

SAINTS ALIVE

Lenten Services

Wednesdays

March 6th, 13th, & 20th

Meals at 5:30 pm

Worship at 6:30 pm



This year Holy Week occurs at the end of March! If you haven't already marked your calendars, be sure to add the special services that happen the week of March 24th-March 31st. A detailed list can be found at the end of the newsletter. We will be having Palm Sunday at 9am on March 24th to kick us off. NEW THIS YEAR is a SUNRISE service on Easter. Join us at the columbarium at sunrise **at 6:53am**, which will then proceed into the Sanctuary for the duration of the service. If you are unable to meet at the columbarium, please feel free to meet inside the Sanctuary. We will still have a 9am service on Easter Sunday as well!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Worship

Sundays @ 9:00am

Men's Luncheon

Thurs. March 7 @ 11:45am
All Saints- Prayer & Lunch
12:00

Chicken Cordon Blue is planned for our menu.

Easter Plant Sale Ends

Sunday, March 3rd

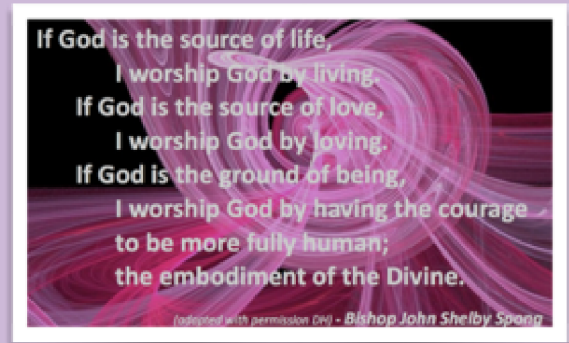
Lenten Service- Wednesday

Meal @ 5:30 pm & Service
@ 6:30 pm

*Events Continued on page
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Sheep Dog's Log



If God is the source of life,
I worship God by living.
If God is the source of love,
I worship God by loving.
If God is the ground of being,
I worship God by having the courage
to be more fully human;
the embodiment of the Divine.

Adapted with permission (C) - Bishop John Shelby Spong

We all begin from the Womb and we will all end in a Tomb.

That line came to me as I was listening to a poetry podcast on a 60F day in February! I was walking the doodles in the valley behind where we live, face directed toward the sun, breeze in my hair, and chuffing of snuffling dogs as they followed scents of other doggie friends.

We use images in preaching to illuminate our hearts and minds to think more deeply about our faith. I'm guessing most of your favorite books evoke all of your senses, as that is most certainly true for me. Sue Monk Kidd, Barbara Kingslover, mirabai starr, Barbara Brown Taylor, Amy Tan all evoke smell, taste, touch, sound, and vision in such powerful ways that you could take five highlighters and see for yourself how eloquent is their writing.

I mention images for two reasons in this newsletter. There is an exhibit at Augustana Lutheran Church, ELCA in West St. Paul that is work in ICONOGRAPHY. Iconography is one more way to pray, to ponder God's creation, to enter into holiness. Please go if you can! And if you cannot, follow the link below for a virtual tour.

From the artist Ludmila Pawlowska, "Traditional and modern icons are sometimes described as "windows to heaven" or a "showing forth of God." The icon's purpose is not to illustrate or decorate, but to represent the divine in a way that beckons the viewer."

Follow the link for more information:
<https://augustana.com/portfolio-item/art-exhibit/>

The Lenten Art Immersion with Debrorah Werle after worship has been amazing. As a person who loves art in all its forms, I am learning to work way outside of my comfort zone. What I have found is another expression for centering and holy play. I highly recommend dusting off your old crafts, paints, watercolors, and getting back into art during Lent.

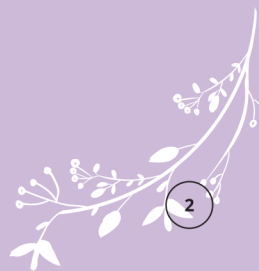
I opened this note with Womb and Tomb because we know that life does not end at the Tomb. Our relationships with those who are now saints in glory, singing resurrection songs, never dies. One cannot have Tomb without a new womb - the wombishness of God surrounds those who passed through the tomb. That might be a comforting image for all who mourn; I, for one, love the language of 'wombishness of God.' How powerful, how safe, how nurturing.

These are some of the words through art that I am examen-ing this Lent. It's just 40 days.

What are you thinking about these days? How are you growing your faith? What are your hopes for the mission and ministry of All Saints as we move into this next chapter of life together? How can we help?

We are the church that helps.

With gratitude and delight,
Pastor Jules





"Ponderings with Puzzles (and Pastor Wes)"-



Many of you have had the chance to meet Puzzles already (if you haven't, he'll be at church with me on Wednesdays and Thursdays during Lent, so be sure to stop by). When we were preparing to bring him home, we bought a ton of toys for him- toys that were good for tugging, toys that were good for throwing, and toys that were good for teething. Can you guess which of the numerous toys is his favorite so far?

That's right, it's the leaf blowing past him on our morning walk.

We tried to prepare for things the best that we possibly could, we spent lots of money, got all the things, and what our puppy wanted most was something free. Something so ordinary, we walk past it all the time without even thinking about it. And yet, to Puzzles, that leaf blowing by was the most fascinating and beautiful thing he had ever seen.

Our Lenten theme this year is The Seed of Joy, looking at all the way that the seeds of joy has been planted so that when Easter comes, we have the most beautiful joy filled garden. I can get in my own head a lot, sometimes from trying to tame the anxiety and depression rearing their heads, but other times from being so focused on the future, I forget to enjoy the present.

While I was stuck in my head trying to find the best and perfect way to raise Puzzles and let him live a happy carefree life, he showed me that he can find joy wherever he is. He reminded me that joy isn't just for the future, joy is for the present too. We don't need the piles of toys, we just need to be aware of the beautiful leaves blowing around us. Where are the joy filled leaves blowing around in your life?



Juice Sunday

March 3rd

Quilters Schedule

Monday every week@

8:30-12:00

Tuesdays (1st & 3rd each month) 6:30-8:00pm

Fare for All

Friday, March 7th at 4pm

OWLS

Wednesday, March 20

11:30am at Junction 70

Fill the Little Free

Food Pantry

Sunday March 3rd

Men's Group

Thursday, March 19th @

5:30 @ Broadway St Paul Park

Thrivent Reminder!

Just a reminder for Thrivent members: Choice dollars need to be directed by 3/31 if they are eligible and have not done so.

GIVING TO GOD BY GIVING TO OTHERS 2024 LENTEN OUTREACH PARTNERS

We are continuing our yearly Lenten tradition this year by collecting items to support several of our community partners who serve people in need. Thank you for your generosity!

MORE



March 3-6 MORE

- Collecting: laundry detergent (unscented preferred), in powder, liquid or pods

March 10-13 Homeless Kits

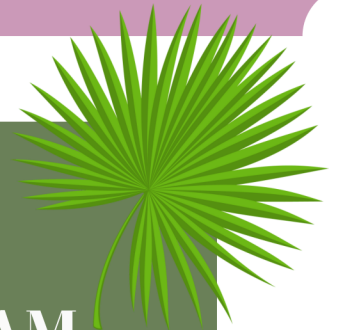
- Collecting: toothbrushes, travel sized toothpaste, pair of socks, granola bars or cheese and cracker packets, chap stick, comb, small packet of kleenex, small packet of bandaids, 8 oz. bottle of water, travel sized shampoo, conditioner, hand lotion, hand sanitizer, \$5 Mc Donald's gift card



FRIENDS in NEED
the end of hunger

March 17-20 Friends in Need Food Shelf

- Collecting: toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, paper towels, feminine hygiene products, deodorant, regular sized shampoo, hand soap



PALM SUNDAY SERVICE SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH AT 9AM

Come and join us for Palm Sunday worship! This special service will be at normal time but is a great way to start off Holy Week.

*Palm
Sunday*





Polly and I wanted to send out a list of upcoming dates for the remainder of Sunday School for this spring:

- There will be no Sunday School March 3rd or 10th due to spring break!
- Sunday March 17th-24th-we will have regular Sunday School
- Sunday March 31st-Happy Easter there will be no Sunday School
- Sunday April 7-April 28th-We will have regular Sunday School.

Few reminders:

Let's see if we can fill our church with children for Vacation Bible School this year. Bring a friend or two. The more the merrier. My challenge is...can we all be registered and bring one friend or cousin with to this great week of play and pray!

New this year for our Vacation Bible School-we will be having the MN Bug Guy bringing in all of his creepy crawly creatures for a free presentation for us!

I am currently working on having the MN Glitter Glampore Visit too! So many fun things this year.

We will need a host of volunteers to help pull off 4 days of VBS. Below is a list of needed helpers:

- Shoppers for lunch and snack items(I already have a menu created)
- Cooks
- lunch/snack servers
- meal clean-up crew
- preschool teachers-if we have volunteers we can offer this for our younger children
- decorating crew-lets deck our space with joy for these kiddos

- extra hands on deck
- volunteers and ideas for service projects-Les Beudoin
- talent sharer- like a seed bomb class-Thank you Lesley Erickson

Please fill out the paperwork for FREE VBS for both churches. I am really hoping that we can fill our church to the brim with our combined kiddos! Please watch for updates and opportunities surrounding our Godly Garden. It will be time to sow our seeds, surprise the weeds and eat our bounty. This will be a combined effort of both All Saints and Zion.

Enjoy the rest of your week!
Polly and Leah

Vacation Bible School

When: June 17th-20th

Time: Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00

- **FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE**

WHO:

- **K-6th Grade**
- **Bring a Friend, Neighbor , Cousin, Classmate**
- **7th Grade-9th Grade Join as Jr. Councilors**

On Thursday, June 20th there will be a short closing program for parents and grandparents. If you are interested in having your child attend please fill out the attached forms. You can either drop them off on Sunday with me, mail or scan and send them back! Let's fill our church with little people!



Mental/Emotional Health Concerns: Check "Yes" or "No" for each statement.

This camper has an emotional health concern..... Yes No

This camper has a learning disability..... Yes No

This camper has been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD or ADHD)..... Yes No

If "yes" was answered to anything in this section, please attach a statement if any special considerations should be taken

Medication: Please complete all required information. All medications MUST be in the original pharmacy containers and labeled appropriately. Campers MUST turn in all medications, vitamins and over-the-counter drugs to the Health Care Person upon arrival. For the safety of your child and other campers self-medicating is not allowed.

This camper does not take any medication.

This camper takes routine medication (complete the following):

Name of Medication: _____

Name of Medication: _____

Reason: _____

Reason: _____

Dose: _____

Dose: _____

Time(s) of Day: _____

Time(s) of Day: _____

Immunization: Please note month and year of the shots or the most recent booster.

DTP: Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis _____

Td: Tetanus Booster _____

MMR: Measles, Mumps, Rubella _____

Others: _____

Doctor/Dentist Contact Information:

Name of Camper's Physician _____ Phone _____

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED FOR CAMP ATTENDANCE.

Parent/Guardian Authorization for Health Care: This Health Form is complete and correct, and the person described has permission to engage in all camp activities except as noted by me and/or the examining physician. I give permission to the camp to: 1) provide ongoing health care, and 2) select medical personnel and to order X-rays or routine tests or treatment for the camper listed above. In the event that I cannot be reached in an EMERGENCY, I give permission to the physician selected by the Camp Director to hospitalize, secure proper treatment for, and to order injection, anesthesia, or surgery for my child named above. I understand that information about my child's health will be shared with the appropriate counseling, food service, or other Luther Crest staff. This form may be photocopied for use out of camp.

Parent/Guardian Permission to Participate: My child has permission to participate in all aspects of the Day Camp Program of Luther Crest Bible Camp and I agree that the camp or its personnel will not be held responsible for accidents arising from participation. I also give permission for any pictures or video taken of my child to be used for promotional purposes.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

2024 LUTHER CREST DAY CAMP REGISTRATION FORM

CAMPER NAME _____ SEX _____ AGE _____

PARENT'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE (_____) _____ WORK PHONE (_____) _____

GRADE JUST **COMPLETED BY CAMPER** (circle one) K 1 2 3 4 5 6

I give my permission for my child to participate in Luther Crest's Day Camp, to take part in the normal activities, and I authorize the camp doctor to provide any necessary emergency medical care. I understand Luther Crest assumes secondary insurance coverage; the camper's family assumes primary coverage. I also give Luther Crest permission to use any photograph of my child taken at camp in future promotion of Luther Crest.

Parent's Signature

_____ I would like to be a Day Camp Volunteer.

_____ I would like to bring an extra lunch for a counselor.

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Parent's Signature

_____ I would like to be a Day Camp Volunteer.

_____ I would like to bring an extra lunch for a counselor.

_____ I would like to have the Luther Crest Day Camp Team at my home for supper.



Noteworthy Music

BY KAREN PIPER, MUSIC DIRECTOR

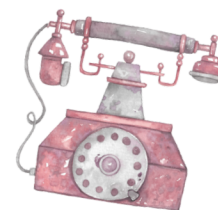


We are sorry that one of our choir members, Sue Stagg, passed away in February after a long battle with cancer. She had been a soprano with the Choir for at least 25 years. We will miss her faith, devotion, and sweetness. The Choir will sing *Be Still My Soul*, accompanied by Catherine Powers on violin, at her funeral on 3/2/24 at noon. I am so glad I could get to know her and make music with her, too!

Here is the music rehearsal schedule for 2/28-3/20:

- Worship band 5:30-6:15 p.m. Wednesdays 2/28-3/20
- Bell Choir 7:20-8:00 p.m. 2/28, 3/13,
- Sanctuary Choir 7:20-8:00 p.m. 3/6, 3/20
- We will decide on Holy Week's rehearsal schedule closer to the date.

God Bless,
Karen Pieper, Music director



Introducing... Calling All Saints

Calling All Saints is the name of a new program at All Saints that was born after our decades long Tele-Care program ended. Unlike Tele-Care where participants received a daily wellness call, this program is designed to maintain connections among our members through weekly phone calls. Separations caused by Covid safeguards or changes in life situations have hampered the ability of some in our midst to be out and about as they once were.

The calls are a reminder that physical presence at church is not a prerequisite for continuing to be an important part of this faith community. Many among us are experiencing significant transitions in life such as grieving loss, dealing with health issues or caregiving a loved one. These weekly phone calls will provide a listening ear, will help provide a link to news of friends and the life of the church, and will lay the foundation for building a new and ongoing friendship or deepen an existing one.

The program began at the beginning of January with five participants and six callers. After a month long trial period and receiving feedback about our "launch", we've happily expanded by adding more participants and callers. We're growing the program and growing our relationships with one another. The Holy Spirit is within and around us and God's light shines through it all. If you would like to be involved in Calling All Saints or become aware of someone who would like to participate, please reach out to us. Our committee is coordinated by Nancy Stone (913-940-8363) and also includes Pr. Rebecca and Les Beaudoin.

Let us hold one another in prayer as we tend to our flock of believers at All Saints Lutheran Church.

LETTER OF THANKS

Letter of Thanks from Steve Kraemer at Conversations with Friends

January 27, 2024

Dear Members of the Immigration Task Force (and the Congregation of All Saints),

I have so many things for which to be thankful. First, I'm thankful for the Immigration Task Force's wonderful, active, passionate ministry. And thank you all and the Rev. Jules Erickson for your invitation to speak and present at All Saints. I felt truly welcomed and was so inspired by the receptiveness of your pastor, task force members and congregants on Sunday, October 10, 2023. And, on behalf of the people who will be deported and receive one of the ten "Dignity" backpacks that you have assembled, thank you. And, what a blessing it was to receive the financial gifts from your fundraisers totaling \$1495.

Over the years, people in detention have asked me what I would do and how I would feel if I were in their shoes. Imagine that at this moment we are facing deportation from the U.S., possibly facing separation from our spouses and/or children. We arrive at the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building at Fort Snelling in a van from one of the three Minnesota county jails that jail ICE detainees: the Freeborn, Kandiyohi and Sherburne County jails. We are likely traumatized, depressed, worried and/or scared. It's a tremendously difficult time in our lives. Before leaving, an ICE officer tells us that there are backpacks waiting for us. All of a sudden, we feel some comfort, sunshine in the midst of the darkness of deportation, knowing that someone in the community cares about us and that we weren't abandoned. Later, we open the "Dignity" backpacks and find new clothing: a pair of jeans and shoes, two shirts, underwear and socks, and a dozen hygiene and other miscellaneous items including a toothbrush and paste, lip balm, bandages, body lotion, deodorant, hand sanitizer, sunglasses and a water bottle, and there's a personal greeting card with wishes for a safe journey and God's blessings.

Thank you to the members of the Immigration Task Force who were involved in this effort.

Most sincerely,

Steve Kraemer, Exec. Director



Holy Week at All Saints



**Maundy
Thursday
6:30pm**

**Good Friday
6:30 pm**



**Easter Sunday
6:53am Sunrise &
9:00am**

