

# SAINTS ALIVE

Happy New Year

FROM THE STAFF OF ALL SAINTS



## Annual MEETING

This year our Annual Meeting will be held in person following worship on **Sunday, February 4th at 10:00 a.m. Annual reports are due to the office by January 7th**, and will be available for review by January 21st. A budget forum will be held following worship on Sunday, January 28th. As per our bylaws: B3.03. The order of business at the annual meeting shall be:

1. Opening devotion
2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
3. Reports of pastor(s), Church Council, treasurer, ministry teams, and others.
4. Elections
5. Approval of budget
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Closing prayer

### Upcoming Events

#### Morning Quilters

Mondays @ 8:00 am

#### Evening Quilters

Tuesday, January 2nd @ 6:30pm

#### Men's Luncheon

Thursday, January 4th @ 12:00.

#### Fare For All

Thursday, January 4th @ 4pm

#### Bible Study

Thursdays @ 10:00 am

#### Immigration Task Force

Meeting: Wednesday, January 3rd at 10am

*\*Continued on Page 5\**



## *Sheep Dog's Log*

With Pastor Jules

I'm not sure where I first ran across this image of the lost sheep but when I saw it, I could not take my eyes off of it. I purchased a 2'x3' canvas of the photo and have it in my office at All Saints.

There are a thousand words I could put to this but I'm going to keep it simple.

I am that lamb.

I wander off course, oblivious to my surroundings, and I get lost - lost in my own head, lost in my own grief, lost in the should of's, ought to's, and wished I would have's.

I'm guessing that might be a universal truth for all of us at one time or another.

And YET Christ chases after us, again and again and again.

The other take away for me, as I look at this image, is our other universal tendency, namely to suggest that others are that lost and lonely lamb. By that I mean we may judge others 'going off course' instead of focusing on our own issues. Let's not do that; let's enter in to the new year trusting that people are likely doing the very best they can do at the moment we encounter them. Let's be generous and kind. Let's cheer each other on. All of this is a practice, by the way. It'll take time.



And, the other thing that must be mentioned here is that Jesus is also chases after them just as he is chasing after me.

This photo is something I'm planning on spiritually marinating in for the next few years. It is the essence of our Lutheran theology. There is nothing we can do to earn our salvation. Faith means to be in relationship with God and even when we wander off, God chases after us, lifts us up (sometimes through the kindness of others), dips us into a cleansing pool (baptism), and restores our relationship through a meal (holy communion).

That's where I'll leave it for now - because, seriously, I could write about God's love for us forever!

*Pastor Jules*

# Sheep Dog's Log continued

## Annual Meeting and Budget Meeting Dates

Sunday, Jan. 28 after worship you can review the 2024 budget with out-going and long serving Business Manager, Craig Anderson. Paul Johnson is going to take over the post. For more information, please attend that meeting. All Saints is completely transparent about finances. Salaries follow the current guidelines of the St. Paul Area Synod.

The Annual Meeting will be held after a joint worship service with Zion on Feb. 4th. The Bishop is preaching and Pastor Wes is being installed. It is a joint service because Pastor Steve will be out of town.

# CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Well Done, Well Done!

The joint Christmas Pageant with Zion was a huge success and a hoot to boot! There was a shark in the nativity which added to the joy of the event.

Miss Leah, Polly, parents and youth volunteers made the day exceptional. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!



Introducing PASTOR Michael, our former intern at All Saints!

Pastor Michael Poeschl was installed at Baptism River Community Church in Finland this morning by Deacon Susan Williams. Welcome to the NE MN Synod Pastor Michael and Misty!

Pastor Michael was ordained on Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023 at All Saints.



# Sunday FunDay Events

Dec. 31: New Years Eve Party at 9:00a.m. worship!  
Bring party hats and noise makers.

Jan. 7 and/or 14: 10:10a.m. NEW MEMBER  
ORIENTATION

Jan. 21 - Camp Sunday 9a.m. worship; 10:10a.m.  
Budget mtg.

Jan. 28 - 9:00a.m. Worship - Scrambled Egg Build a  
Bowl 10:10a.m.

- Pastor Jules will provide a bowl for each person up to 100 people.
- Each bowl / vessel = \$20 - all proceeds will go to VBS / Camperships
- Items needed:
  - A Chef
  - Eggs
  - Toppings
  - Juice
  - Coffee
  - JOY



Feb. 4 - Bishop Lull to preach and install Pastor Wes at 9:00a.m.

~AND~ 10:10a.m: Annual Meeting!

## Coping With Grief During the Holidays

Talk about your grief. Don't worry about bringing anyone down. You're allowed to grieve and talk about it.

Create boundaries with your time. If you need to take some time for you, do it.

Find a way to honor them. Start a new tradition that honors their memory.

Set realistic expectations. You will probably be sad or maybe cranky and that's okay.

Allow yourself to feel all of your feelings. Resentment and anger are normal.

Practice self-care. Check-in with yourself on a regular basis and meet those needs.

BlessingManifesting



Introducing our new Associate Pastor,  
Wes Kimball!

Wes began his call at All Saints on Dec. 19, 2023.

He will be ordained on Saturday, January 6 at 11a.m. at Shepherd of the Valley in Apple Valley.

All Saints is invited to attend! (This is also where Pastor Julie Wright is serving).

Pastor Wes will be installed by Bishop Patricia Lull at All Saints on Sunday, Feb. 4, the date of our Annual Meeting.







## Meet and Greet

WITH PASTOR WES KIMBALL

*Merry Christmas All Saints,*



I am excited to get to know you all in the coming months, and it's only fair if you also get to know me. I have loved being involved at church my whole life. In middle and high school, I was constantly at church, deepening my faith and building friendships that have lasted my whole life. My pastor first planted the seed that I would become a pastor when I was in 7th grade, but as I grew up I tried to avoid the call and became a high school math teacher first. Over the past eight years, I have taught in Spring Grove, Fargo, and Brooklyn Center while simultaneously completing my Masters of Divinity from Wartburg Seminary.

Two years ago, I married the love of my life, Erica. While we went to the same high school and college, we didn't start dating until she was in grad school in Colorado and I was in Iowa for seminary. In a couple weeks, we will be getting our first puppy together, a bernedoodle named Puzzles. We love spending time outside, going hiking and exploring (especially in the mountains of Colorado), going camping in the various state parks of Minnesota, and reading books.

While I am typically more of a hot chocolate drinker, I will gladly meet anyone for coffee. Please feel free to reach out, I would love to get to know all of you better.

Pastor Wes



## Upcoming Happenings Continued

### Pastor Wes Ordination

Saturday, January 6th @  
11am at Shepard of the  
Valley Church

### Juice Sunday

Sunday, January 7th

### Crafting Corner

Tuesday, January 9th @  
6:30pm

### Men's Group

Tuesday January 16th @  
Broadway @ 5:30

### OWLS Lunch

Wednesday January 17th @  
11:30 am at Las Margaritas

### Budget Forum

Sunday, January 28th @  
10:00am

### Meditation Exploration

Wednesday, January 10th  
and 24th at 7pm

### New Member Sundays

Sundays Jan 7th & 14th @  
9am

### Camp Sunday

Sunday, January 21st @ 9am

**Breakfast Bowl Sunday!** See  
Pastor Jules' announcement  
on page 4



## *Noteworthy Music*

BY KAREN PIPER, MUSIC DIRECTOR



Thank you to all who participated in the music at All Saints in 2023! This includes congregational members who either sing, listen, or both. We have three prominent musical ensembles at All Saints. Please see me if you are interested in participating in any of them:

- Up to 10 instrumentalists in our band accompany the Sunday morning service. This includes, but is not limited to, Greg Ohrt on trumpet, Catherine Powers on violin, Rebecca Thurman on recorder, Karl Strom, Michael Lavold, and Pr. Jule on guitar, Pr. Jules and Michael Engelhardt on vocals, Jason West and Esther Keyah on percussion, Jenna Olson on ukelele, Bob Purcell on bass guitar, and I am on keyboards. We meet on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:15 pm to rehearse Sunday's music, jam, and practice Michael Lavold's original songs.
- The Bell Choir continues to practice on Wednesday from 6:30 to 7:15 pm. We have found our groove with our favorite hymns and songs. Members are flexible when people are absent and have developed into skilled bell ringers.
- The Sanctuary Choir enjoys singing our "Anthem Friends" to teach newcomers quickly and efficiently. We even have become comfortable with singing a cappella songs and anthems. We meet at 7:30-8:15 pm on Wednesdays, and we always save some time at then for prayer requests and fellowship.

We are all still grieving the passing of saxophonist Dwayne Tannahill this summer. His soulful melodies and contribution to the music of All Saints will forever be remembered, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of those who had the pleasure of experiencing his talent. Tannahill's dedication to jazz enriched the experience of Jazz in July, a memorable celebration of music and a testament to his enduring legacy in the world of jazz. Rest in peace, and thank you, Dwayne!

-Karen Pieper, Music Director

## From The Council

BY JULIE SMITH

All Saints Lutheran Council met on Tuesday December 12th.

- Open forum unattended
- The partnership with Zion continues to work well
- Wes Kimble will start with All Saints on 12/19/23
- Julies meeting with Cold/Weather/Homeless advocated
- 2024 housing allowance was approved by Council
- Budget to date – we are ahead of where we were last year and expenses are down.
  - Budget meeting to be announced.
- 2024 Congregational Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 4th.
  - Looking for nominees for:
    - President
    - Secretary
    - 3 members at Large
- ASLC will pursue bids and resources for solar power
  - 117 yes votes, 13 no, and 9 abstained
- Pastor Jules review and evaluation has been completed, staff will be completed end of Jan.
- HR Committee now includes: Jodi Carter, Sandy Alexander Whalen, & Dan Stettler. Faith Anderson's stint was completed after PJs review. Many thanks to Jodi Olson, Rose West, Ev Wright, and Faith Anderson for many years of service. We miss you, Ev!

## Stewardship for All Season's Review

To date we have had 92 cards turned in for a total of \$303,757.00 pledged. It is an increase of \$38,865 when compared to those same givers in the past 12 months. 8.6% increase in overall giving pledged to-date. It is a 12.7% increase in pledged dollars to those who gave in the past 12 months.

Well done, All Saints! If you have not yet offered a gift to the congregation, please consider joining those 92 households as we enter in to 2024.

Hopes for the increase in giving:

- 1) Shoring up our pastoral care crew and adding to the pastor's discretionary fund.
- 2) Adding solar on the south side A frame and roof. A project that would pay itself back within less than ten years.



In response to God's grace and love in Christ Jesus, I/we intend to give this offering in support of All Saints Lutheran Church's on-going ministry. I/we understand that this amount may be changed if necessary by notifying the church office.

**Amount to be given:**  \$ \_\_\_\_ Weekly  \$ \_\_\_\_ Monthly  \$ \_\_\_\_ Other

Date I/we will begin this offering \_\_\_\_\_

I/we will give my offering in the offering plate or in the mail.

I/we will continue using online giving (auto withdrawal bank or credit card).

I/we will begin online giving through the ASLC website.



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# SEEDS *of* Faith

Big Thank you to Mike Haapoja for constructing the stage for our Christmas Program. A big thank you to all of the behind the scene parents, grandparents and supporters who help make our programming a HUGE success. You show up with smiles, joy and support. YOU have helped gather snacks on Sundays for the children's sermons, you have offered words of encouragement, you have offered hugs of support, you have labeled costumes, you have brought your children on Sundays, you have built sets, created enlarged bibles, you have sat upfront during the children's sermon, you have complimented me on the children's sermon, you have offered peace on Sundays, you have been a light for me these past months, you have donated your time and talents, you have apologized, you have shown up on Wednesdays to help with tutoring, you have asked what do you need, you have asked how are you doing, feeling and reminded me that in the darkness YOU are the light of Christ. I want you all to know that I appreciate your kindness, love and support.

Our Christmas program was a sight to beholden. We had a full cast of children from both All Saints and Zion Lutheran Churches. Our nativity story was told from beginning to end with Elizabeth, Mary, Joseph, the Magi, King Herod and a flying shark. If you missed us, look it up on our website because it really was amazing.

Please mark your calendars:

- Please join us for a New Year's Eve Service with all the bells and whistles on Sunday January 31st.
- We will resume programming on January 7th.
- Sunday January 21st, LutherCrest will be joining us for Camp Sunday. Please offer a warm welcome to these young adults who will lead us in our joint Vacation Bible School with Zion.

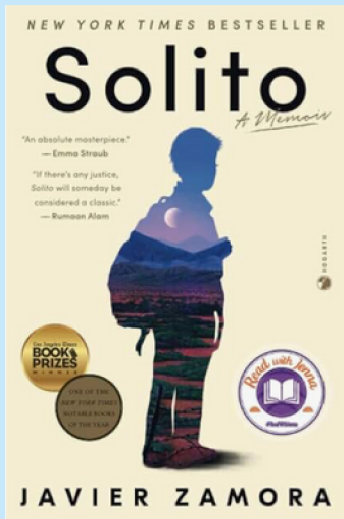
Our FREE Vacation Bible School this year will be June 17th-20th. We will be hosting students/children who will be entering kindergarten-6th grade, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, with a closing program on Thursday for parents/grandparents and friends who may attend. If you have an older child who is interested in being a junior camp counselor they can participate as well. We will need volunteers to help in the kitchen and help with the shopping for our meals too, if you are interested please send me an email, otherwise please sign up here.

We will no longer be offering tutoring sessions on Wednesday evenings, please watch our newsletters for our next big trial on Wednesdays during Lent OR if you have something YOU want to try, send an email or stop by and let us know what YOU want. Be an upstander, a movement changer, an inspirer.

I am looking forward to having a co-pilot in Wes Kimball in our youth ministry department. We sat in the waiting place and it is time to move on, there is fun to be planned and merriment to be had.

With the JOY of serving,  
Miss Leah

# Immigration Task Force



Book Review by Penny George

We recommend the book *Solito* (translation: all alone) a memoir by Javier Zamora. We frequently hear about the number of people crossing our southern border, but do we ever stop to think about how they got there? This true story, told in the voice of 9-year-old Javier from El Salvador, describes in heart wrenching detail the physical and emotional toll this journey exacts on an innocent child and those he encounters. His descriptions are vivid, his pain is real, his fear becomes the reader's fear. Don't miss this book. It will stay with you long after you turn the final page.

"This looks wonderful." "Thank you so much." "Tell everybody at All Saints how great this is." "How kind of you to cook all this and bring it to me." Except none of the five of us who brought the neatly packaged Turkey and Ham dinners (and dressing and cranberry sauce and potatoes and gravy and corn and pie) to our homebound had anything at to do with cooking it. That organization, expertise and credit go exclusively to the participating men of All Saints Lutheran. Dear Ham and Turkey dinner whizzes, thank you for your time, efforts and accomplishments which were so appreciated by those who dined in Resurrection Hall or who received your generosity spread throughout our community. Thank you so much, we're hoping you may do this again.

Rebecca for All Saint's Holistic Pastoral Care Team.



## Puzzle Exchange!

All Saints is delighted to announce a new community initiative from our one and only Ms. Leah. Feel free to donate or loan a puzzle or two to the church. Members can check them out, put them together, and return them when you are finished,. That way you can put together new and exciting ones without having to redo the same puzzle over and over. Once the program is up and running, the puzzles will be located on the bookshelf. Please be sure that any puzzles donated or returned have all the pieces.

BY THE GRACE OF GOD & THE CALL OF THE CHURCH

# WES KIMBALL

will be **ordained** to the ministry of word and sacrament

---

JANUARY 6, 2024 | 11AM

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

PASTOR WES INVITES  
YOU TO WEAR RED ON

**01.06.24**