



The Grapevine

All Saints Lutheran Church ELCA

September 2020



The mission of All Saints Lutheran Church is to gather all people in a community immersed in God's Word through worship and learning that equips us to serve the world in the name of Jesus.

Dear Saints,

I pray that you are well and settling into this new life courtesy of the pandemic. I hope you are finding new ways to adapt so that you may continue to connect with family and friends. I am amazed at the creativity that the pandemic has produced. It has hastened change in mainline denominations across the board. Did you ever imagine that worship services would happen on digital platforms as a matter of course? I never thought that synod assemblies would happen this way either. But this is our life and our new reality. If we pay close attention to the Book of Ecclesiastes, the "Royal Philosopher" is quite clear: "What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun. Is there a thing of which it is said, 'See, this is new'? It has already been, in the ages before us." (1:9) Hmm, there is nothing new under the sun. This pandemic feels new to us in this age, simply because it is new to our experience. No pastor in active ministry has pastored in a pandemic. In fact, some of my recently retired colleagues express relief and a fair amount of joy because they are "retired." Newly ordained pastors-in-formation (interns) and seasoned pastors are collaborating in creative ways to do the work of ministry. I believe this is part of the "new thing" that the prophet Isaiah encourages us to perceive.

I am an Oblate of the Order of St. Benedict. It means I am associated with Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, Indiana. I have pledged to live in accordance with the Rule of St. Benedict, which means I have committed myself to a way of life that prefers Christ to none else. I am not a sister or nun. I have not taken monastic vows. I am a monastic in the world within my vocation as a pastor and as I seek to live in community with others and the world. The Rule of St. Benedict is not a list of "dos and don'ts" as we would think about them in common parlance, but it is a guideline for how we live out our vertical relationship with God as well as our horizontal relationships with each other as children of God.

Pre-pandemic, each November, I would sojourn in Indiana at my annual Oblate retreat, a week of worship, service and deep contemplation. This year that retreat has been compressed and we will do it digitally. Oblates have been asked to read *How to Live: What the Rule of St. Benedict Teaches Us About Happiness, Meaning and Community* by fellow Oblate Judith Valente. This book is timely, as it was written in 2018. Valente reminded me that "everything old is new again." St. Benedict, the cornerstone of Western monasticism, lived in a time that was marked by just as much societal unrest and upheaval as we are experiencing today. What drove this young wealthy man of his time? Like Paul, his solitary quest was to know nothing apart from Christ and him crucified. Long story bearable: after a while, it didn't work. While solitude opens a pathway to the mystery of our Sibling and Savior, Christ is also relational and found in community among us mere mortals. We learn together. We live together, we love together in order to become the people who can live with God. In short, we need each other. God set it up that way.

There is an old story about a young person on a walk who saw a monastery. The grounds were bucolic and pastoral, just as one would imagine. They* could not help but feel a sense of serenity and calm. They happened upon a meandering monk, walking at an unhurried pace. They approached and asked, "What do you do in a monastery? What goes on there?" The monk looked at them with soulful eyes full of purpose and said, "We fall down and rise. We fall down and rise again."

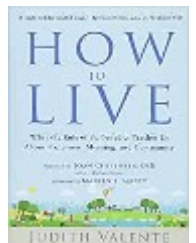
In humility we fall down. In grace we rise. We learn this lesson early in life as we begin to walk. Notice how many times toddlers fall only to rise again. They don't quit because they've taken a tumble. The Christian walk is filled with ups and downs, fallings and risings. In all of it, God is our constant. How sad is it that we forget this early life lesson? Perhaps this is the reason God places us in community, so that we can learn this lesson afresh together.

I invite you to get this book. Let's read it together! Let's talk about it. It's a fast read with great questions for reflection and discussion. If you would like to know more about St. Benedict and the Rule, email me at pastorshannon@allsaintsbowie.org or show up at the "Chat, Chew and Check-in" on Wednesdays. It has much to say to us during these turbulent times, particularly as we move toward the presidential election. These next two months will be self-revelatory for everyone. We will fall and rise, many, many times. Each time we fall or fail, may we access God's grace and humility to rise more agile and loving, powered by Christ's resurrection. Above all, remember that though much may change in our lives, God's love for you is steadfast and immovable.

May we look to God, see Christ in each other and let our actions be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Angela Shannon

The use of "they" is intentional in the story about the monastery. The younger pastors and those in formation are teaching me how to use non-binary language. Bear with me, please. Thanks!



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Like and follow us on Facebook

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301-249-6300

Email: pastorshannon@allsaintsbowie.org

2020 Council & Ministry Leadership Officers

President: Mark Steiner

Vice President: Alyson Jacobson

Secretary: Angela Sichelman

Treasurer: Donita Johnson

Financial Secretary: Austin DeMarco

Gather Ministry

Council Liaison: Diane Hampton

Fellowship Team: Mark Steiner

Youth:

Worship Ministry

Council Liaison: Uzoma Ariguzo

Worship/Music Team: Melissa Steiner

Learn Ministry

Council Liaison: Walter Knausenberger

Adult Learn Team: Walter Knausenberger

Youth Learn Team: Alyson Jacobson

Serve Ministry

Council Liaison: Mark Cunningham

Serve Team: Liz Muller

E-team: Emily DeMarco

Support

Council Liaison: Art Lohsen

Budget and Finance: Eric Davis

Property Management: Larry Floor

Stewardship: Diane Hampton

Congregational Committees

Council Liaison:

Governance:

Mission Endowment: Kim Watson

Memorials: Louise Waynant

Mutual Ministry: Kay Schwandt

Scholarship: Roz Kleffman

Please keep the church leadership in your prayers and join them in the mission and ministries of All Saints. You may call them to serve on their teams. The next Congregation Council Meeting is on Wednesday, September 16, at 7:00 pm on Zoom.

President's Perspective

The Tree

In our backyard, right next to our deck, was a big old oak tree. It was 2 – 3 feet in diameter and oh, so tall! Its mighty and wide branches provided shade for our yard so we could sit in coolness protected from the hot sun. It housed many nests for birds as well as nests for their archenemies, the squirrels. How the squirrels loved to skitter across its branches and torture our dog Mina by throwing acorns at her, and often at us, too.

This spring, we noticed that the bulk of the branches were not growing leaves. Some were, but many were no longer viable, and instead of providing beauty and shelter, they were dead. Instead of a vibrant, living tree, they were potential dangers that could fall and cause damage, even injury, or worse.

In order to keep a safe and beautiful yard, that tree had to come down. It had lived a good life, but it was time for new growth to replace it. I miss it – it was so big at the corner of the deck that it felt like going onto the deck was escaping to a different place. But with it gone, the deck is even more integrated into our yard. From it we can see the new plants with their own beauty in the place of the old tree. It was a hard decision to bring down that tree.

It's hard to keep focused on God's calling to reach out to those who need to know of God's love and not just focus on the people we know. It's hard to focus on being creative with the new opportunities we have and not cling tightly to things that worked in the past. This would have been a year of change even without the pandemic, and, despite the pandemic, we are becoming a new people in a new "place." We will not go back into the building (whenever that is) as the same congregation we were in the beginning of 2020.

As we move forward in this year of pandemic and change, let's keep God's call in mind. This church – All Saints – is not ours: it is God's gift to us. It is not a monument to past glories; it is a home to welcome the needy (all of us) into God's grace and loving arms.

Commit yourself to helping us see what we can become as God's people doing God's redeeming work in this time and this place.

Faithfully serving Christ with you,

Mark Steiner



**All Saints Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Meeting Summary
August 19, 2020 at 7:00 pm (via Zoom)**

- 1) Opening Prayer
- 2) Reflection (30 minutes) – *Future Faith* (chapters 1 and 2) led by Walter Knausenberger. Next month Uzoma Ariguzo will lead the discussion of chapters 3 and 4.
- 3) Attendance
Present: Walter Knausenberger, Pastor Angela Shannon, Mark Steiner, Alyson Jacobson, Angela Sichelman, Donita Johnson, Austin DeMarco, Diane Hampton, Uzoma Ariguzo, Art Lohsen, Fred Wentland, Kay Schwandt, and Sven Allenbach-Schmidt
Absent: Mark Cunningham
- 4) Approval of July Council minutes (correction to Breasia report)- approved by Council
- 5) Reports
 - a) Pastor- report submitted
 - b) President – report submitted
- Church Council expectations document will be shared with Council members
 - c) Financial Secretary- report submitted
 - d) Treasurer – report submitted (*see page 13*)
 - i) PPP status
 - ii) Search for replacement for 2021
 - e) Ministry Teams
 - i) Mutual Ministry
 - (1) Debbie Ariguzo and Eloise “Scotti” Scott have accepted the invitation to be members of the committee.
 - (a) Mutual Ministry Team will determine the term situation for compliance with the Constitution.
 - (2) Kay Schwandt from the Mutual Ministry team explained the need for a mediator. A motion was made by Angela Sichelman to cover mediation costs up to \$1,000. Alyson Jacobson seconded the motion. After discussion the votes were 6 yes, 1 no, 1 abstentions. The motion was carried.
 - ii) Committees- report submitted
 - iii) Gather- Committee has not met. Diane Hampton will shift from Committees to Gather
 - iv) Worship- report submitted
 - v) Learn- no report submitted
 - vi) Support- report submitted, Mark gave an update on Breasia’s progress.
 - vii) Care for Creation- The team has expressed a desire to include this ministry when considering “God’s Work, Our Hands.”

- viii) Serve- report submitted by Liz
- f) Ad Hoc Teams
 - i) Digital Strategy Team- The team has met about four times already. Uzoma Ariguzo shared the vision and progress of the new website, including a demo of the “wire-frame” site that he and John Summerlot have been developing.
 - ii) Funding Task Force- Hand-written “thank you” notes have been sent to those who have contributed above their estimate of giving.
 - iii) Governance Team- see Committees’ report
 - iv) Reintegration Team- have had an initial meeting
- 6) Old Business (*parking lot for later consideration – see list at end of agenda*)
 - a) Insurance - Art has shared several emails with Council and is in the process of finalizing his report to be submitted to Council
 - i) Comprehensive review of insurance (Support – Art Lohsen)
 - ii) Council “Directors and Officers” coverage
 - b) Requirement for fire-proof storage in church for hard-copy Parish Register (Support) Art is still looking into this.
 - c) Continue to serve as polling location in November 2020? No status as of now.
- 7) New Business
 - a) New Council member to fill Shirley’s term (expires at the end of this year) Give recommendations to Alyson; Diane requested and Council approved transitioning Diane to the Gather Ministry team, so the new Councilmember will pick up Committees Liaison responsibilities.
 - b) Need new lead for Fellowship Ministry Planning Team
 - c) Audit Committee: See Committees’ report
 - i) Replace Shirley Braxton (to join Dave Conrad) Give recommendations to Alyson
 - ii) Will also need a third member to meet Constitutional requirements
 - iii) Council will consider an external audit, especially with transition to a new Treasurer in the near future, to protect both current and new Treasurer.
 - d) Serve: (Tabled until next meeting)
 - i) We will not host Warm Nights guests in November as CCSI will continue with hotel housing through November. Consider year-end monetary contribution to CCSI.

Next meeting – September 16, 2020

Closing Prayer

Respectfully Submitted by Angela Sichelman, Council Secretary (** All reports are available upon request)

(See Treasurer’s report on page 13)

Serve Team

Continuing Impact of the Pandemic on our Serve Ministries

Rise Against Hunger As relayed to you last month, we will not be hosting an annual "God's Work. Our Hands" Rise Against Hunger event this month due to our continued virtual ministry operation. Each year the Lenten offerings garnered from both ASLC and Grace Lutheran Church are used to fund our meal-packaging. The contributions received this year are insufficient to purchase the minimum 10,000 meals for a packaging, but those monies will be carried over to next year as seed money to fund one or two 2021 RAH events. In the meantime, Rise Against Hunger would be very grateful for any individual donations this year to help them address the need among millions around the world suffering from food insecurity. If you are able to assist, you may contribute directly to the organization by going to RiseAgainstHunger.org. Alternatively, a Rise Against Hunger option has been added to the ASLC Simply Giving platform as well as to the mobile app, so anyone can give that way. Those who would prefer to write a check to All Saints should designate it for "Rise Against Hunger."

Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry At its August meeting, the Food Pantry board reached major decisions regarding its fall and winter operation that will impact the means by which the Saints can support the Pantry for the remainder of the year.

Weekly Operation: As long as the Pantry needs to limit building access to essential staff and maintain its outdoor receiving and delivery system, hours of operation will remain those adopted this summer: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:00-11:00 for donation collection and 9:00-11:00 for food distribution to clients. Beginning in mid-October the twice-monthly Tuesday evening hours will be suspended as it becomes too dark outside to conduct an outdoor operation safely; special accommodations will be made for those few clients unable to visit the Pantry during weekday morning hours of operation.

Holiday Gift Baskets: In lieu of distributing Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets to its eligible clients, the Pantry will present them with a \$50. gift card to either Aldi or Giant for each holiday.

Adopt a Family for Christmas: Because of the pantry's limited staff and building use restrictions during the pandemic, the pantry will also suspend its Adopt a Family for Christmas program this year. Target gift cards will be given to each client family to purchase toys for their children.

Implications for ASLC: Needless to say, we can continue to drop off food donations to the Pantry at any time during their regular operation hours. If you do not routinely do so, consider developing a weekly or monthly donation habit. A list of all food items the Pantry stocks is on the website (bowiefoodpantry.org); there you can also access the newsletter which provides updated information regarding the number of clients served and the value of the food distributed each month. Contributing to the Pantry's holiday food baskets and purchasing Christmas gifts for the Adopt a Family program have been a joyful, "hands-on" means for the Saints to support area families in need. This year, however, we need to share our love more remotely--either by making a monetary donation to the Pantry or contributing \$50 Aldi or Giant gift cards or \$25 Target gift cards. Monetary donations can be mailed directly to the pantry, 2614 Kenhill Drive, Bowie MD 20715, or processed online, either via our ASLC Simply Giving fund designation option or the Pantry's website.

Warm Nights CCSI recently announced their decision to continue their hotel setting housing of the homeless at least through November. That means we will not be planning for another Warm Nights hosting in our building at least until next spring. While we are saddened, we are also relieved. We have been very concerned about assuring the safety of everyone involved if we did host and securing the assistance of a sufficient number of volunteers, among the Saints and among all our community partners, who would feel comfortable taking the risk during this pandemic.

Implications for ASLC: CCSI's decision to extend their current hotel-based operation means that there is a continued, urgent need for the types of congregational assistance we have described in this newsletter for the past several months. For your convenience, we have once again enclosed a description of those donation options. PLEASE consider how you can support the Warm Nights program this fall and winter through contributing one or more of the following:

Non Perishable Foods (individual serving-size packaging is preferable)

Juice boxes

Individual cereal packets

Snacks (popcorn, chips, cookies, crackers, raisins, nuts, etc.)

Yogurt

Applesauce

Non-refrigerated milk

Baby food

Peanut butter /jelly
 Canned fruits/vegetables/beans/soups/meats
 Pasta and spaghetti sauce
 Rice

Cleaning Supplies:

Disinfectant sprays and wipes, bleach, spray bottle cleaning solutions
 Hand sanitizer, 60% alcohol or higher
 Hand soap
 Isopropyl alcohol
 Dish detergent
 Latex gloves (large)
 Facial tissues, paper towels
 Laundry pods, dryer sheets, fabric softener

Clothing Items (new request):

Men's and women's sweats: tops and bottoms, all adult sizes
 Women's underwear and T-shirts: sizes Small-XXL
 Men's boxer briefs and T-shirts: sizes Med.-XXXL

Gift Cards

Smartrip Metro Cards	Grocery Stores
Walmart	Visa
Target	Uber/Lyft
Fast Food Restaurants	



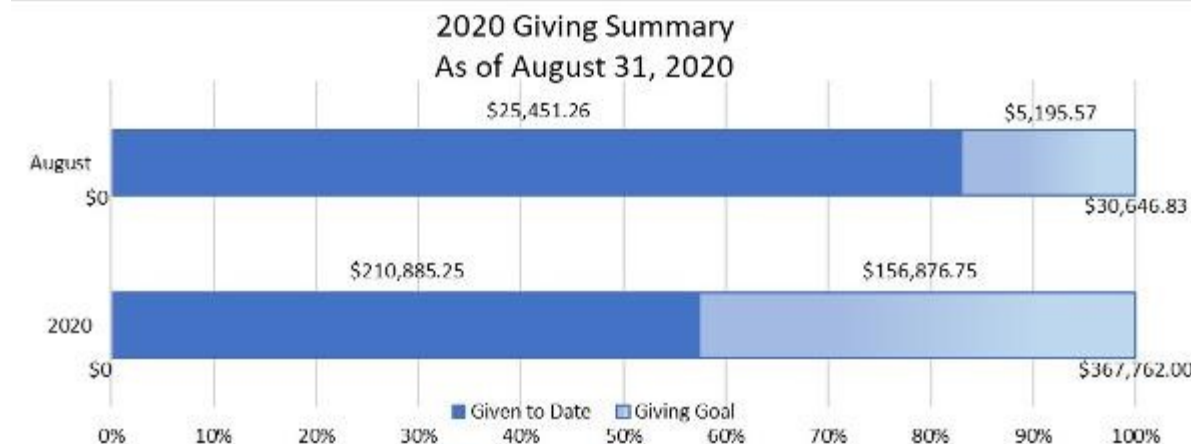
**WARM
NIGHTS**

If you are able to contribute some of the above items, please contact Mr. Dimes (Nated@ccsimd.org or 301-864-7095x427) to arrange a no-contact drop-off time and location. Alternatively, you can have your donated supplies shipped directly to Nathan Dimes, Community Crisis Services, 4316 Farragut St., Hyattsville, MD 20781. Monetary contributions (make payable to Community Crisis Services) and gift card donations can be sent to the same address.

Prepared Lunches Donation Options

1. Contact one of the restaurants in the same local area as the Warm Nights temporary residence site and inform them that you would like to donate meals for the Prince George's County Warm Nights Homeless Services program. (*See the August Grapevine or weekly bulletin for more details on this option.*)
2. Donate pre-prepared lunch bags with sandwiches (lunch meat or peanut butter and jelly), chips, and bottled water.
3. Donate \$5.00 gift cards from a restaurant of your choice.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Nathan Dimes (Nated@ccsimd.org or 301-864-7095x427). Thank you.



tinyurl.com/giveaslc

In the month of August, All Saints members and guests contributed \$25,451.26 toward the 2020 spending plan. This is \$5,195.57 short of our monthly goal of \$30,646.83.

To date this year, All Saints members and guests have contributed \$210,885.25 toward the 2020 spending plan. This is \$34,289.42 short of the \$245,174.67 anticipated by this point in the year to reach our goal of \$367,762.00.

Devotion Book in 2020



The annual All Saints Lutheran Church Devotional Booklet that is part of our preparation for Consecration Sunday will be all virtual this year. Verse selection happened during August, utilizing SignUpGenius for the writers to indicate their choice of verse. The Devotional Booklets, assembled in PDF form, will be delivered via Google Group in time to begin reading on Sunday, September 27. In the Devotional Booklet, writers will be sharing their insights and prayers on the 2020 Consecration Sunday theme, *“Let Your Generosity get Out of Hand.”* Consecration Sunday will be October 18.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Every Sunday from 10 am to 10:50 am, the Adult Bible study class will be held via Zoom. The class will study the current week's lectionary readings, as found in the bulletin sent out every week prior to service. No materials are needed other than a Bible and/or the bulletin. Bring your Sunday breakfast and hot beverage of choice to learn a bit about the background and context of the week's readings. Just click on the link below and follow the prompts on your computer or smartphone. If you don't have either, you can use the Germantown phone number listed below to participate using your land line phone. Any questions, please contact the class facilitator Sven Allenbach-Schmidt. (See page 14 of the bulletin for the readings for next Sunday.)

All Saints Lutheran Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81265831091?pwd=endSWW1CRIRVRUFjdVp4bTZOekpVQT09>

Meeting ID: 812 6583 1091 Password: 023260

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,81265831091#,,,0#,,023260# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 812 6583 1091 Password: 023260

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR

We will continue our Zoom social/coffee hours at least through August. Please join us after worship at noon on Zoom to catch up with our church family:

Time:

September 6, 2020 12:00 PM

September 13, 2020 12:00 PM

September 20, 2020 12:00 PM

September 27, 2020 12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/519818162>

Meeting ID: 519 818 162

Dial-in info:

+1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 519 818 162



ASLC Women's Book Group to Meet on September 12

The ASLC Women's Book Group will meet on Saturday morning, September 12, when we will gather at 9:00 via Zoom to discuss *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes. Reviewers state, "Set in Depression-era America, *The Giver of Stars* is a breathtaking story of five extraordinary women and their remarkable journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond. It is based on a true story rooted in America's past, and is unparalleled in its scope and epic in its storytelling. Funny, heartbreaking, and enthralling, it is a richly rewarding novel of women's friendship, true love, and what happens when we reach beyond our grasp for the great beyond."

Emily Summerlot will host the meeting, and Louise Waynant will lead the discussion. Please remember that all are welcome, whether you have read the book or would like to learn more about it. Friends and family members are welcome to join the discussion as well.

Mark your calendars now for our October session which will be held on Saturday, October 10, via Zoom, when we will discuss *Ordinary Grace*, by William Kent Krueger. Liz Muller and Joan Hoff will lead the discussion.

All Saints Lutheran Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.



Topic: Women's Book Club

Time: Sep 12, 2020 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82023643321?pwd=V2daZkZZc2UxY295L0lhbE90UnNiQT09>

Meeting ID: 820 2364 3321

Passcode: 291136

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,82023643321#,,,,,0#,,291136# US (Germantown)

+19292056099,,82023643321#,,,,,0#,,291136# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 820 2364 3321

Passcode: 291136

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82023643321?pwd=V2daZkZZc2UxY295L0lhbE90UnNiQT09>

Tuesday Morning ASLC Bible Study

We will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 8 at 10 am. We will resume our study of the our study of Luther's Large Catechism. The study is called "Connections: Living Faithfully." The Large Catechism is Luther's manual on living as a Christian or person of faith through a Lutheran lens. Make sure you invite family and friends. We will start the meeting sharing joys and concerns and prayer and then begin our study. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/574562283?pwd=WHkvVEkvZlpYb3Z4RW1oU1V3RExzQT09>.

The Meeting ID is 574 562 283 and the Password is 006492.

For phone access call +1 301 715 8592.

Here is the link to the study "Connections: Living Faithfully": <https://www.wartburgseminary.edu/download/connections-resource/>



ASLC LIVING-WELL cancer SUPPORT GROUP is now meeting virtually every Saturday morning at 10. To join in please email, call or text Deb Ariguzo with your preferred email to receive the meeting invite. No worries if a computer is not handy as you can phone in and join!



Worship and Music Ministry Team Planning Next Meeting

The next meeting of the **Worship and Music Team** will be held on Saturday, September 19, via zoom. We will meet at 9:00 am for socializing, and discussion will begin at 9:10 am. There are always new ideas being shared regarding our worship services. Please join us if you are able. All are welcome!

To join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86048967533?pwd=UzFVSytLdy9KQXpIRG9rZFBncjZ2UT09>

Meeting ID: 860 4896 7533

Passcode: 623597

Dial in: 301 715 8592



Choir Rehearsal Resumes on September 14 on Zoom

Fall choir practice resumes on Monday, September, 14, 2020 from 7 pm to 7:30 pm on Zoom.

Topic: All Saints Choir Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4010865887?pwd=cGM1Tk5ObU1hVnhjY1ZhZlp4WkxjUT09>

Meeting ID: 401 086 5887

Passcode: 2Nk33p



Choir Rehearsal

Worship
with us
from
HOME

Join Our Live Stream Worship Service Every Sunday at 11 am

Check for the link each week on our website

www.allsaintsbowie.org

Now you can listen to worship on the phone!

Find out details on our website.



Highlights of Worship and Music Ministry Team Planning Meeting August 8, 2020

Expressions of Gratitude: Participants expressed heartfelt appreciation to Hyojin for all she has done to provide outstanding music for the Saints and to the Tech Team for their excellent, faithful collaboration in making live-streamed worship available to all. Special appreciation was extended to Pastor Shannon for guiding the Saints faithfully through very challenging times.



Pastor's Report and Discussion: Pastor Shannon expressed gratitude for the outstanding contributions of the Saints in providing live-streamed worship each week. She thanked the "Saintly Mail Saints" who have volunteered to deliver bulletins and pastoral letters to the Saints who have limited access to technology. Pastor Shannon offered special appreciation for the essential work Jean Reams, Administrative Assistant, provides and for their daily contact that ensures coordination of activities.

Pastor Shannon emphasized that the Gospel tilts toward justice and love; therefore, it is important for faith communities to commit to social justice, and stand against egregious wrongs.

During Pastor Shannon's "stay-cation" in the final two weeks of August, the Rev. Lenny Duncan will provide a recorded sermon for the service on August 23, and the Rev. Tamika Jancewicz will preach and lead worship on August 30. The Rev. Ray Ranker will preside at contactless communion on August 23.

Report from Director of Music, Dr. Hyojin Ahn: Hyojin thanked all who helped to make each Sunday's music special and offered several recommendations.

- Invite the choir and any others who may be interested to participate in a weekly Zoom gathering on Monday evenings to plan for the Sunday ahead, offer recommendations for future services, and sing together.
- Contact families to encourage children and youth to participate in musical offerings.
- Offer virtual "hymn sings" on some Sunday afternoons.
Offer flexibility with the placement of special music within services.

Reflections on July Worship, Future Plans, and Outdoor Eucharist:

- All services were well planned and faithfully offered.
Live-streamed worship using the current format and liturgy will continue throughout the season of Pentecost.
Outdoor eucharist will be offered on the fourth Sunday of each month.

Additional Reports: Updates from Council Liaison Uzoma Ariguzo and Host Coordinator Norma Allenbach-Schmidt were gratefully received.

Involving Children and Youth in Worship Services: Melissa will send a message via the All Saints Families website encouraging parents to contact her or Pastor Shannon if they would be willing to have their children participate in a children's sermon or a musical selection, via Zoom. Youth will be invited to present vocal and instrumental music

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Worship and Music Team will be held on Saturday, September 19, from 9:00-11:00. via Zoom. The meeting agenda will include planning for Reformation Sunday, Interfaith Thanksgiving worship, Advent, and Christmas. All are welcome!

Availability of Meeting Summary: If you would like to have a copy of the full meeting summary, please contact Team Leader Melissa Steiner.

Outdoor Contactless Communion - Sign-up

We will be having a monthly Outdoor Contactless Communion on the fourth Sunday of each month from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm in twenty-minute intervals of twelve people per interval. If you plan to participate, watch the bulletin for the link to the Sign-up Genius to schedule a time to come. Remember to wear your masks out of love for each other.



The next date for Communion is September 27 from 1- 3 pm .

Due to state and county regulations, we are limiting the number of people for each time slot to twelve people. It is important that when you make your reservation, you include every person who will be in your vehicle.

Just Grace Committee News

We stand at a pivotal moment in this country. Violence and racial terror still target Black Americans, most recently (as of this writing) Jacob Blake in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Systemic racism still denies minorities the same opportunities as their privileged neighbors. But the national conversation continues to address racial injustice throughout the country.

We must keep that conversation going, must not stop repeating the names of those murdered without hope of justice, and must continue to educate ourselves and others on the truths and lasting impact of institutional racism in this country, from slavery to the modern day.

To that end, the Just Grace Facebook page (facebook.com/JustGraceAllSaints) this month will highlight resources--podcasts, articles, videos, books--that offer insights into institutional and systemic racism, contemporary and historical, and the struggles and experiences of African Americans in the United States.

Empathy and understanding are crucial components of healing and reconciliation. These conversations may be difficult, may be painful, but they are so important to bringing about a brighter future for all people.

**JUST
gRACE**



**ASLC Care for
Creation Bulletin**
*“Look at how beautiful
we can be!”*
Late August 2020

Next page:
New “Pollinator Pillars” or
Ladders...

Left:
North Woods paths
looking east, towards sheds

Highlights of ASLC Care for Creation (C4C) Organizational Meeting 2, Aug. 18, 2020

Attending (online via Google Meet): Debbie Ariguzo, Mark Brown, Janice Knausenberger, Walter Knausenberger, Patricia McCartney, John (Schu) Schumacher, Jim Sichelman, John Summerlot.

The Care for Creation (C4C) Team is an extension of the Green Team (aka Earthcare), which was started about 2009, and has always been self-organized. It is an ad hoc committee, not a formal ministry. C4C intends to include most other ministry areas of the church. It operates principally within the Property Team. We reviewed the notes from our first formal C4C meeting on Feb. 1, 2020 with a quick summary update. Our progress has been strongly affected by the COVID-19 limitations since mid-March 2020.

Spring Cleaning, Earth Day. We held three Spring Cleaning Saturdays in late April/early May, with 15-16 people coming out to assist. A special Earth Day 2020 edition of the *Grapevine* was produced in April. Every month since, a page has been devoted to C4C images of our grounds: "How Beautiful We Can Be!"

Beekeeping. While we are still establishing the need for permits and related insurance and safety provisions, the decision to install one or two hives was postponed until Spring 2021. The Ministry Endowment Fund (MEF) provided a grant in response to a proposal submitted in January 2020 on behalf of Ale Saints. All this will be considered within the "master planning" for C4C.

Pollinators. The "Pollinator Paradise" has flourished despite minimal weeding (since Spring Cleaning), and the Pollinator "Pillars" have been expanded to include one new one. A new flower bed has been established beside the Choir Director's parking space. The two rain gardens persist but could use some more TLC. Myriad pollinator insects and birds frequent these spaces. We have also had neighboring families visit the flowering spaces!

Care for Creation Temple Talk(s): We plan at least one 2-3 minute pre-recorded video segment pertinent to C4C activities and faith life. The first target date is "*God's Work. Our Hands*" Sunday, Sept. 13, 2020.

Wholy Foods. We will consider locations and pros and cons of installing our existing compost bin near the two existing sheds. We will use existing green cuttings and grass clippings. We hope to encourage members of the congregation to bring compostable materials to the Sept. 27 Contactless Outdoor Communion.

Lawn Care Teamwork: The Lawn Care Team (part of the Property Team) schedule was organized via a spreadsheet for 2020 by Mark Steiner. The team has been rather quiescent since the first cutting in late April (by Chase and Rachel Fahrner and Mark Brown). Since then, Walter Knausenberger and John Michael (Schu) Schumacher have been undertaking equipment upkeep and lawn and grounds maintenance. At the August 18 meeting, *Schu was nominated to the role of organizing the team; he accepted the nomination and expressed the desire to promote Fellowship as core to its function.* Thanks, Schu!



North Woods Paths Now Open: Some very basic cleaning of the woods' informal network of paths and the edges near the parking lot has been undertaken by Wayne Bossler, Mark Brown and Walter Knausenberger. We resolved to step up this task and to undertake mapping of the paths. We would like to upgrade the paths into proper walkways, perhaps mulching some parts with wood chips from the existing piles of branches throughout the woods, using a rented wood chipper.

Fall clean-up: We established the likely best dates for organized fall grounds clean-up: Saturdays, Oct. 17 and 24 and/or Nov. 7 and 14.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020. Full meeting minutes can be obtained from Walter Knausenberger.





Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Office of the President

14 August 2020

Rev. Angela Shannon
[REDACTED]

Dear Pastor Shannon,

Annually the Alumni Board of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago confers the seminary's Distinguished Alumni Awards upon individuals whose commitment to Jesus Christ and partnership in ministry have been exemplary. It is my great joy and delight to officially inform you that you have been selected as the recipient of a 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award.

This year we will be honoring four distinguished alumni in different categories during our virtual LSTC Homecoming 2020, 14-15 October. We are delighted to honor you with the **Called to Lead Award** which celebrates your ministry of leadership within the greater church.

This year's recipients include:

- The Emerging Voice Award – Rev. Kyle Severson
- The Specialized Ministry Award – Rev. Cherlyne Beck
- The Lifetime Achievement Award – Rev. Troy Hendrick

We wish to honor you at the Alumni Awards virtual celebration on Thursday, 15 October 2020.

We will be in touch shortly to confirm your acceptance and discuss how we envision the virtual ceremony. In the meantime, please contact Jessica Houston, Advancement Events and Programs Manager, by email jhouston@lstc.edu or by phone at 773-844-0293 if you have any questions.

We will request personal information and documents that our communications team will use to promote homecoming and to highlight you and the others in The Epistle magazine and on social media. This includes your resume/curriculum vitae and several digital photos. Please look for an email about how to send us this information during the week of 10 August.

I am delighted you were chosen for this honor and look forward to celebrating you in October.

Sincerely,

James Nieman, PhD
President

CALLED INTO THE WORLD

Pastor's "Chat, Chew and Check-in"

Pastor's "Chat, Chew and Check-in" has been a great time to catch up with everyone and to see each other's smiling faces. Everyone is invited to Zoom in each Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The conversation has been insightful, informative and just plain fun. This is not an obligation or just one more thing to do. If no one shows by 10:15 am, Pastor Shannon will close the Zoom room.

Topic: Pastor Shannon's "Chat, Chew & Check-in"

Time: This is a recurring meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3058237537?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3058237537?pwd=U2JDak1TM3R5dU9nd3g1UkFuZENIQOT09)

[pwd=U2JDak1TM3R5dU9nd3g1UkFuZENIQOT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3058237537?pwd=U2JDak1TM3R5dU9nd3g1UkFuZENIQOT09)

Meeting ID: 305 823 7537 Password: 532586

One tap mobile +13017158592,,3058237537#,,1#,532586#
US (Germantown)

The Happiest of September Birthdays

Alyson Jacobson
Jeff Jacobson
Erin Mikey Schumacher
Bryce Fahrner
Cheryl Hollar
Melissa Bitter
Alice Lentz
Ashley Powers
Richard Stanford III
Stephen Roberts
Joseph Carrigan
John Greenawalt
Mike Schumacher
Sarah Jacobson



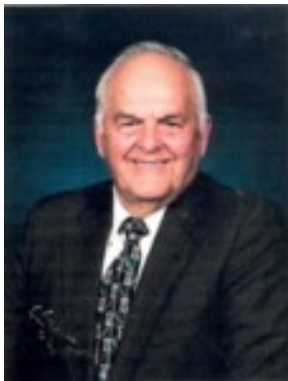
Financial Report for July 2020

July income received for spending plan - \$27,357.29
Monthly income needed for spending plan - \$30,646.83
Year-to-date income received for spending plan - \$185,602.02
Year-to-date income needed for spending plan - \$214,527.81
Income received to date is at 86.5% of spending plan.
Total July income (plan & designated) - \$28,008.76
Year-to-date income (budget & non-budget) - \$197,048.61

Spending plan expenses for July - \$26,161.29

Spending plan expenses year-to-date - \$194,730.97

Beloved Saint has Died



We have received word that Mark D. Kahler died on August 30. A graveside service is scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2020 at 1:45 pm at Maryland Veteran's Cemetery, Cheltenham, Maryland. Robert E. Evans Funeral Home has handled the arrangements.

We say of him as was said of Abraham in Genesis 25
"Then Abraham breathed his last and died at a good old age, an old man and full of years; and he was gathered to his people."

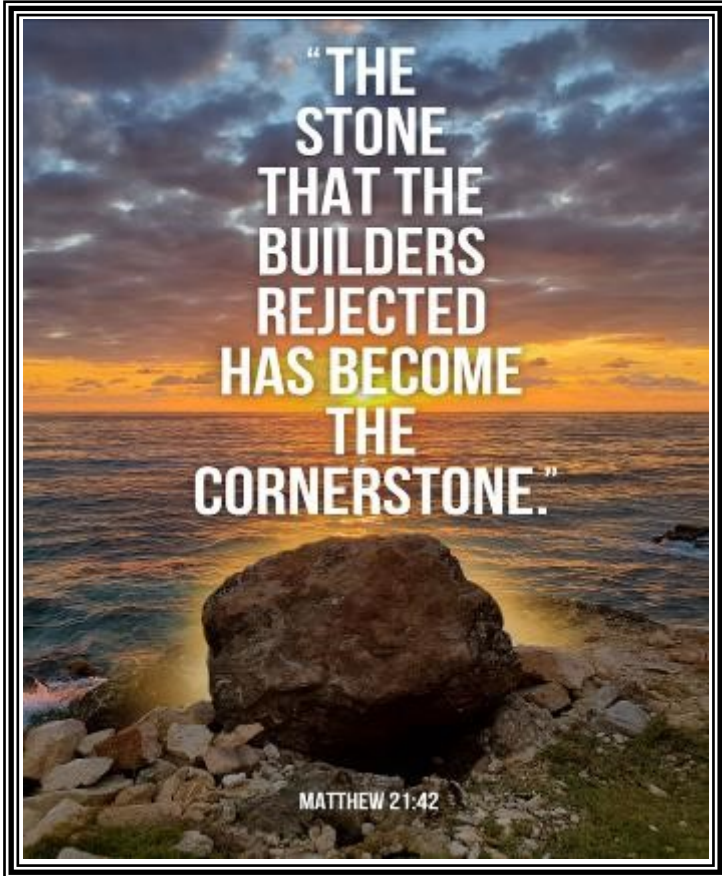
*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*

Please email prayer requests to
church@allsaintsbowie.org



Pastor: Rev. Angela Shannon
Admin. Assistant: Jean Reams

All Saints Lutheran Church
16510 Mt. Oak Road
Bowie, MD 20716



NOTICE!!!
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Email articles for the
October 2020
Grapevine newsletter to
the church office
church@allsaintsbowie.org
by September 22

Thank you to all who contribute
their helping hands
in making this newsletter possible.