



# THE Sainly NEWS

Volume 48 Issue No. 5 / May 2025

## Confirmation/Affirmation of Baptism on Sunday, May 18



Four of our young members have completed the required curriculum and will affirm their baptism at the 9:00 am worship service. Join us as we congratulate them on completing this important step in their faith life.

### Pentecost Flowers

You can help in this project by donating using the insert included in the weekly church announcements or pick it up at church. You may give any amount of money (i.e. \$1.00, \$5.00, \$10.00) which will be used to buy flowers and other landscaping needs. Thanks for your ongoing help to beautify All Saints! Please make your donation by May 18<sup>th</sup>. Checks should be made payable to "All Saints Lutheran Church."



### Attention Graduates!

We wish to include the names of our 8th grade, high school, trade school, and college graduates in the June/July issue of the Sainly News. Please fill us in on the exciting details about where your student is graduating and what their next step will be. Submit this information to [office@AllSaintsByron.org](mailto:office@AllSaintsByron.org) by May 16<sup>th</sup>.



### Special Congregation Meeting

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, a Special Congregation Meeting was held to discuss Vicar Michelle's participation in the TEEM (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries) program. A brief description of the program, how she will participate, and what we can expect in the coming months was given and discussed. The Call Committee will be placed in a dormant status during her schooling. When Vicar Michelle completes her studies, the Call Committee will reconvene and recommend her to the Church Council to be considered for Call at All Saints. Once the Church Council accepts the recommendation to Call Vicar Michelle, we will convene a special meeting of the Congregation for a vote to Call her as our next Pastor. Council President Steve Jones called for a voice vote to approve moving forward with Vicar Michelle applying for and entering this program this Fall. The voice vote approved this plan.

**Sunday School!**  
**Sunday School will conclude for the summer on**  
**May 18<sup>th</sup> and will resume on September 7<sup>th</sup>.**



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

Jan Sloan

### WORSHIP

Jean Whipple

### YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Vacant

## Staff

### VICAR

Michelle Wandersee

### TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER

Laura Hopkins

### FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Amy Harn

### OFFICE SECRETARY

Kris Jones

**Deadline** for the June/July  
Saintly News is **May 18**  
Please send articles to  
**Rebecca Presson**

*He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said..*  
Matthew 28:6

Dear Friends,

Alleluia! Christ has risen! I didn't want to be too hasty to say this phrase in last month's newsletter because we were still in the season of Lent at the time of writing my article, so although this is the May newsletter, it is apropos to proclaim, Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

As I was studying the scriptures to prepare for Holy Week and Easter Sunday, I suddenly became overcome with emotion as I read the story of Jesus washing his disciples' feet. This surprised me because I have read and heard these words many times throughout my life. What was different now? Well, the difference for me now is as someone who preaches the Good News each week to you, I felt a sense of reverence for Jesus and how he loved and led like a servant to those that followed him.

This was a new insight for me, and I wouldn't have had it unless I opened up my bible to read and study it. A few years ago, the words of that scripture would have meant something else to me. That's what I love about studying the bible: the fact that it is a living word that speaks to us in different ways throughout our lives.

Studying the bible is important for all of us to continue growing as Jesus' disciples. As we continue to examine the marks of discipleship (last month was prayer), this is what our synod shares with us:

Through reading, meditating, and the study of Scripture, the lively word of God becomes active in the lives of believers. The Holy Spirit inspires us through Scripture to see ourselves as we are and as God would have us become. Through the Bible, we come to understand how God works in the world, for the world, and through people like us.

I would like you to ponder this question: *In what ways does studying the Bible reshape our hearts, minds, bodies and spirits?*

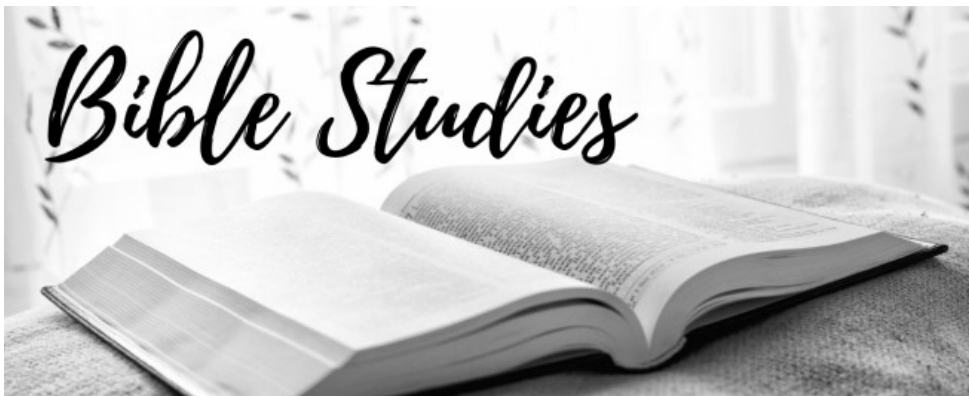
The scripture of Jesus washing the disciples' feet has reshaped the way I am a leader. Jesus has been reshaping my style of leadership for years to lead how he led: a servant leader. A definition of this is: *Servant leaders prioritize serving others and building community over personal gain, emphasizing listening, empathy, healing, and awareness. They foster growth, empower others, and inspire vision, while maintaining integrity and building trust through strong communication and humility.*

This is how I have been reshaped by studying God's living word. I hope and pray that you find how the studying of God's words daily or weekly can reshape your heart as well.

Blessings to you!



Vicar Michelle



***Check the calendar for changes to the Bible Study schedule.***

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**Monday Afternoon Bible Study**, led by Vicar Michelle Wandersee, 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, Vicar Michelle will help you with that. If you do not have a computer, you can join via telephone at the number included in the announcements email.

**Tuesday Evening Bible Study**, 7:00 pm in Conference Room #310. Led by Steve Reid, this study is on hiatus.

**Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study**, 1:30 pm in Conference Room #310. Led by Vicar Michelle Wandersee. ***There is no Bible Study on Wednesday, May 7.***

**Adult Sunday School Sunday Morning**, 10:00 am in the small Conference Room. Led by Steve Jones. Adult Sunday School is utilizing Searching for the Historical Jesus, led by Jean-Pierre Isboots. This Sunday School Class will begin hiatus for the Summer on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and resumes on September 14<sup>th</sup>.



## June/July Newsletter Deadline

We will be combining the June and July newsletters to be mailed at the beginning of June. If you are a contributor to the newsletter, please keep this in mind when submitting your summer articles. Please submit your articles for the summer newsletter by May 16<sup>th</sup>.

## May Sunday Scriptures

**May 4**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

Job 39:1-8; 26-30

Psalms 104:14-23

Revelation 5:1-10

Luke 12:22-31

**May 11**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 9:36-43

Psalms 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

**May 18**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 11:1-18

Psalms 148

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

**May 25**

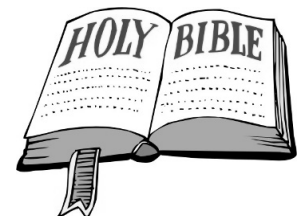
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 16:9-15

Psalms 67

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John 14:23-29



*Please Clip & Save  
for your reference*

## April Council Highlights

- \* Giving continues to meet our budgeted needs.
- \* A Celebration of Life will be held at church for Keith Padgett on a date to be determined..
- \* We will begin a campaign in May to contribute to ELCA World Hunger.
- \* Discussed the results of the Special Congregation Meeting on April 6, regarding Vicar Michelle's participation in the Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (TEEM) program.
- \* AED Training will be held after worship on April 27. We have quite a few signed up to participate.
- \* The proposed updated website design was viewed and approved the design.
- \* A screening of the movie "Cheat You Fair" will be held in the sanctuary on May 4 at 2:00 pm.
- \* VBS will be held the week of June 16.
- \* All Saints Blood Drive will be held on August 18.

## Confirmation Schedule

May 11<sup>th</sup> Second year confirmation students will have rehearsal for Confirmation Sunday after Confirmation class. Parents should attend rehearsal.

May 18<sup>th</sup> - Confirmation Sunday/Affirmation of Baptism at the 9:00 am worship service.

Worship Date	Online Viewers	In-Person	Sunday School	Total
March 30	93	63	21	177
April 6	159	69	7	235
13	197	68	10	275
20	266	98	n/a	364
Total	715	298	38	1051
Average	179	75	13	263

## Vacation Bible School!

Vacation Bible School is back at All Saints!



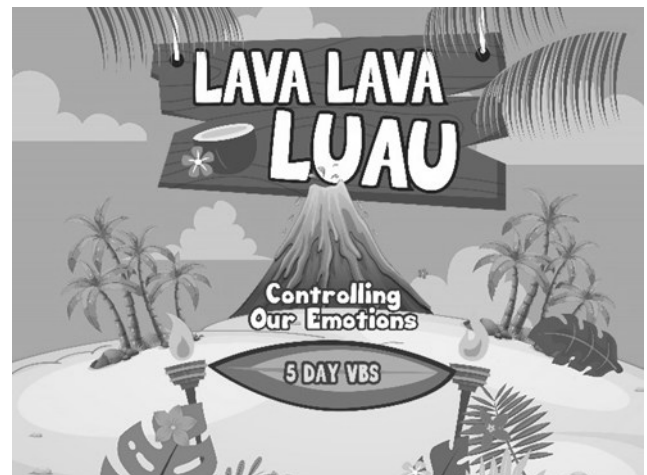
So, mark your calendar for the week of **June 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>** and invite family and friends who are age 3 thru those going into 5<sup>th</sup> grade to attend. VBS will begin at **9:30 am** each day and conclude at **11:30 am**. There is **no charge** to participate.

Throughout the five days at the **Lava Lava Luau**, participants will see what God's Word says about anger, sadness, jealousy, and frustration. In addition, kids will learn how they can respond to others who may be feeling these emotions as well. With God's help, we can learn to take control of our emotions before a storm hits!

**To register** call the church or talk with Vicar Michelle or Michel Williams.

*"God gave us his Spirit. And the Spirit doesn't make us weak and fearful. Instead, the Spirit gives us power and love. He helps us control ourselves."*

- 2 Timothy 1:7





## 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 month we are meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> 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, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for fellowship, food, and fun!



Church Library

## Library News

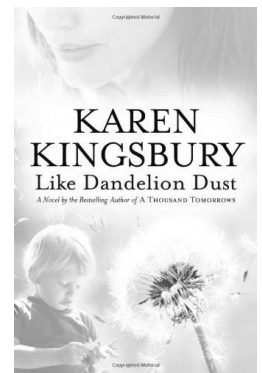
Check out the wide selection of books available in the church Library! There's something for everyone, with no dues or late charges. Just good reading at your leisure!

## Book Club

Join us on Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in Conference Room 310 to discuss the book ***"Like Dandelion Dust"*** by Karen Kingsbury.

*When Joey Campbell's biological father is released from prison, four year old Joey faces a life no one could've planned. His father wants custody and a judge's quick decision deals a devastating blow to the Campbell family. Joey must be returned to his biological parents. In a haze of grief and disbelief, the Campbell's watch their adopted son pick a dandelion and blow the feathery seeds into the wind.*

*In the days following the ruling, Jack Campbell conceives a desperate and dangerous thought. What if they can devise a way out? What if they take Joey and just disappear? Both families will learn that sometimes the greatest love is letting go – Like Dandelion Dust.*



**Lawn Mowing  
Volunteers  
Needed**

## All Saints Mowing Schedule

The schedule for mowing the church's lawn has been sent to the individuals who expressed interest on the time and talent forms. As always, additional help could be used, even as a backup. If you could help by filling in when any individual is not available on their scheduled day, or if you could help others to maintain the grounds on their scheduled day, please contact the church office to offer your support.



## 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.

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!



# Food Collection

**People Helping People**  
**May Needs:**  
 Crackers, Peanut Butter, Jelly

### Northern Illinois Synod ELCA World Hunger Giving Campaign!

Together we can raise \$100,000 between  
March 16th and October 16th!

50  
years



Every dollar raised will be  
matched up to \$100,000!

*Acts 20:35: In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."*

The Northern Illinois Synod World Hunger Subcommittee is excited to announce a campaign to support ELCA World Hunger! Join us as we come together to raise \$100,000 to support the essential work of ELCA World Hunger. Every amount given up to \$100,000 will be matched by an anonymous donor, that means your dollar will feed even more people. All gifts given through the Northern Illinois Synod with ELCA World Hunger in the memo will count as we gather resources to provide lifesaving nutrients. Checkout the resources below, more resources will be posted throughout the year.

To help achieve this goal, please look for the World Hunger Envelopes on the oak table in the narthex or just place your check in the offering plate with "World Hunger" noted on the check. Together we can work to help ease hunger in the world.

## March Financials

Budget Items	Item Description	Actual March	Budget March	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Total 2025
Revenue	General Fund	\$16,153	\$16,389	\$65,153	\$49,167	\$196,668
	Mortgage	\$1,564	\$1,247	\$6,345	\$3,741	\$14,964
	Other Giving	\$0	\$417	\$3	\$1,251	\$5,004
	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$17,717</b>	<b>\$18,053</b>	<b>\$71,501</b>	<b>\$54,159</b>	<b>\$216,636</b>
Expenses	1000 Mission Support (\$10,000 goal, \$14,000 budget)	\$100	\$1,167	\$3,525	\$3,501	<b>\$14,000</b>
	Other Outreach	\$130	\$590	\$4,086	\$1,770	<b>\$7,084</b>
	<b>Total Outreach</b>	<b>\$230</b>	<b>\$1,757</b>	<b>\$7,611</b>	<b>\$5,271</b>	<b>\$21,084</b>
	2000 Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$1,018	\$1,287	\$3,222	\$3,865	<b>\$15,444</b>
	Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$6,066	\$8,489	\$18,130	\$25,469	<b>\$101,868</b>
	<b>Total Ministries</b>	<b>\$7,084</b>	<b>\$9,776</b>	<b>\$21,352</b>	<b>\$29,334</b>	<b>\$117,312</b>
	3000 Total Building (Non Capital)	\$3,171	\$3,452	\$10,104	\$10,361	<b>\$41,424</b>
	<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$10,485</b>	<b>\$14,985</b>	<b>\$39,067</b>	<b>\$44,966</b>	<b>\$179,820</b>
	3000 Capital Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$1,246	\$1,247	\$4,978	\$3,741	<b>\$14,964</b>
	Other Building Capital	\$0	\$625	\$0	\$1,875	<b>\$7,500</b>
	<b>Total Building Capital</b>	<b>\$1,246</b>	<b>\$1,872</b>	<b>\$4,978</b>	<b>\$5,616</b>	<b>\$22,464</b>
	<b>Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)</b>	<b>\$11,731</b>	<b>\$16,857</b>	<b>\$44,045</b>	<b>\$50,582</b>	<b>\$202,284</b>
Net	Net for Month/Year (Revenue Minus Expense)	\$5,986		\$27,456		
	(Under)/Over Budget for Month/Year	(\$5,126)		(\$6,537)		

## Easter Breakfast Thanks!

Our thanks to Annette Jones for organizing and serving the food for the Easter Breakfast. Thank you to everyone who donated fruit, yogurt bar items, pastries, milk and juice, and everything else that made for such a delicious meal. About 50 people attended. The donations received totaled \$170.00 and will benefit All Saints. Everyone who came enjoyed the fellowship as well as the good food. It was great to be able to gather on such a beautiful Easter morning!



## In Our Prayers

### Health & Healing

Kathy Burrows  
Phyllis Coffman  
Jim Coffman  
Heather Green  
Cindy Pederson  
Sandi Reid  
Steve Reid  
Vicar Michelle Wandersee  
Bruce Roller  
Dick Sabin  
Bobbie Chisem  
Rick Lundholtz  
Mindy Vanatter  
Jim Bowers  
Judy Owens  
Geoff and Judy Zoellick  
Lori Ludens  
Randy Roberts  
Sybil & Alton  
Jayne Fitzsimmons  
Mimi Leombruni  
Lisa Helms  
Rose Millard  
Debra Olsen  
Holly Stuckenberg  
Paula Davis  
Grace Swedberg  
Suzie Geske  
Mike Egan  
David Taylor  
Mike Shepard  
Terri Kimbell  
Dave Fink  
Frank McCabe  
Terry Van Laningham  
Michael Brown  
Pastor Bill Nelson  
Jim Wheeler  
Laurie Molosz  
Randy Stilson

### Shut ins

Lori Pederson  
Kit Reif

### Military

Staff Sgt Kyle Reif  
Matt Vizer  
Kaden Harper  
Tyler Peterson  
Christiano Sasso  
Logan Usrey

### In Sympathy

Keith Padgett  
Cindy Yoakum  
Logan Linker



A PUBLICATION OF  
ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
624 Luther Dr.  
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“ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED”

## Sunday Afternoon at the Movies

Join us at 2:00 pm on Sunday, May 4 for a special showing of the movie, ***“Cheat You Fair”***. This 90 minute, 3-act documentary details the rise & fall of Maxwell Street, Chicago's great outdoor market, the birthplace of the electric blues and where "the only color that mattered was green". This is a free event.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 4**

Movie Afternoon

***“Cheat You Fair”*** 2:00 pm

**May 11**

Confirmation/Affirmation  
of Baptism Rehearsal

**May 18**

Confirmation/Affirmation of  
Baptism at 9:00 worship  
Last day of Sunday School until Fall

**June 16-20**

Vacation Bible School

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