



The Grapevine



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

Volume 21, Issue 8

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

August 2018



Pr. Joshua W. Gyson

Every church has a few things that it does really well. At All Saints, I think one of those things is our Christian Education and in particular Wednesday Evening's **Supper & Study**. If you haven't yet been, this **Supper & Study** is an inter-generational event, and it is unique! We are both on the cutting edge of ministry in the modern world AND in many ways practicing how the church met when it was just developing.

As a family of faith we join together in meal at 6:30 pm, sharing stories from our lives over a potluck. At 7 pm we then dive into Holy Scripture. You may ask, "Do the children leave when we start to talk about the important stuff?" Here at All Saints . . . definitely not! As a faith community we share with each other our questions and discuss the importance of Christianity in our lives . . . we spend time in the Bible and the stories as a family of faith should. And then as we wrap up, about 8 pm, we circle around and share in Holy Communion. It's always at that point my heart fills with gratitude that God has brought us together for the evening to be fed with Word and Meal(s).

If you have never been to the **Supper & Study**, or it's been a long time since your last participation in Christian Education, I am inviting you to join us this fall. Our first fall session is on Wednesday, August 22. It starts at 6:30 pm. Bring a potluck dish; I know that there is a family recipe that you like to show off! And remember that there is no prep work needed. For the fall we are studying "The Women in the Bible," and I promise that the topics will be fascinating and challenging.

Our ministry of **Supper & Study** at All Saints really is something that we ought to be excited to experience and show off . . . because God is doing something unique and important here! In Christ's name, it is a shining ministry for our community. I hope to see you there and invite a friend or two . . . as always #AllAreWelcome.

Blessings,

Pr. Josh

and the Prez says . . .

By: Paul Oldenburg

Summertime makes you think of lazy days, sitting back drinking lemonade (or something else) with no agenda or plans. We all need a respite from time to time and I hope you found some time to do just that.

While much of our regular programming such as Sunday school and Wednesday Night Supper and Study went on hiatus, we did add some very big and exciting events to our calendar.

The Luther Springs Day Camp was full with 16 kids. A third of those were visitors. The middle schoolers participated in some great educational and service field trips.

We offered Vacation Bible School this year during the day instead of the evening, and it was an all day event to make it easier for working parents. We had 32 campers, 20 of which were visitors! What a great way to witness to our community!

All of these great events would not have been a success without the support of the congregation both in volunteer time and financial support.

The fun doesn't end now that summer is coming to a close. Now that you have recharged, check out the inside of the newsletter for the many great events coming up this fall, and try picking something new to participate in this fall. There are so many great things we had to add an extra page!

Peace,

Paul

A Light on the Path

By Melanie Werner

As many of you may already be aware, Courtney Noya will be spending the next year in Tlaxcala, Mexico as part of the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program. She will be working at a short-term migrant shelter doing various tasks from cooking, to sharing meals, to pretty much anything else that needs to be done. But her main purpose is accompaniment. She will spend her time there welcoming the stranger, meeting their needs, listening to their stories, and hopefully sending them out knowing that God is with them on their journey.

And ultimately, isn't that what we all want, to know that God is near. What better way for us and for other to experience God's presence than to put ourselves out there in the world, especially with those that the world generally looks down upon as not being worthy, and letting them know that we care and that God loves them and is with them. It is a transformative experience!

Courtney's last Sunday is August 5th. Please take time to let her know that she is also being accompanied by each and every one of us as she continues to discern God's call for her life.

Brown Bags

Thank you so much for the extra support over the summer months while the kids were out of school. It took a lot of generous gifts to buy the food, generous hands to pack all those bags, and generous hearts (and backs!) to deliver all those bags each week. While the numbers are lower the need is still there for the preschool age kids who remain at A Brighter Community. These bags genuinely help the family and the kids make ends meet.

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

A Library for A Brighter Community

Help is needed to install the shelves and we need new or gently used pre-school aged books. If you are interested in helping with this project, please see Pastor Josh.

Meals on Wheels



MOW is a private non-profit community organization that provides hot nutritious meals on weekdays to the elderly and homebound. Volunteers are needed to deliver a route in their own vehicle which takes about an hour. Drop off is between 10 am and 1 pm depending on location. If you would like to help, please visit www.MOWTampa.org and click the green Volunteer button or call (813) 238-8410 to get started!

Christian Social Services

It is almost back to school time and without your help, many kids will go back to school without the necessary supplies to help them learn. For just \$10, you can supply a child with a backpack filled with everything they need. If you would like to help, please make check payable to Christian Social Services. Thank You!

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

YES! of America

YES!!!, you are a part of the mission of YES! of America as you share things like hygiene products, paper products, bird seed, quilts from the quilters and donations from the congregation and of course volunteering for various YES! events throughout the year.



So, what is next on the YES calendar? We have the ADA 28th celebration at the County Center, Disability Awareness Day with the Bradenton Marauders Baseball team, the Self Reliance health fair, back to school outreaches, and a fundraiser event called "At The King's Table" with Hidden Treasures Ministries on August 25th.

All this before the biggest event for us, the 11th Annual YES! F.A.I.R. on October 6th, this year featuring a country theme. The Lord has put YES! on a path to make positive change, enrich individuals lives, and break down barriers for his children regardless of abilities or a disability. We hope you will join us. Thank you for being a part of this continuous outreach, and for your donations to support the goals of YES!. What part of YES! would you like to participate in? Talk to us!

The YES Team

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. Please place donations in the barrel in Malivuk Hall.

Mission Team Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 8th at 7 pm.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the September Grapevine is Monday, August 13th.

Faith Formation

While Sunday School classes stopped over the summer, Faith Formation opportunities were still plentiful. We had an incredible Day Camp and an amazing turn out for our fun-filled Vacation Bible School. There were also educational opportunities for adults through the Deacon Continuing Education class where we learned about Homiletics, as well as the wrap-up of the Couples Bible study.

Faith Formation is important to our congregation. It is how we grow in our faith and in our community together as the Body of Christ. We'd like to invite more people to be involved so we can further expand and enhance these learning classes. Now is the time of year that we turn our attention to fall programming and we would like to have some new ideas to further enhance our programming.

Sunday School returns on August 26th immediately following worship. There is a place for everyone from infant to adult. Nursery age to Pre-K will be in the nursery where they will hear a Bible study and have coloring time. Kindergarten through 5th grade will be in Classroom 1, learning to connect what they heard in worship with their everyday lives. Those in grade 6 to 8 will participate in confirmation class upstairs in the youth room. High School student will meet in the sanctuary and hear how the Bible Stories connect with real life stories in the here and now. Adults will meet in Malivuk Hall.

Keep reading this newsletter for other opportunities for education through our Wednesday Night Supper and Study as well as Deacons in Training Classes and Synod Parish Deacon Continuing Education opportunities which are generally open to anyone who is interested in the topic.

Wednesday Supper and Study Returns August 22nd at 6:30 pm

Wednesday evenings begin with a pot-luck meal at 6:30 pm. This can be home-made or store-bought on your way to church. Dinner is followed by the study at 7 pm. This fall we will look at the stories and roles of women in the Bible. It is easy to overlook the stories about women who witnessed in some fierce and fearless ways. The study is followed by Communion. Please join us for what will certainly be an interesting Bible study!

Music Notes



Thank you to everyone who provided special music over the summer. We do have some amazingly talented people in our congregation and we are so blessed that they share those talents with us.

It is soon time to return to our fall schedule. Please keep an eye on upcoming bulletins for start dates for the youth and adult music groups. This is a great time to get involved. If you would like to participate, please see Marcia Greensfelder.

Worship Time is 9:47 am

Acolyte: August 5: Mackenzie Gyson. August 12: Jackson Kamp. August 19: Keller Gyson. August 26: Aaliyah Caynor.

Altar Guild: Set-up: August: Ben and Kaye High. Clean-Up: August 5 & 12: Brenda Schwarzkopf and Maureen Sherman. August 19 & 26: Erin Brown and Cindy Kamp.

Assisting Minister: August 5 & 12: Rob Sabatini. August 19 & 26: Anthony Williams.

Lectors: 8/5: Andy Malivuk. 8/12: David Sticklin. 8/19: Duncan Engel. 8/26: David Walkowiak.

Crucifer: August 5 & 12: Trudy Heselton. August 19 & 26: Mackenzie Gyson.

Ushers: The Walkowiak/Williams Families.

Tellers: Ilse Corydon and Liza Stewart.

Greeters: August 5 & 12: David Sticklin. August 19 & 26: Paul Lunseth

Communion Bread: Lisa Stewart.

Communion Wine: Vi Ficarrota.

~ ~ ENABLERS ~ ~

Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM)

By Courtney Noya

This past April, I was fortunate enough to be accepted into the ELCA’s Young Adults in Global Mission program and just a few weeks ago I learned I would be serving my year in Apizaco/Tlaxcala, Mexico. I will be working in a short-term migrant shelter helping the migrants who are traveling through Mexico along the tracks of a train referred to as La Bestia.

There are two main ways to support me in this exciting year ahead: 1) Spiritually! I am grateful for all thoughts and prayers and I encourage you to read my blog: <https://theeucharistandthe stranger.wordpress.com/> You can sign up to receive email notifications every time I post and the first blog is already up! 2) Financially! It costs the ELCA ~\$15,000 per YAGM and there are over 75 of us this year. I am trying to do my part and raise \$5,000 to help offset the costs.

My current fundraiser is to sponsor my calendar dates. For a \$15 donation minimum, you can pick a day on my calendar to receive a personal email from me explaining how my mission work is going and I will also set aside time to be in prayerful consideration of you as well. For every \$10 over the original \$15, you will receive extra days. You can access my donation site here: <http://support.elca.org/goto/courtneynoya> or go to the “Support” page on my blog.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of my mission work. Working in Guatemala with the I AM ART program has been a life-changing experience and I expect Mexico to be equally powerful. I couldn’t do it without such a compassionate home congregation to support me.

Stewardship

Stewardship is as easy as 1, 2, 3, 4. I know we usually stop with the number 3, but we are going with 4 here for a very important reason. Our Stewardship Emphasis this year will focus on Luke 12:34—*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* We all know this verse, right? Or do we? Does your heart follow the treasure or does the treasure follow the heart? You will be hearing more on this soon so pay attention, and let’s count to four together.

Blessing of the Backpacks

A return to school is right around the corner for our students and teachers. What a great time to honor and bless them as they return to their studies! On Sunday, August 12th, please bring your backpacks, school bags, briefcases, etc. to church for a blessing during the Children’s Sermon. New year, new beginnings, and new blessings as we pray for our students, teachers and school staff.

**Deacons in Training Class
August 15th at 6:30 pm**

Over the summer, the Deacons in Training have been working their way through the Book of Concord. We will take time to see where everyone is at and determine our next step forward in the process. If you are interested in becoming a Synod Parish Deacon, please speak to Pastor Josh.

Birthday Celebration

You are invited to join us in celebrating Vi Ficarrota who turns 90 this month. On August 19th after worship we will have a catered Greek lunch in the hall and birthday cake, of course! Please no gifts, but if you have a story to share, we would love to hear it. Please sign up in the narthex if you plan to attend so we can properly plan for food. Thank you!

**Synod Parish Deacon Continuing Education
August 20th at 6:30 pm**

This class on Grace and Repentance will challenge what we think we know about what it truly means to repent. Classes are for the purpose of education so anyone interested in this topic is welcome to attend.

**Retreat for Synod Parish Deacons
and Deacons in Training
August 25 from 9 am until Noon**

What makes being a Synod Parish Deacon different from being a Lay Member? We will talk about this during our retreat which will begin a re-visioning process, looking at the past and working toward what we are going to do over the next couple of years. Attendance is very important as this also counts as your deacon annual review.

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.

Book Club

September 14th at 6:30 pm



Please bring a side dish and your favorite beverages and join us for pulled pork at Marcia Greensfelder's home.

Once we are done eating we will discuss Sherman Alexie's You Don't Have to Say You Love Me, a deeply moving memoir about family, love, loss, and forgiveness while growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation.

And, we will discuss Manhattan Beach, by Jennifer Egan. This book is an exploration of a transformative moment in the lives and identities of women and men, of America and the world.

God's Work, Our Hands Day

September 8th is God's Work, Our Hands Day. Please consider joining in as we travel to beautiful Luther Springs to participate in a plethora of volunteer opportunities with other Lutheran churches!

For those interested in staying on-site, accommodations include motel-style rooms, bunkhouses, and campsites to satisfy all types of campers, but reservations need to be made early. Contact Marcia Greensfelder for more info.

Luther Springs Camping!

September 28 to 30 is our All Saints campout! We'll spend time in worship, service, and fellowship, along with fun around the campfire, canoeing, swimming, archery and the challenge course. Sit back and enjoy the sunrise, sunset, rocking on the porch and cooking over the fire, melty s'mores and tasty banana boats.

There is another event going on at Luther Springs that week-end, so please let Marcia Greensfelder know soon if you are interested so we can go ahead and arrangement for accommodations which include motel-style rooms, bunkhouses, and campsites to satisfy all types of campers.

Help Needed

Assistance is needed in keeping our church grounds looking their best. A schedule has been posted in the narthex for mowing. We have a riding mower onsite, and just need people to sign up on the board in the narthex.

We are also looking for people to run the Audio/Video for Sunday worship. Pastor Josh will do the training, so please let him know if you are interested in helping.

Luther Springs Day Camp Thank You

This Changes Everything was the theme of this year's camp, and it was most certainly true. Our kids had a great time and learned so much about how God works through them to show God's grace and love to the world. Our middle school campers lived out the theme with daily service field trips including serving meals at Faith Café, to sorting food to be distributed to local area food pantries through Feeding Tampa Bay. These were such transformative experiences that the youth were immediately asking when they could return to serve these organizations again.

Thank you to the congregation for generously supporting this ministry with financial assistance for scholarship and camp supplies, and to those who drove our youth on field trips everyday. We could not have done it without you!

Vacation Bible School Thank You

Changes were made to VBS this year, from Pr. Josh writing the Fire and Rain curriculum instead of using the one everyone in town is also using, to changing it from a two hour evening event to a six hour day time event. And, boy did we get a huge response. We created a logo, put the information out on our sign and website and the calls started coming in.

So much so, that we were a little concerned that we would have enough drivers for our planned field trip on Wednesday, but people stepped up and we had about 50 campers, parents, siblings, and drivers at Crystal Springs for the day.

This congregation is known for stepping up when there is a need, and that happened again for this event big time. When 20 of the 32 participants were visitors, it took many hands, many hour of planning, and your financial support to make this ministry such a huge success. Thank You!

ELCA Youth Gathering Thank You

The Gathering participants had an amazing time in Houston. It was an incredible experience and it was inspiring to hear their stories in worship from touring the ELCA ministry booths seeing how God is working through our church, to the service project helping out at a school, to listening to the awesome speakers who shared stores of overcoming adversity at the nightly gathering. Without your prayers and financial support, this experience would not have been possible.

Thank you from Anna, Emma, Marcia, Anne and Sophie!

Fellowship

We are looking for Fellowship and service event ideas for the fall that would span all age ranges, from intergenerational, to kids, to youth, and adult only events. Please call or email your ideas to Cindy Kamp so we can begin to plan for the fall.

10 Uses of Used Tea Bags

In our continued search for ways and reasons to recycle, we present ten uses for used teabags:

1. Rub used pre-brewed tea bags against your hands. This will remove the scent of garlic, onions, ginger, and even fish!
2. Add warm water to the used leaf tea bag and soak your feet. The warm water and the remaining components in the dried leaves can neutralize bad odors and soften calluses.
3. Place cooled steeped bags on sunburns and minor burns (including razor burn) for relief. If the majority of your skin needs tending, brew a tea bath and submerge yourself in the cooled-off water.
4. Apply used tea bags to rashes and insect bites to ease itching.
5. Rinsing hair with a cup of tea can make it shiny and easier to manage. Do this only if you've got darker hair, though; tea can temporarily dye light hairs.
6. Heal cuts and bruises faster by pressing a used tea bag against the affected area and apply pressure for several minutes.
7. If you use tea bags in your soil or compost pile, the acid in the tea can speed up the decomposition process of other things in the compost bin, which means you can use the compost faster.
8. Worms can safely consume tea leaves. Once they digest the leaves, they produce a more "nutrient-rich fertilizer output," making your soil healthier for growing plants.
9. Tea bags help with water retention: Bury your tea bags near the root of your plants, flowers and veggies to help the plants retain more water and stay healthier.
10. Tea bags help keep weeds at bay: When buried in the garden, they can help impede the growth of weeds.



5315 Van Dyke Rd
Lutz, FL 33558

Office: (813) 963-0969

www.allsaintstampa.org

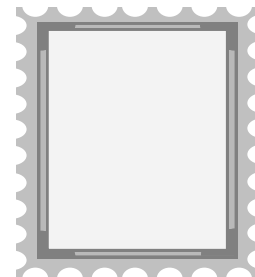
PastorJosh@allsaintstampa.org
office@allsaintstampa.org

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!