



The Grapevine



God's Purpose at ASLC is to welcome and accept everyone, improving their lives by embodying Christ's love.

Volume 21, Issue 4

Mission: To be a family of faith, empowered by God, to proclaim Jesus Christ.

April 2018



Pr. Joshua W. Gyson

He is risen. He is risen, indeed! Happy Easter All Saints!

I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for stepping up and helping us to meet our 2018 Spending Plan. A few weeks ago, Anthony Williams (representing the Mission Team) shared with us during a Temple Talk about how the giving in January was much lower than expected. Giving at that level just wasn't going to work for what we said we wanted to be and do this year. We needed to do something about it and quick!

His message was powerful. Through it, I think we all learned just what this congregation needs financially to continue on in our current capacity in mission. Remember...we are here *"to be a family of faith empowered by God to proclaim Jesus Christ."* Anthony's message reminded us of this, and of the importance of our ministry together, and the amazing impact we desire to continue to have in our community. Personally, I have listened to many people share, since this Temple Talk, about just how important our ministry is for themselves and our community.

I am happy to share with you that congregational giving has increased significantly; however, we are still operating with caution. We are coming very, very close to what we need to meet the 2018 Spending Plan. I think we are almost out of the weeds! I hope that we will return to the original Spending Plan this spring, which means making sure that we are supporting those who support us.

As I mentioned in a previous Grapevine Newsletter...the key to Stewardship is Awareness and Appreciation. These are two things that we definitely have here at All Saints! I thank you all for listening to our needs (awareness), demonstrating your gratefulness for our shared ministry (appreciation), and for stepping up in your discipleship of giving (stewardship). I thank you for helping us to get back on track. I thank you for supporting All Saints and our ministry together. You know...I think we might have experienced a little resurrection of our own recently. Thanks be to God.

Blessings,

Pr. Josh

and the Prez says . . .

By: Paul Oldenburg

The promise of the Resurrection is here. Jesus has risen from the dead to save us all. Alleluia!

I hope during Lent you were able to take time for self-reflection and prayer. The midweek services really helped to bring clarity to what the world needs, which is for us to seek the Face of Christ in others and for them to be able to see the Face of Christ in us. Thank you to all who participated in this enjoyable and moving Lenten Series.

For Christians, Easter is not just one day as the retail world would have you believe, but continues until Pentecost Sunday, which this year is May 20th. During this season, we have many exciting things going on including the Camp-In on April 13th, the Second Sunday meal and Autism Walk on April 15th, BIC training on April 21st, a youth gathering fundraising trip to Crystal Springs Preserve on April 22nd, a youth gathering Yoga Fundraiser on May 5th, and the Rite of Confirmation on May 13th, along with a Second Sunday Meal fundraiser to raise funds to send kids to camp.

Just like the excitement of Easter morning, our joy for doing ministry here at All Saints is also flourishing. Alleluia!

Peace,

Paul

On The Path through Easter

By Melanie Werner

Christ has risen!!! Alleluia!!!

We've journeyed through Lent and came out the other side to the celebration of Easter. Now what?

What do we do with this liberating gift? Will we let someone else touch a life by getting down and dirty or will we offer our hands and feet to serve those in need? Will we let our determination to stay on the straight and narrow blind us to those who may have been left behind or fallen off the path altogether? What do we do to show God that we love him as much as we are able? What did God do to show us his love for us?

He is risen indeed!!

YES! of America

YES! has just finished with our Spring Fling serving almost 100 for a community party this week at the All People's Life Center. Now mark your calendars for June 12th for our 6th Annual Senior Expo / Tea / Art show at the Lightfoot Senior Center in Temple Terrace.

We need vendors, attendees, and someone to make a few batches of scones from a recipe we will provide. Please let someone from YES! know that you want to bake for us. We would love to have some All Saints members participate in our senior enrichment event.

Please continue sewing sensitivity aprons for our vets, collecting bird seed, and providing small hygiene bottles. We can use almost anything you might want to share with others. Thank you...The YES! Team

Second Third Sunday Meal—Autism Walk

Join us for Bella's Butterflies Autism Walk and Fellowship Meal on the THIRD Sunday, **April 15th** after worship.

Baked Ziti is on the menu. Plus, we will have autism awareness merchandise for sale, followed by the walk around the church grounds. A free-will offering will be collected for the meal to provide Behavioral Therapy scholarships for kids in need.



Don't forget to submit pictures of friends or loved ones who are on the spectrum so they can be honored during our walk.

**Building an Inclusive Congregation Training
April 21st from 9 am to 3 pm**

One way we can be more inviting is to learn how to intentionally welcome all people to All Saints. This BIC Training workshop will provide the tools to empower us to create a grace-filled welcome to all who come through our doors. The cost is \$10 and includes lunch. Please sign up in the narthex.

Brown Bags

It cost about \$100 per week to pack 60 meal bags for the kids at A Brighter Community. The children in this preschool are living below the poverty level even though their parents are either working or going to school and these meals help the family immensely.

"These are all of our children. We will all profit or pay for whatever they become." - James Baldwin

Christian Social Services

Donations are generally down this time of year, making it tough to help those in need. You can assist those in need by bringing non-perishable food items and placing them in the bin in Malivuk Hall. Also save the date and volunteer to help with the annual Postal Carrier Food Drive on Saturday, May 12th.

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these, you did it for Me" (Matt. 25:40)

Free Little Pantry

The free little pantry provides an option outside of traditional pantries which run on limited hours and provide only food. Along with non-perishable food, this pantry also contains personal hygiene products and baby supplies such as diapers and wipes. What a great addition this is to all the wonderful things C.S.S. is already doing in our community.

Music Practice

The Adult Music Group practices every Thursdays at 7 pm in the sanctuary. There is no practice on April 5th.



The youth practice on April 15th after the Autism Walk and May 6th after Sunday School with pizza. The youth will sing in worship on May 13th.

Mission Team Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 11th at 7 pm.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the April Grapevine is Monday, April 16th.

Faith Formation

Infant to Age 5—Nursery

A short Sunday school lesson, art project and play time!

Kindergarten to Grade 5—Classroom 1

Spark Sunday School Curriculum

Students will hear a kid-friendly version of the same readings we learn about in worship.

Grades 6 to 8 Confirmation—Upstairs Youth Room

Faith Inkubators—Come explore the Old Testament with Anthony & Lindsay Williams

Adults—Malivuk Hall

The class will explore ELCA Social Statements, which are documents that assist us in thinking about and discussing social issues in the context of faith and life.

These educational opportunities are open to all and our hope is through Christian education you will have a closer relationship with God and a greater understanding of your faith.

Couples Bible Study

Join us for the **1st and 3rd Mondays in May and June** at 6:30 pm for a Couples Bible Study. The God of Scripture is always forming “covenants” with his creation. And, God is faithful to God’s covenants—even when we are not.

Join us as we look at how scripture informs the covenantal relationship model, and how the tools provided will help us to fill a deep need and find meaning and fulfillment together.

Wednesday Supper and Study

Returns April 18th at 6:30 pm

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Lenten Study: The Faces of Christ and helped to build our Free Little Pantry Mountain on the Altar. It is important to seek out the face of Christ in others, especially those in need.

Now that Lent is over, we return to our Wednesday Supper and Study on April 18th at 6:30 pm. Please bring a potluck item to share for the meal. We will continue our study of the Gospel of Mark. Please read chapter 8 before the study.

Deacon Continuing Education

Monday, April 23rd at 6:30 pm

Is there any real historical evidence to prove that the man, Jesus of Nazareth, really walked the face of the earth?

This class will look at the latest evidence and arguments presented for and against the Historical Jesus concept, especially, the historical facts of Jesus in Literature. Is this just another attempt to convince people that Jesus really existed so that they will believe? How does proof, or lack thereof, impact how we view our faith?

This class is for Synod Parish Deacons as part of their continuing education, but is open to anyone interested in discussing the topic.

Worship Time is 9:47 am

Acolyte: 4/8: Jackson Kamp. 4/15: Mackenzie Gyson. 4/22: Aaliyah Caynor. 4/29: Keller Gyson.

Altar Guild: **Set-up:** Ben and Kaye High. **Clean-Up:** April 8 & 15: Ilse Corydon and Trudy Heselton. April 22 & 29: Brenda Schwarzkopf and Maureen Sherman.

Assisting Minister: April 8 & 15: Rob Sabatini. April 22 & 29: Anthony Williams.

Lectors: 4/8: Sophie Thomas. 4/15: Sue Hickman. 4/22: Carol Sanderson. 4/29: Bruce Emberton.

Crucifer: April 8 & 15: David Sticklin. April 22 & 29: Cindy Kamp.

Ushers: The Moore and Williams Families

Tellers: Maxine Hiltbrand and Rob Sabatini.

Greeters: April 8 & 15: Bob Sticklin. April 22 & 29: Jim Donegan.

Communion Bread: Joan Morris.

~ ~ ENABLERS ~ ~

ELCA Youth Gathering Fundraisers

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be a Prayer Partner for the Gathering participants.

We had a very successful Baby Photo Contest. Sophie Thomas was voted the cutest baby and Joy Malivuk matched the most pictures with the correct name. \$300 was raised for the Gathering.



There is still time to RSVP for the fundraiser at Crystal Springs Preserve on Earth Day, Sunday, April 22nd from 2:30 to 5 pm. All ages are welcome. The cost is \$5 per person and you must RSVP with Anne to attend. See the brochure in the narthex for more info.

****NEW—Yoga Fundraiser****

Come get your Yoga on with Tina Breede! She will be leading a Yoga Fundraiser on **May 5th** at 10:30 am for all ages in in Malivuk Hall. A free-will offering will be received to benefit the youth gathering group going to Houston this summer. Please wear comfortable clothes, bring yoga mats or a towel, and a water bottle to stay hydrated.

A Library for A Brighter Community

We are starting a library at ABC!! We are in need of gently used pre-school aged books and someone handy who can help install the shelves. Our goal is to have the library up and running by summer.

Please see Anthony or Lindsay Williams if you would like to help with this exciting project.

Bags for the Homeless

Have you ever seen someone at a stoplight with a sign asking for food but had no cash or anything in your car to give them? The confirmation kids have decided to pack ready to hand out bags that you can keep in your car and they need your help with packing the bags on Sunday, **April 15th**. You are welcome to come help us with this project.

Camping-In at All Saints

Ever thought about camping at Luther Springs, but the idea of packing up the car and driving that far seems daunting? Join us on Friday, April 13th. You can bring your own tent and sleep outside, bring bedding to sleep inside, or just come and enjoy the evening and go home to sleep in your own bed.

We'll provide hot dogs to cook over the fire and the fixings for banana boats for dessert. Please sign up in the narthex and bring a dish to share. Come on out and enjoy the great Florida weather before it gets too hot!

**Share the Faith Fair
May 20th after Worship**

Invite your friends and neighbors to join you for a very special Pentecost Sunday Worship Service. Then after worship, join in the church picnic outside under the pavilion. Bring a main meal item to grill and a dish to share along with drinks, chairs and outdoor games. We will have a water slide for the young or young at heart. This is a great opportunity for you to share the great things going on at All Saints!

Game Night—Save the Date

Join us after the last day of school on Friday, May 25th for a game night celebration! We will have dinner and play board games.

Save the date now and we will have more details on this great event for the entire family soon!

**Book Club
June 8th at 6:30 pm**

For our next book club event, we will be reading Manhattan Beach by Jennifer Egan. It is a coming-of-age story of a young girl in New York City during World War II. It's about family, feminism, and the American spirit, with a gangster tale woven in.

We will be having pulled pork, as the main meal item. Please bring beverages and a side to share.

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace.

We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, differently-abled or anything that too often divides us.

Our unity is in Christ.

It's Tax Time!

2018 means significant changes to tax laws. As a member of All Saints, I want to share one with you that I hope you will consider using this next year...it's a good one, for you and for the church. It's called the "The IRA-to-Charity Break", and it can help with your planning for this tax year.

Individuals age 70.5 and older can transfer as much as \$100,000 annually from their traditional IRAs directly to charity. If married, you and your spouse can both take advantage of this giving opportunity. The charitable transfers count as all or part of your required minimum distribution. But unlike other payouts, you are not taxed on them and they are not added to your adjusted gross income. Not only did the new tax law keep this tax-saver, but its usefulness increased!

Important Details: When filling out your 1040 you should include the total amount of distributions shown on Form 1099-R on line 15a of the 1040. Then subtract the amount that was transferred directly to charity and report the remainder...even if it is \$0...on line 15b. Write "QCD" next to line 15b so IRS knows why the numbers don't match. People using Form 1040A should follow the same procedures on lines 11a and 11b. Don't double dip. You can't take a charitable write-off for the IRA donation.

I hope this helps you and the church.

Blessing, Pastor Josh



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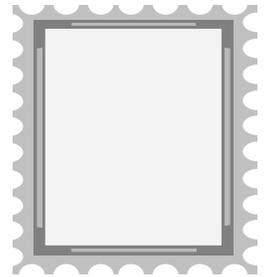
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Mission Team

Pastor:	Joshua Gyson
President:	Paul Oldenburg
V President:	Cindy Kamp
Secretary:	Nicole Aiello
Treasurer:	Anne Sylvester
Emma Brown	Larry Bryant
Larry Hickman	Heidi Lacko
Rob Sabatini	Anthony Williams

Donation Options

- ♥ Sunday Offering Plate
- ♥ On-Line Banking
- ♥ Use the "Give" option on our website



Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month!