

E Saintly NEWS Volume 44 Issue No. 3 / March 2021

Lenten Midweek Worship March 3, 10, 17, 24

Midweek Lenten Worship will be recorded and available each Wednesday afternoon during March. This worship will feature the Holden Evening Prayer and we will utilize a special Lenten series entitled **Places of the Passion**. The places where the Passion of our Lord took place have special meaning to Christians the world over. They remind us that Jesus walked this earth and stood in locations we can still find today to carry out his mission of salvation. There was a serious reason he came to be at certain places and at particular times to suffer and die and rise again. With messages written by theology professor Reed Lessing (and preached by Pastor Janet), each service explores the meaning, history and spiritual inspiration associated with the location highlighted.





All services will be held in-person and uploaded later to our Facebook page and our website.

> Sunday, March 28 - Palm Sunday Distribution of the Palms 9:00 am

Thursday, April 1 - Maundy Thursday Communion –Stripping of the Altar

Friday, April 2 - Good Friday Worship 7:00 pm

Sunday, April 4 - Easter Sunday Worship with Communion

(Please note there will be two services on Easter Sunday.) 9:00 am and 10:30 am

Easter Garden Orders

Would you like to order an Easter plant to enhance the beauty of the sanctuary for Easter services? Order forms will be available in the weekly announcements and in the church office. Plants will come from Merlin's Flowers. Orders must be placed by Sunday, March 21. The cost is \$15 per plant for lilies, mums, or tulips, and \$25 per plant for azaleas or hydrangeas. Make your check payable to All Saints Altar Guild. These plants will be displayed in the sanctuary on Easter and can be taken home after the 10:30 am worship service.





Page 2 The Saintly News

Council Members

PRESIDENT & STEWARDSHIP
Steve Jones

VICE -PRESIDENT & FELLOWSHIP
Kay Johnson

SECRETARY Bill Pirnat

WORSHIP Carol Miller

EDUCATION Michel Williams

FINANCE Trina Andersen

PROPERTY Scott Fitzsimmons

OUTREACH/SOCIAL MINISTRY
Jim Wilcox

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY
Jared Fitzsimmons

Staff

PASTOR Pastor Janet Wold

TREASURER Alisha Fortener

FINANCIAL SECRETARY Amy Harn

OFFICE SECRETARIES
Cindy Beitel
Karen Larson

Deadline for the April Saintly News is March 12 Please send articles to Rebecca Presson

Dear Partner in Ministry:

The season of Lent is upon us – Ash Wednesday began our Lenten season on February 17. The word "Lent" comes from an old English word meaning "to lengthen" and it names the time of year when the days get longer in the spring. After the cold, dark and often dismal months of the year come the signs of renewal.



Lent is meant to be a tithe of our time to God. We know that a year is 365 days in length – and a tithe of that time (10% of that time) would equal about 36 days...approximately the same length as the season of Lent. These days of Lent are to be a time when we renew our relationship with God (one of the reasons we add a mid-week worship service) and examine our need for a Savior. Ash Wednesday service is a time of confession – giving us time to truly reflect on our sinfulness and our need for Christ to have to go to the cross to die for our sins.

Our mid-week Lenten services are available online only on our Facebook page and website. These began on February 24 and continue through March 24 at 7:00 p.m. We are using a service called *Holden Evening Prayer* – it really is a beautiful, contemplative service. Special thanks to Dan Danielowski, Amy Harn, Caryn Huber, and Heather Green for providing the vocal and instrumental accompaniment! This worship lasts about ½ hour. Each week there will be a sermon from the "Places of the Passion" series. I hope you'll plan on making these mid-week services a part of your Lenten journey.

As I look around at our life here at All Saints, and in my own personal life, I can see the hand of God clearly guiding us. These days continue to be challenging as we navigate our way through this pandemic. However, I am glad to be able to worship together (in a modified way) and delighted that so many others are able to join us online. My prayer is that you sense God's presence as well and will be called into action as we all seek ways to share God's love.

In Christ's Love, Pastor Janet Wold



Welcome new Congregation Council Members!

We welcome Steve Jones and Jared Fitzsimmons as new members and Kay Johnson as a returning member of the All Saints Congregation Council.

March 2021 Page 3

Bible Studies

The Monday Afternoon Bible Study, facilitated by Pastor Janet Wold, is being held via Zoom at 1:30 pm. This is a study and discussion of the following Sunday's Gospel lesson. A link to the Monday afternoon Bible Study is included in the Thursday announcements email. Feel free to join us! If you need a Zoom tutorial, Pastor Janet will help you with that. If you do not have a computer, you can join via telephone at the number included in the announcements email.

The Tuesday Evening Bible Study facilitated by Steve Reid will meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm. They will be studying Biblical Devotions, and how they are related to Christian living for example, "Who is Satan," "God's Forgiveness," and "Judge Not."

The Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study, facilitated by Pastor Janet Wold, is being held in-person in the Fellowship Hall at 1:30 pm. Masks are required. We continue to utilize Adam Hamilton's study entitled "Why?" covering topics that make us ask "why" in our own lives.

The Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study, facilitated by Steve Jones is being held on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am. Currently they are studying the Great Courses Curriculum *From Jesus to Constantine: a History of Early Christianity*

February Council Highlights

- ⇒ Welcomed new and returning Council Members: Steve Jones, Jared Fitzsimmons, and Kay Johnson.
- ⇒ Elected the Executive committee: President: Steve Jones; Vice-President: Kay Johnson; Secretary: Bill Pirnat
- ⇒ Assigned the following Committee Heads: Worship: Carol Miller; Education: Michel Williams; Finance: Trina Andersen; Stewardship: Steve Jones; Fellowship: Kay Johnson; Outreach/ Social Ministry: Jim Wilcox; Property: Scott Fitzsimmons; Youth & Family Ministry: Jared Fitzsimmons. Amy Harn was appointed Financial Secretary at the January Council meeting. Alisha Fortener will remain as Treasurer.
- ⇒ Decided to move distribution of the Time and Talent sheets to the Fall Season due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Immediate needs (mowers, flower waterers, Spring Clean-up help) will be handled through phone calls and Pastor's announcements on Sunday mornings.
- ⇒ Learned the Spring Blood Drive has been scheduled for April 8.
- ⇒ Learned Sunday School is being held both in-person and via Zoom to accommodate families who prefer to attend from home.
- ⇒ Spring Clean-up day is scheduled for April 24 with May 1 is the rain-date.

Sunday Scriptures

March 7 Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

March 14 Fourth Sunday of Lent

Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21

March 21 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33

March 28 Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 11:1-11



Please Clip & Save for your reference

Page 4 The Saintly News



Annual Congregation Meeting Highlights

- * Steve Jones, Kay Johnson, and Jared Fitzsimmons were elected to the Church Council.
- * Doug Knodle and Steve Reid were elected to the Mission Endowment Fund Committee.
- * Reuben & Kay Johnson will be voting representatives of All Saints Lutheran at the Synod assembly held via Zoom in June.
- * Thanks and gratitude was expressed to those who made Sunday worship via Facebook and our website possible. Specifically Steve Jones, Alan Wold, Amy Harn, Caryn Huber, and the many others who contributed to the worship with their talents.
- Proposed 2021 budget was discussed and approved, including a 3% raise for all paid staff.
- * Pastor again expressed our gratitude and thankfulness to the congregation of All Saints for their generosity and caring. Our church is strong and vibrant due to our wonderful church family.

Library News

The library, located next to the kitchen, is open every day the church is open. After you chose a book, place your name and the date on the library card and place it in the small tote in the library or on the cart near the front door. There is no due date, just return the book in a timely manner to the library.

Fiction and Christian Fiction books are in alphabetical order by author on shelves to the left of the door. Children's books are on the lower shelves.

Many versions of the Bible, children's Bibles, study Bibles, Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias are available and located to the right of the door.

Non-fiction books include self-help, inspiration, meditation, devotions, prayer, biographies and autobiographies, and many more. There are CD's and DVD's.

Please visit the library and see all that is available.



Book Club

March's Book Club selection is *House of Secrets*, by Tracie Peterson. Three sisters have been asked by their father to meet at their family's summer home fifteen years after their mother died to confront secrets of their past. Their childhood had not been typical with a mentally ill mother and a father that was seldom around. Their silence must end and the truth revealed, but can they trust their memories?

Join us on March 23. at 1:00 pm at the church. All are welcome to come for the discussion having read the book or not. A copy of *House of Secrets* is being passed around and we can add your name to it.

March 2021 Page 5

Join Michel Williams in Hiking to Help Others!

Do you love the outdoors, hiking, or both? Michel Williams has signed up as leader of Team All Saints to walk to raise funds for LOMC. All money raised goes towards LOMC's Scholarship/Grant Fund to provide opportunities for individuals, households, church workers, groups, or churches to bring people out to experience God's creation.

You can help by joining the team and hiking or providing financial support. Hike anytime in late March or early April--either close to home or at LOMC during their "Sundae on Saturday" on March 20th or 27th (registration required). There is no specific distance to hike, as long as you get out and spend time in nature. At least 45 minutes is recommended, but you can do more or less based on your abilities. Let Michel know if you would like to become a part of Team All Saints.

If hiking is not your thing, you can sponsor the team by making a donation. Checks should be made payable to All Saints Lutheran Church. Be sure to note that your monies are for the LOMC Hike-a-Thon.

For more detailed information you can go to www.lomc.org and look for the "Hike-a-Thon" under "EVENTS." **Thank you for considering this worthwhile cause!**





Quilters

The quilters plan to meet on March 4th and 18th at 9 o'clock at the church to work on making quilts for people in need. Work continues at our homes and in the church during the winter weather and coronavirus restrictions. The need continues for Lutheran World Relief to supply quilts around the world to people who have so little to protect and comfort them. Thank you for the donations of sheets and fabric which are gratefully accepted.



Support All Saints While You Shop

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to All Saints Lutheran Church whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. You can select a different charitable organization after signing in. In 2020 we received nearly \$100.00!

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support your charitable organization by shopping at smile.amazon.com



Page 6 The Saintly News

Sunday School News

There are now two opportunities for kids to attend Sunday School each week.

In-person Sunday School is offered at 9:00 am - the same time as the worship service. All safeguards remain in place (temperatures taken upon entering, social distancing, use of masks, disinfecting protocols, and supplies assigned to individuals/families). Sunday School via ZOOM is immediately afterwards at 9:50 am. The link can be obtained by calling the church office or contacting Michel Williams.

So, if the weather forecast for Sunday morning is bleak or you just do not quite feel comfortable coming into the church building yet, you can always login for the remote session. Kids are welcome to attend either in person or online to learn about the heart of God.



Confirmation Class Schedule All Classes held via Zoom from 10:00 to 10:30 am Sundays

March 7	John	I don't get why John is SO different from the other Gospels and changes the order of events.	John 14:6-14
March 14	Acts	I don't know if church today is supposed to look like the church in Acts.	Acts 1:6-11
March 21	Paul and the Early Church	I don't know why we hold Paul in such high esteem, given his poor track record with Christians.	Acts 9:10-18
March 28	Paul's Theology	I'm not sure why Paul's ideas are so important to Christians.	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10



Inclement Weather Policy

If the decision is made to cancel worship services because of weather, the decision will be made by 7:00 am. You can learn of that decision by:

- Checking our Facebook page
- * Checking our website www.AllSaintsByron.org
- * Checking the weather-related closings on local TV stations

It is our intention to have in-person services if at all possible. If we are unable to meet in person, it is our intention to pre-record the service and upload it to our Facebook page and website by Sunday morning. If you don't feel safe on the roads, please stay home.



Worship Totals	Online Viewers	In-Person	Sunday School					
Jan 17	240	n/a	16					
24	284	n/a	15					
31	300	n/a	13					
Feb 7	210	35	16					
14	252	29	22					
21	Not available	34	19					
Totals	1,286	98	101					
Average	258	33	17					
Ash Wednesday	164	26						

March 2021 Page 5

Finance Report

			Actual	Budget			Budget Total
Budget Items Item Description		Item Description	January	January	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2020
Revenue		General Fund	\$15,880	\$16,430	\$15,880	\$16,430	\$197,160
		Mortgage	\$2,163	\$2,075	\$2,163	\$2,075	\$24,900
		Other Giving	\$60	\$834	\$60	\$834	\$10,008
		Total Revenue	\$18,102	\$19,339	\$18,102	\$19,339	\$232,068
Expenses	1000	Mission Support	\$2,045	\$1,250	\$2,045	\$1,250	\$15,000
		Other Outreach	\$350	\$469	\$350	\$469	\$5,628
		Total Outreach	\$2,395	\$1,719	\$2,395	\$1,719	\$20,628
		Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$685	\$1,249	\$685	\$1,249	\$14,988
		Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$11,781	\$11,042	\$11,781	\$11,042	\$132,504
		Total Ministries	\$12,466	\$12,291	\$12,466	\$12,291	\$147,492
	3000	Total Building (Non Capital)	\$2,087	\$2,576	\$2,087	\$2,576	\$30,912
		Total Expense	\$16,947	\$16,586	\$16,947	\$16,586	\$199,032
	3000 Capital	Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$2,094	\$2,095	\$4,188	\$2,095	\$25,140
		Other Building Capital	\$796	\$0	\$796	\$0	\$0
		Total Building Capital	\$2,890	\$2,095	\$4,984	\$2,095	\$25,140
		Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$19,837	\$18,681	\$21,931	\$18,681	\$224,172

CRE 2021 will be held Saturday, March 13, 2021, via Zoom 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Planning continues for the 2021 Congregational Resourcing Event – the annual synod-wide event which provides workshops on various areas of ministry to congregation members and leaders. There are over 30 workshops being offered over three workshop sessions on Saturday, March 13, 2021 via the Zoom platform. Participant registration for the CRE opened **Monday**, **February 1**. Log in to www.nisynod.org/annual-events/cre to access the reservation form. Please note there is a \$10.00 fee to participate. The registration form will list the workshops being offered and the session in which they will be held. Those registering will register for specific workshops and, prior to the event, will receive information on how to participate in the event and how to join the workshops for which they are registered. If you have questions about registering or about the event, please see Kay Johnson.





In Our Prayers

Health & Healing Phyllis Coffman Kate Danielowski- Cuccaro George Davis Jeanine Haves John Hetland **Phil Houston** Joyce Niehaus Kit Reif Bill Michaux Justine Davis Kirby Middleton Sandi Rennick Matt Henkel Dennis Reid Vicki Scull Jamie Dreyfus Scott Gordon & wife Lu Garv Diehl Richard McCabe Doug Karr Gary Wuslich Kevin Lyons Diann Mike Gordon Judy Wirth Toni Girten Francis Stevenson Will Heindrick Maria Rogers Jan Ekstrom Christopher Bowers Jason DelaCruz Joel Richards Sr.

> <u>Shut Ins</u> Lori Pederson Skip Richardson Mary Whitmer

> > **Military**

David Bishop
Dylan Bishop
Staff Sgt. Kyle Reif
Matt Vizer
Sage Harper
Wes McGee
Reggio

Sympathy
Janet Keller
Eileen Carlson
William Ball
Pastor Jane McChesney
Gene Rowell
Scot DeWall
Pastor Art Stees

Tyler Peterson



A PUBLICATION OF ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH 624 Luther Dr. Byron, IL 61010-9684 March Issue - Mailed 2/26/21

Non-Profit U.S. Postage Paid Byron, IL 61010 Permit No. 20

"ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED"



March 3, 10, 17, 24

Pre-recorded Midweek Lenten Worship Services

March 13

Congregational Resourcing Event

March 14

Daylight Saving Time begins

March 28

Palm Sunday In-Person Worship Service 9:00 am

April 1

Maundy Thursday In-Person Worship at 7:00 pm

April 2

Good Friday In-Person Worship at 7:00 pm

April 4

Easter Sunday Worship at 9:00 am and 10:30 am

All Saints Annual Blood Drive

Please help others in need and donate to the All Saints Blood Drive. Staff from the Rock River Valley Blood Center will be here on Thursday, April 8, from 1-7 pm. Information about blood donation reservations will be included in the weekly announcements and the April Saintly News. You need to be 17 years old to donate or age 16 with parental

consent. One in three people will need blood and you never know when you or someone you love might be the one. Please volunteer to give that day!

