



THE Sainly NEWS

Volume 49 Issues No. 6&7 / June & July 2026

Congratulations Graduates!

Briar Brown graduated from Byron Middle School on May 21. She will be attending Byron High School in the fall.

Amanda Camling graduated from Rock Valley College on May 15. She will be attending Illinois State in the special Education-Specialist in Learning and Behavior Program in the fall.

Rachel Carson graduated from Project Search at Embassy Suites in Rockford. This is a school-to-work transition program for students with disabilities.

Henry Hickerson graduated from Byron Middle School on May 21. He will be attending Byron High School in the fall.

Nathan Johnson graduated from Byron Middle School on May 21. He will be attending Byron High School in the fall.

Noah Johnson graduated with honors from Rock Valley College on May 15th. He will be attending UW - Whitewater in the fall, majoring in accounting.



Seth Ray Lawrence Shepherd graduated from Stillman Valley High School on May 17.

Justin Schramm graduated with magna cum laude honors from the University of Illinois-Springfield with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. He is interviewing for jobs in the Springfield IL area.

Wyatt Sell graduated from Byron Middle School on May 21. He will be attending Byron High School in the fall.

Irelynd Sproule graduated from Byron Middle School on May 21. She will be attending Byron High School in the fall.



All Saints and the United Church of Byron are hosting a combined VBS **July 20th-24th - 6:30 pm-8:30 pm**

Location: United Church of Byron
701 West 2nd Street

Ages: Preschool 3 & 4yrs old, Entering K-5th grades

Cost: Free

Registration details and a link to register is available on our website, www.allsaintsbyron.org. Information on ways you can help is posted on our website, and available on Bulletin Board #2.



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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Jan Sloan

WORSHIP

Jean Whipple

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Dylan Sproule

Dear Friends in Christ,

It has seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has done for me.

Daniel 4:2 ESV



I would like to invite folks that are interested in becoming members of All Saints along with current members to our three-part summer learning series: Let's Grow Together! This is a combined "new member" class and a "get to know" each other through learning and fellowship. It's okay if you can't make all three events. We will conclude the series with a "New Member Sunday" on Sunday, September 13th, where we will welcome all the new members to the congregation and celebrate at the church's annual picnic.

Let's Grow Together! Sharing Stories

June 7th: Your Lutheran origin story. We'll include favorite bible stories, scriptures, and songs.

July 12th: Who or what brought you to All Saints? What do you enjoy about worshipping at All Saints?

August 9th: How have you seen God working in your life? This past year? This summer?

I will only ask those that would like to speak to share with the large group. If you would rather share in a small group - that time will be available. Also, please do not feel like you're obligated to speak. You are welcome to come and listen and enjoy a cup of coffee!

Please see complete information on the insert with the details of this series.

Sometimes, the most powerful words of faith are simply:
"Let me tell you what God has done for me."

In Christ,
Vicar Michelle

Staff

VICAR

Michelle Wandersee

TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER

Laura Hopkins

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Amy Harn

OFFICE SECRETARY

Kris Jones

Deadline for the August Sainly News is **July 17**
Please send articles to
Rebecca Presson

Confirmation

On Sunday, May 17, four young people were confirmed. Pictured left to right are Briar Brown, Irelynd Sproule, Vicar Michelle Wandersee, Henry Hickerson, and Wyatt Sell.

Please congratulate them and encourage them as they continue their faith journey.





Check the calendar for changes to the Bible Study schedule.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study, 7:00 pm in Conference Room #310. This study is led by Steve Reid. 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. This study is on hiatus for the Summer.

May Council Meeting Highlights

- * Giving in April did not keep pace with budgeted items.
- * A third Strategic Planning session is scheduled for June 4.
- * Tax exemption renewal application has been submitted to the State of Illinois.
- * Installation of the new Xerox printer in the church office is complete.
- * Reviewed three quotes for vinyl siding for the church and approved the lowest from Huskie Company. Approved paying the 50% deposit to move forward with the installation.
- * Starlight Theater outing has been scheduled for July 26.
- * Next All Saints Blood drive will be August 10 from 1:00 – 6:00 pm

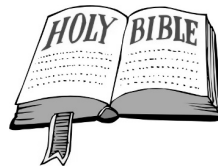
June Sunday Scriptures

June 7
2nd Sunday after Pentecost
 Hosea 5:15—6:6
 Psalm 50:7-15
 Romans 4:13-25
 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 14
3rd Sunday after Pentecost
 Exodus 19:2-8a
 Psalm 100
 Romans 5:1-8
 Matthew 9:35—10:8

June 21
4th Sunday after Pentecost
 Jeremiah 20:7-13
 Psalm 69:7-10 16-18
 Romans 6:1b-11
 Matthew 10:24-39

June 28
5th Sunday after Pentecost
 Jeremiah 28:5-9
 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
 Romans 6:12-23
 Matthew 10:40-42



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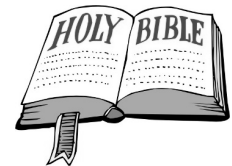
July Sunday Scriptures

July 5
6th Sunday after Pentecost
 Zechariah 9:9-12
 Psalm 145:8-14
 Romans 7:15-25a
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12
7th Sunday after Pentecost
 Isaiah 55:10-13
 Psalm 65: 9-13
 Romans 8:1-11
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19
8th Sunday after Pentecost
 Isaiah 44:6-8
 Psalm 86:11-17
 Romans 8:12-25
 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 26
9th Sunday after Pentecost
 1 Kings 3:5-12
 Psalm 119:129-136
 Romans 8:26-39
 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



Please Clip & Save for your reference



All Saints Night Out at the Theater

Join in on an evening of entertainment under the stars at Starlight Theater on July 26, 7:30pm.

Something Rotten! is a musical comedy set in 1595 that follows the Bottom brothers, Nick and Nigel, as they struggle to write a hit play while competing with the immense popularity of William Shakespeare. Desperate for success, they create the world's first musical after a soothsayer foretells that theater's future involves singing, dancing, and acting at the same time.

A sign- up sheet is on the Bulletin Board.

Ticket Prices:

Adult \$28.00

Teacher, Military and Senior (over 65) \$26

Student (Jr. High - College) \$17.00

Child (Under 12) \$12.00

(Tickets are non-refundable/ If weather is unfavorable, tickets can be exchanged for another show.) If more than 20 people sign up a group rate will be offered. Sign up by July 5, 2026.

Money due July 12, 2026.

Worship Date	Online Viewers	In-Person	Sunday School	Total
April 26	278	72	7	357
May 3	297	67	15	379
10	324	89	11	424
17	391	93	6	490
Total	1290	321	39	1650
Average	323	80	10	413

Quilters

The quilters meet from 9:00-11:00 am on the first and third Thursdays of each month. During the months with five Thursdays, we will meet three times, utilizing the fifth Thursday. This Summer we are meeting on June 4th and 18th and July 2nd, 16th, and 30th at the church. 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.

The GATHERING

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



The Thirty-Eighth Annual Northern Illinois Synod Assembly will be held on Friday, June 12th and Saturday, June 13th, 2026 at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. The theme for 2026, is **Going Deeper: Naming, Claiming, and Proclaiming**. We will continue to consider hard questions of faith and to what God is calling us in today's world.

Our guest speaker is **Rev. Dr. Laurie Skow-Anderson**, the same guest speaker from our Congregational Resourcing Event. She has served as Bishop of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin and previously served as their Director of Evangelical Mission.

Voting members representing All Saints will be Vicar Michelle Wandersee, Vi Burpo, and Al Schabacher.

Book Club

June Selection

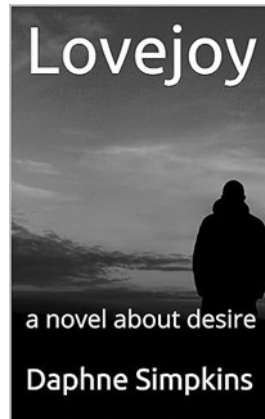
Join us on Tuesday, June 23 at 1:00 pm as we discuss the book *Lovejoy* by Daphne Simpkins.

Franklin Lovejoy is an attractive, eligible widower, and the church is full of ladies who want to sit beside him. They crawl over pews and one another to get to him. For some it is a form of Sunday morning entertainment.

Lovejoy enjoys the company of a variety women, and he is amused by his widespread appeal. That doesn't mean he is immune to the consequences of a deep attraction between himself and a mature Southern church lady who has a reputation for being a troublemaker in the church. Cindy is an opinionated outlier, and Lovejoy finds her fascinating. His attraction to her is the first time that Cindy feels welcome and wanted. And that is the crux of the gospel invitation personified here in the story of two highly flawed human beings.

It is an irresistible dynamic that sparks a great curiosity about who this man is and what his love means to one woman.

And what it has been to the women he loved before. Aside from the subtle theme explored here about the effectiveness of mission outreach strategies, if you know how attractive an older man can be and if you understand that real desire is different than random lust for entertainment, this love story is one you won't forget.

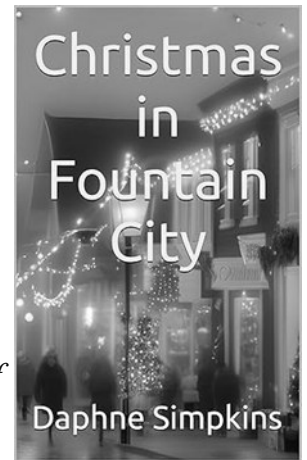


July Selection

Join us on Tuesday, July 28 at 11:30 am as we celebrate “Christmas in July” and discuss the book *Christmas in Fountain City* by Daphne Simpkins.

Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, the good lady cooks through the night and then gives the candy away to the fudge-hungry group of people who know this year's newest recipe is coming and line up in front of her store before she ever opens the door of her Main Street candy shop. People receive their portion of this year's fudge and place donations for missions in her jar on the counter, expecting miracles.

Some miracles have occurred, so they said. Lonely people fell in love. Couples who wanted children have fat babies. Heartsick people wake up to hope. Afterwards, they say the fudge did it. But it isn't the fudge. It's the secret power that enlivens this small town. The secret ingredient for life in Fountain City is their love for God and for one another. Fountain City folks know this, but they also want that miracle fudge. Friends and neighbors wait for it year-round, hoping Mrs. Bopp won't veer off into some weird recipe that doesn't include chocolate. She did that once, and the residents of Fountain City are still talking about it! Available only at Christmas, the demand for her miracle fudge is high—an intensity of desire that could be lessened if she would just share her recipes.



Email or Address Change?

Send it to the Church Office! It is important for us to keep our church records up to date and be able to keep open our lines of communication with you. If you have moved recently, please send your new address to the church. If you have not received a weekly email from All Saints, that means we do not have your email address on file. Please send your email address to the church office so you can be included in these important mailings.



Change of
Address



Byron School District Food Pantry

During the summer months when school is not in session, the Byron High School Food Pantry will not be making food distribution. However, they will provide vouchers for local grocery stores to families with food insecurities. If you would like to make a monetary contribution, please make your checks payable to Byron High School and note "Food Pantry" in the memo line. You can place your checks in the offering plate on each Sunday, and we will assure they are delivered to the high school. We will return the BHS food pantry basket to the entry in August, when school is back in session. Thank you for your generosity!

People Helping People Needs

June

Peanut butter, Jelly, Crackers,
Box Pudding

July

Ketchup, Mustard, Pickles, Relish,
Mayonnaise

Special Note Regarding Food Donations

Please be sure to check the expiration date of the food you are donating to both the Byron High School Food Pantry and People Helping People. They cannot accept or distribute food past the expiration dates listed on the containers or previously opened. Items in these conditions will be thrown away.

Sunday School Teachers needed for the 2026-2027 school year!

We are looking for volunteers that are passionate about sharing the love of God with our Sunday School kids! This is an important ministry! As the church, we are called to help support, teach, and nurture our kid's faith in Jesus Christ.

Teaching Sunday school, confirmation, and VBS was the beginning of my journey in ministry. The more I taught about Jesus, the more I learned about God's love, mercy, and grace that was for myself and all who believed. I learned right along with the kids! You don't have to have a degree in Christian theology to teach, you just need the passion to do it! God equips all of us with the abilities we need to do God's work.

To help with discerning if teaching Sunday School is something that you would like to pursue, here is some pertinent information to consider:

- Sunday School age children are 3 years to 5th grade.
- Currently there are 9 students. Their ages in the fall will be:
 - (2) 4 years old
 - (1) first grader
 - (1) second grader
 - (2) third graders
 - (1) fourth grader
 - (2) fifth graders

We have room to grow!

- This past year, these students were combined together into one class with one teacher. The perfect scenario would be that we could have 4 teachers plus helpers. That way 4 teachers could rotate Sundays each month: 4 teachers- 4 Sundays= one Sunday per teacher (you'd flip a coin if we have a fifth Sunday!)
- Helpers could be high school students- perhaps working on their volunteer hours, or extra family members you'd like to rope in with you!
- Sunday School begins with our Kick-Off /Church Picnic on September 13th and ends on May 9th, 2027.
- There will be a couple Sundays off around Christmas, and a couple around Spring Break and Easter.
- Class time will be 10:15-11:00. We will begin each class with an opening and songs.
- We will use a new curriculum called: *Wonder on the Go: a flexible, volunteer-friendly children's Sunday School Bible lessons that connect to the Sunday's lectionary for the day. Minimal prep time necessary! (If you have extra time to prep: there are extra ideas for activities, games, and crafts that you can use).*

Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to enrich the faith of our youngest members! Contact Vicar Michelle if you are interested.

April Financials

Item Description	Actual April	Budget April	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Total 2026
General Fund	\$12,676	\$16,389	\$76,395	\$65,556	\$196,668
Mortgage	\$1,084	\$1,247	\$9,705	\$4,988	\$14,964
Other Giving	\$0	\$417	-\$77	\$1,668	\$5,004
Total Revenue	\$13,760	\$18,053	\$86,023	\$72,212	\$216,636
Mission Support (\$10,000 goal, \$14,000 budget)	\$1,741	\$1,167	\$5,863	\$4,668	\$14,000
Other Outreach	\$200	\$548	\$4,402	\$2,192	\$6,580
Total Outreach	\$1,941	\$1,715	\$10,265	\$6,860	\$20,580
Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$1,065	\$1,335	\$5,346	\$5,342	\$16,020
Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$7,572	\$7,254	\$28,869	\$29,020	\$87,048
Total Ministries	\$8,637	\$8,589	\$34,215	\$34,362	\$103,068
Total Building (Non Capital)	\$4,817	\$3,778	\$17,387	\$15,116	\$45,336
Total Expense	\$15,396	\$14,082	\$61,866	\$56,338	\$168,984
Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$4,101	\$1,247	\$8,638	\$4,988	\$14,964
Other Building Capital	\$14,428	\$1,350	\$14,428	\$5,400	\$16,200
Total Building Capital	\$18,530	\$2,597	\$23,066	\$10,388	\$31,164
Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$33,925	\$16,679	\$84,932	\$66,726	\$200,148
Net for Month/Year (Revenue Minus Expense)	(\$20,165)		\$1,090		
(Under)/Over Budget for Month/Year	\$17,246		\$18,206		

Byron PTO School Supply Drive

The Byron PTO is again sponsoring a backpack school supply drive to help provide school supplies for children who qualify for the free lunch program. The average cost for each backpack is \$75.00; however, any monetary donations are gratefully accepted. Please make checks payable to PTO and place it in the offering plate on Sundays or drop it off at the church office during the week. The deadline for donations is July 1st. Thank you for your support and generosity!



A huge thank you to everyone who contributed towards the Spring Flowers that now adorn the gardens around All Saints. Thank you to Jan Sloan for using her gardening talent and expertise to make our church so beautiful!

In Our Prayers

Health & Healing

Kathy Burrows
Phyllis Coffman
Joyce Niehaus
Sandi Reid
Steve Reid
 Sharon Digiovanni
 Dick Sabin
 Jim Bowers
 Lori Ludens
 Randy Roberts
 Sybil
 Jayne Fitzsimmons
 Paula Davis
 David Taylor
 Mike Shepard
 Terri Kimbell
 Frank McCabe
 Pastor Bill Nelson
 Laurie Molosz
 Faith Pauling
 Karen Brown
 Lynn Lauer
 Liz Lauer-Jones
 Evan Flannery
 Amy Starr Geysens
 Loren Colloton
 Joice Kilmer
 Kathy Becker
 Jessica Richards
 Theresa and Peter
 Bob Shook
 Jack Pirnat
 Steve Peele
 Will Kopp

Shut ins

Lori Pederson
Tom Johnson

Military

Staff Sgt Kyle Reif
 Matt Vizer
 Kaden Harper
 Tyler Peterson
 Christiano Sasso
 Logan Usrey
 Steve Cole
 Kylie Krug

In Sympathy

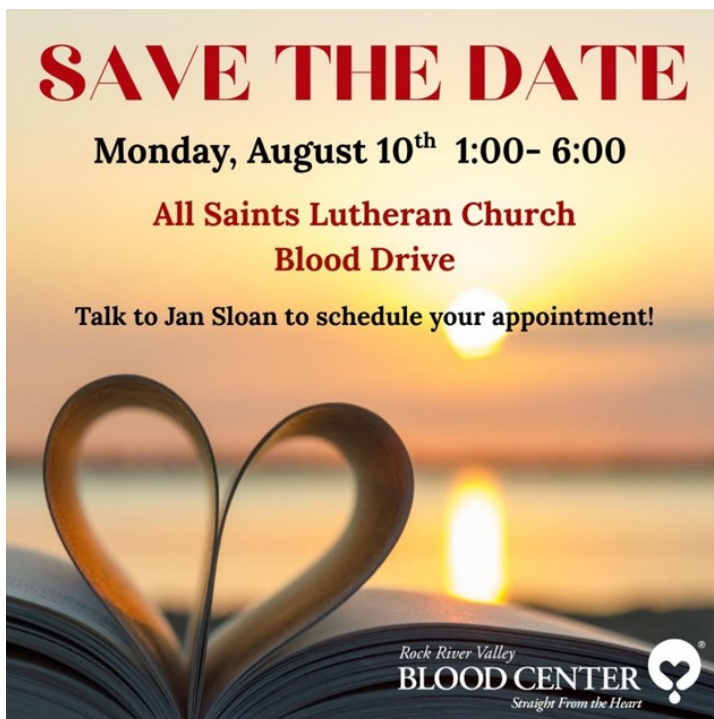
Dee Rowland

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624 Luther Dr.
June/July Issue - Prepared 5/27/26

“ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED”



SUMMER EVENTS



SAVE THE DATE
Monday, August 10th 1:00- 6:00
All Saints Lutheran Church
Blood Drive
Talk to Jan Sloan to schedule your appointment!

Rock River Valley
BLOOD CENTER
Straight From the Heart

July 20-24

Vacation Bible School
at UCB

July 26

Starlight Theater Outing

August 10

All Saints Blood Drive