ALL SAINTS
LUTHERAN CHURCH / BYRON, IL

THE Saintly NEWS

Volume 47 Issues\ No. 9 / September 2024

In just a few days the Sunday School hallway will once again be filled with excitement, laughter, questions, caring, motivation, joy, and inspiration.

WE CANNOT WAIT!

For 2024-2025 we are utilizing lessons from the first two quarters of Group Publishing's "The Life of Jesus." Activities may include core Bible discoveries, object lessons which illustrate the Bible point in 3-D, low and high-energy games, crafts, music or talk-about videos, as well as a life application wrap-up, which offers a time for prayer and an opportunity to personalize what was learned during the day's lesson.

We welcome children aged three through 6th graders on Sunday mornings throughout the school year. Children's Church begins at 9:00 am and is held at the same time as the worship service. Sunday School follows at 10:00 am. Mark your calendars for the Sunday, September 8th when a new year of Christian Education begins.

Heather Brown
Michel Williams

Council Members

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Steve Jones

VICE –PRESIDENT & STEWARDSHIP
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Caryn Huber

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VICAR
Michelle Wandersee

TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER
Laura Hopkins

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Amy Harn

OFFICE SECRETARY
Karen Larson

Deadline for the October Saintly News is **September 13**
Please send articles to
Rebecca Presson

Dear Friends in Christ,

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35

Thank you for your hospitality and kindness during my first few weeks here at All Saints! I have enjoyed meeting you and sharing fellowship time together. I love hearing your stories. I love to hear your stories about how you became a member at All Saints. I enjoy hearing about your lives, families, and adventures! Everyone is unique and no one story is the same. I appreciate you sharing yourselves with me, and I'm looking forward to exploring more ways that we can share time together to continue to strengthen our community in Christ.

I want to share a few ways that we can do that together beginning this fall:

- The weekly Monday Zoom Bible study will start up again beginning **September 9th at 1:30 pm.** We will join together and look at the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday. This time will hopefully enhance your understanding of the scripture lesson each week.
- ***NEW* Worship at the Table Wednesday afternoon** in-person Bible study!
  - We will join together each Wednesday, beginning September 18, at 12:30 for a light meal and the bible study.
  - There are 6 lessons:
    - Food, Relationships, and the Stories that Shape Us
    - Taking, Breaking, Making All Things New
    - Provision, Presence, and Promise
    - Food, Family and Home
    - Rhythms and Rituals
    - Signs, Wonders, and Snacks
  - The first Wednesday's meal will be provided! I applied for a Thrivent Action Team and I have already received it! We will ask people to provide part of the meal ingredients for each of the following weeks.
  - There will be a sign-up sheet with a cap of 15 people.
- ***NEW* Worship at the Table Monday evening** in-person Bible study!
  - For those that can't attend during the day- we will gather **once a month for a light meal and study!**
  - First meal is on Monday, September 23rd @ 5:30 pm.
  - There will be a sign-up sheet with a cap of 15 people.
  - Same information in regards to the lessons and meal ingredients as above.

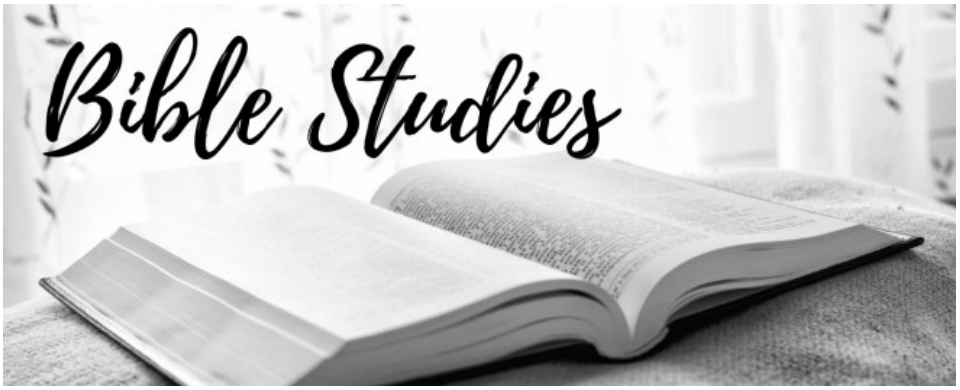
I am excited about all the learning opportunities coming up this month! I hope to be able to connect with as many of you as I can!

If you have any questions or other ideas of ways that we can continue to build and strengthen our community please let me know! I would love to hear them!

Blessings! Vicar Michelle

Pastoral Acts

July 10 - Ken Lapp Funeral
August 24 – Joyce Hunsaker Inurnment
August 24 – Toni Girten Funeral



Check the calendar for changes to the Bible Study schedule.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study, facilitated by Steve Jones, will resume on September 15 at 10:00 am in the small conference room off the Fellowship Hall. This study will pick up where they left off last spring utilizing ***Lost Christianities: Christian Scripture and the Battles over Authentication*** with lectures by Professor Bart D. Ehrman. These lectures focus on the remarkable fact that many of the struggles of early Christians were not against pagans or other nonbelievers but against other Christians. The series provides a fascinating opportunity to study little known and sometimes controversial scriptures that might have become part of the Bible.

Monday Afternoon Bible Study, held via Zoom and facilitated by Vicar Michelle Wandersee, will resume September 9 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 announcement's email.

Monday Evening Bible Study, held once a month and facilitated by Vicar Michelle Wandersee, will be held at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. See Vicar Michelle's letter on Page 2 of this newsletter for details of this special Bible study, and be sure to sign up on Bulletin Board #2 to attend. Watch the weekly announcements for exact Monday evening dates for this study.

Tuesday Night Bible Study, facilitated by Steve Reid, will be held at 7:00 pm in Conference Room #310. This Bible Study is studying the Book of Esther.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study, facilitated by Vicar Michelle Wandersee, will resume on September 18 at 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. See Vicar Michelle's letter on page 2 for the details of this Bible study and be sure to sign up on Bulletin Board #2 to attend!

September Sunday Scriptures

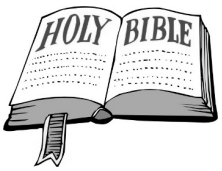
September 1
15th Sunday after Pentecost
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 8
16th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalm 146
James 2:1-10, 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 15
17th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 116:1-9
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

September 22
18th Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 11:18-20
Psalm 54
James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

September 29
19th Sunday after Pentecost
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50



Please Clip & Save for your reference

August Council Highlights

⇒ Welcomed Vicar Michelle to her first council meeting!
⇒ Finances have been stable throughout the summer months.
⇒ Expressed sincere condolences to the family of our secretary, Cindy Beitel, on her passing after a courageous battle with cancer on August 11.
⇒ Several property issues were addressed, including replacement of a smoke detector in the basement, repaired the thermostat in the conference room.
⇒ We will again host the St. Vincent de Paul Friends of the Poor Walk participants on September 28 as a rest stop.
⇒ Several worship changes have been made, including the addition of an assisting minister on Sundays, and changes to communion distribution.
⇒ Advent mid-week soup suppers will commence on Wednesday, December 4, followed by worship.
⇒ WELCA will once again host a silent auction during Advent, with proceeds benefiting the Sunday School's participation in the Good Gifts program.

Confirmation Resumes!

Confirmation for students in grades 7 and 8 will resume on September 8 with a parent meeting and acolyte training following 9:00 am worship in Conference Room 310. Classes will begin on September 15 from 10:00 – 11:00 in Conference Room 310. Instructors this year will be Vicar Michelle Wandersee and Dan Danielowski.

Worship Date	Online Viewers	In-Person	Total
July 28	308	59	367
August 4	348	62	410
11	290	59	349
18	254	73	327
Total	1200	253	1453
Average	300	63	363

Financial Secretary News

Did you know you can set up your giving as an automatic withdrawal through your bank? We have a few families who have their weekly or monthly offering set up this way. As Financial Secretary, I saw this giving each month when I processed the electronic giving. It intrigued me so I stopped in at Byron Bank. All I had to do was request a document authorizing automatic withdrawal, choose a date for it to come out of my account, add my account number, and sign the form. Each month on my selected date, my offering is deposited into All Saints' account. We also have a member who has set this up through Stillman Bank, so I am sure this could be set up through any other bank as well. This suggestion is another way your offering can easily reach our ministries at All Saints Lutheran church. Thank you for your continued giving.

Amy Harn,
Financial Secretary

The GATHERING

The GATHERING will meet on Tuesday, September 10 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Come join us for fun, fellowship, and food!

St. Vincent de Paul Friends of the Poor Walk

On Saturday, September 28, we will welcome local walkers raising money for St. Vincent de Paul's ministry in Byron. We will offer cold water and snacks to the walkers as they make their way back to St. Mary Catholic Church. For more information, contact St. Mary's at 815-406-8368.

Quilters

The quilters plan to meet on September 5th and 19th at 9:00 am at the church to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. This is our favorite month to gather as we drape all the completed quilts in the sanctuary on September 29th. The next day, we plan to pack them up to make their journey to LWR sites and onto their destinations. It is a joy to work together throughout the year as we think about the needy families that will be receiving a quilt. Our hope is this will bring them comfort and remind them that they are not alone. We are so appreciative of the donations of sheets to complete the quilts. We welcome all sheet donations, flat or fitted. The only sheets we cannot use are flannel sheets. Thank you for your generosity!

Pastoral Call Update

Vicar Michelle Wandersee began her service with us, and we are happy to have her as our Interim SAM! She is a great fit for All Saints and we enjoy having her preaching and serving in our ministry as part of All Saints.

The Council is finalizing a Call Committee of six individuals with Kay Johnson as the chair. Reverend Jen Beamsley from the Synod will be setting up a Zoom Meeting with the Committee in September to discuss our first steps in preparing to call a new Pastor. One of those things we will be doing is an assessment of the congregation where we look at who we are and what things are important to us in our mission and ministry. This is an exciting time for us; it's some work, but it is also a great endeavor where we take the next steps to move All Saints forward in our work in Christ's name!

As I noted, 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

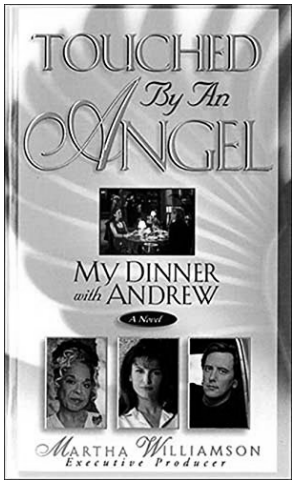
Book Club

Join us on Tuesday, September 24 at 1:00 pm for our monthly book club meeting. The book being discussed in September is ***My Dinner with Andrew***, a novel taken from the television series "Touched by An Angel" written by Martha Williamson.

Foremost genetic researcher Dr. Kate Calder had only focused on one thing during her adult life: her research. It had always been her goal to make a discovery that would credit her with saving millions of lives. But she had to make that discovery before her colleague Dr. Beth Popik, in order to get all the credit.

Kate was always in competition with Beth. So, it seemed natural to make every attempt to outbid her at a charity bachelor auction. The prize: a dinner date with Andrew, the Angel of Death.

There was something very different about Andrew and about the whole restaurant staff headed by Tess and Monica. As the evening unfolds, Kate is confronted with a message of truth that would turn the lives of three people around… if she would receive it.



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!

All Saints Blood Drive Results

On Monday, August 19, we held our annual All Saints Blood Drive. 35 people donated 34 units of whole blood, and one double red donation. These donations will potentially save 105 lives. Thank you to all who helped set up for the blood drive, and who helped put the Fellowship Hall back in order at its conclusion.

Assisting Ministers Needed!

We have a few weeks before the Time and Talent sheets will come out, but we are in need of members to step up now to serve as assisting ministers on Sunday mornings. If you would like to serve in this important capacity, please see Vicar Michelle or call the church office, and we will get you scheduled!

LWR Health Kits

During the month of 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 has been set up in the church entryway. Please place your donation in this area no later than September 29. 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 tables in the Fellowship hall.

July Financials

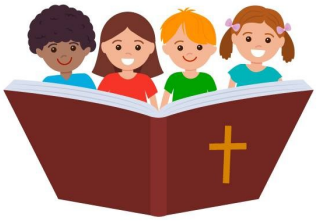
Budget Items		Item Description	Actual July	Budget July	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Total 2024
Revenue		General Fund	$15,742	$16,389	$125,057	$114,723	$196,668
		Mortgage	$892	$1,246	$9,582	$8,726	$14,952
		Other Giving	$2,778	$417	$31,154	$2,919	$5,004
		Total Revenue	**$19,413**	**$18,052**	**$165,792**	**$126,368**	**$216,624**
Expenses	1000	Mission Support	$200	$833	$6,550	$5,833	**$10,000**
		Other Outreach	$160	$871	$3,374	$6,107	**$10,448**
		Total Outreach	**$360**	**$1,704**	**$9,924**	**$11,940**	**$20,448**
	2000	Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	$1,139	$5,324	$29,218	$37,301	**$63,888**
		Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	$812	$7,165	$45,950	$50,173	**$85,980**
		Total Ministries	**$1,951**	**$12,489**	**$75,169**	**$87,474**	**$149,868**
	3000	**Total Building (Non Capital)**	**$2,920**	**$2,879**	**$19,458**	**$20,188**	**$34,548**
		Total Expense	**$5,231**	**$17,072**	**$104,551**	**$119,602**	**$204,864**
	3000 Capital	Mortgage Principal and Interest	$1,812	$1,246	$11,042	$8,726	**$14,952**
		Other Building Capital	$0	$0	$0	$0	**$0**
		Total Building Capital	**$1,812**	**$1,246**	**$11,042**	**$8,726**	**$14,952**
		Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	**$7,043**	**$18,318**	**$115,593**	**$128,328**	**$219,816**
Net		**Net for Month/Year (Revenue Minus Expense)**	**$12,370**		**$50,199**		
		(Under)/Over Budget for Month/Year	**($11,275)**		**($12,735)**		

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!

Third Graders to Receive Bibles



On September 22, during worship, those children in third grade will receive their Bible. If you have a child entering third grade, or an older child who has not received their Bible, please contact the church office.

In Our Prayers

Health & Healing
Kathy Burrows
Phyllis Coffman
Jim Coffman
Sandi Reid
Cindy Yoakum
Mike Gordon
Will Heindrick
Bruce Roller
Keith Padgett
Ann Frerichs
Kevin Nickels
Dick Sabin
Bobbie Chisem
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 Litscheim
Tim Litscheim
Jeff Johnson
Shirley Frahm
Lisa Helms
Rose Millard
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
Mike Lading
Suzie Geske
Mike Egan

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
Cindy Beitel
Toni Girten
Sharon Crosby
Jennie Sanchez

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"ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED"

Sign up on Bulletin Board #2 to reserve your ticket to this great show. The show is at 2:00 pm on September 15. Tickets are $25.00 each, and checks can be made out to Annette Jones. Please reserve your spot by September 8. If you would like to carpool, please reach out to Annette Jones. You won't want to miss this fun event!

<u>September 8</u>
Sunday School Kick-Off
and Registration
Annual All Saints Picnic
Confirmation Parents' Meeting
<u>September 15</u>
Timberlake Playhouse Event
<u>September 22</u>
Bible Presentation
<u>September 28</u>
St Vincent de Paul
Friends of the Poor Walk

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