



THE Sainly NEWS

Volume 47 Issues No. 8 / August 2024

Welcome Vicar Michelle Wandersee!

On August 4, 2024, we will welcome Vicar Michelle Wandersee as our Interim Pastoral Leader. Vicar Michelle is a graduate of Carthage College with a degree in business administration. She is also certified as a Youth and Family Director through the Center for Youth Ministries of Wartburg Theological Seminary. Michelle currently serves as the Program Director for LOMC. Michelle previously served as the Youth and Family Coordinator at Faith Lutheran Church in Rochelle for 10 years. Michelle recently completed the Northern Illinois Synod's diakonia program, which is a two-year process.



Vicar Michelle is also currently a student in the Education/Formation process of the Lutheran Diaconal Association (LDA), a multi-Lutheran organization forming women and men for lives of Christian Service, located in Valparaiso, IN. When Vicar Michelle has completed this process and is approved for Consecration, she will then become an active member of the Lutheran Deaconess Conference and will be able to use the title "Deaconess". *Get to know her a little more on page 2.*

The Annual All Saints Picnic



Mark September 8, 2024 on your calendar! The festivities will begin here on the church grounds at 12:00 noon and run until 3:00 pm. We'll have brats, burgers, hot dogs, chips and cookies for lunch, bingo and the ever-popular cakewalk for fun, and games for the kids. While there is no charge for this event, a 50/50 drawing will be held to benefit St. Vincent De Paul. A donation jar will be available for your donations. Invite your neighbors to join us! Food will be served in the Fellowship Hall, however the cakewalk, bingo and kids games will be held on the lawn, weather permitting. We need a few volunteers to help with food service and other areas. There are sign-up sheets on Bulletin Board #2 for the areas where help is needed. Thank you in advance!

Attention Confirmation Students and Parents!

Watch the weekly announcement emails for details on Confirmation for 2024-2025. A parents' information meeting will be set up and further information will be available once Vicar Michelle has begun her interim here at All Saints.

Sunday Worship - In-Person 9:00 a.m.
Recorded Service available on our
Facebook Page and
Webpage at 10:30 am.

**Responding to the Gospel
to carry out God's mission**



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

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ~ Romans 12:11

I am writing this article as I begin packing up my office at Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center. It's a weird feeling to leave a place where you have spent countless hours at for 6.5 years, but I know it's time. I've had a blue piece of paper with this scripture from Romans typed on it for over 16 years in both my office at LOMC and my previous office at Faith Lutheran Church in Rochelle, where I was their Youth Leader for 10 years. These words from St. Paul have traveled with me throughout my time in ministry and they will continue to travel with me to All Saints (you'll have to come visit me in the office to spot it!).

I really like the word *Zeal*: having great energy or enthusiasm in pursuit of a cause or an objective. I am full of *zeal* right now! I am so excited about serving this community at All Saints! I am truly in awe of how God has led me to this moment! The other word that excites me in this verse is *Ardent*: to have an intense degree of devotion. I am truly devoted to this ministry and following where the Spirit is leading me. So needless to say, I am truly excited and thankful to be here!

A few things about me: I have lived in Rochelle for almost 30 years!! I am a divorced mother of 3 adult children: Brian (soon to be 27), who lives in Dekalb, Brett (24) who still lives at home, and Jennifer (20) who is going to be a Junior at Illinois State University. I have a wonderful partner of seven years named Kurt Wolter, who is technically Presbyterian, but we Lutherans like to claim him too! He will plan to attend All Saints probably every other week while he attends his church First Presbyterian in Rochelle on the other weeks.

I am currently in my second year of formation to become a Deaconess in the Lutheran Diaconal Association (The LDA) out of Valparaiso, IN. Part of my requirements is to engage in volunteer work. I have been volunteering at Serenity Hospice and Home for about a year. Serenity is a wonderful place to volunteer at and there are many different ways to volunteer. I happen to be a Direct Patient Volunteer which involves visiting patients at Serenity or in nursing facilities around Ogle County.

Some things that I enjoy doing are hiking, nature journaling, birding, and reading. I cannot pass up a good book - even books about birds! I'm looking forward to meeting you all and being able to share the Good News with you each week! I look forward to the ways that we can be in community together and to continue to strengthen the work you've been doing as a church.

God's Blessings to you all!

Vicar Michelle Wandersee

Staff

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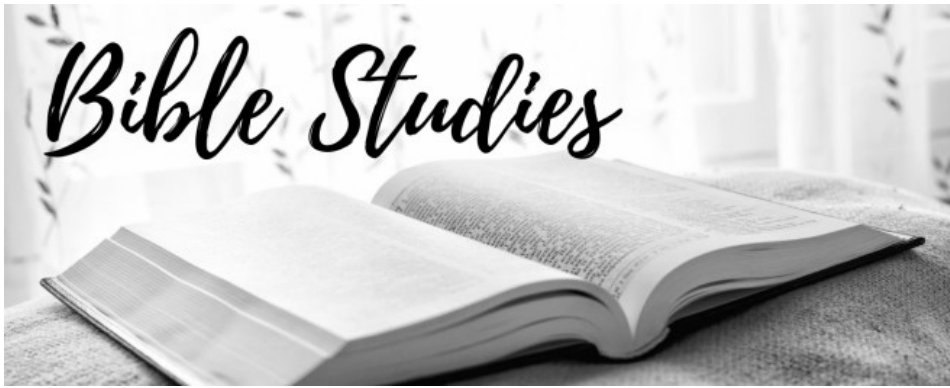
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Deadline for the September
Saintly News is **August 16**

Please send articles to

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Check the calendar for changes to the Bible Study schedule.

Monday Afternoon Bible Study, held via Zoom, will be on hiatus until the Fall.

Tuesday Night Bible Study, facilitated by Steve Reid, will continue through the summer at 7:00 pm in Conference Room #310. This Bible Study is studying the Gospel of Luke.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study will be on hiatus until the Fall.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study, facilitated by Steve Jones, will be on hiatus until the Fall.

**THANK
YOU!**

Dear Members and Friends of All Saints,

Thank you seems inadequate in light of your generous outpouring of cards, gifts and well wishes for my retirement. I will always hold All Saints in my heart, and I am glad our journeys intersected for nearly 10 years!

With love and gratitude,
Pastor Janet and Alan Wold

**August
Sunday
Scriptures**

August 4

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

Psalms 78:23-29

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

August 11

12th Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:4-8

Psalms 34:1-8

Ephesians 4:25—5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

August 18

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalms 34:9-14

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

August 25

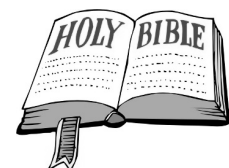
14th Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalms 34:15-22

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69



*Please Clip & Save
for your reference*

June Council Highlights

- ⇒ Met Interim Candidate Vicar Michelle Wandersee.
- ⇒ Finances are stable for the month.
- ⇒ Voted to accept NI Synod's recommendation of Vicar Michelle Wandersee as our Interim Pastoral Leader.
- ⇒ Discussed the formation of the Call Committee, to be appointed by the Church Council.
- ⇒ Blood Drive will be held August 19.

July Council Highlights

- ⇒ Finances are stable for the month.
- ⇒ President Steve Jones reported an agreement between All Saints, Vicar Michelle Wandersee, and the Northern Illinois Synod has been approved and signed. Vicar Michelle will be our supply pastor on July 28, and commence as our interim on Sunday, August 4.
- ⇒ Discussed names brought forth as possible Call Committee members, and Steve will contact each on the list to see if they are willing to serve. When he has 6 people in agreement, we have a Call Committee.
- ⇒ A new vacuum cleaner was purchased for the Fellowship Hall.

Worship Date	Online Viewers	In-Person	Total
May 26	174	67	241
June 2	172	64	236
9	202	63	265
16	164	65	229
23	314	96	410
30	236	50	286
July 7	315	47	365
14	172	58	230
21	252	52	304
Total	2,305	562	2,566
Average	256	62	285

Pastoral Call Update

We said goodbye to Pastor Janet Wold on Sunday, June 23rd. Her last service was that morning and a fantastic luncheon put together by my wife Annette, Kay Johnson and Jean Whipple along with lots and lots of helpers that day was well attended. It was both a happy and sad day as she and we said our goodbyes. Thank you to the many congregational members who stepped up and donated towards her going away gift; it was greatly appreciated! Also, thank you to Pastor Janet and her husband Alan for all their work in support of All Saints these last ten years.

So here we are in transition. For the month of July we had fill pastors to cover our services, and on August 4th our interim pastor, Vicar Michelle Wandersee, begins her service to us. We are very excited to have her as our interim.

I initially met with Vicar Michelle on June 3rd and she then met our Council on June 10th. Both the Council and I were very impressed with her. She is currently the program director at LOMC. She finishes summer programming at LOMC on August 2nd and will start full-time Sunday August 4th. She also served as our Supply Pastor on July 28.

Before her 7 summer seasons at LOMC, she was the Youth and Family Coordinator at Faith Lutheran in Rochelle. She is a certified Youth and Families Director through the Center for Youth Ministries of Wartburg Seminary. She is a graduate of the Synod's diakonia program and is now studying to be a deaconess. Michelle is a graduate of Carthage College with a degree in business administration. She hopes to eventually complete deaconess training and work as a full-time deacon in the ELCA.

We have an agreement in place with her to serve as our interim pastor. She is what the ELCA calls a SAM, which is a Synodically Authorized Minister. These are lay persons authorized by the bishop to preach and preside at Holy Communion, so she will serve and function for us as our pastor with the ability to do all the normal weekly ministry functions. Since she is not a "pastor," and calling her a "SAM" is cumbersome, we decided to use the term "Vicar" as her title, an appropriate usage of that term. The Council and I are confident the Congregation will be pleased with her as our interim spiritual leader.

Going forward, we as a Council are putting together a Call Committee of six individuals who will do a lot of the administrative work to assist the Council and Congregation in beginning the search for a new full-time pastor. I will keep you apprised of what is going on here in the newsletter each month and with occasional Temple Talks to keep everyone updated. If you ever have a question, feel free to contact me.

Yours in Christ,
Steve Jones, Council President



All Saints is gearing up for another year of Christian Education, which will kick off on Sunday, September 8th. There will again be two sessions each Sunday for children aged 3 through 6th grade. Children's Church (named as such since it is during the church service) will take place from 9:00 am to 9:50 am, and Sunday School will convene from 10:00 am until 10:50 am. Last year the younger students seemed to prefer the earlier session, while older kids attended both times.

We will once again be using a *Dig In* curriculum from Group Publishing. This gives us access to online customizable lessons, which "use real-world illustrations, eye-to-eye conversations, and everyday objects to explain eternal truths in fresh and surprising ways."

Students will have the opportunity to learn more regarding the life of Jesus by hearing Bible stories and engaging in activities about topics such as Jesus' birth, baptism by John the Baptist, calling of His disciples, performing miracles, and teaching through parables.

The teaching staff is comprised of Heather and Nate Brown, Malerie Busche, and Michel Williams. Rory and Masyn Brown will assist as needed. Feel free to reach out to Heather Brown (mrsbrownandgirls@yahoo.com/815-721-6401) or Michel Williams (netfam@comcast.net/815-262-2963), if you have questions. We are looking forward to another great year!



WELCA News

You may have noticed a wooden console table at the front of the sanctuary near the pulpit and the exit sign. This table was purchased by WELCA for use at cremation funerals. The table is large enough to hold an urn plus flowers and/or pictures. There was a need we had noticed in the past and will be available now as the need arises.

During the months of August and September, we will be collecting items for health care kits for Lutheran World Relief. In October these kits along with the quilts will be forwarded to LWR for distribution. A collection area will be set up in the church entryway.

Here is the list of supplies we will be collecting:

- ◆ Light-weight bath size towel (20" x 40" or 27" x 52") - dark color is recommended
- ◆ 2-3 Bath size bars of soap in original packaging (totaling 8-9 oz.)
- ◆ Adult size toothbrush in original packaging (multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap)
- ◆ A sturdy comb (no picks or fine tooth combs)
- ◆ A metal nail clipper (attached file optional)

Shopping lists detailing the designated items will be available for pickup on the oak table in the narthex.



Quilters

The Quilters will meet on Thursday, August 1st, 15th, and 29th at 9:00 am. We are rapidly closing in on the date the quilts are to be packed and shipped to Lutheran World Relief. The number of finished quilts is getting bigger every month. The time we spend together goes by quickly as we work. It is a time of service and fellowship. We will gladly accept donations of sheets or fabric that you have. Thank you!

2024 Synod Assembly Highlights

- ⇒ Blessed a new synod banner.
- ⇒ Heard from Rev. Miguel Gomez-Acosta, Senior Director for New Ministry Development and Evangelism at ELCA Churchwide.
- ⇒ Passed the “Fiscal Year 2026 Northern Illinois Synod budget.
- ⇒ Passed the 2025 rostered Minister Compensation Guidelines.
- ⇒ Passed three resolutions brought to the assembly.
- ⇒ Elected several members to serve on Synod Council, committees, and 2025 Churchwide Assembly.
- ⇒ Heard from Bishop Fidlar about a new development project.
- ⇒ Heard from Becoming, a new Synod Authorized Worshipping Community in Oswego.

Celebrate and Support LOMC!

Tri Church (St. John’s and St. Paul, Sterling and Immanuel, Rock Falls) is hosting a special event for LOMC (Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center) to celebrate and support their outdoor ministries. We are invited to join in this celebration on Saturday, August 17th from 5 to 7 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sterling, located at 1701 16th Avenue. A picnic style meal featuring ribeye steak sandwiches will be provided. In addition, outdoor games will be available. Further information and the QR Code where you can RSVP and donate to the celebration and ongoing work of LOMC is located on Bulletin Board #1.



Mark your calendar for September 15

We have reserved tickets to Timberlake Playhouse (in Mt. Carrol, IL) for the play *Church Basement Ladies - A Second Helping*. Tickets are \$25 per person. There is a sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board. Payment due upon sign-up and payment goes to Annette Leombruni Jones. (Checks made out to Annette Leombruni Jones). If paying by cash, please enclose in an envelope and put your name in or on the envelope. Payment can be given to Annette or placed in her mailbox in the church office. Carpooling can be arranged. If you need a ride indicate so on the sign-up sheet.

Book Club

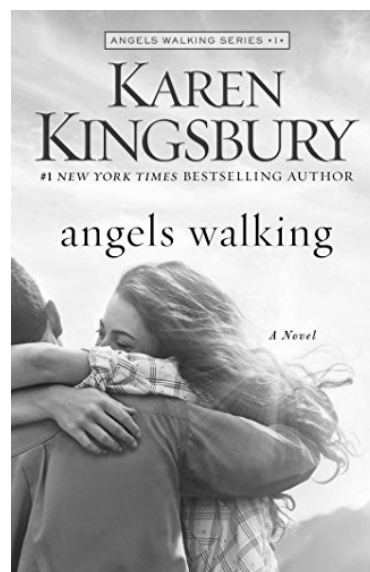
Join us on Tuesday, August 27 at 1:00 pm for our monthly book club meeting. The book being discussed in August is *Angels Walking* by Karen Kingsbury.

Somewhere in heaven a decision has been made. An Angels Walking Team has been assigned to a desperate mission. When angels walk, most people never know, never see. But they are there and sometimes the stakes are so high, all of heaven stands ready.

One-time national baseball hero, Tyler Ames, has lost everyone he loves on a quest to make it to the big league. Then, just when things seem to be turning around, Tyler hits rock bottom. Across the country Tyler’s only love, Sami Dawson, has moved on.

A series of small miracles leads Tyler to a maintenance job at a retirement home and a friendship with Virginia Hutcheson, an old woman with Alzheimer’s who strangely might have the answers he so desperately seeks.

A team of Angels Walking takes on the mission to see hope restored for Tyler, Sami, and Virginia. Can the small and seemingly insignificant actions of the unseen bring healing and redemption? Can the words of a stranger restore lost love? Every journey begins with a single step.



May Financials

Budget Items	Item Description	Actual May	Budget May	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Total 2023
Revenue	General Fund	\$21,082	\$16,389	\$93,920	\$81,945	\$196,668
	Mortgage	\$1,686	\$1,246	\$7,435	\$6,234	\$14,952
	Other Giving	\$3,270	\$417	\$24,231	\$2,085	\$5,004
	Total Revenue	\$26,038	\$18,052	\$125,586	\$90,264	\$216,624
Expenses	1000 Mission Support	\$100	\$833	\$3,210	\$4,167	\$10,000
	1000 Other Outreach	\$0	\$871	\$2,184	\$4,365	\$10,448
	1000 Total Outreach	\$100	\$1,704	\$5,394	\$8,532	\$20,448
	2000 Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$3,758	\$5,325	\$20,685	\$26,652	\$63,900
	2000 Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$6,589	\$7,166	\$37,238	\$35,842	\$85,992
	2000 Total Ministries	\$10,347	\$12,491	\$57,923	\$62,494	\$149,892
	3000 Total Building (Non Capital)	\$2,670	\$2,882	\$14,277	\$14,427	\$34,584
	3000 Total Expense	\$13,117	\$17,077	\$77,594	\$85,453	\$204,924
	3000 Capital Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$1,246	\$1,246	\$7,984	\$6,234	\$14,952
	3000 Capital Other Building Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3000 Capital Total Building Capital	\$1,246	\$1,246	\$7,984	\$6,234	\$14,952	
	Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$14,364	\$18,323	\$85,578	\$91,687	\$219,876
Net	Net for Month/Year (Revenue Minus Expense)	\$11,674		\$40,008		
	(Under)/Over Budget for Month/Year	(\$3,959)		(\$6,109)		

June Financials

Budget Items	Item Description	Actual June	Budget June	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Total 2024
Revenue	General Fund	\$15,395	\$16,389	\$109,314	\$98,334	\$196,668
	Mortgage	\$1,255	\$1,246	\$8,690	\$7,480	\$14,952
	Other Giving	\$3,878	\$417	\$28,111	\$2,502	\$5,004
	Total Revenue	\$20,527	\$18,052	\$146,115	\$108,316	\$216,624
Expenses	1000 Mission Support	\$3,140	\$833	\$6,350	\$5,000	\$10,000
	1000 Other Outreach	\$1,030	\$871	\$3,214	\$5,236	\$10,448
	1000 Total Outreach	\$4,170	\$1,704	\$9,564	\$10,236	\$20,448
	2000 Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$7,394	\$5,325	\$28,079	\$31,977	\$63,900
	2000 Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$7,900	\$7,166	\$45,138	\$43,008	\$85,992
	2000 Total Ministries	\$15,294	\$12,491	\$73,217	\$74,985	\$149,892
	3000 Total Building (Non Capital)	\$2,262	\$2,882	\$16,539	\$17,309	\$34,584
	3000 Total Expense	\$21,726	\$17,077	\$99,320	\$102,530	\$204,924
	3000 Capital Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$1,246	\$1,246	\$9,230	\$7,480	\$14,952
	3000 Capital Other Building Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3000 Capital Total Building Capital	\$1,246	\$1,246	\$9,230	\$7,480	\$14,952	
	Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$22,973	\$18,323	\$108,550	\$110,010	\$219,876
Net	Net for Month/Year (Revenue Minus Expense)	(\$2,446)		\$37,564		
	(Under)/Over Budget for Month/Year	\$4,650		(\$1,460)		

In Our Prayers

Health & Healing

*Kathy Burrows
Phyllis Coffman
Jim Coffman
Sharon Provencher
Sandi Reid
Cindy Yoakum
Mike Gordon
Will Heindrick
Bruce Roller
Keith Padgett
Ann Frerichs
Kevin Nickels
Dick Sabin
Bobbie Chisem
Jennie Sanchez
John Kirchner
Rick Uhdholtz
Billie Jean Hartmann
Mindy Vanatter
Jim Bowers
Judy Owens
Ron Sasso
Geoff and Judy Zoellick
Lori Ludens
Richard Reif
Randy Roberts
Sybil & Alton
Jayne Fitzsimmons
Mimi Leombruni
Marilyn Litschein
Tim Litschein
Jeff Johnson
Toni Girten
Shirley Frahm
Lisa Helms
Rose Millard
Cindy Beitel
Gail Gartin
Debra Olsen
Holly Stuckenberg
Lois Clark
Alan Clark
Gregg Riverdahl
Paula Davis
Kaerington Kopp
Alyson Conley & Family
Alice Ewert
Grace Swedberg
Mark Murray
Joann Holifield*

Shut ins

*Lori Pederson
Kit Reif
Mary Whitmer*

Military

*David Bishop
Dylan Bishop
Staff Sgt Kyle Reif
Matt Vizer
Sage Harper
Tyler Peterson
Christiano Sasso
Logan Usrey*

In Sympathy

*Ken Heal
Ken Lapp
Ginger Mumford
Rose Sloan
Francis Stevenson*



Pastor's Retirement Luncheon

We sent Pastor off to retirement with a delicious catered lunch, and lots of laughter and reminiscing. Pictured below are many of Pastor's clergy friends who joined us that day to celebrate Pastor Janet's retirement.



Pastor Joy Alsop, Rabbi Binah Wing, Pastor Janet Wold, Marti Bein, Deaconess Cheryl Erdmann, Pastor Jay Quinn, Kris Quinn.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

August 4

Welcome Vicar Michelle!

August 17

LOMC Celebration

August 19

All Saints Blood Drive

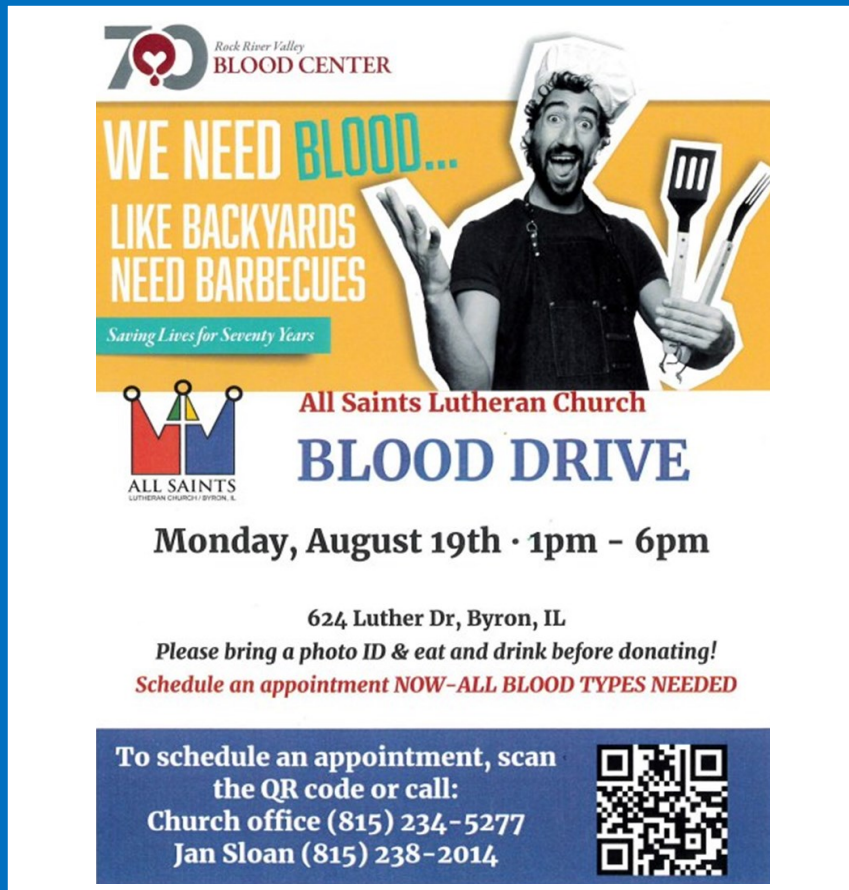
September 8

Sunday School Kick-Off Sunday

Annual Picnic

September 15

Timber Lake Outing



The advertisement features a central image of a chef with a surprised expression, holding a spatula and a fork. To the left of the chef, the text reads "WE NEED BLOOD... LIKE BACKYARDS NEED BARBECUES". Above the chef is the logo for the Rock River Valley Blood Center, which includes a stylized heart and the number 70. Below the chef is the All Saints Lutheran Church logo, which consists of a crown with three points in red, yellow, and blue. The text "All Saints Lutheran Church" is written in red, and "BLOOD DRIVE" is written in large blue letters. Below this, the date and time "Monday, August 19th · 1pm - 6pm" are listed. Further down, the address "624 Luther Dr, Byron, IL" is provided, along with the instruction "Please bring a photo ID & eat and drink before donating!" and the note "Schedule an appointment NOW-ALL BLOOD TYPES NEEDED". At the bottom, a dark blue box contains the text "To schedule an appointment, scan the QR code or call:" followed by the phone numbers "Church office (815) 234-5277" and "Jan Sloan (815) 238-2014". A QR code is located to the right of this text.

Rock River Valley
BLOOD CENTER

WE NEED BLOOD...
LIKE BACKYARDS
NEED BARBECUES

Saving Lives for Seventy Years

All Saints Lutheran Church
BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, August 19th · 1pm - 6pm

624 Luther Dr, Byron, IL
Please bring a photo ID & eat and drink before donating!
Schedule an appointment NOW-ALL BLOOD TYPES NEEDED

To schedule an appointment, scan
the QR code or call:
Church office (815) 234-5277
Jan Sloan (815) 238-2014

Office Hours are Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Closed on Friday