

SAINTS ALIVE



Confirmation Sunday

Sunday May 5th, 2024 at 9:00 am

Join Us for Confirmation Sunday and
worship

CALLING ALL SAINTS!

Spring clean up needed.
Anyone willing? Our outdoor
campus needs tending from
the rain garden to the curb cut
outs to moving mulch.

Contact the
Office@AllSaintscg.org

Worship Schedule

Worship

Sundays @ 9:00am

Confirmation Sunday

May 5th 9:00am

Upcoming events

Gertens Gift Cards pick up

May 5th after 9:00 am service
or message office

Monday Morning Quilters

Every Monday 8:30 am

Men's Luncheon

Thursday May 2nd
CANCELLED for May

Fare for All

May 2nd 4:00pm-6:00pm

Events Continued on page 3

On Site Campus improvements

The lower level lighting upgrade is
now complete!

We saved over \$6,000 in installation
fees by doing the work with
volunteer labor.





Sheep Dog's Log



During Lent I took the class that Deborah Werle offered on Spiritual Journaling. She introduced us to a wide variety of ways to create art: watercolor, acrylic paint pens, scrap book stamping, and something called 'gellatos'. (Not to be confused with something you'd eat in Italy).

This OWL is one of the drawings I made after the class. After sharing it with Deborah, she mentioned that it had really good 'value' - as in 'contrast' between the dark and the light colors. Her quote was, "Color gets all the credit but VALUE really does the heavy lifting."



Values, not just the art type, mean a ton to me. I have my own set of 'Rules' or 'Guiding Principles' that I use as a pastor. I'm going to share with you these 15 'Rules' for right living as one of your pastors.

Jules' Rules for Life and particularly within the Congregation

Rule 1: You are responsible for your own functioning, not that of your congregation or staff.

Rule 2: Your congregation is not your family.

Rule 3: Your congregation may not be your church.

Rule 4: You cannot separate pastoral functioning from Family of Origin Emotional Process.

Rule 5: Your context has more influence on your functioning than factors like personality or skills.

Rule 6: Never be afraid of losing (firing) under functioning staff, immature, or incompetent staff. It is more difficult to be the most mature person in the room than the most immature one.

Rule 7: If you've had a string of dysfunctional churches, the problem is probably with you and not with the churches.

Rule 8: Don't expect spiritual maturity from persons who are emotionally immature.

Rule 9: If you have to chose between feelings and facts, choose facts (always).

Rule 10: If you have to choose between principles and relationships, choose principles.

See: BRAVING by Brené Brown in Rising Strong.

Rule 11: You are a pastor in the middle of a congregation. Remember, most congregations are immersed in multigenerational transmission processes based in relational systems.

Rule 12: Preaching is a function of the office, not a performance. Preaching can be used as a tool to change attitudes and beliefs about the present, sometimes the past, and prophecy about the future. What people often lack is Sophia Imagination.

Rule 13: If you don't understand your congregations culture, you'll likely never be able to effect developmental change.

Rule 14: Leadership is not about managing systemic anxiety.

Rule 15: When anxiety peaks, focus on principles, not 'issues'.

Jules' observations and application of the theory:

When leading, remember, this is not about you or your agenda. It is about the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Try not to be reactive or afraid, both escalate the reactivity, if you are able to do that, it stops the reaction process and gets people out of their reptilian brain and into their limbic system. This mammalian system is at its core: nurturing and PLAYFUL.

A lack of playfulness is a direct consequence of taking things so seriously that people shut down and anxiety kicks in. The more playful a system, the healthier it tends to be, as long as the humor is kind, generous, a self-deprecating. When humor is sarcastic (=the tearing of the flesh, remember your greek (sarx) / casm - space between), people get defensive and hurt. We are calmers and healers, observers and detectives, learners and leaders.

That's where I'll leave it for May 2024.

With gratitude to serve at ASLC,

PJ

This document is © 2023 The Rev. Dr. Jules Erickson, do not duplicate or distribute without written permission.

PONDERINGS WITH PUZZLES... (and

Pastor Wes)



Last month, Puzzles got his first haircut. He's getting groomed by a groomer at his vet's office, and no sooner had I left than they called to let me know that his eye looks red and wondering if the vet could look at him before his haircut. It ended up being a little inflamed, but nothing some eyedrops wouldn't clean up. At the end of his haircut, his groomer called me and wanted to let me know that he is a really sweet boy, but he's a little too excitable right now and she suggests giving him a "chill pill" the next time he gets groomed because it doesn't feel super safe having sharp objects near him while he's jumping around so much. He loved his bath and the dryers but was just too jumpy during the trim itself. He seemed normal after we got home, but he was still stressed from the new experiences of the day because he later threw up his whole supper while we were out grocery shopping. Poor Puzzles.

I had such a great day! I got my breakfast extra early with lots of tummy rubs from Mom. Dad gave me a ride in the car, and then I got to make a lot of new friends at the place with the spray cheese and cheerios! This one lady gave me all sorts of pets and scratches, and then she started giving me a pet with a weird buzzing machine. I didn't know what it was, but it seemed like it was a toy, so I hopped up and down wanting to play with it. The lady didn't want to play though. I don't really know why. But she brought the buzzing machine all over my legs and back and tummy. And now I'm cold. But then I got a bath and went into a nice warm room after. My tummy hurt a little after supper, but after I spit it all out, I felt fine. It was such a great day! ~Puzzles

It's amazing how the same story from two different perspectives can vary so much. For Puzzles, he thought his day at the groomers was the best day ever, filled with new friends and lots of snuggles. For the groomer (and his parents), the day was filled with the stress of new experiences, new things, and a bit more concern than was necessary. This is one of the things I love when reading the Bible. Whether I'm reading the same story but from different gospels, or even reading the exact same text while in a different time of my life, the stories continue to speak to me in different ways. This is also part of why we read the Bible in community- it allows us to hear multiple ways of interpreting and experiencing the stories in our own lives.

As we enter this next month, let us try to be more aware of how our daily experiences impact our lives. When you see your spouse stub their toe getting out of bed, how does that impact how they greet you at the breakfast table? When you get cut off in traffic, how does that impact how you greet the cashier at the grocery store? As you are aware of these within yourself, also remember that everyone around you is having similar challenges in their lives that we don't see. Even if we share the same moments like Puzzles and I, we can have completely different memories of the event. So let us default to grace, to look at our neighbor's actions through the best possible light, and hope that they will give us grace in return.

--
Pastor Wes Kimball



Cont. Events

The Connect drop in Center

Every Monday 3:00-6:00

Evening Quilters

1st and 3rd Tuesday @ 6:00pm

Evening Crafters

2nd Tuesday @6:30pm

Mediation Exploration

2nd and 4th Wednesday 7:00pm

OWLS

3rd Wednesday monthly

May 15th 11:30-12:30

Machine Shed WDBY

Bible Study

Every Thursday @10:00am

Senior Fitness

Tuesday and Thursday @ 10:30

Men's Group @Broadway Grill

3rd Tuesday Monthly

May 21st 5:30-6:30



SEEDS of Faith



Greetings!

Polly and I wanted to send out a list of upcoming dates for the remainder of Sunday School for this spring. On May 5th and May 12th, we will be singing at the end of All Saints service and at the beginning of Zion's church service. If you arrive at 9:55 that should be about perfect timing. All Saints Confirmation Sunday is May 5th. We usually wrap up our programming the Sunday before, but this year we will continue with programming through Mother's Day. On Mother's day, we will be having an end of the year party with mother's day crafts.

Beginning on May 19th~We will begin getting our Godly Garden ready. Bring your work clothes, wellies and tools. Join me every Sunday, (unless it is raining) after church to help clean, till, plant, weed and harvest in our garden.

Few reminders: VBS Registration will be closing June 3rd. 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 us to this great week of play and pray!



FREE! FREE! FREE! Vacation Bible School will be held on the All Saints and Zion Lutheran Campus. We will host children entering into kindergarten-6th graders. We also welcome students entering 7th-9th grade as junior counselors. Vacation Bible School will be held June 17th-20th 9:00-3:00. On Thursday, June 20th there will be a short closing program for parents and grandparents. Grab forms from me on Sunday! 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!

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 happy to announce the Monty's Traveling Reptile show will also be joining us for this fun filled week. Currently, we are working on securing a bus to have a park hop and outdoor service project through the Cottage Grove Parks and/or Washington or Dakota park systems.

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

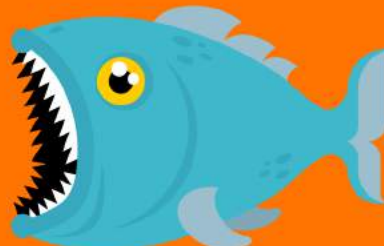
- preschool teachers-if we have volunteers we can offer this for our younger children
- decorating crew-lets deck our space with joy for these kiddos
- extra hands on deck
- volunteers and ideas for service projects-Les Beudoin
- talent sharer- like a seed bomb class-Thank you Lesley Erickson



I am really hoping that we can fill our church to the brim with our combined kiddos!

**MAY 2nd
MEN'S
LUNCHEON
CANCELLED**

**EVENT
CANCELLED**



**RETURNS JUNE 6th
FISH FRY!!!!**



Noteworthy Music

BY KAREN PIPER,
MUSIC DIRECTOR



We're coming to the end of the Bell Choir and Sanctuary Choir year, and it's been a blast! Thanks to all of you who have been involved in the music ministry from 2023 to 2024, we've had some great hymns and melodies. The band will continue to play throughout the summer. And to celebrate the end of the year, we're having a party. Join us on Wednesday, May 22nd, starting at 530pm, at Las Margaritas in Cottage Grove. It's the perfect spot for fun, margaritas, and complimentary salsa and chips. You can find the address at 7165 E Point Douglas Rd, by Hy-Vee.

This spring, the Sanctuary Choir has some exciting highlights, including "The Spirit Sings," which will have a piano four-hand accompaniment featuring me and Szu-Ling, Zion Church's pianist. I hope we can sing this rousing song for the Zion Church service as a recruiting strategy and just for fun. The Bell Choir will play "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and "Holy, Holy, Holy" for Trinity Sunday. It's still possible to join both choirs for the year:-)

If anyone is interested in performing a unique piece of music this summer, please let me know. We'd be delighted to have you.

Warmly,

Karen Pieper, Music Director



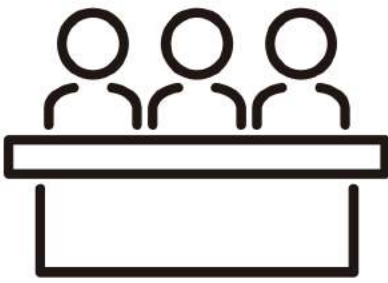
Interested?



We have 24, 4 foot LED Ceiling Fixtures left over. They sell for \$80 each. We are willing to part with them for \$60 each at a 25% discount.

Similarly, there are two 12 inch round ceiling fixtures like we put in the upper level restrooms that are left over. They sell for \$60 each but would like to sell for \$45 each at a 25% discount. We would like to find a buyer who can benefit from the low cost as ASLC can recoupe some of the cost while improving our campus.

Please contact the church office@allsaintscg.org



COUNCIL NOTES

The April Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00 pm in the conference room. All council members were present.

We began with prayer.

There was no one present for the open forum. There was a motion and passage of the March minutes and all staff and financial reports.

Discussion, Motion, and Passage to purchase a 2-year contract for the security system protection for the internet. By choosing to accept this bid for a 2-year contract, we saved a significant amount of money.

We are still in discussions regarding the solar system for our campus.

Discussion of the upcoming Synod Assembly on May 10th and 11th at St. Andrews in Mahtomedi. We are allowed 4 representatives plus our pastors. We have 2 representatives so far, so if anyone else would like to go, please contact the pastors and they will provide you with the information. On Friday, there is a mission fair. It is free and for anyone to attend. That night, there is a worship service which is always an amazing service. On Saturday, the business meeting with a keynote speaker will happen and this is where we need the registered voters.

We encourage you to pray for the council and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact someone on the council.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Schuck, Council President

ASLC Staff and Council are currently reading **Family Systems and Congregational Life, a Map For Ministry** by **R. Robert Creech**





Get your Mug² in Church during May!

Mug = your happy face. 😊

Mug = a vessel to drink from that is unique.

From one of our ministries, Shobi's Table, we read: We believe in community building centered around a table where EVERYONE has access to real, nutritious food – no matter what you can pay – 10 cents, \$10, \$100, or nothing at all – this table belongs to you.

With that in mind, Pastor Jules has been in a mug-making mood and has about 100 that she will be donating to shore up the Discretionary Fund that the pastors use to help the 'In Between' people, those who are between jobs, apartments, paychecks, cars, or even daily bread.

The Potter's Guild recommends mugs should be sold for \$30, material, time, design, feel, color, size, electricity, clay and glaze.

Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and finances to further the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ here at All Saints, Zion, and beyond.



OWLS

(Older Wiser Lutherans)

WOO? WOO? OWLS. Thats Right!

What: OWLS Lunch

When: May 15th @11:30

Where: Woodbury Machine Shed

IT WILL BE A HOOT!





GODLY GARDENING with Leah



Beginning on May 19th~We will begin getting our Godly Garden ready. Bring your work clothes, wellies and tools. Join me every Sunday, unless it is raining, after church to help clean, till, plant, weed and harvest in our garden

SEEDS *of* Faith



**Thank you Polly and Leah,
You did a fantastic job combining two
churches for Sunday School.**

Please take a moment to thank them.



SWEATSHIRT SALE! Now thru 5/19

New Apparel designs: Vest, Sweatshirts and Zip Up Hoodies

All go perfectly with a Minnesota summer: Cabins, Camping, Campfires, Coco, Coffee and All Saints Lutheran CHURCH!

Check out our website for more details

<https://www.allsaintscg.org/sweatshirts>

ORDER ON WEBSITE

* IN PERSON *

* FROM the OFFICE *

* ORDER ON WEBSITE *

So Many Sizes! So Many Options!
We have something for everyone.
The sizes range from 3 months (!!)
to 6XL depending on the product.
The T-Shirts also come in different fits (men's, women's etc) so be sure to pick out the fit you want.





youth

Flames and Games with Pastor Wes
Flames and games = Wednesday night youth group, 7-9pm, there will be games and there will be a bonfire.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

June

6/12- flames and games

6/19- flames and games

6/26- flames and games

6/30- Sunday Funday (Pride Parade)

July

7/10- flames and games

7/14- Sunday Funday

7/17- flames and games

7/24- flames and games

7/31- flames and games

August

8/5-8/8- Summer Servants week with Luther Memorial, service days on 5,6, 7, and Valleyfair on 8.

8/7- flames and games

8/14- flames and games



Game Night

PLAY