

# THE Saintly NEWS Volume 43 Issue No. 9 / September 2020

# In-Person Worship to Continue at 9:00 am

We began limited in-person worship on July 5. Many safeguards were put in place, including social distancing, limiting attendees to 50 or less, the requirement of wearing a mask the entire time of building occupancy, taking temperatures at the door to assure no one has a fever at or above 100.4 degrees, and the addition of hand sanitizing stations at the entry to the church and at the sanctuary doors. Everyone who has attended these services has been very good about following these guidelines. We will continue to offer one in-person worship service at 9:00 am each Sunday until further notice. A recording of our worship service will be uploaded to Facebook by 10:30 am and our church website later that day.

A basket containing packages of communion wafers for those of you who wish to continue worshiping in your home will remain in the entry to the church for as long as needed. There are 10 wafers in each package, so feel free to take as many packages as you need to celebrate communion with your family.

# In-Person Sunday School Returns Sunday, September 13, 2020 at 9:00 am

Throughout the summer on multiple occasions we have brainstormed what Christian Education might look like during these unprecedented times. When the governor moved the state into Phase 4, All Saints carefully and thoughtfully returned to in-person worship services. As August approached we listened to what other churches were doing, and area schools started sharing their plans for 2020-2021.

At the beginning of August parents of children age 3 through grade 6 were asked for feedback regarding their preference for Sunday School – in-person, remote, or not interested in having their child/children attend at the present time. The majority of those who responded were interested in coming back into the church building for Sunday School (with the understanding that procedures and safety protocols would be followed in order to ensure a safe learning environment).

Based on the decision to continue one worship service at 9:00 am, Sunday School will be held from 9:00 am to 9:40 am—the same time as the worship service. This would give parents the opportunity to attend church while their children are in Sunday School.

Mark your calendars for the first day of Sunday School, which will be September 13th at 9:00 am.

Temperatures will be taken upon entering, and masks will be required. The plan is to use the length of the Sunday School hallway rather than individual classrooms for learning, which will better allow for physical distancing. Supplies will only be shared by members of the same household. Hand sanitizer will be available, and disinfecting protocols will be followed. At some point we may need to move to remote learning if state mandates or other circumstances warrant doing so. The time for Sunday School may change if All Saints returns to two worship services. Please reach out to Pastor Janet or Michel Williams with your questions or concerns.

Communication is important as we work together to nurture the children's faith. We are looking forward to having children and their families in the church building once again.



**Sunday Worship** 9:00 am **Whole Family Education Hour** Sundays 9:00 am (Sept - May)

Responding to the Gospel to carry out God's mission



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#### **Council Members**

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Deadline for the October
Saintly News is September 18
Please send articles to
Rebecca Presson

#### Dear Friends,

As you read on the front page of this newsletter, the decision has been made to continue on "in-person" worship services at 9:00. I am so grateful we're able to hold in-person worship, which has averaged about 35 people every week, as well as being able to upload a recording of that service, which is viewed by many more. If our in-person worship service attendance grows to the point where we need to consider adding another service, we'll address that then.



Every church, including ours, is having to examine who we are and what our purpose is during this time of pandemic. Primarily, the purpose of any Christian church is to embrace the love of Jesus, hear his redeeming and forgiving words and let others know about his saving grace. I believe we are living that purpose out here at All Saints – it may look and feel different than before, but there are signs of vitality all around us. People have been generous in their financial support of our congregation; and worship services have reached people who normally can't attend our worship. Bible studies are happening, Sunday School and confirmation classes will soon begin. Quilting is happening and this month we'll collect items for Personal Care Kits to be sent around the world via Lutheran World Relief. We are asking for donations to support our local St. Vincent dePaul chapter (since we won't have our picnic and silent auction) and donations continue to come in for our local food pantry, People Helping People. As you read in another article, 38 people donated blood here with another blood drive being scheduled for October! We are alive with activity here at All Saints, eager to share God's Good News with each other and those around our community and world. Thanks be to God!

September marks my 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being pastor here – it's been quite the journey! I continue to be honored to have been called to be the pastor here and look forward to continuing this journey together. Thanks for partnering with me in our quest to BE the church!

In Christ,

Pastor Janet Wold

August Worship	In Person	Online Viewers
2	36	186
9	33	246
16	27	178
23	34	n/a
Totals	130	610
Average	32	203



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# **Bible Studies**

The Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study, facilitated by Pastor Janet Wold, is being held via Zoom at 1:30 pm. At this time this is a study and discussion of the following Sunday's Gospel lesson. A link to the Wednesday 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 night Bible Study, is currently on hiatus. However, when the Bible study resumes, we will finish watching the DVD, "Peter and the Last Supper."

# **Adult Sunday School**

Adult Sunday School will reconvene on **Sunday**, **September 13 at 10:00 am**. We will meet in the Confirmation area so we can spread out and be safer there. Masks and social distancing are required as with the Church Service. We will complete the series that was not finished from March, a course entitled *After the New Testament: The Writings of the Apostolic Fathers*. Most of the material does not build on itself, so newcomers are more than welcome. We will start with the lecture on "The Use of Scripture in the Early Church" to refresh our memories and then have eight weeks more of this to study together. From there we will begin one of the three new courses that we acquired late in 2019:

- From Jesus to Constantine: A History of Early Christianity
- Lost Christianities: Christian Scriptures and the Battles
- Fall of the Pagans and the Origins of Medieval Christianity

The lessons are on video and run a half hour and then we discuss what we watched as a group. We hope to see you in September!

# **August Council Meeting Highlights**

- Financial giving continues to be strong, allowing us to keep all bills paid. Thanks to our church family for faithfully giving so generously.
- Decided to maintain one "in-person" worship service at 9:00 am until the need for two services arises. Currently we have an average of 35 people attending each Sunday.
- Voted to purchase two new audio speakers for an approximate cost of \$958.00 to replace the deteriorating speakers in the sanctuary using memorial funds
- Sunday School for 2020-2021 is still up in the air, awaiting responses from a survey sent to parents.
- Blood drive was a great success with 38 people donating.
- Decided to try to do a fundraiser for St. Vincent dePaul with a special appeal for donations and possibly a 50/50 drawing during the month of September
- Decided to collect items for Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief during September

# **Sunday Scriptures**

## September 6 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 62:1-7 Psalm 119:33-40 Romans 10:11-17 Luke 24:44-53

## September 13 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 103:8-13 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35

# September 20 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Jonah 3:10--4:11 Psalm 145:1-8 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16

## September 27 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm 25:1-9 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32



Please Clip & Save for your reference

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#### **Confirmation**

Confirmation class will begin with orientation for parents and students on Sunday morning, September 13th at 10:00 am via Zoom. On the following Sunday, September 20th, class will begin for students via Zoom meeting from 10:00-10:30 am. This is a very 'different' year so we decided Zoom was the safest way to go. The link for the Zoom class will be in the weekly announcements.

If you have a child entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade this fall and didn't get a registration form, please contact the church office. This year's class will study Lutheran History and the New Testament using the same curriculum as in previous years, *Colaborate*.

I am excited to get things going again with confirmation and look forward to having some new students join those who have already had their first year! Please pray for us as we start this new year!

Thank you, Jean Whipple

# 2020-2021 Confirmation Class Schedule All Classes held via Zoom from 10:00 to 10:30 am Sundays

Unit 2 - Lutheran History & Catechism					
September 13	Zoom meeting with confirmation parents and students at 10:00 am				
September 20	Martin Luther	If we follow Jesus, why do we call ourselves Lutherans?	Ephesians 2:8-10		
September 27	The Reformation	Since the church is so divided, I don't understand how the Reformation could be a good thing.	Galatians 3:26-28		

# **Library News**

According to the Love Inspired web-site, "Love Inspired Books is a series of inspirational category romances featuring Christian themes and characters. Issues of faith and belief are central to the plot and the characters must behave accordingly with Christian beliefs as well as end the book as believers and church members. There are also Love Inspired Suspense and Love Inspired Historical."

The following romances are being added to others in our library this month:

The Perfect Wedding by Arlene James - When Rod Corley enters Bridal Consultant, Layne Harrington's lace-filled shop, she hopes he is in the wrong place, not the groom-to-be. When he wants her help planning a wedding, she fights the attraction. That is, until he reveals the groom is his nephew. The attraction is mutual and he imagines her in a bridal gown and himself as the groom. But the Corley family is filled with scandalous secrets and he would never ask her to share that burden as his wife.

Triplets Find a Mom by Annie Jones is a story about Sam Goodacre, a widow with triplet daughters whose only rules are no dogs and no matchmaking, and a pretty school teacher who moves back to her childhood home, a lost puppy and a big parenting issue.

The Amish Nanny by Patricia Davids -The reclusive Amish logger, Ethan Gingerich hires shy Amish woman, Clara to be the nanny to his two nephews and a niece that he took in after their parents were killed by a lightning strike while working in the field. Because of Ethan's upbringing, he is unprepared to raise the children and must rely on Clara's instincts.

# **Book Club**

Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate is a book of fiction based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals. Georgia Tamm, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country from the 1920's through the 1950's.

Twelve-year old Rill and her four younger siblings are taken from their houseboat while their mother is rushed to the hospital. Delivery of twins has gone bad.

They are assured by the orphanage they will be returned to their parents soon, but quickly realize they are at the mercy of the cruel director of the Tennessee Children's Home Society orphanage. As children are mysteriously disappearing, Rill is determined to keep her family together.

Book Club will meet Monday, September 28th at 1:00 pm in the fellowship hall with face masks and social distancing. The book will be passed from one to another with a 3-day waiting period in-between.



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# God's Work, Our Hands

During the month of September, we will be celebrating God's Work Our Hands by collecting Personal Care Kit items for Lutheran World Relief and supporting local needs by collecting donations for St. Vincent dePaul through direct donations and a 50/50 drawing that will be



held here at church. The donations can be placed in the offering plate with checks made out to All Saints with "St Vincent dePaul" in the memo line. Tickets for the 50/50 drawing will be available each Sunday morning in September for \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00. You can also purchase them from the church secretaries during regular office hours. The drawing will be held after worship on Sunday, September 27 and the winner will be notified via phone.

#### PERSONAL CARE KITS - SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- All items should be new and in good condition.
- Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.





#### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT

- ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- ONE sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ONE metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

(Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap)

#### HOW TO PACK YOUR KITS OF CARE

Fold the towel in half width-wise. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out, and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.

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# **All Saints Lutheran Church**

Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM

To schedule an appointment, visit RRVBC.org
OR Call 815-965-8751

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**Finance Report** 

		*					
			Actual	Budget			<b>Budget Total</b>
Budget Items		Item Description	July	July	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2020
Revenue		General Fund	\$15,229	\$16,430	\$140,604	\$115,010	\$197,160
		Mortgage	\$2,248	\$2,074	\$11,956	\$14,521	\$24,888
		Other Giving	\$0	\$833	\$5,915	\$5,835	\$9,996
		Total Revenue	\$17,477	\$19,337	\$158,475	\$135,366	\$232,044
Expenses	1000	Mission Support	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$14,151	\$8,750	\$15,000
		Other Outreach	\$100	\$467	\$1,515	\$3,277	\$5,604
		Total Outreach	\$1,600	\$1,717	\$15,666	\$12,027	\$20,604
	2000	Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$234	\$1,238	\$4,202	\$8,708	\$14,856
		Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$7,401	\$11,038	\$76,205	\$77,288	\$132,456
		Total Ministries	\$7,635	\$12,276	\$80,407	\$85,996	\$147,312
	3000	Total Building (Non Capital)	\$2,823	\$2,569	\$14,116	\$18,005	\$30,828
		Total Expense	\$12,058	\$16,562	\$110,189	\$116,028	\$198,744
		Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$2,094	\$2,095	\$14,763	\$14,665	\$25,140
		Other Building Capital	\$0	\$0	\$8,492	\$0	\$0
		Total Building Capital	\$2,094	\$2,095	\$23,255	\$14,665	\$25,140
		Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$14,152	\$18,657	\$133,445	\$130,693	\$223,884

### **Blood Drive Information**

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, due to the challenges of the COVID 19, the Rock River Valley Blood Center reached out to All Saints and inquired if All Saints would consider hosting another Blood Drive this year. On July 13<sup>th</sup> during the church council meeting the council approved holding another drive on August 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Shortly after noon on August 6<sup>th</sup> the RRVBC arrived at All Saints and converted the Fellowship Hall into a mini Blood Collection Center. During the drive there was steady flow of visitors who came to give of their time and donate blood to assist RRVBC meet the current shortage of blood supply.

As a result of the Blood Drive 38 units of blood were collected which has the potential of saving 114 lives. One new donor gave blood for the first time and was added to the RRVBC donor list.

Due to the success of the Blood Drive RRVBC asked if All Saints would consider hosting another drive this year. With the approval of the church council another drive has been scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Those who donated on August 6<sup>th</sup> will be eligible to give blood at the October 1<sup>st</sup> drive. To schedule an appointment, visit RRVBC.org or call (815)965-8751. Walk in donors are also welcome during the drive.



# In Our Prayers

Health & Healing
Pat Bontjes
Kathy Burrows
George Davis
Jeanine Hayes
Phil Houston
Devin Lorio
Al Olsen
Skip Richardson
Doris Swedberg

Paul Wood Steve Hawkins Gordon Green Danette Potter Diane Hawkins Bill Michaux Jonce Wright Mary Sanders Harold Hilliard Joyce Hilliard Justine Davis Kirby Middleton Sandi Rennick Matt Henkel Dennis Reid Daphne Downey Vicki Scull Jamie Dreyfus Scott Gordon & wife Lu Gary Diehl Richard McCabe Doug Karr Laura Medlar Dana, Tammy and Blair Eric Miles

> Shut Ins Eileen Carlson Patricia Mohr Lori Pederson Mary Whitmer

<u>Military</u> David Bishop Dylan Bishop

Staff Sgt. Kyle Reif Matt Vizer Sage Harper Wes McGee Reggio Tyler Peterson

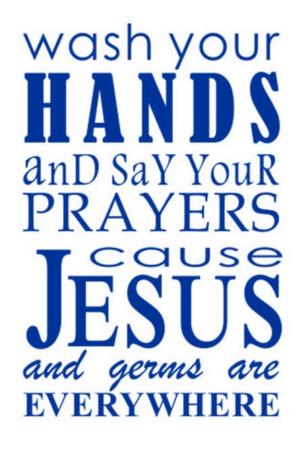
Sympathy
Chuck Franklin
David Pillar
Jay Medlar
Bryan Lee
Jim Johnson



A PUBLICATION OF ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH 624 Luther Dr. Byron, IL 61010-9684 Aeptember Issue - Mailed 8/26/20

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#### **Month of September**

God's Work Our Hands Collection for St. Vincent dePaul and LWR

#### September 13

In-Person Sunday School Resumes

#### September 13

Confirmation Parent Orientation via Zoom

#### September 20

Confirmation begins via Zoom

#### October 1

**Blood Drive**