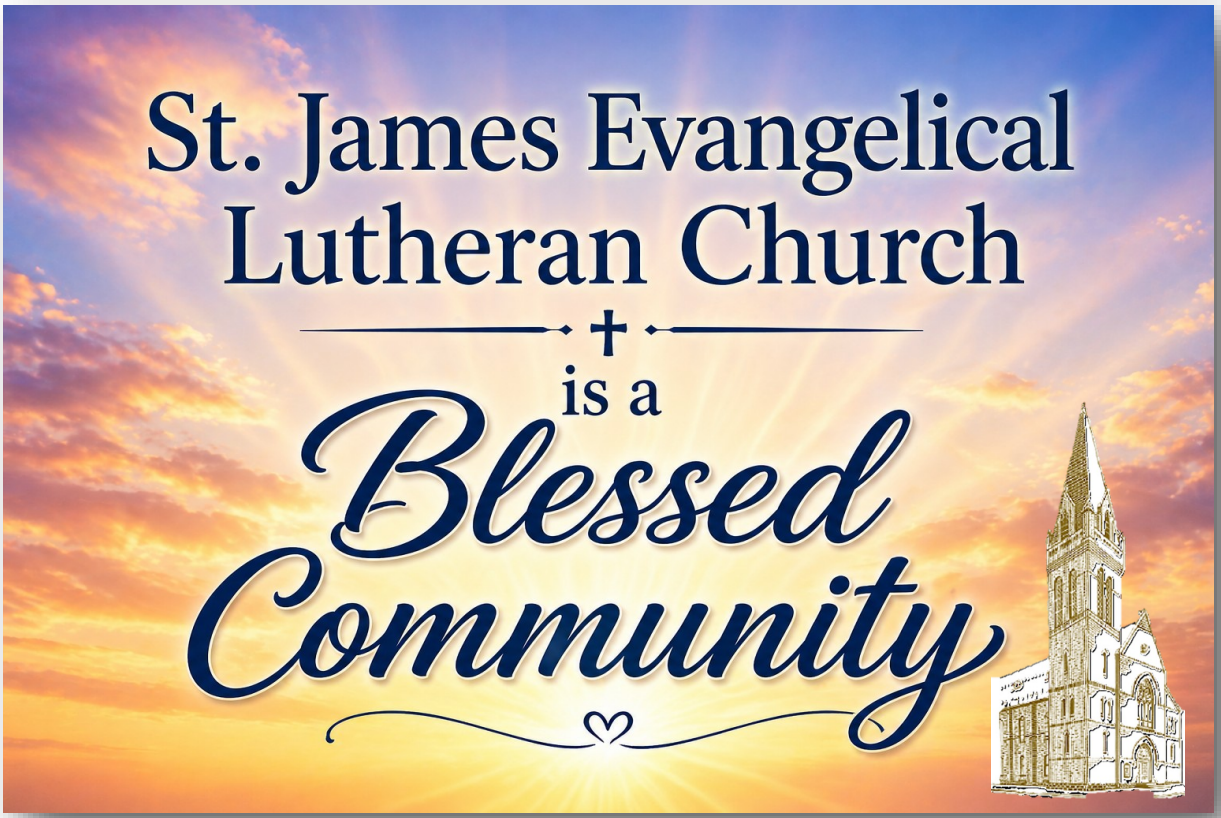


ST LUKES COMMUNITY LUNCH

November 11th 12 PM

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


St. James
Evangelical Lutheran Church
We are a
Grateful
Community
Grateful for our faith,
our families, and our friends.
Grateful for the blessings
we share, the support we give,
and the community
we call home.
Together in Christ,
we give thanks.



May God's love
and blessings
be with you
and remain
with you always.



Christmas Poinsettias

Bless our Sanctuary and your home this Christmas with a beautiful red poinsettia! For each $11 you contribute to the St. James Flower Fund, a flower will be placed in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve and will be available for you to take with you following our Christmas Eve Service. If you would rather donate the flower for a shut-or or friend of St. James, you may indicate that choice on this order form.

Please complete the form and return it to the church. **The deadline for poinsettia orders and payments is Sunday, November 1, 2026.** Thank you for your generosity in this endeavor!

Your Name _____
(as you wish it to appear in the bulletin)

This donation is made:

In Honor of: _____
Or
In Memory of: _____

Amount of Contribution: _____

Number of Christmas Poinsettias: _____

Envelope Number: _____

Please check one:
_____ Yes, I do want to take the poinsettia (s) home with me.

_____ No. I don't want to take the poinsettia (s). I would like them to be given to a shut in or friend of St. James

Church Council Members
Mark Hoover—President
Robin Kessler—Vice President
Evelyn Holsinger—Secretary
Ralph Grove—Treasurer
Betty Boslet
Sharon Lightner
Shirley Manbeck
Diane Schultz

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
Mike Savino

Christian Education/
Social Ministry
***Evelyn Holsinger**
*Robin Kessler
*Sharon Lightner
*Shirley Manbeck
*Diane Schultz

Worship & Music
***Mark Hoover**
*Sharon Lightner
*Shirley Manbeck
Pat McConnell
*Diane Shultz

Finance
***Mark Hoover**
*Betty Boslet
Ralph Grove
*Robin Kessler

Stewardship/Evangelism
*Betty Boslet
*Sharon Lightner

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

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

* Denotes Council Member
Thrivent Rep.—
Betty Boslet