

# THE Saintly NEWS Volume 46 Issue No. 10 / October 2023

# Halloween Hallway and Chili Supper

Plan to attend our Halloween Hallway this year! Bring your family and friends in costume to gather treats from our festively decorated tables in the Sunday School wing. We are going to hold



the event entirely indoors, so this event will be held rain or shine! This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, October 28th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. We are looking for volunteers willing to decorate in the spirit of the season and pass out candy to children looking for yummy treats. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall or call the church office and ask to have your name added to the list. We hope you will join us! Questions? Contact Annette Jones.



In addition to the Halloween Hallway, we will also be offering a free chili supper! This event will be held in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. A sign-up sheet is posted on Bulletin board #2 so you can sign up to bring a pot of your favorite chili, bread, and/or cornbread to share!

# All Saints Sunday, November 5

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. Our congregation will remember the faithful who have died during the past year. You are invited to submit names of your loved ones who have died since last All Saints Sunday. Beginning the week of October 15, the weekly email reminders will include a form to submit names for inclusion in our prayers on November 5. There will also be forms in the narthex. Names need to be submitted to the office by October 29.





Church office hours will temporarily change to 9:00 am to 3:00 pm from October 16 to October 26.



#### **Council Members**

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Steve Jones

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PASTOR Pastor Janet Wold

TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER Laura Hopkins

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Amy Harn

OFFICE SECRETARIES
Cindy Beitel
Karen Larson

Deadline for the November Saintly News is October 16 Please send articles to Rebecca Presson

#### Dear Friends:

In this season of October, as the leaves change and the air turns crisp, we are reminded of the beautiful transformation that can happen in our lives through the power of forgiveness.

On September 17<sup>th</sup> we heard Jesus tell us we are to forgive others as we have been forgiven. Forgiveness is a cornerstone of our faith, rooted in the teachings of Jesus. As Lutherans, we understand that forgiveness is not just a mere act, but a profound gift from God. It's a gift that allows us to heal, grow and find grace even in the most challenging situations.

When we forgive, we follow the example of our Lord, who forgave even those who crucified him. We are called to extend this same grace to others, no matter how difficult it may seem. It's a journey that can be filled with struggles, but it's a journey worth embarking on.

Forgiveness doesn't mean forgetting or condoning the wrongs done to us. It means releasing the burden of anger and resentment that can weigh heavily on our hearts. It means choosing love and compassion over bitterness.

As we approach October, let us reflect on the power of forgiveness in our own lives. Is there someone we need to forgive? Is there someone we need to seek forgiveness from? It's a process of healing that can bring us closer to God and to one another.

In this season of change, may we embrace the transforming power of forgiveness. May God's grace and forgiveness guide us on this journey, and may we extend it to others with open hearts.

Blessings to you all in this beautiful season of forgiveness!

Pastor Janet

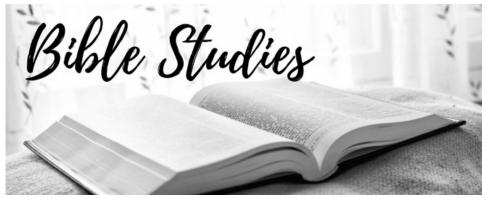
#### **Communion Assistants Needed!**

We know how many of you have missed our former way of communion by kneeling (or standing) at the rail. We would like to reinstate this method of communion on the first Sunday of each month, beginning October 1st.

However, we will need your help to accomplish this! We need several people to sign up to be communion assistants. You would only come forward before communion to help distribute the wine and grape juice tray, and then return to your seat at the conclusion of communion. If you are interested, speak to Pastor Janet.



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# Check the calendar for changes to the Bible Study schedule.

Monday Afternoon Bible Study, facilitated by Pastor Janet Wold, continues 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 announcement's 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 announcement's email.

**Tuesday Night Bible Study**, facilitated by Steve Reid, meets at 7:00 pm in Conference Room #310. This Bible Study will be watching and discussing DVDs entitled *The Bible*.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study, facilitated by Pastor Janet Wold, meets at 1:30 pm in Conference Room 210. This study utilizes a publication entitled *God's Law is Love*.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study, facilitated by Steve Jones, meets in the Small Conference Room at 10:00 each Sunday morning. They will continue the study entitled *The History and Archaeology of the Bible*, which was started in the Spring.

# **September Council Highlights**

- Giving did not meet budgeted expenses for August.
- Approved renewing Portico Gold insurance for Pastor Janet for 2024.
- Stewardship videos will begin running in early October.
- The annual picnic went well with beautiful weather and 40 in attendance.
- A Halloween Hallway and chili supper is scheduled for October 28.
- Decorating the church for Advent is scheduled for December 2.
- Advent soup suppers will be held before worship each Wednesday in December.
- WELCA will again hold their Advent Silent Auction to benefit the Sunday School Good Gifts Program.

# October Sunday Scriptures

October 1 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm 25:1-9

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32

October 8 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

October 15 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalm 23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

October 22 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm 96:1-9

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

October 29 Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36



Please Clip & Save for your reference

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# **Library News**

The library is open when the church is open. There are books for men and women, boys and girls. There are fiction and nonfiction books. There are large print books.

There is no due date; just return the book in a timely manner. Sign your name on the card and add the date. When you have finished, place the book on the library counter.



Worship Totals	Online Viewers	In- Person	Total	Sunday School
September 3	92	50	142	nc
10	104	65	169	17
17	128	66	194	14
24	128	65	193	19
Total	452	246	698	50
Average	113	62	175	17

#### WELCA

#### **WELCA Good Gifts Silent Auction**

Advent season begins on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The third annual ELCA Good Gifts Silent Auction is planned to begin on that Sunday. Bidding on the items will be available during the Advent season and will conclude at the last midweek Advent service on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Proceeds from the auction are then passed on to our Sunday School children. They shop in the Good Gifts catalog and direct monies toward purchase of animals and other needed items as listed in the catalog for people in need in third world countries.

Please consider donating a new auction item such as a craft item, homemade item, or holiday decoration. Items should be dropped off at the church by Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> to allow time to set up the auction. Contact Carol Miller if you have questions.

We have raised over \$1000 in each of the first two years of this project, so it has been a great success. We look forward to seeing what items may be up for bid this year. Thank you for your participation.



Give something **unexpected** this Christmas.

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#### **Book Club**

Join us on Tuesday, October 24 at 1:00 pm for our book club discussion. This months' book is *Timepiece* by Richard Paul Evans.

Hope is a rare gift that, if we are lucky, comes to us with the power to heal our lives. *Timepiece* traces the lives of David and Mary Anne Parkin as they discover love, loyalty, and the power of forgiveness. Just as Mary Anne bestows on Richard a unique heirloom timepiece to pass on to his own daughter, *Timepiece* is a gift to pass on to those you love. Its message of the ongoing nature of life is a reminder that the connections from one generation to the next are indelible.



## **People Helping People**

It's not too early to think about Thanksgiving donations! Over the past few years All Saints has helped People Helping People make sure all the families receiving PHP's assistance are able to enjoy a turkey dinner at Thanksgiving. Monetary donations can be made during the Sunday collection and noted on your envelope the amount donated to help PHP. Checks can also be made out directly to PHP which will be given to PHP to help purchase the turkeys. We will begin accepting monetary donations on October 8, and will continue through November 12. A \$14.00 donation can buy a turkey breast. A \$20.00 donation will help to purchase a whole turkey for the family to enjoy for their Thanksgiving dinner.

Other items All Saints could help PHP with are the usual Thanksgiving dinner items such as stuffing, canned fruit, canned sweet potatoes, canned cranberry sauce, cans of vegetables, potatoes, canned or bottled gravy, and other related items. These donated items can be placed in the shopping cart in the front entrance of the church by November 5. Thank you for your generous contribution to this vital ministry.



October 1	Genesis	I don't know why Genesis matters when science has already disproven the stories.	Genesis 1:26-2:4	
October 8	Exodus	I don't understand why (or how) God plays favorites with Moses and the Israelites.	Exodus 33:17-23	
October 15	Law	I don't understand why we observe some parts of the law but not others.	Deuteronomy 5:1-21	
October 22	Judges	l don't know what judges are at all.	Judges 6:11-27	
October 29	Ruth	I don't know why Ruth would willingly become an outsider in a foreign land.	Ruth 1:6-18	

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## Quilters

The quilters plan to meet on October 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the church. The new year of making quilts for Lutheran World Relief starts again. During the past year we completed 90 quilts and gathered enough materials to complete four fabric kits. We also assembled 59 school kits from the donations received, including a Thrivent Action Grant. Working together to help people in need gives us a feeling of purpose as we work to be of service to others. Thank you for all your donations which have helped to serve those in need.



## The GATHERING

The GATHERING will meet on Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Bring your latest handiwork project or just join us for fun and conversation!

# First Communion Class



First communion class will be held on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>,

from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. This class is for anyone 3rd grade and older who has not had first communion. If your son or daughter is in 3rd grade or higher, (or younger if you feel they are ready to take this next faith step), and has not taken their first communion, please contact the church office. We will send you the information. Participants in this class will receive their first communion on October 29<sup>th</sup> during worship.

# Porch Trio Recital Sunday, October 15

The Porch Trio will present an afternoon recital. The recital begins at 3:00 pm and will be held in the sanctuary of Trinity Lutheran Church in Mt. Morris, Illinois. The Porch Trio is a woodwind ensemble featuring Donna Martin, flute; Sarah Reckmeyer, clarinet; and Terri McTaggart, bassoon. Members of the ensemble reside in Ottawa, Illinois. In addition to selections by the trio, each member will perform solo literature. Instruments featured are flute, clarinet, bassoon, piano, and organ. The varied program includes classical, Latin, jazz, and sacred music. The recital is free and open to the public. A freewill offering will be collected to support Lutheran Social Services of Illinois.

A reception will follow in the church's Fellowship Hall honoring Carol Reckmeyer for her 50 years of music ministry at the church. Everyone who knows Carol will enjoy visiting with her at the reception.



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## **August Financials**

			Actual	Budget			Budget
Budget Items		Item Description	August	August	Actual YTD	<b>Budget YTD</b>	Total 2023
Revenue		General Fund	\$13,036	\$16,771	\$132,662	\$134,175	\$201,252
		Mortgage	\$982	\$1,246	\$9,464	\$9,972	\$14,952
		Other Giving	\$172	\$833	\$4,202	\$6,668	\$9,996
		Total Revenue	\$14,190	\$18,850	\$146,328	\$150,815	\$226,200
Expenses	1000	Mission Support	\$2,100	\$1,167	\$7,144	\$9,336	\$14,004
		Other Outreach	\$750	\$516	\$4,028	\$4,140	\$6,192
		Total Outreach	\$2,850	\$1,683	\$11,172	\$13,476	\$20,196
	2000	Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$1,671	\$1,109	\$7,506	\$8,912	\$13,308
		Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$9,916	\$11,293	\$89,483	\$90,364	\$135,516
		Total Ministries	\$11,587	\$12,402	\$96,989	\$99,276	\$148,824
	3000	Total Building (Non Capital)	\$2,271	\$2,708	\$20,017	\$21,695	\$32,496
		Total Expense	\$16,708	\$16,793	\$128,179	\$134,447	\$201,516
	3000 Capital	Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$1,246	\$1,246	\$16,853	\$9,972	\$14,952
		Other Building Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
		Total Building Capital	\$1,246	\$1,246	\$16,853	\$9,972	\$14,952
		Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$17,954	\$18,039	\$145,032	\$144,419	\$216,468
Net		Net for Month/Year (Revenue Minus Expense)	(\$3,764)		\$1,296		
		(Under)/Over Budget for Month/Year	(\$85)		\$613		

# **Scout Flag Retirement Ceremony**

Flags that have served our nation well, and have been worn to condition where they should no longer be used, are retired in a solemn ceremony. A Flag Retirement Ceremony held by the all-girl Troop #5 took place in Winnebago. They incinerated over 25 flags which were all were saluted and select flags were noted with special meaning and memories.

Three girls were in attendance from the all-girls Troop #5 in Winnebago:

Annalise Downs (Winnebago) working on her life rank. This is the last rank before she starts working toward her Eagle and she is part of Order of the Arrow.

Ava Larson (Pecatonica) is ranked first class and has held a few positions within the troop's leadership board.

Evita Vitale (Winnebago) Star rank and has held multiple positions within the troop leadership board.

Elise Downs (Winnebago) assistant scout master.

Adrienne Vitale (Winnebago) troop leader and merit badge counselor.

Thank you to Marlene Roberts and the members of All Saints for gathering old flags and donating them to a good cause.





# In Our Prayers

Health & Healing Kathy Burrows Phyllis Coffman Jim Coffman Sandi Reid Cindy Yoakum Richard McCabe Mike Gordon Will Heindrick Bruce Roller Keith Padgett Ann Frerichs Tom Lombardo Francis Stevenson Margie Myer Ernie Leombruni Kevin Nickels Dick Sabin Bobbie Chisem Jennie Sanchez John Kirchner Rick Uhdholtz Susan Caruso Lee Jovce Billie Jean Hartman Jim Carson Mindy Vanatter Beth Brandt Jim Bowers Judy Owens Pat Jacobs Ron Sasso Geoff and Judy Zoellick Pastor Scott Schmidt Roberta Handler Lori Ludens Richard Reif Randy Roberts

> Shut Ins George Davis Lori Pederson Mary Whitmer

Military
David Bishop
Dylan Bishop
Tyler Peterson
Staff Sgt. Kyle Reif
Matt Vizer
Sage Harper
Tyler Peterson
Cristiano Sasso
Logan Usrey
Tyler James Yoakum

Sympathy
Hayden Casper
Dennis Reid
Tom Miller



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## **Annual All Saints Picnic**

On September 10 we gathered on the front lawn of the church for the Annual All Saints Picnic. We all enjoyed the hamburgers, brats, and hot dogs Steve Jones prepared for us. \$185.00 was collected for St. Vincent de Paul from the 50/50 drawing and the donation collection jar. Thanks to everyone who contributed! The kids enjoyed the bounce house, and the cake walk and bingo were a huge success as always. Thanks to Annette Jones for all her hard work to make this event a success!





#### October 15

First Communion Class

#### October 28

Halloween Hallway and Chili Supper

#### October 29

First Communion at Worship

#### November 5

All Saints Sunday

Canned Goods for People Helping

People deadline

#### **November 12**

Monetary Donations for People Helping People deadline

#### December 2

Decorate the church for Advent