



THE Sainly NEWS

Volume 40 Issue No. 1 / JANUARY 2017

Annual Congregation Meeting Sunday, January 29, 2017 Potluck: 12:00 Noon Meeting: 12:30 pm



Some of the items on the agenda include:

- Review the annual report
- Approve the budget for 2017
- Vote on church council members
- Appoint voting members to the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly on June 16 & 17 at Augustana College in Rock Island.



This will be a great opportunity for all members of the church to enjoy fellowship, eat good food, and exercise their rights as active and voting members of All Saints.

Annual Meeting Voting Requirements

All Saints' constitution lists two minimal requirements in order to be considered an active voting member at congregation meetings: Receive Holy Communion and make at least one financial contribution of record in the current or previous year. "Of record" simply means that the financial secretary has recorded your donation because you have used a numbered offering envelope or written a check.



Annual Report Time

Attention all Organizations, Committees, Secretaries, Treasurers: Now is the time to review the past year and write your report for the Annual Congregation Meeting to be held January 29th. Please include a financial report and a brief overview of what your group has done in 2016. Reports need to be submitted to the office by January 8th so the booklet can be compiled and made available prior to the Annual Congregation Meeting.

Copies of last year's report are available if needed. If possible please submit your report in a Word file and email it to the church at office@AllSaintsByron.org. Of course, a hand written report will be accepted as well.

Thank you, Congregation Council

'Tis the Season to Un-decorate

We have enjoyed the festive look of the church with the Christmas decorations, but as we move on in the church year, we need to take down the trees and greens.

Many hands are required to make this light work, so join in on Saturday, January 7th starting at 10:00 am. There will be jobs for all ages. If you have questions, talk with Dennis Cassens, Council President.



Sunday Worship 8:00 and 10:30 am
Whole Family Education Hour
Sundays 9:15 am (Sept - May)

Responding to the Gospel
to carry out God's mission



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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Deadline for the February
 Saintly News is **January 15**

Please send articles to

Rebecca Heaslip

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A Note From Pastor Janet Wold

Dear Friends,

Let me begin by expressing my gratefulness to all of you who expressed your sympathy upon the death of my mother on November 21. Your prayers of support were felt and appreciated by all of my family. Thank you.

Christmas will soon be behind us. As much as we may love the festivities of this time of year, there is a part of me that is also ready to “get back to normal”. Our focus will soon turn to the New Year. As 2017 stretches out before us, we see the promise of a new beginning (hence all those New Year’s resolutions that get made this time of year). It almost seems that anything will be possible! But then the reality of day to day life sets in – the realization that it is just as hard today as it was yesterday to say no to that extra food or find time for exercise or stop smoking or whatever it might be that we’ve resolved to do. Sometimes we can do it...most times it seems we can’t.

The allure of a new beginning is hard to resist, though. The thought that we can somehow reshape who we are and start again is very desirable at times. One of the great gifts of our Christian faith is that we are given new beginnings all the time – every day, every minute! – not just on New Year’s day. With Christ, we know forgiveness, we know unconditional love, we know acceptance for who we are. With Christ, we are allowed to “start again” in our relationship with God an infinite number of times! What a gift! What grace!

We have an opportunity this year that doesn’t often happen – New Year’s Day falls on a Sunday in 2017 and so we will gather for worship at our normal worship times of 8:00 am and 10:30 am. What a great way to start the new year – giving thanks to God for the past year and praying for God’s blessings upon us as we start the new year out. My prayer is that 2017 will find all of us renewing our relationship with God. Come join us in worship not only on New Year’s Day but *every* Sunday as we celebrate our new beginnings every single day! God’s blessings to you all in this New Year!

In Christ –

Pastor Janet Wold



Synod Assembly Delegates Needed!

At the January Annual Meeting we will be electing up to three adult members and one youth member of All Saints to attend the Synod Assembly in Rock Island, IL June 16-17, 2017. The worship is great, and you get to see the larger church at work. If you are interested in being nominated and elected for this opportunity, please speak to Pastor Janet.



Tuesday Night Bible Study

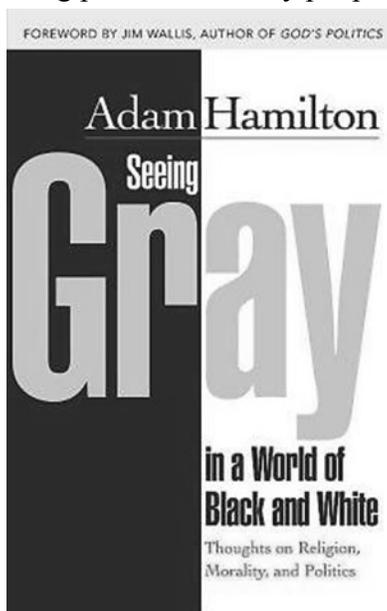
Join the group every Tuesday night at 7:00 pm beginning January 10. All are welcome. We meet in the main conference room so please enter by the south doors. We will continue our study of the book of James.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study

Wednesday Bible Study, 1:30 pm in the main conference room. Beginning in January, we will be viewing and discussing the DVD “Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White” by Adam Hamilton. The series is described as “Everyone agrees that America is polarized, with ever-hardening positions held by people less and less willing to listen to one another. No one agrees on what to do about it. One solution that hasn’t yet been tried, says Adam Hamilton, is for thinking persons of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral and religious issues that divide us.”

- ⇒ January 4: “Where Faith and Politics Meet”
- ⇒ January 11: “Christ, Christians and Culture Wars”
- ⇒ January 18: “How Should We Live? The Ethics of Jesus”
- ⇒ January 25: “Spiritual Maturity and Seeing Gray”
- ⇒ February 1: “What Would Jesus Say to America?”

Join us for what promises to be an interesting discussion!



Calling All Women of All Saints!

Are you interested in connecting with other women in our congregation? You are a part of WELCA – Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You are invited and encouraged to join in all the activities organized by WELCA. We have a brief fellowship and organizational meeting four times a year. Throughout the year we have several activities in which you may have already taken part. In the Spring we hold a rummage sale fundraiser and a Spring Ladies Luncheon. In November we have held a bake sale. The proceeds of the fundraiser have helped to purchase non-budgeted items for the church and help subsidize youth activities. There are many women’s groups that meet monthly such as the Quilters, the Gathering, and Book Club.

Our next fellowship planning meeting is Saturday, January 14th at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. This is a potluck brunch so bring a small dish to share and join us. We will enjoy the food and make our plans for the Spring activities. We look forward to seeing some new faces as well as our familiar WELCA ladies. All ages from High School on up are welcome.

Carolyn Niederer and Marlene Roberts, Co-Conveners

Sunday Scriptures

January 1

Name of Jesus

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 8

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:15-21

January 8

Baptism of our Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 29

Matthew 3:13-17

January 15

2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Psalm 40:1-11

John 1:29-42

January 22

3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Psalm 27:1-9

Matthew 4:12-23

January 29

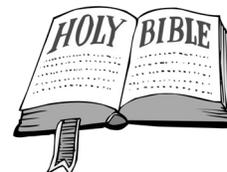
4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Psalm 15

Matthew 5:1-12



Please Clip & Save for your reference

Altar Guild

The annual Altar Guild meeting will be held on Saturday, January 7, 2017 in the main conference room (310) at 9:00 am. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the ministry of Altar Guild, elect officers for the coming year, and create a schedule for Altar Guild service for 2017. Current Altar Guild members are invited and encouraged to attend this important meeting.

We are in need of new Altar Guild members to assist in setting up the sanctuary for Sunday worship. If you are interested in joining but have questions about the work we do, please contact Kay Johnson, Michel Williams, Bridget Reibel or Jo Marie Branson for more information. Everyone is invited to join – men, women, youth – everyone! Many hands make light work!

-Kay Johnson, President



ALTAR GUILD FLOWER CHART

Please take a moment to consider donating altar flowers that beautify the church throughout the year. The flower reservation binder is on the wall by the Altar Guild bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Bouquets are ordered from Merlin's at a cost of \$18.00 each, and are delivered every other week. There are envelopes in the rack to use for your flower payment. This will help the Altar Guild Treasurer keep track of donations.

If you have questions about this system, please contact any of the Altar Guild members listed in the Sunday bulletins, or Kay Johnson.

Book Club

Since Book Club did not meet in December, we will be sharing a Christmas book that we have individually chosen. If you would like to share a book or join us to hear a Christmas story, we will meet January 23rd at 1:00 pm in the main conference room (Room 310). We'll have the coffee pot on to keep us warm. February's book choice is *The Church Ladies* by Lisa E. Samson.

December Council Highlights

- ◇ Heard we are still struggling financially, with giving not meeting pledged amounts
- ◇ Heard we have been offered a website upgrade at a reduced one time cost of which we will take advantage
- ◇ Reminded annual reports are due to the church office by January 8, 2017
- ◇ Learned one parking lot light has been refurbished and returned to service with LED lighting, reducing the cost of operation while providing brighter light
- ◇ Heard the December 11th Sunday School Christmas Program was well attended and the children performed beautifully
- ◇ Heard the Annual blood drive will be held at All Saints on April 6, 2017
- ◇ Learned the Advent Soup Suppers and following worship are going well
- ◇ Learned there will be a family game night on January 21, 2017 with participants bringing an appetizer to share
- ◇ Approved transfer of JoEllen Krueger to Seward Congregational Church in Seward, IL

Congregation Council Members Needed!

We will be electing three members to the All Saints Congregation council at our annual meeting on January 29th. These members will be elected for a three year term as well as a youth representative who will be elected for a one year term.

If you are interested in serving our church in this capacity, please pick up a nomination form on the oak table in the narthex, complete it, and turn it in to the church office or give it to Dennis Cassens. Committee assignments are made at the February Council meeting when Committee Chairs are appointed. If you have any questions about the work the Council does, please contact any of the council members or feel free to attend our next meeting on Monday, January 9 at 7:00 pm.

Family Game Night

Saturday, January 21st - 6:30 pm at All Saints

Bring the whole family and join in fun & fellowship with your All Saints family

A movie will be played in the Sanctuary for children to enjoy

Please feel free to bring your favorite game and/or snack to share

Drinks will be available



Something New is Coming!

We are in the process of redesigning the church website. This should be completed by the end of January, so keep checking www.AllSaintsByron.org for the new look!



The GATHERING

The GATHERING will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am on Tuesday January 10. Bring your craft to work on or just come and enjoy the fellowship and fun!

Quilters

The quilters plan to meet on Thursday, January 5th from 9:00 to 11:00 am at the church. Winter is the perfect time to think of making quilts as the cold weather stays with us. There are 30 completed quilts in the Quilters closet. Our group is thankful for the generous donations of sheets and fabrics received over the past years. Have you noticed that a different quilt is displayed every month on the rack in the entrance hallway? Please join us on the first Thursday of any month in the new year.



K-5



Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at UCB after school until 5:30 pm. We walk the kids from school to UCB.

Next Kids Club meets January 11, 2017



Youth NEWS

January 2017

The Youth Group meets at United Church of Byron (UCB) or All Saints Lutheran (ASL) as noted below.

Northern Illinois Synod Ski Trip

This event is for all ages. We will go to Chestnut Mountain in Galena for some skiing and lots of fun. We will leave church at 9am and return sometime in the late afternoon. See youth board for sign up sheet.

Cost: \$47 –Lift, Lesson, Rental
\$27 –Lift ticket only...\$8 Meal Deal. **I will need to know who is going by 1/8/17.**



February 5th ... Souper

Bowl of Caring. Let's begin the Souper Bowl of caring with a simple prayer: **"Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat."** We will again hold 2 large soup pots at the doors of the sanctuary for you to vote for your favorite team. Please help us raise money for People Helping People. Thank you for your donations.

March 1stAsh Wednesday

Pancake Supper from 6-6:45pm at church. We will prepare and serve pancake and sausages for a dinner before church service. Come help out and earn youth dollars. Arrive at 5:00 pm to help make sausages and pancakes. Sign up on youth board **Sign-up sheet for food donations also.**

If you would like to chaperone an event please let Audrey know.

Our Mission statement:

Seeking God, Serving Others & Having Fun!

Audrey Adams, All Saints Youth Leader

S.T.A.T.I.C

Students Taking Action Together In Christ

Library News

Additions to the library this month begin with books donated by Sandra and Steve Reid:

- ⇒ *A Miracle a Day, Stories of Heavenly Encounters*, by Ann Sangler- The true stories from Scripture, lives of ordinary and notable people will reassure you that God is in control.
- ⇒ *Crossing the Threshold of Eternity*, by Robert L. Wise contains inspiring stories of reassurance, promise, hope and peace from the dying.

Also being added are:

- ⇒ *For Love of Eli-* a Quilts of Love book by Loree Lough- A tragedy leaves young Eli an orphan. His aunt helps him remember his parents by creating a memory quilt.
- ⇒ The Little Valley Series by Jerry S. Eicher
 - Book 1, *A Wedding Quilt for Ella-* Aden, Ella's fiancée dies before the wedding and the building of her dream house. When she begins to doubt God's love, her sister draws the house and Ella uses the drawing as the center of her wedding quilt even though there is no wedding.
 - Book 2, *Ella's Wish-* Ella moves into the simple home she and Aden would have lived in after their wedding. How is she to survive on her own? How will she forget Aden? What is to become of her?
 - Book 3, *Ella Finds Love Again-* Ella has three suitors: an Amish widower whose three girls she loves, a young man who she can't quite trust, and an Englishman who desires to convert to the Amish faith, but as an outsider he is out of the question. Is she destined to be an old maid?
- ⇒ The Hannah's Heart Series by Jerry Eicher
 - Book 1, *A Dream for Hannah-* A tragedy causes Hannah to vow never to love again. She meets someone who also had his dreams shattered. A misunderstanding causes her to go back home and marry an Amish farm boy. Will she be happy as his farm wife?
 - Book 2, *A Hope for Hannah-* Newlyweds Jake and Hannah live in the mountains of Montana. The new wife and soon-to-be mother wants to move back to Indiana when she hears mysterious noises in the night, but Jake insists God wants them where they are.
 - Book 3, *A Baby for Hannah-* Jake and Hannah were devastated at the loss of her pregnancy. Time has healed the wounds and happiness has returned, but the road is not without bumps.

Stewardship News

A huge “Thank You” to everyone for your continued support of All Saints through your generous giving of your time, talents, and donations! We are off to a good start as it relates to our recent Stewardship campaign and we are so thankful to all of you who help make All Saints the cornerstone of our faith and church family. Again, “Thank You”

For those of you who have not turned in your pledge cards for the upcoming year, please do so at your convenience. You may simply drop them in the offering plate at any service or mail them to the church office. It's important that we all then continue to meet (or exceed) our pledges. Your pledge is an important part of the financial health of All Saints.

Also, we're always looking for new members to our Stewardship committee so please let me know if you're interested in joining us. We meet quarterly or as necessary, and can be very flexible with our meeting times.

Doug Knodle - Stewardship Committee

Confirmation Schedule

January 1	No Class	Happy New Year	
January 4 (Wednesday)	Maps	<i>I don't know where all this Bible stuff happened.</i>	<i>Acts 14: 24-28</i>
January 8	The New Testament	<i>If the whole Bible is so important, I don't understand why it is split into two parts.</i>	<i>John 12: 44-50</i>
January 15	Jesus	<i>I don't understand how Jesus could be fully human and fully divine.</i>	<i>Philippians 2:5-8</i>
January 18 (Wednesday)	Matthew	<i>I don't know why Matthew refers to the Old Testament all the time.</i>	<i>Matthew 1: 18-25</i>
January 22	Mark	<i>I don't get why Mark skips stuff and ends before the story does.</i>	<i>Mark 1: 14-20</i>
January 29	Luke	<i>I'm not sure why Luke is so fixated on the Roman Empire and people on the fringes of society.</i>	<i>Luke 2: 41-52</i>

Worship Attendance				
	8:00	10:30	Total	Sunday School
November 27	44	26	70	n/a
December 4	55	43	98	45
11	39	114	153	na
18	40	43	83	22
Total	178	226	404	67
Average	45	57	101	34

Finance Report

Budget Items	Item Description	Actual October	Budget Octoberr	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Total 2016
Revenue	General Fund	\$15,087	\$16,717	\$140,181	\$167,174	\$200,609
	Mortgage	\$2,713	\$2,333	\$20,305	\$23,333	\$28,000
	Other Giving	\$609	\$429	\$3,315	\$4,292	\$5,150
	Total Revenue	\$18,409	\$19,480	\$163,802	\$194,799	\$233,759
Expenses	1000 Mission Support	\$500	\$1,417	\$5,238	\$14,167	\$17,000
	1000 Other Outreach	\$242	\$471	\$2,668	\$4,708	\$5,650
	1000 Total Outreach	\$742	\$1,887	\$7,906	\$18,875	\$22,650
	2000 Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$1,742	\$1,189	\$7,781	\$11,886	\$14,264
	2000 Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$10,223	\$11,433	\$108,104	\$114,331	\$137,198
	2000 Total Ministries	\$11,965	\$12,622	\$115,886	\$126,217	\$151,462
	3000 Total Building (Non Capital)	\$2,045	\$2,896	\$22,372	\$28,963	\$34,756
	3000 Total Expense	\$14,752	\$17,405	\$146,164	\$174,055	\$208,868
	3000 Capital Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$2,074	\$2,074	\$20,742	\$20,743	\$24,891
	3000 Capital Other Building Capital	\$0	\$0	\$60	\$0	\$0
	3000 Capital Total Building Capital	\$2,074	\$2,074	\$20,802	\$20,743	\$24,891
	Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$16,826	\$19,480	\$166,966	\$194,797	\$233,759

Weather Related Closings

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 services if at all possible. If you don't feel safe on the roads, please stay home.



2016 Sunday School Christmas Program



In Our Prayers

Health & Healing

AI Olsen
Judy Kirking
Leroy Pederson
Jim Reif

Kim Sherman
 Mary Dummer
 Don Hartman
 Juanita Williams
 Duane Burnett
 April Roos
 Dean Booth
 Bill Brown
 Dean Lundgren
 Pamela Newman
 Marie Schulte
 Tim O'Hare
 Laura Egler
 Marcia Kasmaric
 Dolores Burton
 James Maxwell Farrell
 Evan Flannery
 Larry Lee
 Arnold Schramm
 Theresa Varilek

Shut Ins

Eileen Carlson
Blanche Schroeder
Lori Pederson
Patricia Mohr
Mary Whitmer

Military

David Bishop
 Joe Wrasse
 Landon Skaar

In Sympathy

Chuck Goering
 Homer Crawford

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January 7

Altar Guild Annual Meeting

January 7

Un-decorate the church

January 8

Annual Report articles due

January 8

Deadline for Ski Trip Registration

January 14

WELCA Potluck and Meeting

January 16

LYO and LOMC Annual Ski trip

January 21

Family Game Night

January 29

Noon Potluck and Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 29, 2017
Potluck: 12:00 Noon
Meeting: 12:30 pm

This will be a great opportunity for all members of the church to enjoy fellowship, eat good food, and exercise their rights as active and voting members of All Saints.



Office Hours - Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, and Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.