



The Grapevine



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

Volume 22, Issue 8

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

August 2019



Pr. Joshua W. Gyson

and the Prez says . . .

By: Nicole Aiello

Do you remember the good ole days of Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, or going to Church Camp and the Church Picnic? Goofing off with your friends, all the while learning about the Good News of Jesus Christ. Eating snacks. Getting into trouble and learning what grace is really all about? I know that I do, they are some favorite memories in my life!

It's quite amazing just how much fun a good teacher can make learning. We think it's a wonder that our kids learn anything sometimes, and then one day...boom! They say something so theologically profound, and we smile ear to ear knowing for a fact that Jesus is getting through to them.

It's like this at most Churches, I hope. And at All Saints it is just part of life. Our children this summer are living proof of it. They have been so involved learning about Jesus, while having fun with each other and building community. The teenagers, too, stepping up to help (that Christian education obviously got through to them!). And the adults, too...sharing with the next generation just why Jesus is so important in our lives.

We've seen so much of this here at All Saints recently. This summer was filled with a lot of Christian faith formation opportunities, and this fall is not going to be any different...except for the fact that there will be more of it all! I'd like to invite you to come and join in on the fun.

On Sundays this fall: The elementary age kids are going to be learning the basic stories of our faith; you know those stories that define how we understand the world as Christians. The middle schoolers and high schoolers are going to be learning about real life people, places, and events that bring our faith and everyday life together. The adults are going to be delving into the Holy Scripture for the day (hopefully critiquing the pastor's sermon and talking about just how the text for the day really applies to our real lives).

On Wednesdays this fall: The Supper & Study is back on! We will be discussing Church History, and if you even start to think that might be boring...you are in for a real treat. Church History is as dramatic as it gets! Just what has the Church understood as it's purpose for the world, throughout our 2000-year history? Are we doing what we are supposed to as the Church, today? If these questions even begin to interest you (and they should, I pray), then come and find out some more. Our study group is intergenerational, and everybody is welcome! You don't need to be an expert and there won't be any homework. I promise.

I believe that the whole reason we do faith formation is for the purpose of becoming the people that God wants us to be. That means always learning and growing. I hope that you will join us (children of all ages) for the fun and education experiences of Faith Formation at All Saints this fall. And I

From the Pastor continued on Page 2

As we return from summer vacations and reflect on the adventures we had, I would like to share a moving story.

This year at Vacation Bible School, there was a child who had never been to church. He came in with very talkative and overflowing with an abundance of mischievous energy.

We embraced him and taught him like he was one of our own. Even though it did not seem like he was always listening, the lessons were sinking in. He told his mom what he had learned, that Jesus was always with us, watching and loving us. He proclaimed to his parents that he was now Lutheran and wanted to start coming to worship services. He became very upset when he found out that he would be unable to attend worship the next Sunday.

Just by being a welcoming and loving church, we have changed this boy's life. We were able to share God's love for everyone with him, giving him the best experience to learn and grow in God's love.

I am sure he is not first, and I know for sure that he will not be the last.

Nicole

From the Pastor continued from Page 1

pray that together we will again rekindle the good ole days of being community in the name of Jesus Christ...because that isn't just a thing of the past. It's as alive and well as it gets here at All Saints, but we need you to prove it. Come goof off with us and share in the joy of the Gospel!

Thanks for humoring me and getting this far...

God Bless,
Pastor Josh

A Brighter Community

Thank you to everyone who helped over the summer when we had so many extra brown bag lunch bags to do for each week. Thank you also to those who donated books for the ABC library. What a great VBS Fundraising idea!

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

Back on the Path

By Melanie Werner

Summer will be turning into Autumn. Children are gearing up for school vacations are now memories, the summer hiatus is done. All Saints hasn't been on hiatus. Our children, especially, have been busy with VBS and Day Camp this summer. Sometimes it seems that they out-number the adults in the congregation. The weekly pictures on Facebook bring to life the notices of our mission activities that are announced in our bulletins and newsletters. Those pictures aren't just a reminder of what we've been doing, but a call out to each one of us to share in our ministry by participating and spreading our mission with others. Children are our future. But that doesn't mean that the adults get to sit back on our laurels. We are all children of God and It takes all of us to be God's hands. Come, worship, participate and have fun. Welcome back!

Christian Social Services

Thank you to everyone who chipped in for our "Undies" Sunday for C.S.S. We know it was short notice and next year we will get the information out sooner. The new socks and underwear will be given to kids when they pick up backpacks filled with school supplies. They will also have an opportunity to shop for two outfits from the thrift store.

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

Meals On Wheels Needs Drivers

Meals on Wheels are always looking for volunteers to deliver meals to people in need. You let Meals on Wheels know when and how often you can volunteer and then they do the rest. Meals are delivered Monday-Friday around lunchtime, and you can pick locations and days that work best for you! Routes take about an hour and a half to complete, and turn by turn directions are provided. Volunteer drivers use their own vehicles and gas, must be 18 years old or older, complete a volunteer application, and attend a short orientation. Please visit www.MOWTampa.org/volunteer or call (813) 238-8410 to find out more information.

Free Little Pantry

As it did last summer, we are expecting the number of people using the pantry will increase once kids are out of school for the summer. It is a time when families have more difficulty making ends meet.

Please continue to place donations in the barrel in Malivuk Hall, so we can ensure there is a full pantry throughout the summer months.

YES! of America

YES will have some great volunteer opportunities before and during their 12th Annual YES! F.A.I.R. (Family Abilities Information Rally), requiring a variety of different skill sets, interests, and availability. Be on the look out for ways you might be able to help.

The F.A.I.R. is Saturday, October 5th from 10 am to 3 pm at the All People's Life Center. 6105 E. Sligh Avenue, Tampa. The theme is "Looking Beyond Disability", which includes a wonderful showcase for resources, referrals, opportunities, and information.

For more information or to see how you can help, contact Craig Forsell at questions-yesofamericaunited@gmail.com.

Mission Team Meeting

With the summer months, we are on a bit of a different schedule. Our next meeting is Tuesday, August 20th at 7 pm in the conference room. Starting in September, we should be back to meeting on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 pm.

Newsletter Deadline

Some changes are coming to our newsletter, including a switch to every other month. And, we will also be adding some new things you'll want to check out.

The deadline for the September/October Grapevine is Monday, August 19th.

Backpack Blessing

Bring your backpacks for a blessing during the Children's Sermon on Sunday, **August 11th**.



The Backpack Blessing is a time for us to ask God's blessing on all students, teachers, and staff. Each day as they head off to school, carrying their bags wherever they go, we ask God to go with them as well. As they open their bags, we ask that their hearts and minds be opened to the newness of each day. When their bags get heavy, we ask for God's strength. When their bags are light, we hope they find joy in all that they have accomplished. As they close their bags at the end of the day, we pray that they might use the knowledge they have gained to give God glory.

**Deacon Continuing Ed Class
August 13th at 6:30 pm**

The meeting on Tuesday, **August 13th** at 6:30 pm is to report on the findings of our external assessments of our core ministries based on the Accompaniment Model of Ministry.

The Annual Retreat for all Synod Parish Deacons is **October 15th** at 6:30 pm.

The Commissioning of our new Synod Parish Deacons will be during worship on **November 3rd**.

ELCA Youth Gathering 2021!

It seems like the last group just got back from Houston and it is already time for a new group to begin fundraising for Minneapolis in 2021!

A meeting for those who will be going into 9th grade through graduating 12th grade in 2021 who are interested in attending the Gathering, will be held on **August 11th** during the Second Sunday meal. Parents are invited too! Marcia Greensfelder will host the meeting.



There will be a Car Wash and Detailing in the church parking lot on **August 25** after church. Please see us to get a sparkling clean car, inside and out!

Musical Notes



The adult group will begin weekly Thursday practices starting on **September 5th** at 7:30 pm. The youth practices will return on **September 15th and 29th** after Faith Formation Sunday School with pizza. On the 29th we will be talking about parts for the Youth Christmas

**First Communion Class
Saturday, September 21st at 10 am**

Pastor Josh will hold a first communion class for all children taking communion for the first time or for those who would just like their children to participate in a refresher class.



Enablers for Worship

Acolyte: August 4: Seannah McCarty. August 11: Emma Gyson. August 18: Aishlyn McCarty. August 25: Keller Gyson.

Altar Guild: Set-up: August 4 & 11: Cindy Kamp. August 18 & 25: Donna Bryant. Clean-Up: August 4 & 11: Erin Brown and Anne Sylvester. August 18 & 25: Brenda Schwarzkopf and Maureen Sherman.

Assisting Minister: August 4 & 11: Bob Sticklin. August 18 & 25: Mackenzie Gyson.

Lectors: 8/4: Melanie Werner. 8/11: Craig Forsell. 8/18: Scott Harris. 8/25: Erin Brown.

Crucifer: August 4 & 11: Duncan Engel. August 18 & 25: Cindy Kamp.

Ushers: August 4 & 11: Adam Blair, Gary Blair, Larry Bryant and Stuart Krell.

Projector: 8/4: Judy Callan. 8/11: David Sticklin. 8/18: Anthony Williams. 8/25: Paul Lunseth.

Tellers: Ilse Corydon and Liza Stewart.

Greeters: August 4 & 11: Kathy Miller. August 18 & 25: John Prox.

Communion Bread: Cindy Kamp.

Communion Wine: Don and Trudy Heselton.

~ ~ ENABLERS ~ ~

Second Sunday Meal in August

Join us after worship on Sunday, **August 11th** for a Lasagna meal to raise funds for confirmation camp at Luther Springs, scheduled for the week of October 18—20. During the meal, youth interested in attending the 2021 Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, along with their parents, will be having a fund-raising planning meeting. Younger youth are invited to participate in B.L.A.S.T. Youth Worship with Pastor Josh.

B.L.A.S.T. Youth Worship

Pastor Josh will lead Bible Learning and Sharing Time (B.L.A.S.T.) youth oriented worship in the sanctuary after the kids are done eating the Second Sunday meal on **August 11th**.

Amazing (G)Race

On Sunday, **August 18th** after worship, you are invited to participate in the Amazing (G)Race. Teams will follow clues to local destinations and “race” to be the first team back to church with all clues completed. Each team will need at least one driver. Last time, everyone had an amazing time, so come check it out and join in on the fun!

Wednesday Night Supper and Study

Our Wednesday Night Supper and Study returns on **August 21st**, starting with a potluck meal at 6:30 pm. We will be talking about church history, from Jesus to today. These inter-generational studies and discussions are both informative and lively. Be sure to make plans to attend!

Confirmation Welcome and Overview

This year we have made some exciting new changes to our Confirmation program for middle school youth. All students and their parents are invited to come learn more about the new program on Sunday, **August 25th** after worship.

Free Dental Clinic

Christian Social Services and Mission Smiles Mobile Dental Clinic will be holding a free Dental Clinic at the First United Methodist Church (6209 Land O Lakes Blvd.) on **August 24th** starting at 7 am. You must call C.S.S. at 813-995-0088 to be placed on the appointment list and you must meet financial requirements and have no dental insurance. Please feel free to pass this along to anyone for whom free dental care may be a blessing.

Quilters

The Quilting Bees met through the summer and had a lot of fun and made a lot of quilts! They plan to continue to keep the momentum going during the fall. They meet every Wednesday at 9 am and wrap up with coffee and nibbles around noon. They really do have jobs that anyone can do, regardless of your skill level, and they can provide guidance if needed. You are encouraged to come check it out!

Faith Formation Sunday School

Pastor Josh’s newsletter article talked all about our plans for Faith Formation Sunday school in 2019/2020. We hope you are inspired by all these great opportunities to come participate starting on Sunday, **September 15th** after worship. Classes are for all ages from infants to adults.

First Aid and CPR Classes

Classes will be held at All Saints in Malivuk Hall on **September 30th**, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 for First Aid OR CPR. If you take both classes, the cost is \$60. And a discount will be offered for those taking both classes if we get enough people signed up, so be sure to share this with anyone you think may be interested. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Narthex soon. Got Questions? Ask Marcia Greensfelder for more information.

Book Club

For our next book club, we’ll be reading The Lost Book of the Grail by Charlie Lovett. It is about an obsessive bibliophile's quest through time to discover a missing manuscript, the unknown history of an English Cathedral, and the secret of the Holy Grail. We will meet on Saturday, **October 26th** at 6:30 pm at the home of Richard and Sandra Odle and start with a potluck meal followed by the discussion.



All Saints’ Camping Week-end!

On the weekend of **November 15th to 17th**, we will be camping at Luther Springs! Motel style rooms, bunkhouses, and tent sites will be available. Join in on the fellowship, worship, fun, and good food!

More details will be coming, but we are sharing this information now so you can save the date. For questions, please talk to Marcia Greensfelder.

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.

Hurricane Season

By Donna Bryant

Hurricane season runs until the end of November, with September usually being one of the busiest months. Is your hurricane kit ready and up to date? Does your family have a plan in place? Are your trees trimmed away from windows and shingles?

Don't wait until the warnings are out and the shelves for water are empty. Watch for sales and coupons for batteries for flashlights and radios. Purchase ready to eat soups and canned meats, etc, when they are on special and a little at a time so as not to wreck the budget all at once. If they are not used by the end of hurricane season, they can be a much appreciated donation to a local non-profit that feeds the hungry.

It is also an important time to check your first aid kit for any depleted supplies. Make sure you have an ample supply of everything you need should you become injured and are unable to receive medical care immediately.

As a native Floridian, this is part of spring for me. When a warning is announced and everyone is scrambling to find water and paying full price for whatever supplies they can find, I am watching them on the news and praying for the safety of all who are in harms way.

Don't forget to share your hurricane plan with your loved ones and encourage them to prepare now.



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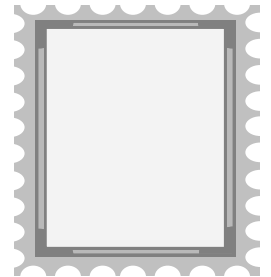
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Mission Team

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

Donation Options

- ♥ Sunday Offering Plate
- ♥ On-Line Banking



Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month!