



THE Sainly NEWS

Volume 49 Issues No. 4 / April 2026



Holy Week

Holy Week Schedule

April 2 – Maundy Thursday

Communion and Stripping of the Altar

7:00 pm

April 3 – Community Good Friday Service

United Church of Byron

701 W 2nd Street

Worship - 6:00 pm

April 5 – Easter Sunday

Worship - 9:00 am

Server Sign-up!

We would like to try something different for signing up to serve during Sunday morning worship. If you are willing and able to help, please look for the easel with the sign-up sheets and choose which Sunday (or Sundays) you would be available to be a *greeter, usher, assistant minister, reader, or coffee hour host*.

We will give this a try for June, July, and August, since the summer months are when most people are going to be away on and off. Thank you for helping us try something new!

Sunday School News

In Sunday School the children just finished exploring Bible verses which dealt with trusting God. They heard the stories about the 10 Commandments, Aaron making an idol, God giving Caleb courage, and a talking donkey.

For the final six weeks of the Sunday School year the kids will learn about amazing love and following Jesus. The children will discover that Jesus has the power to heal, how Jesus made the religious leaders angry when he healed on the Sabbath, and that Jesus is God's son. The parables of the lost sheep, lost coin, and prodigal son will also be introduced. Finally, students will experience the value of living according to the Golden Rule and living like Jesus.

We can use some packing peanuts for a Sunday School project! If you have packing peanuts lying around, please drop them off at the church office by **April 9th**.

The final session of Sunday School will be on **May 17th**. Hopefully, the children found Sunday School to be a place for connection and community while building a lasting foundation of faith.

Watch the newsletter and weekly announcements for news about Vacation Bible School.

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

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WORSHIP

Jean Whipple

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Dylan Sproule

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The joyful proclamation “**Alleluia! Christ is risen!**” and the response “**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**” are among the most beloved words of the Easter season in the church. These words echo the message of the empty tomb found in the Gospels, such as in Gospel of Luke 24:5–6, where the angels proclaim to the women, “*Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.*”

For Christian, this simple exchange carries profound meaning. It is more than a greeting; it is a confession of faith. When we proclaim “Alleluia! Christ is risen!” we are declaring the central truth of the Christian faith: that through the resurrection of Jesus, death has been defeated and new life has begun.

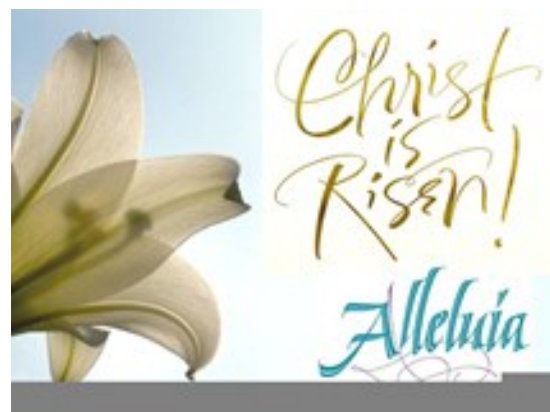
The word “**Alleluia**” itself means “Praise the Lord.” Throughout the season of Lent, many churches refrain from using this word as a way of entering into the solemn journey toward the cross. Then, on Easter morning, it returns with joyful abundance. When the congregation sings or proclaims “Alleluia” again, it reflects the overflowing joy of the resurrection. The church moves from the quiet reflection of Lent into the triumphant celebration of Easter.

The Easter greeting also reminds us that the resurrection is not only an event of the past but a promise for our lives today. In the waters of baptism, we are joined to Christ’s death and resurrection, as the apostle Paul writes in Epistle to the Romans 6:4: “*Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... so we too might walk in newness of life.*” For Lutherans, this means that the resurrection shapes our identity every day. We live as people claimed by Christ, forgiven and renewed through God’s grace.

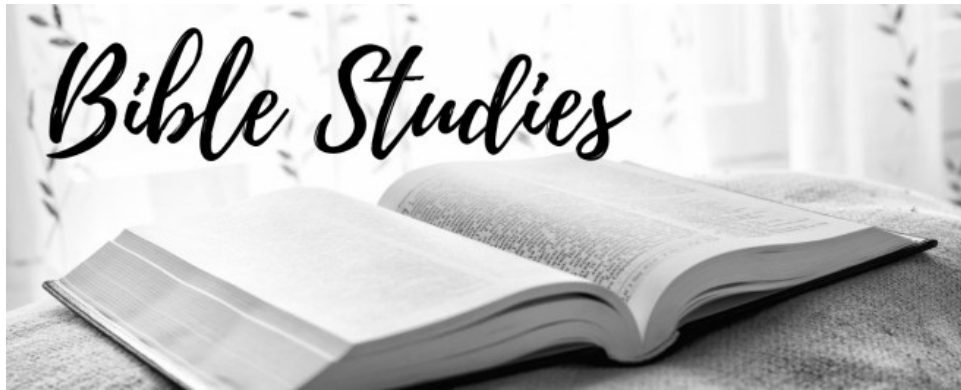
Each time the church proclaims, “**Alleluia! Christ is risen!**”, we are reminded that hope is stronger than despair, life is stronger than death, and God’s love is stronger than anything that seeks to separate us from Him. This Easter proclamation invites us to live boldly in that promise—sharing Christ’s love, serving our neighbors, and trusting in the new life God gives. So throughout the Easter season, and indeed every day, the church joyfully proclaims **Alleluia!**

**Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed!
Alleluia!**

Vicar Michelle



Deadline for the May Sainly News is **April 17**
Please send articles to
Rebecca Presson



Check the calendar for changes to the Bible Study schedule.

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Tuesday Evening Bible Study, 7:00 pm in Conference Room #310. This Study is on hiatus until Spring. Please refer to future issues of the Sainly News and the weekly announcements for information on upcoming meetings.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study, 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Led by Vicar Michelle Wandersee. Each week we will study the Gospel for the following Sunday utilizing the Daily Discipleship format.

Spring Clean-up Day - April 25 - 9:00 am

Mark April 25th on your calendars! That is the date of our Annual Spring Clean-Up Day. Come when you are able and stay as long as you like! There's work that needs to be done on the inside as well as the outside, as we prepare our church to be as beautiful as the spring flowers that will soon be blooming! Please sign up on Bulletin Board #2 so we know how many will be coming to help.



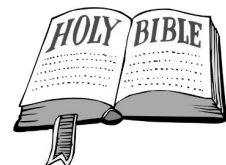
**April
Sunday
Scriptures**

April 5
Resurrection of our Lord
Easter Sunday
 Acts 10:34-43
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
 Colossians 3:1-4
 Matthew 28:1-10

April 12
Second Sunday of Easter
 Acts 2:14a, 22-32
 Psalm 16
 1 Peter 1:3-9
 John 20:19-31

April 19
Third Sunday of Easter
 Acts 2:14a, 36-41
 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
 1 Peter 1:17-23
 Luke 24:13-35

April 26
Fourth Sunday of Easter
 Acts 2:42-47
 Psalm 23
 1 Peter 2:19-25
 John 10:1-10



*Please Clip & Save
for your reference*



Blood Drive Results

During our blood drive on March 16th, our collection goal of 31 was exceeded by 2! 33 units were collected, saving 99 lives. During our last 5 drives, we have collected a total of 150 units, saving 450 lives! Thank you to all of our donors and volunteers!



Confirmation Photos

The confirmation class photos are being restored into new binders and also downloaded into a digital photo frame. These can be viewed in the Fellowship Hall. While the collection is fairly complete, we are still looking for a few missing years. If you have a digital copy of the photo please mail it to allsaints624@hotmail.com. If you have the original copy of the photo, bring that into the church office so it can be scanned and the original will be returned. The years that are missing from this historical collection are: 2009, 2010, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2019. We are looking for the group photo, staged at the front of the church.



Quilters

Usually the quilters meet from 9:00-11:00 am on the first and third Thursdays of each month. This month we are meeting on April 2nd, 16th, and 30th due to the fact there are five Thursdays in April. Thank you to everyone who has contributed fabric, thread, and sheets to help us create quilts. We continue to need queen size sheets or 4-yard lengths of fabric to finish the backs of the quilts. All donations may be left in the plastic tote in the hallway and are very much appreciated!

Worship Date	Online Viewers	In-Person	Sunday School	Total
February 22	168	73	12	253
March 1	190	64	6	260
8	174	64	11	249
15	154	71	8	233
Total	686	272	37	995
Average	172	68	9	249

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.

Especially needed during April are the following items: Boxed potatoes sides (such as au gratin, scalloped), canned tuna, canned chicken, canned roast beef, pancake mix and pancake syrup.

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

*Personal Hygiene items include shampoo, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, soap, deodorant, shaving cream, disposable razors. Please place your donations in the basket by the main entrance. Thank you for your generosity!

People Helping People Needs for April

Juice
Cans of Peaches



Book Club

Join us on Tuesday, April 28 at 11:30 as we discuss the book "Kingdom Come" by Daphne Simpkins.

Her best friend Fran observes, "For a single woman, Mildred, your quiver is getting very full."

And it is.

There is little room in Mildred's Cloverdale bungalow for solitude and extended prayer, and Mildred Budge needs both. Many people do. And it is harder to find that kind of quiet in a world where background noise is as prevalent as televisions hanging from ceilings everywhere you go.

It is still possible to find the peace that passeth understanding, and that is the story here about how to face a setback. Setbacks abound in daily life, but no day's trouble is bigger than the love of God who gives help and wisdom freely to those who ask for it.

Join Mildred and Fran as they live out the kind of forged friendship that is as strong as any sisterhood.

The GATHERING

We will meet on Tuesday, April 14th, at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for fellowship, food, and fun!





Strategic and Long-Range Planning for All Saints

We are about to embark on updating our All Saints Strategic and Long-Range Plan. We are looking for volunteers to work with the Church Council and our Committees to update our plan. Here is what the process will entail:

We announced the project at the Annual Congregation meeting on January 25th and asked for volunteers to help with the process. A detailed timeline of this process was distributed during the meeting. Copies are available in the church office if you did not receive one.

Beginning April 19th following the worship service at 10:15 am, and over the next several months, we will hold meetings to review the old plan, delete irrelevant plans and brainstorm to formulate new plans. We will review our Mission Statement to see if it is still relevant and revise it if it's deemed necessary. We will use data collected during the Call Process to help prioritize the future plans for the church.

Please prayerfully consider being a part of this important planning for the future of All Saints!



March Council Highlights

- Giving in February exceeded budgeted items due to annual giving.
- Vicar Michelle the council on her education requirements reaching into 2027.
- Good Friday service will be community based and held at United Church of Byron on April 3rd.
- Proposed having volunteers sign-up for Sunday duties rather than being assigned. This will be a trial during the summer months.
- VBS discussion with United Church in Byron is ongoing.
- First Strategic planning meeting will be held after worship on April 19th.
- Spring Clean-up work day will be held April 25th.



CPR Training April 12

Bruce Ryan of the Byron Fire Protection District will be at All Saints on Sunday, April 12th, as our instructor for CPR Training. Training will take place after worship service that morning, beginning at 10:30 am. A sign-up sheet is located on Bulletin Board #2 for those who are interested in attending this training.

February Financials

Item Description	Actual February	Budget February	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Total 2026
General Fund	\$25,057	\$16,389	\$51,084	\$32,778	\$196,668
Mortgage	\$2,192	\$1,247	\$7,451	\$2,494	\$14,964
Other Giving	\$0	\$417	\$53	\$834	\$5,004
Total Revenue	\$27,249	\$18,053	\$58,588	\$36,106	\$216,636
Mission Support (\$10,000 goal, \$14,000 budget)	\$1,300	\$1,167	\$2,500	\$2,334	\$14,000
Other Outreach	\$4,202	\$548	\$4,202	\$1,096	\$6,580
Total Outreach	\$5,502	\$1,715	\$6,702	\$3,430	\$20,580
Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$1,258	\$1,336	\$2,780	\$2,672	\$16,032
Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$7,243	\$7,256	\$14,414	\$14,512	\$87,072
Total Ministries	\$8,502	\$8,592	\$17,194	\$17,184	\$103,104
Total Building (Non Capital)	\$5,083	\$3,780	\$8,718	\$7,560	\$45,360
Total Expense	\$19,087	\$14,087	\$32,614	\$28,174	\$169,044
Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$1,246	\$1,247	\$3,290	\$2,494	\$14,964
Other Building Capital	\$0	\$1,350	\$0	\$2,700	\$16,200
Total Building Capital	\$1,246	\$2,597	\$3,290	\$5,194	\$31,164
Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$20,333	\$16,684	\$35,905	\$33,368	\$200,208
Net for Month/Year (Revenue Minus Expense)	\$6,916		\$22,683		
(Under)/Over Budget for Month/Year	\$3,649		\$2,537		

In Our Prayers

Health & Healing

Kathy Burrows
Phyllis Coffman
Kay Johnson
Sandi Reid
Steve Reid
 Dick Sabin
 Jim Bowers
 Lori Ludens
 Randy Roberts
 Sybil
 Jayne Fitzsimmons
 Paula Davis
 David Taylor
 Mike Shepard
 Terri Kimbell
 Frank McCabe
 Terry Van Laningham
 Pastor Bill Nelson
 Laurie Molosz
 Tammy Burke
 Faith Pauling
 Karen Brown
 Lynn Lauer
 Liz Lauer-Jones
 Tanya
 Dee Rowland
 Evan Flannery
 Amy Starr Geysens
 Loren Colloton
 Joice Kilmer
 Kathy Becker
 Alan & Family
 Jessica Julian
 Chris Sproule
 Jessica Richards

Shut ins

Lori Pederson
 Tom Johnson

Military

Kyle Reif
 Matt Vizer
 Kaden Harper
 Christiano Sasso
 Logan Usrey
 Steve Cole
 Kylie Krug
 Todd Whitlow

In Sympathy

Julie Kleive



SPRING HAS SPRUNG

GOSPEL CELEBRATION AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Mr. C - Carl Cole

Jaden Allen

Trinity Rucker

ALL SAINTS
LUTHERAN CHURCH / BYRON, IL

An afternoon of praise and joyful music!

These and Other Artists!

3 PM Saturday, May 16th

All Saints Lutheran Church

624 Luther Drive

Byron, IL 61010

Free - Open to Public

Free Will Offering to Benefit Byron HS Food Pantry

Diana Cole

Andrew Cole

Dallas Hurdick

A PUBLICATION OF
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624 Luther Dr.
Byron, IL 61010-9684
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“ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED”



"Raising Our Voices: Proclaiming the Gospel When the World is Loud"

WELCA SPRING RETREAT 2026

"Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking
the very words of God, so that God may be
glorified in all things through Jesus Christ."

1 Peter 4:11

APRIL 25, 2026
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
LOMC Oregon, IL
\$30 per person

Scholarships are available

April 2

Maundy Thursday Worship

April 3

Good Friday Community Worship
at United Church of Byron

April 5

Easter Sunday

April 12

CPR Training

April 25

Spring Clean-up day
WELCA Retreat at LOMC

May 16

Gospel Celebration

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