



THE Sainly NEWS

Volume 47 Issue No. 1 / January 2024

Help Us Undecorate Our Church

Please plan to join us at 10:00 am on Saturday, January 6, 2024, to undecorate the church.

Many hands make light work!
Coffee and donuts will be served!



Annual Congregation Meeting Sunday, January 28, 2024 10:00 am

This year the 2024 Annual Congregation Meeting will be held following worship on Sunday, January 28. We will gather in the sanctuary and review the annual report, review and vote on the 2024 Budget, elect church council member(s) to fill vacancies on the Church Council, appoint voting members to the 2024 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly to be held June 14 & 15 at Augustana College in Rock Island, and approve changes to the All Saints Constitution. If you are interested in any of these vacancies, please see Pastor Janet and fill out the nominating form, which is available on the oak table in the narthex.

Annual Meeting Voting Requirements

All Saints' constitution lists two minimal requirements 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 an offering envelope or written a check.



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.

Council Members

PRESIDENT & FINANCE

Steve Jones

VICE-PRESIDENT & STEWARDSHIP

Kay Johnson

SECRETARY

Caryn Huber

EDUCATION

Heather Brown

FELLOWSHIP

Annette Jones

PROPERTY

Bob Branson

OUTREACH/SOCIAL MINISTRY

Jim Wilcox

WORSHIP

Carol Miller

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Rory Brown

Staff

PASTOR

Pastor Janet Wold

TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER

Laura Hopkins

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Amy Harn

OFFICE SECRETARIES

Cindy Beitel
Karen Larson

Deadline for the February
Saintly News is **January 15**
Please send articles to
Rebecca Presson

Dear Friends:

Happy New Year! As we begin 2024, we at All Saints are filled with anticipation and hope for the possibilities that the new year will bring. It's a time of reflection on the past and a celebration of the journey that lies ahead. Here are a few things I want to highlight:



Worship: Join us every Sunday, either in person or online, as we gather for worship. Our doors are open to all who wish to share in the warmth of our faith community. Every week I can feel the Holy Spirit moving among us – either via the music, scripture, sermon, or fellowship with each other. God is still active in our world and in our lives – one of the ways we learn about that is by worshipping God!

Community Outreach: In the spirit of compassion and service, we continue to reach out to those beyond our own community. Every month we list the food items People Helping People (our local pantry) needs. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you'll find a list specific needs the Byron School pantry needs. This month we'll host another blood drive for the Rock River Valley Blood bank, opening our church to community members who want to donate this life-giving resource.

Faith Formation Opportunities: Nurture your spiritual growth through our various faith formation opportunities. Whether it's attending one of our four Bible study options (see article in newsletter), or being part of our prayer chain, or even just picking up the daily devotional book we offer, there are ample ways to deepen your connection with God and others.

Volunteer Opportunities: Get involved and make a difference in the lives of others by volunteering your time and talents. Our church family thrives when everyone contributes. Here at the church, we are particularly in need of people to run the camera that video tapes our worship service. I know that those who watch our service online appreciate that option. We can't offer that if we don't have a camera operator. You would receive training and practice sessions. Right now, we have 2-3 people who can do this...more are needed. Many other opportunities for volunteering exist. You can go to our website, All-SaintsByron.org, to check out where you might fit in on our Time and Talent sheet.

As we embark on this new year, my prayer is that we will continue know that we are guided by God through the challenges and joys that await.

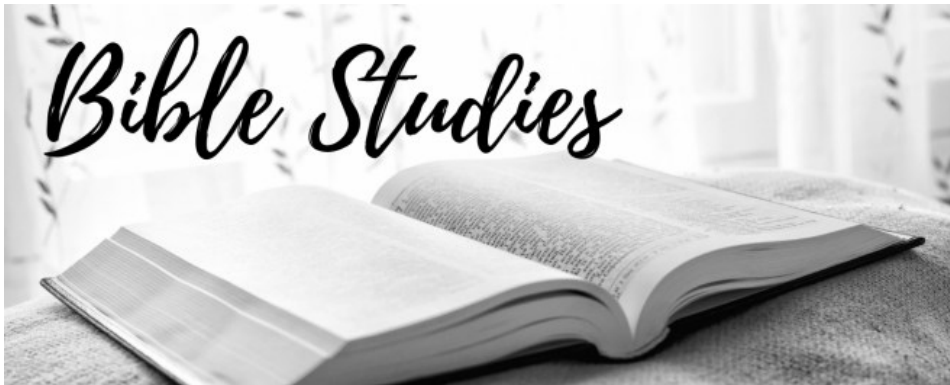
Blessings to you all in the coming year!

In Christ,
Pastor Janet

Pastoral Acts:

November 18 – Joyce Hunsaker Funeral
(Pastor Tyler Spellious of UCB presiding)
December 30 – Memorial Service for George Davis





Check the calendar for changes to the Bible Study schedule.

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. This study is on hiatus for the winter.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study, facilitated by Pastor Janet Wold, meets at 1:30 pm in Conference Room 210. This study utilizes a publication entitled *Faith That Glorifies God*.

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

Library News

Is your New Year's Resolution to read more books in 2024? Check out our church Library for a vast selection of entertaining and enlightening books for your reading pleasure!



Altar Guild

The Annual Altar Guild meeting will be held on Saturday, January 6, 2024, at 9:00 am in the Main Conference Room (310). Current and prospective Altar Guild members are invited and encouraged to attend!

January Sunday Scriptures

January 7

Baptism of our Lord

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

January 14 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

January 21 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalms 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

January 28 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalms 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28



*Please Clip & Save
for your reference*

Looking for Council Members

Congregation Council elections are just around the corner at our annual meeting in January. We need at least three candidates to run. If you have an interest, please let Pastor Janet know. Contact any of the council members for more information. The Congregation Council is a great way to sharpen and use your leadership skills. The Congregation Council meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. Take this opportunity to share your time and talents.



Synod Assembly Delegates Needed

At the January Annual Meeting, we will be electing up to two adult members and one youth member of All Saints to attend the Synod Assembly in Rock Island, IL on June 14-15, 2024. Worshiping with other churches from our synod is uplifting, 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.

Worship Totals	Online Viewers	In-Person	Total	Sunday School
November 26	146	42	188	—
December 3	118	57	175	18
10	152	64	216	25
17	146	95	241	28
Total	562	258	820	71
Average	140	65	205	24



Thank you to everyone who participated in the recent ELCA Good Gifts Silent Auction including those who gave a direct donation to the Good Gifts program. For the auction we had over 50 items up for bidding and there was a lot of fun following the competitive spirit of the bidders. The amount earned from this project will be announced at a later date. The total amount will be shared with the Sunday School children who now have the opportunity to shop for and learn about others in need. Many people will enjoy what the Good Gifts program can provide for them to make their lives easier, healthier, and safer because of your contributions.

Gods Work, Our Hands.

Thank you, Carol Miller and WELCA



People Helping People Thank You!

Ruth Ann Goelitz reported 50 families, consisting of 200 people, were helped by People Helping People at Thanksgiving. Your contributions to our Thanksgiving People Helping People drive were greatly appreciated and made a huge impact on their ability to serve so many needy families. The need doesn't stop at the holidays, but continues throughout the year. Our grocery cart is always ready and waiting for your contributions! Check out the sign on the cart or in the announcements for items of greatest need each month.

Byron School District Food Pantry

The Byron School District Food Pantry currently sends groceries home to needy families in the district each week. They also provide snacks for students at Mary Morgan Elementary. At the high school they provide breakfast to anyone needing it. Below is a list of all items needed. **Currently the most critical needs are for cereal, taco kits, shampoo, conditioner, lotions, body wash, tampons, pads, deodorant, toothbrushes, and toothpaste.**

Canned Vegetables	Spaghetti-os
Canned Fruit	Granola Bars
Canned Tuna	Cereal Bars
Canned Chicken	Fruit Cups
Jelly/Jam	Applesauce
Peanut Butter	Hamburger Helper
Mac & Cheese	Tuna Helper
Pasta/Pasta Sauce	Taco Kits
Crackers	Condiments
Rice	Instant Potatoes
Lipton Sides	Boxed Potato Sides
Canned Soup	Healthy Snacks
Ramen	Sandwich Crackers
Canned Ravioli	Feminine Products
	Personal Hygiene*

*Personal Hygiene items include shampoo, lotion, toothpaste, tooth brushes, mouthwash, soap, deodorant, shaving cream, disposable razors.

Please place your donations in the basket by the main entrance. Thank you for your generosity!



**Food Pantry
Donations Needed**



Join us on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 1:00 pm for Book Club! This month's selection is entitled *The Christmas Quilt* by Thomas J. Davis.

It all started June of 1942 when Uncle Joe said he might come home for Christmas. During that summer a young boy learned about love and loss as his dying grandmother created a special quilt for Uncle Joe, her long absent son. *A Christmas Quilt* is the story of a gift that comes from the heart and embodies the true spirit of what it means to be a family.



January 7	Esther	<i>I don't know why Esther's story matters when it doesn't mention God.</i>	Esther 4:13-17
January 14	The Rise of Rome	<i>What happened in the world between the Old Testament and the New Testament?</i>	Ezra 1:1-5
Unit 2 - Lutheran Living			
January 21	Justification by Faith	<i>I don't see why I can't take care of justification on my own.</i>	Romans 3:21-28
January 28	The Cross	<i>I don't understand why a symbol of execution is a central image of Christianity.</i>	1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Stewardship

Thanks be to God for the generous outpouring of gifts that All Saints Lutheran Church experienced on December 3rd as we celebrated the commitment of gifts for our ministry for next year. We currently have received 41 Statements of Intent totaling \$155,595.00.

Pledge Year	General	Mortgage	Roof	Total
Amt 2023	\$144,451.00	\$12,530.00	\$3,914.00	\$160,895.00
Amt 2024	\$141,270.00	\$12,305.00	\$2,020.00	\$155,595.00
# Pledges 2023	46	23	10	46
# Pledges 2024	41	17	4	41
Avg Pledge 2023	\$3,140.24	\$544.78	\$391.40	\$3,497.72
Avg Pledge 2024	\$3,445.61	\$723.82	\$505.00	\$3,795.00

If you have not already done so, please join us in celebrating our ministry and growing in discipleship by filling out your Statement of Intent and Time and Talent form. You are invited to prayerfully consider how God is calling to you to share your gifts and then complete the Statement of Intent and Time and Talent form with a spirit of joy and thanksgiving for the many blessings God has given, especially our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God for all that is happening at All Saints! Thank you, too, for all you do in our ministry together.



Blood Drive 2024

On January 22, 2024, All Saints will be hosting our first Blood Drive of 2024. The drive will take place from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. You'll notice the times of the drive have been changed from years past. Due to the lack of staff the Rock River Valley Blood Center found it necessary to reduce the drive by one hour.

RRVBC appreciates if donors make reservations to give blood (walk-ins are always welcome). By making a reservation it allows the staff to prepare accordingly, which facilitates getting the donations completed in a timely fashion. You can make a reservation by calling Jan Sloan or by contacting the RRVBC at 815-965-8751. The RRVBC is in constant need of blood to meet the demands of people in need of blood. It only takes about an hour to donate.

We hope to see you at the All Saints Blood Drive on January 22nd!



December Council Highlights

- Giving in November did not meet budgeted needs.
- Byron High School Choir will perform a benefit concert at All Saints.
- Candidates are needed for Congregation Council and Synod Assembly delegates.
- Woodpeckers are damaging the cedar siding of the church.
- Received 37 Statements of Intent to date, totaling \$144,995.
- All Saints blood drive is scheduled for January 22, 2024.
- Reviewed a draft of the 2024 budget. Final budget will be approved and submitted to the congregation for approval at the January 28 annual meeting.

Quilters

The quilters plan to meet at 9:00 am on January 4 and 18th at the church. We are eager to make warm quilts for people in need in the new year. The two hours together are a time of fellowship and service.



The GATHERING

We will meet on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall for fellowship and coffee. Join us for fellowship, food, and fun!



November Financials

Budget Items		Item Description	Actual November	Budget November	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Total 2023
Revenue		General Fund	\$10,981	\$16,771	\$170,701	\$184,488	\$201,252
		Mortgage	\$804	\$1,246	\$13,151	\$13,710	\$14,952
		Other Giving	\$620	\$833	\$5,963	\$9,167	\$9,996
		Total Revenue	\$12,405	\$18,850	\$189,814	\$207,365	\$226,200
Expenses	1000	Mission Support	\$130	\$1,166	\$7,474	\$12,834	\$13,992
		Other Outreach	\$255	\$515	\$5,313	\$5,685	\$6,180
		Total Outreach	\$385	\$1,681	\$12,787	\$18,519	\$20,172
	2000	Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$1,022	\$1,096	\$10,735	\$12,204	\$13,152
		Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$10,597	\$11,290	\$121,856	\$124,240	\$135,480
		Total Ministries	\$11,619	\$12,386	\$132,592	\$136,444	\$148,632
	3000	Total Building (Non Capital)	\$2,176	\$2,705	\$27,530	\$29,810	\$32,460
		Total Expense	\$14,180	\$16,772	\$172,909	\$184,773	\$201,264
	3000 Capital	Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$1,246	\$1,246	\$20,592	\$13,710	\$14,952
		Other Building Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Building Capital		\$1,246	\$1,246	\$20,592	\$13,710	\$14,952	
	Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$15,426	\$18,018	\$193,501	\$198,483	\$216,216	
Net	Net for Month/Year (Revenue Minus Expense)		(\$3,021)		(\$3,687)		
	(Under)/Over Budget for Month/Year		(\$2,592)		(\$4,982)		

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



Sunday School Program



In Our Prayers

Health & Healing

Audrey Adams
Kathy Burrows
Phyllis Coffman
Jim Coffman
Sandi Reid
Kit Reif

Kit Reif

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 Udholtz

Susan Caruso

Lee Joyce

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

Louise Krebs

Sybil & Alton

Brad Morelock

Susie Wilcox

Jeff Johnson

Shut Ins

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



A PUBLICATION OF
ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
624 Luther Dr.
Byron, IL 61010-9684
January Issue - Mailed 12/28/23

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

“ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED”



January 2

Reports for Annual Meeting
booklet due to the office.

January 6

Undecorate the church
Annual Altar Guild meeting

January 22

Annual Blood Drive

January 28

Annual Congregation meeting

February 24

BHS Choir Performance

Save the date!

The Byron High School Choir, directed by Amy Harn, will perform at All Saints on Saturday, February 24th at 4:00 p.m. This benefit performance will showcase some of the music they will perform on their trip to Ireland this summer. A free will donation will be solicited to help fund this trip.

Office Hours are Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Closed on Friday