



The Grapevine

All Saints Lutheran Church ELCA

September 2008



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.

Church Office Hours
 Mon - Fri. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Phone: 301-249-6300
 Fax: 301-249-4725
church@allsaintsbowie.org
www.allsaintsbowie.org
 Pastor:
 Gary R. Rhinesmith
 301-249-6300
pastor@allsaintsbowie.org

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 Sunday Worship @ 8:30 & 11:00  
 9:45 Education Hour  
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September

9/1 - Labor Day
 Office Closed

9/7 - Rally Day
 Choirs Return

Sunday School Begins 9:45 am
 Rally Day Picnic 12:15 pm

9/9 - 10:00 am
 Women of ELCA Bible Study

9/10 - 7:00 pm
 Ministry Planning Night

9/12 - 7:00 pm
 Concert: Teiber Trio &
 Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez

9/14 - 3:00 pm
 Youth Group Meeting

9/14 - 12:15 pm
 Constitution & Bylaws Taskforce

9/17 - 7:00 pm
 Congregation Council Meeting

9/21 - 12:15 pm
 Counters and Fin. Committee Picnic

9/24 - 7:00 pm
 Mutual Ministry Meeting

9/27 - 5:30 pm
 Women of the Cup

9/28 - 3:00 pm
 Youth Group Meeting

Pastor's Perspective

Stay Tuned

On April 2, 2004 then Governor Ehrlich announced a new slogan for Maryland. It is "Seize the Day Off." Did you know that? I didn't. The slogan for Missouri is, "The Show Me State." That slogan is a lot more familiar. "Show Me" implies that something is real when we can see it. It suggests that words are easy to say, and also easy to ignore; but when an action or a place or an item is seen it is tangible. It is a fact.


God's Holy Spirit is described in Acts 2 as, "suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house." Wind is not visible. The result is visible when the wind is strong enough to be destructive. The result of the rush of God's Holy Spirit is *constructive*, not destructive. A powerful human need is to see the result of God's Holy Spirit. "Show me" is a desire. It is often stated as a demand.

I saw the positive, powerful, constructive action of God's Holy Spirit multiple times this past Sunday during the Ministry Faire. I saw visual, colorful, attractive displays that had been carefully and creatively made. I saw extended conversations among people because there was enough time for them to occur. I saw children collecting stickers. I saw young people actively inviting someone they didn't know to "get in the game" of 4-square with them.

"Seeing is Believing and Believing is Seeing" was the theme of an event I was part of many years ago. It extends the "Show Me" slogan. Yes, when I see the results of God's Holy Spirit, as I did Sunday, I believe that the community of All Saints Church is being blessed by God. And then, *because* I believe that divine blessing is real, I am able to see other times, actions, interactions where it occurs. When I believe, I am able to "dial in" and see. When I see, I am able to give praise & thanks, and believe.

God answers our "Show Me" need through the birth, life, teaching, healing, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. Every disciple of the Risen Jesus has the tools to "dial in", to be open, to listen, to see. Reading the Holy Bible, praying routinely, being quiet and listening (rather than always talking) when praying, and keeping our eyes open will strengthen our ability to see. Stay Tuned – God's Holy Spirit is rushing through your life and through the ministry of All Saints Church.

Pastor Gary



A Ministry More Than Fair!

It may not have been as grand a spectacle as last evening's closing Olympic ceremony, but yesterday's Ministry Faire was spectacular; the energy, creativity, and joy of shared fellowship and service were everywhere present. We give thanks and praise for every ministry group's enthusiastic participation, especially our stewardship team who conceived, organized and orchestrated the event. I extend a special note of appreciation to Norma Allenbach-Schmidt, Fred Wentland, and the Watson trio of Rob, Kim and Kristin, who assisted groups with set-up on Saturday as well as worked the fair on Sunday. May the fruits of stewardship be everywhere evident through increased involvement and expanded outreach in all our mission areas.

In the wake of such a Spirit-filled fair, it may be foul to express any regrets, but I did suffer one disappointment. Despite John Summerlot's brilliant artwork (another talent to be tapped!) displaying Martin Luther's call to fellowship team leadership, the sign-up sheet for disciples called to that ministry opportunity remained blank at the close of the day. Maybe Martin's invitation wouldn't have been deemed so intimidating were he extending a beer stein toward our lips, a bratwurst or a lefse round toward our stomachs rather than a finger like an arrow at our souls! Perhaps in the force of the image, we overlooked the ease and joy implicit in the invitation—a call to coordinate conviviality! For we are Lutherans, hearty, hungry folk who crave sharing the good news through food and fellowship as much as through shared worship. I trust there are MANY among us willing to answer this call. *For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ...We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us...[Romans 12: 4-6].* Now, the means of communicating that willingness to Martin may be even more daunting than his invitation, but John Summerlot and I are easily reached without supernatural mediation or a near-death experience!

Six All Saints disciples have joyfully answered the Council's invitation to serve on our long-term development group: Chuck Arnold, Dave Baine, Jo Ann Lohsen, Gib Devey, Kay Schwandt, and Emily Summerlot. We give thanks for their

generous donation of time and talents to this important endeavor: to distill All Saints' vision for mission use of our enlarged campus, to delineate immediate and long-term development needs to support current ministries and future mission expectations, to solicit professional assistance with planning and financing, and to develop a time table and phased master plan for growth.

God is good all the time, and blessed are we that he has raised up so many faithful servants among us. The ministry potential that resides within this congregation is limitless. May we always seek to find new means to share our bounty with others.

Liz Muller

August Council Meeting Highlights

The August 20, 2008 Congregation Council Meeting was called to order by President Liz Muller. Liz opened the meeting with prayer and the evening's devotions. Council members responded in writing to questions relating to our progress toward ASLC's goals/visions for leadership and mission that were identified at the beginning of this year. Council also received copies of The Parish Paper article, "Giving to Congregations: Have Patterns Changed?" (July 2008) and an August 2009 letter from the Metro Washington DC Synod regarding the June synod assembly's approved 2009 budget that provides for significant increases in support for educational ministries. In addition, Council received information regarding the synod's upcoming workshop, "Together in Mission - Effective Evangelism and Discipleship," to be held in January 2009 and hosted by the ELCA's Division for Congregational Life.

The business agenda opened with a review of the **Constitution/Bylaws Task Force's** submission of recommended changes to the ASLC Constitution. The chair, Dan Bendt, reported that the majority of changes are "editorial" and/or provide clarification to the existing text. The task force also proposed a substantive amendment to the treasurer and financial secretary selection process. The two positions are currently appointed by the Congregation Council and have voice and vote in the Executive Committee. The task force recommended that the treasurer and financial secretary positions be elected by the congregation at the annual congregational meeting and have voice and vote in the Executive Committee. The positions will continue to be elected for a one-year term with no term limits. The

treasurer and financial secretary will continue to have voice but no vote at the meetings of the Congregation Council as they are not members of Council. Council voted in favor of all the task force's proposed changes by a 4-3 vote with two council members absent. As the second action item on the agenda, Council unanimously voted to approve Emily Summerlot as the sixth nominee to the North Property's **Development Oversight Group**. Five individuals have accepted positions on the development team to date: Chuck Arnold, Dave Baine, Gib Devy, Jo Ann Lohsen and Kay Schwandt. The Council's third action was unanimous approval of a recommendation by the **Memorials Committee** to fund an additional \$1,500 for choir robes--the difference between the estimated and actual cost of the robes. In December 2007, Council had approved a \$4,000 memorial gift for 40 robes. The committee reported that, this year, ASLC received \$2,115 in memorial gifts in memory of Eva Dixon to support our music program. In the final action item for the evening, **Learn Team** liaison, John Rees, presented a proposed amendment to *ASLC Guidelines for a Youth-Safe Environment* to remove the requirement for fingerprinting from the "fingerprint/criminal background check" for volunteer and paid staff. Council unanimously approved the amendment to the guidelines.

As the second order of business, Council received written reports from council ministry team and committee leaders. **Gather Team** reported that the 7th - 12th grade Youth Group had a very successful car wash on August 2. Thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of our washers and the participation of ASLC members and friends, over \$400 was raised for next year's Youth Gathering in New Orleans. **Worship & Music Team** reported that they are recommending we establish a new role in worship leadership, that of Cantor, who will be responsible for intoning Psalms and singing the Kyrie during Advent and Lent. The team also recommended that our music director, Grace Cho, play chimes on the organ after the conclusion of the Prelude as a signal that it is time for worship to start. **Learn Team** reported that Sunday school space assignments are as follows: adult classes in the SW classroom, pre-kindergarten - 6th grade in Fellowship Hall, 7th - 9th grade in the SE classroom and 10th - 12th grades in the Pastor's study or they may join the adult forum. **Serve Team** reported that they sent 60 pairs of flip flops to Camp Safe Haven. The team continues to collect school supplies for the Bowie Food Pantry. **Support Team** reported that they have

added two new members to the Budget and Finance team. The full team membership is Dave Adams, Dave Baine, Jane Bossler, John Clancy, Dennis Doyle, Donita Johnson, Doug Lingle, and Larry Floor (chair). The **Scholarship Committee** reported that the 2008 scholarship presentations will be held at the August 24 services. This year's recipients are Troy Stockinger and Ashley White.

As the final order of business, Council accepted the officers' reports. The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Wenger
Council Secretary

Financial Report for July 2008

July income for budget spending - \$26,922.68
 Monthly income needed for budget - \$33,834
 Year-to-date income for budget spending - \$230,341.67
 Year-to-date income needed for budget - \$236,838
 Income for budget spending to date is at 97% of budget.
 Total July income (budget & non-budget) - \$29,738.68
 Total year-to-date income (budget & non-budget) - \$268,715.96
 Budget expenses for July 2008 - \$28,598.65
 Budget expenses year-to-date - \$202,131.37

Saints Arts Program Fall Concert Schedule

The Teiber Trio and
 Dr. Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez
 Friday, September 12, 2008, 7:00 pm

Join us for an evening of chamber music as The Teiber Trio are accompanied by Dr. Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez (piano). The program will include the famous Brahms C Minor Piano Quartet.

Next Concert:
 The Annapolis Wind Symphony
 Sunday, November 16, 2008, 7:00 pm





Ministry Team Faire

Our first Ministry Faire on August 24 was a wonderful event! Many thanks to all the Saints who attended the Faire. Also, very special thanks to all the leaders of the groups and ministries who decorated and staffed their groups' tables, providing information, handouts, goodies, prizes, and especially conversation! This was a first-class effort filled with enthusiasm, creativity, and generosity. Again, thanks to all for the Faire's great success.

Norma Allenbach-Schmidt, on behalf of the Stewardship Team



Consecration Sunday: *We Share. We Give. We Grow.*

We Share. We Give. We Grow. is the theme for Consecration Sunday, which will be celebrated on October 19, when the members and friends of All Saints offer their estimate of giving cards during the Consecration Sunday services. A luncheon will follow the 11:00 service.

This year's Vacation Bible School program, *Rainforest Adventure*, focused on stewardship. Each day, children learned how Christian disciples respond to God's love: We share. We give. We grow. We love. We praise. As the week progressed, it became clear that we could incorporate these into our Consecration Sunday program. We share our time and talents. We give our financial offerings. As a result, we grow in our faith.

To help families prepare for Consecration Sunday, a devotional booklet will be mailed to member households at the end of the month. The booklet, which was written by members of All Saints, features 21 daily devotions leading up to Consecration Sunday. Thank you to all of the authors and to Jerry Hughson for coordinating this valuable devotional resource.



Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSS/NCA) invites you to *Expressions of Abundance: Let Your Light Shine!* **Thursday, October 2.** Hear first-hand how your volunteerism and support directly impact the lives of LSS/NCA clients in Foster Care & Adoption, Refugee & Immigrant Services (RIS), Disaster Preparedness & Response, and Youth Haven Programs for children and teens affected by HIV/AIDS. Joanne Noll of Christ Lutheran, DC will be honored for her volunteer support of the Metro-region RIS program. **Join us for this annual breakfast event from 7:45-8:45 a.m.**

(registration begins at 7:15 a.m.) at the Bethesda North Marriott (metro-accessible by Red Line to White Flint, 5701 Marinelli Road). Breakfast is provided free of charge by our sponsors; contributions will be welcomed. For more information and to RSVP, contact Summer Parrish at LSS/NCA at (202) 723-3000 ext. 199 or ParrishS@lssnca.org. *We look forward to seeing you!* RSVP by Sept. 17th &/or contact Jayne Lingle for car pool arrangements(delingle@verizon.net or 410-923-1036)

Expressions of Abundance: Let Your Light Shine!

7:45-8:45 a.m., registration begins at 7:15

Bethesda North Marriott

5701 Marinelli Road

Red Line to White Flint, parking available

RSVP to Summer Parrish (202) 723-3000, ext. 199 or ParrishS@lssnca.org



WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

The All Saints Women's Book Group is reading *The Pillars of the Earth* by Ken Follett and will meet September 13 at 8:30 am at the home of Deanna Sala to discuss the book. Also, at the October meeting the group will discuss *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett.

MEN'S BOOK GROUP

Our next meeting will be Saturday, September 20, at 9 am. It will be hosted by John Summerlot. John's address is 5428 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro. John's home phone is 301-627-6410. The book is *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain. Bring your suggestions for the next two monthly meetings: October is non-fiction, November is fiction, and December will be a joint meeting with the Women's Group.



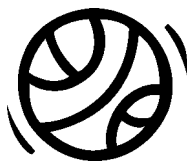
Senior Saints

On September 16, we will meet at noon for a potluck lunch followed by planning for the 2008/2009 season. We will conclude with mid-day prayer in the sanctuary. Questions, contact Bob Jones 301- 262- 0042 .



BUY A BIBLE for our TROOPS starts September 7!

These Bibles are specially sized & camouflaged to fit into fatigue pockets. Each bible has a special section for You to send a personal message &/or prayer. Buy a Bible for \$5.00, write your message & return to All Saints, to be sent to Operation Worship. They will distribute the bibles to deployed troops. Our goal is to send 160 Bibles by Oct. 26th. Share your faith and prayers.



Freddie Mac's HOOPS for the HOMELESS Saturday 13 @ the Verizon Center 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Join "Magic" Johnson, Gilbert Arenas & other celebrities this basketball tournament benefiting 6 local non-profits that help the homeless children & families. Fun for the whole family with celebrity sightings & signings, raffles, children's activities and entertainment. For free tickets see the details on the bulletin board in the narthex.



Bible Study for Women of ELCA

September is the first of a nine month Bible study series entitled *The Hidden Hand of God: Wisdom Stories from Ruth, Daniel and Esther*. These wisdom stories help us think about our call to discipleship in the complexity of today's world. We will see three recurring "H" themes throughout the study.

Hesed is a Hebrew word meaning extravagant loving loyalty that goes beyond the expected. Exploring it in these books will help us to examine how God is calling us to express hesed in our lives.

Heroic actions involve great risks to the one performing them. They are brave actions for the sake of others. Studying the leading characters in these stories will challenge us to think about the risks God calls us to take as a part of faithful discipleship.

Hidden Hand refers to the often unseen presence of God in all three books. Discovering how God works in these stories allows reflection on how God sometimes seems hidden in our lives or in the lives of those we love -- and how we are called to live through such times.

Please join the ELCA Women in fellowship hall on Tuesday, September 9 at 10 am for the study entitled *Ruth: The Journey Begins*. The theme verse is Ruth 1:16b-17.



THE BOWIE FOOD PANTRY

Is in special need of soup, canned meat (chicken, turkey, spam) and canned tuna, canned fruit and can vegetables (except corn and green beans). Thank you for your contributions. You are making a difference!



Is a ministry for you and your family, to provide meal(s) in times of need such as illness, child birth, injury, surgery or family crisis. If you or someone you know needs our help, please, contact Pastor. If you want to get involved in this special ministry, please, contact Jayne Lingle or Marguerite Mattison.

Update from the Worship & Music Ministry Team

Starting this fall, there are a few seasonal changes in Worship to be aware of.

NEW LITURGY: First, we are introducing a new liturgy format at our Sunday morning worship. As in the past, we continue to learn new liturgies from time to time, and rotate seasonally between liturgical settings. When we moved to the new worship resource, Evangelical Lutheran Worship (the cranberry book) last year, we found there were many new service music options to explore. This fall, the beautiful “Now the Feast and Celebration” by liturgical composer Marty Haugen, will be used to shape our morning worship. The choirs are busy learning the new music and with their leadership, we anticipate a very smooth transition to the new setting.

RINGING THE BELLS - CALL TO WORSHIP: When churches had bell towers, they rang the Bells as a signal to the community it was time for church to start. Beginning September 7, we will “Ring the Bells” here at All Saints. After the Prelude, Grace will Ring the Bells on the organ as a signal to the congregation that it’s time for worship to start, inviting people to be in the sanctuary for the opening of worship.

SHARE BASKET CARRIER: Another change in worship this fall is the introduction of a new role for children to participate in worship as Share Basket Carriers. Share Basket Carriers will be responsible for carrying a small basket of donated items for the Bowie Food Pantry to the altar at the same time the Ushers bring forth the offering plates. Children in First through Fifth grade are invited to serve as Share Basket Carriers. A sign-up sheet is available on the table in the Narthex; instructions will be provided.

HELP WANTED: The Tone Chimes are in need of a new Director. After a very successful tenure as Director of the Tone Chimes, David Dasenbrock is not able to continue, due to his personal schedule. 12 dedicated musicians are ready and willing to play. They just need a Director. If you know of someone who would be willing to lead this group, please talk to the Pastor, the Music Director or any member of the Worship & Music Ministry Team.

Hope to see you at worship every week!



Rehearsals Begin on Thursday, September 4

Sonshine Choir at 7:00 pm

Chancel Choir at 8:00 pm

We will begin singing at Worship Services on September 7.



Women of the Cup will be meeting at 5:30 pm on Friday, September 26. We are planning to go to dinner, and then to a movie. All women are invited –one need not be a member of All Saints to attend these events. Contacts for this event are Sig Beecher – 301-627-6560 and Marilyn Morgan - 410-721-1039.

COUNTERS AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE PICNIC

Calling all Counters and Financial Committee Members, please join us for a picnic on September 21 after 11:00 am Worship. Please sign-up on the form on the table in the Narthex.





Planting the Seeds of Faith at All Saints Lutheran Church

New Sunday School Curriculum for Pre-K to 6th Grade

We are excited to institute the new curriculum *Witness* in our Sunday school program. This curriculum will be exploring faith traits such as Generosity, Loyalty, Wisdom, and Stewardship through Jesus' teachings; these are just a few examples.

The *Witness* Sunday school curriculum teaches children to "Learn from the Bible to Live the Good News." *Witness* Goals are to Know, Grow, and Show. These goals help everyone remember what it means to be a witness in the world. A witness is someone who:

- **KNOWS** the Word
- **GROWS** in Faith, and
- **SHOWS** service

We hope you will encourage your child(ren) to attend regularly. During their education hour you can also have the opportunity for your own spiritual exploration through the Adult Learn hour, too.

Lay School of Theology 2008

I had the privilege of attending two days of the 44th annual Lay School of Theology at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg (LTSG). The theme for the week was God's Call: Mystery and Mission. This year the Lay School held two one-week sessions (one in June and one in July), a new approach that will also be followed next year.

I was able to hear sessions led by all three of the presenters for the week. The first was the Rev. Dr. William O. Avery, Professor of Field Education and Director of Internship at LTSG. Dr. Avery's session, "Practice Makes Perfect," focused on the interrelatedness of all creation, and the importance of relationships in effective congregational ministry. He noted that a congregation is made up of and connected with many complex webs of relationships. Church leaders who understand these webs will spend time developing relationships among the parishioners, because they form the bedrock for outreach and evangelism. Dr. Avery stated that sometimes the church can be blind to changes within and around it.

The Rev. Dr. Marty Stevens, Registrar and Instructor of Biblical Studies (Old Testament) at LTSG, called her sessions "Gutsy Gals of the Old Testament: Stepping Out in Faith." I attended two classes: "Shiphrah and Puah: Birthing Babies in Egypt," and "Esther and Vashti: It's Good to be Queen." Both classes were in-depth Bible studies that included a great deal of information about the meaning of various words, different translations of the Bible (Masoretic text, Septuagint, Samaritan Pentateuch, Dead Sea Scrolls, and Targum), and how reading the Bible as a story with suspense, plot, etc., can enhance our understanding of the text.

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Bouman, former Bishop of the Metropolitan New York Synod, is currently Executive Director of Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission of the ELCA Churchwide Program Unit. Bishop Bouman used stories of Biblical encounters between God/Jesus and those that God calls to speak on the theme "Called to the World: Mission and Discipleship Shaped by the Book of Faith." His premise was that discipleship is the daily encounter of the Christian with Jesus, and that this encounter is with and through the church: baptism initiates the life of the disciple; the company of the saints gathered around Word and Sacraments sustains it; the prayer of the community sustains it. He stated that when we are healed by God, we are called to rise up and tell our story: to evangelize! Bishop Bouman spoke movingly about what it was like to be the church in New York City in the aftermath of September 11, 2001.

I wish to thank the Learn Team and All Saints for supporting my attendance at the Lay School. I encourage others to take part in the many lifelong learning opportunities at LTSG, including Seminary on Saturdays and the Lay School of Theology. For more information on these programs, contact the Rev. Jean Kuebler at jkuebler@ltsg.edu. Check the website for further details www.ltsg.edu/lifelong/lay.htm.

– Ann Greenawalt



2008-2009 Adult Learning at ASLC

Part of the mission of All Saints Lutheran Church is ... Learning...!

All are invited to participate in this important component of our congregation's mission! There are all kinds of opportunities at different times. Classes are about 1 hour and will meet in the southwest classroom. Start times and dates may change - please check website, newsletter or announcements for any changes. For more information or to register for a course, contact Nathan Rich at 240-473-0046 or nrich3@yahoo.com.

Sunday Evening

Current Issues in Lutheranism - This is an opportunity for fellowship at a time other than Sunday morning. Articles from *the Lutheran* magazine will be used as a basis for discussion. Start date to be announced. (*Phil Woodruff*)

Tuesday at 10:00 am - Bible Study

A study of the **Gospel of Luke** will begin in mid-September. (*Pastor Rhinesmith*)

Sunday 9:45 am Track 1 - Bible Study

September 7 - November 16 **Augsburg Adult Bible Study: The New Testament Community** – Discuss selected readings from Mark, Matthew, Ephesians, Acts, 1-2 Corinthians, Galatians, Philemon, and 2 Timothy.

November 23 - December 21 **Hallelujah ... the Bible and Handel's Messiah - Advent** - Explore the Scriptural texts of Handel's Messiah, including musical commentary. **Registration required** by November 9! (*Norma and Sven Allenbach-Schmidt*):

- Comfort, Comfort My People
- Who shall Abide the Day of His Coming?
- For Unto Us a Child is Born
- Glory to God in the Highest

Sunday 9:45 am Track 2 - Faith Formation—Selected Topics

September 14, 21, 28 **ELCA Draft Social Statement on Human Sexuality**. Join us to discuss this recently released social statement and what it might mean for our lives, both as individuals and as a church. If you would like a copy of the statement, talk to Pastor Rhinesmith or Nathan Rich or download it from www.elca.org/faithfuljourney. (*Grace Tiva, Gary Beecher, Pastor Rhinesmith*)

In addition, there will be two synod-wide opportunities to discuss the ELCA Draft Social Statement on Human Sexuality: Sun., Sept. 28 from 3-5:00 p.m. at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Silver Spring, MD and Mon., Sept. 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Springfield, VA.

October 5 - 19 Church and Democracy/ Slots

This course will explore the intersection of Christian faith and our roles as citizens of a democracy. A particular focus will be the upcoming referendum to have government-sanctioned slots in Maryland. Resources include papers on slots from LOPP-MD (in ASLC Grapevine newsletter), Sojourners "Vote Out Poverty" campaign (www.sojo.net/voteoutpoverty) and 2008 ELCA Voting and Civic Participation Guide (archive.elca.org/advocacy/toolkit/). (*Nathan Rich*)

November 2 - 23 **Contemporary Literature and the Life of Faith** - Excellent contemporary literature helps participants realize the presence of God in many places and relationships; a new approach for nurturing spiritual growth (*John Laughlin*):

- Flannery O'Connor, "Revelation"
- Frederick Buechner, "The Dwarfs in the Stable"
- Raymond Carver, "A Small Good Thing"
- Richard Rodriguez, "Credo"

2009

Sunday 9:45 am Track 1 - Bible Study

January 4 - February 22

Augsburg Adult Bible Study: Human Commitment – Discussion of selected passages from Luke, Exodus, Joshua, Judges, 2 Kings, 2 Samuel, Esther, Isaiah, and Ezekiel.

March 1 - April 5 **Hallelujah ... the Bible and Handel's Messiah - Lent** - Explore the Scriptural texts of Handel's Messiah, including musical commentary. **Registration required** by February 15! (*Norma and Sven Allenbach-Schmidt*):

- Behold the Lamb of God
- He Trusted in God
- Who is the King of Glory?
- I Know That My Redeemer Liveth
- Who Do the Nations Rage?

Hallelujah, Worthy Is the Lamb, Amen

April 19 - May 31 **Augsburg Adult Bible Study: New Creation in Christ** – Discussion of selected passages from Ezekiel, Luke, Acts and Ephesians.

June 7 - August **Augsburg Adult Bible Study: Call Sealed with Promise** – Discussion of selected passages from Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

Sunday 9:45 am Track 2 - Faith Formation—Selected Topics

January 4 - 25 **They Like Jesus but Not the Church** by Dan Kimball – Encounter firsthand thoughts and feelings of those who find Jesus attractive but don't care for organized religion. We will explore some of the most common objections and misunderstandings emerging generations have about the church and Christianity. (*Liz Müller*)

February 1 - 8 **Stewards of the Old Testament:** Ruth, Boaz, Naomi. A Bible study presented by the *Stewardship Team*.

February 15 - March 8 **Christians and Racial Justice** - America's "original sin." Struggles around affirmative action, welfare and immigration reform, and other policies show that the racial divide in the United States wasn't healed in the civil rights era. These sessions will be designed to spark discussion, thought, and action about how to live out God's call for justice for all.

April 19 - May 10 **Issues In Genetics** - The ELCA is preparing a social statement that addresses issues in genetics and biotechnology which was authorized by the 2005 Churchwide Assembly. On November 1, 2008, a study on genetics will be published for response from throughout the church. (*Gary Beecher*)

WORKSHOPS

September 6 or 27 **Teacher Training Opportunity** - Children's Ministry Magazine Live presents the 2008 National Workshop entitled "Plant the seeds that give kids a Faith that Grows." This one-day workshop will be held on Saturday, September 6, in Bel Air, Maryland, and Saturday, September 27, in Frederick and White Plains, Maryland. ASLC will pay your registration if you let the Learn Team know at least 1 week in advance. For more information, go to www.group.com/cmml.

September 19-20 **Youth and Family Institute Milestone Ministry Conference** at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Severna Park. "Milestones" are the visual means to bring the presence of God not only to children, but to adults and families. Learn how to partner home and congregation for effective faith-nurturing ministry. See www.tyfi.org or talk to Ann Greenawalt as soon as possible.

November 1-15 **"Seminary on Saturdays"** presented by The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg:

- November 1 Rev. Dr. Maria Erling and Rev. Dr. Gerald Christianson – "Holy Time – Holy Space – Holy People"
- November 8 Rev. Dr. Mark Oldenburg – "More Than a Countdown: The Treasures of Advent" and Rev. Dr. Richard Carlson – "Paul and the End of All Things"
- November 15 Rev. Dr. Brooks Schramm and Rev. Dr. Kirsi Stjerna – "Luther and the Jews"

Events are from 8:30 am – noon, and cost \$20 each, or \$50 for the series. To register in advance, call or email Wendy Mizenko, 1-800- MLUTHER, ext. 3004 or wmizenko@lts.edu.

2009 January 10 **Together in Mission** – Experience renewal and discovery at this synod-sponsored event at King of Kings in Fairfax, VA. Keynote speakers and workshops will focus on effective evangelism and discipleship in churches today. A group will be going from ASLC. Won't you join us? Contact Nathan Rich or Pastor Rhinesmith for details.



CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

**2008 ALL SAINTS
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO
ASHLEY WHITE &
TROY STOCKINGER**

The Congregation responded with spontaneous applause as Council President Liz Muller, presented the 2008 All Saints Lutheran Church Scholarships to Troy Stockinger and Ashley White on Sunday, August 24th. What a great example of how our love for God shows in our love for others!

Both Ashley and Troy expressed their appreciation to The Saints. When we display Christ's love for our fellow Saints, it is one of the most tangible ways we show the love of our Savior.

Thanks be to God -- for all who make the ASLC Scholarship program possible. Godspeed to our 2008 recipients Troy and Ashley.

Phillip Woodruff, Scholarship Chair



Ashley White with Liz Müller and Pastor



Troy Stockinger with Liz Müller and Pastor



MODULAR BUILDINGS

What's happening with the modular buildings? I know that's a question many of you are asking. Currently (Aug 25, 2008) we are awaiting approval of our building permit application for only one more discipline, Life Safety and Fire Review. An estimate by review officials today was two weeks yet to review. Patience is definitely in order.

Each review of our permit application has taken 2-3 months! We are now in the 5th cycle of review. There are various agencies from whom we must have approval before moving on, i.e., Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, PG Storm Water Management, various disciplines for PG Building Permit. Each agency requires its own unique set of information. In some cases we have had to hire specialized professionals (Professional Engineer, Registered Landscape Architect) to address concerns and issues raised by an agency. Hopefully we have addressed all of the concerns of Life Safety and Fire Review and our building permit application will be approved soon. Your prayers and support are very greatly appreciated.

Gary Beecher

<p>Youth Group Meeting</p>	<p>ALL SAINTS YOUTH, grades 7-12, meet on the second and fourth Sundays at 3:00 pm. In September we meet on the 14 & 28.</p>
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Come to the Rally Day Picnic!

Please come celebrate the return of the choirs and Sunday School at the Rally Day Picnic after 11:00 worship on Sunday, September 7. We will grill out and share fellowship and fun. The meat and drinks will be provided. The side dishes and desserts will be potluck. Please sign-up on the form on the table in the narthex. Invite your friends and neighbors!

Adult Learning at ASLC 2008-2009 Course Registration/Survey

Please help us plan by filling out the following and returning to the church office, or email your preferences to nrich3@yahoo.com. For more information contact Nathan Rich (240-473-0046 or nrich3@yahoo.com) or visit www.allsaintsbowie.org/learn.htm.

My name is _____ and my email is _____.

I am interested in the following: (please check boxes)

- Sunday 7PM* Current Issues in Lutheranism
- Tuesday 10AM* Luke Bible Study

Sunday 9:45 AM Track 1 - Bible Study

- Sep 7 - Nov 16* Augsburg Adult Bible Study
- Nov 23 - Dec 21* Hallelujah ... the Bible and Handel's Messiah - Advent
- Jan 4 - Feb 22* Augsburg Adult Bible Study
- Mar 1 - Apr 5* Hallelujah ... the Bible and Handel's Messiah - Lent
- Apr 19 - May 31* Augsburg Adult Bible Study.
- Jun 7 - Aug* Augsburg Adult Bible Study.

Sunday 9:45 AM Track 2 - Faith Formation

- Sep 14 - Sep 28* ELCA Draft Social Statement on Human Sexuality
- Oct 5 - Oct 19* Church and Democracy/ Slots.
- Nov 2 - Nov 23* Contemporary Literature and the Life of Faith
- Jan 4 - Jan 25* They Like Jesus but Not the Church
- Feb 1 - Feb 8* Stewards of the Old Testament: Ruth, Boaz, Naomi.
- Feb 15 - Mar 8* Christians and Racial Justice
- Apr 19 - May 10* Issues in Genetics

Workshops

- Sep 6 or 27* Children's Ministry Magazine Live teacher training
- Sep 19-20* Youth & Family Institute Milestone Ministry Conference
- Nov 1-15* LTSG "Seminary on Saturdays"
- Jan 10* Together In Mission

I am interested in the topic(s) selected but cannot attend on the specified dates/times.

My preferred time to meet would be (day-of-week / time): _____ / _____

Other Topics

- Nooma* video series on faith & belief
- Irresistable Revolution* by Shane Claiborne
- Synod assembly Q&A
- ELCA "Book of Faith" initiative / Introduction to the Bible
- Contemplation and Spirituality
- Islam
- Science and Religion

Other: _____

I have attached written comments.

MISSION ENDOWMENT NEWS!!!

“The Ministry Faire”

Thank you everyone for donating your church bank coins at the Ministry Faire. The next church bank collection will be in November. If you would like a church coin bank or an additional church coin bank, please contact Mary at marybalto@aol.com. Because of your donations our Grants continue to Grow for All Saints, Our Community and the World. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!

WE NOW HAVE MATCHING FUNDS FOR LCF MISSION ENDOWMENT GIFTS

LUTHERAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES A NEW PROGRAM – MAKE A BIGGER IMPACT!!!!

Contributions to the **All Saints Mission Endowment Fund** can now accomplish even more! Through Giving Plus, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will contribute \$1 for every \$2 that eligible individuals give through this program, up to a maximum of \$600 per year. Thrivent will grant \$27,500,000 this year in Giving Plus.

GIVING PLUS - If you are a Thrivent Member and would like to contribute to this project, simply fill out a Giving Plus form (insert) and return it to All Saints Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund with your gift. (Checks should be made payable to the Lutheran Community Foundation with “All Saints Lutheran Church Endowment Fund” in the memo line). A \$600.00 donation + \$300 match = \$900.00.

We are working to establish a Simply Giving Connection allowing automatic gift matches.

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND’s MISSION NO. 1 PAY DOWN THE NEW PROPERTY MORTGAGE

Between now and 2010, Mission Endowment’s goal is to contribute \$100,000 towards the north property mortgage as part of its Mission to All Saints Lutheran Church. If you are a Thrivent member then your donation will be matched by Thrivent \$1 for every \$2 you contribute.

GRANT REQUESTS

If you have a grant request, please let Mary Schoenfuhs, Chair of the Mission Endowment Committee know or fill out the Grant Request Form that will be available in the church narthex. Eligible recipients include the Community served by our Congregation and the Washington DC Metro Synod; or ELCA Missions - Nationwide and Worldwide; or *within All Saints Lutheran Church for new ministries, scholarships, programs etc., capital improvements and debt reduction (on a matching basis).*

The Mission Endowment Fund continues to provide grants to the Community and the World and to other ministries at All Saints Lutheran Church through our Grants Program.

Please contact Mary if you have any questions regarding the Mission Endowment Fund and how you can be involved. Upcoming events include the church bank turn in November and a Wills and Estate Seminar in February. Look for more information on Mission Endowment in the Grapevine and in upcoming newsletters.

Thanks be To God!!!!

Mary E. Schoenfuhs, Chair,
Mission Endowment Committee

My Spring Bowie Stream-Team Clean-Up (fall volunteers needed!)

On April 19, Bowie kicked off a new stream-team clean-up—starting with sections of 4 of the City’s 10 sub-watersheds. The first time out, city staff selected 4 streams on public property, and about 250 volunteers turned out. At 9 am, stream team leaders collected water samples for testing, then trash ensued until 12 noon. I’ve not heard the results of the water testing—though earlier reports of Bowie’s streams are dismal.

Seven of us showed up at the Upper Collington Branch at Kavanaugh Lane. We split into two groups with plans to meet in the middle. Three of us started at Kembridge and made our way to Kemp by noon—a stretch measuring roughly .3 miles. Access was a bit steep in places, and we needed to pick routes in and out—and watch for the thorns of the invasive multiflora rose and native greenbrier. Long sleeves and sturdy pants (like jeans) and boots were needed. You *had* to get into the stream at places in order to cross it and to reach trash—it felt nasty, and it took a few minutes for me to resign to the fact that, if I was going to help, it would be a bit mucky! I now have rubber boots, for next time. The City provided gloves—for anyone who needed them—and contractor bags, and Public Works folks picked up the bags afterwards.

I understand that the stream-team clean-up experiences were different at different sites—sometimes access was easier, and some sections had large numbers of Girl Scout helping out. Middle and high school students earned community service hours for their labors.

The City of Bowie will coordinate volunteers every spring and fall—this fall **on Saturday, October 18 from 9 am to 12 noon**. For this round, in addition to trash collection, the City is engaging volunteers from the Bowie-Crofton Garden Club to provide guidance to volunteers who will plant 10 native trees at various locations along the streams. During the Ministry Faire, two members signed up to volunteer and be added to a stream-team information e-mail list. Join them! If you would like to volunteer, **contact Elizabeth (Beth) Chaisson with the Planning & Economic Development Department at echaisson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3051 to sign up to volunteer and be added to a stream-team e-mail list.** Maria Arnold

Please recycle this newsletter!



FAIR TRADE

Why do we consider Fair Trade as a good? Isn’t Free Trade what we really want to strive for? What a loaded question and something we have learned so much about recently in Adult Forum. Free Trade is the purported be all and end all. The goal is to create the most good (i.e., money) out of every transaction. This is the basic tenet of economists. It is what Capitalism is based on. According to these beliefs, free trade removes all barriers and only supply and demand matter. So, in free trade agreements the powerful countries say the developing countries cannot support their crops/ industries/animals with tariffs or subsidies. In Kenya, for example, this has led to devastation of their once thriving chicken industry and exorbitant prices for such commodities to local people. At the same time the U.S. passes a monumental Farm Bill that gives what – subsidies! – to our farmers, with the largest subsidies going to the largest agribusiness groups. Hmm. If subsidies are a barrier in small developing countries, why are they not a barrier when practiced by wealthy, established economies?

Do we need to think differently? Suppose we want every transaction to create the most good – for the most destitute! Sounds like something Jesus would approve of. He said “whatever you do to the least of these...” This is the premise of FAIR trade. It means that large, well established economies do not take advantage of developing, poor countries by imposing stricter rules on them than the established economies live by. It means living wages, clean water, conservation, humanitarian labor practices and it lifts people from conditions near slavery to self sufficiency. The Fair Trade items are good, high quality, green products. And they cost no more than products produced using less tenable practices.

I hope you really enjoy the Fair Trade coffees and chocolates we provide for sale on a monthly basis. Just that small gesture, recreated many times around the world, makes a difference in so many lives. Sanitation, water, schools and roads are some of the fruits of the labor of people who enter into fair trade agreements. Thanks for supporting them!





Slots Talk from LOPP/MD - The Markets

This is the second in a series of articles on the issue of slots in Maryland from the Lutheran Office of Public Policy/Maryland. In November we will vote whether to amend the State Constitution to allow the state to license Video Lottery Terminal facilities for public revenue. Our synod assembly in June voted overwhelmingly to approve a resolution calling for this referendum's defeat. In October there will be several opportunities to discuss this issue, along with other issues of Christian faith and public policy, during the Sunday School hour. For more information contact Nathan Rich (240-473-0046).

The ELCA social statement "Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood For All" (1999) objects to gambling as a public revenue source because it's regressive; it taxes the poor greater than other demographics (page 12). A common rebuttal by gambling proponents is that gambling doesn't target any demographic; it's simply a recreational activity on which people choose to spend disposable income.

That's disingenuous: there's a gambling industry business plan that understands how to reach and keep its market. Maryland's current gambling public typifies it. Most money wagered in Prince Georges County on the Maryland Lottery is from lower-income households. It's similar in other jurisdictions. For state-sponsored gambling to succeed ("success" means achieving revenue projections) that public has to be expanded significantly.

The slots business plan is associated with the propensity of retail gambling to produce addiction. Problem, pathological gambling rates among the general population double out to fifty miles from the sites. The rate is higher among lower income African Americans according to a University of Chicago study. Currently gambling activity is increasing among younger people. Both demographics are target markets for the gambling industry.

For that reason the selection of two sites, at Laurel in Anne Arundel County and at the Harbor in Baltimore City, has been made to realize revenue projections. The Laurel site will get its share of military personnel (a target market) but its real value is its proximity to Prince Georges County and a key demographic density, modest income African Americans. The State's revenue estimate calls for Laurel to provide \$500 million in gambling losses. Baltimore City is expected to produce another \$400 million.

The ELCA objection to unfair taxation is legitimate. Central Maryland is supposed to provide \$900 million of the projected \$1.3 billion in gross slots receipts. The two Central Maryland sites will contribute 70¢ of every dollar the State hopes gamblers lose. Within the gambling demographic, retirees, low-income people, young people, and minorities dominate and are abundant around these two sites.

Revenue estimates for those two high volume sites are an assumption based on local minority, retiree, and poverty densities. Baltimore County is a subdivision with a large number of retirees that like to gamble, we're told. It's assumed many will find their way to the Inner Harbor site; but Baltimore City's large, minority and poverty demographic will provide a lot of the players. There's another retired demographic in Montgomery County, and considerable discussion has taken place about whether it will find its way to Laurel. It may not; but the Prince Georges County density of preferred demographics will, and revenue assumptions are based on that.

Gambling is an uncomplicated economy: disposable income is spent on the wager transaction. Around each location, slots will compromise local economies. At Rocky Gap and Ocean City, two destinations now billed as family-friendly, for instance, slots will consume available disposable income and damage tourist economies. Slots are fed by local, disposable income. That's why slots increase poverty and decrease local economic activity.



Annie Mouse
loves to gather
news and pictures
about the saints

- Vacation was great, but I am still getting the sand out of my fur. Things are really starting to ramp-up now that is summer is coming to a close. However, I must admit it has been a pretty busy summer here at All Saints. For example:
- Those youth were really busy washing and vacuuming cars. I know the money offered that day will be a huge help to the youth group members go to *Jesus, Justice, Jazz* ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans July 22-26 2009. If you were unable to attend the car wash, but are still interested in supporting the youth, just put your offering in the weekly collection marked Youth Group Gathering.
- The Youth Group has started meeting twice a month beginning in August. They started early because they have so many wonderful ideas!
- The Serve Team and All Saints members have been busy this summer with the Blood Drive, Food Pantry Collections (food and school supplies), flip flop collection, and now bibles for our troops.
- As noted last month the Church has been really spruced up with paint, elbow grease, and wax. Also Wayne has led a group all summer on the landscaping. Thanks so much for making our Church home so nice.
- Then this past Sunday was amazing! The Ministry Faire was so full of energy and excitement, it made my heart leap for joy. Thank you to all the Saints who made this day so special! I cannot wait to be a part of all the ministries.

Memorial Service



Richard Shumaker died Sunday, August 24 following a 2 year struggle with cancer. We pray that God's Spirit of comfort, strength and hope will surround Richard's family.

There will be a Memorial Service to celebrate Richard's life on Saturday, September 6, 10:30am here at All Saints Lutheran Church. A luncheon reception will follow immediately in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to participate in both. Memorial contributions may be made to the All Saints Memorial Fund, designated for summer camp scholarships; or to the Marlene and Stewart Greenbaum Cancer Center Foundation, University of Maryland Medical Center, 22 S. Greene St. Baltimore, MD 21201.



The Happiest of September Birthdays

- 9/2 John Schumacher
- 9/11 Cheryl Trimble
- 9/14 Marianne Wenger
- 9/14 Martin Kramer
- 9/15 Charles Sealing
- 9/16 Diane L Cooper
- 9/18 Pastor Gary Rhinesmith
- 9/19 Ashley N. White
- 9/19 Alan Kramer
- 9/19 Jacob Heyer
- 9/20 Ben Smith
- 9/21 Lindsay Wenger
- 9/21 Derek Smith
- 9/23 Stephen Roberts
- 9/24 Susan Adams
- 9/24 Joseph Carrigan
- 9/25 Alan Harry
- 9/25 John Greenawalt
- 9/29 Susan Bossler

REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

MILITARY DUTY: Ross Bogard, Chad Field, Ryan Hartwig, Ben Phelps, Wil Rollefson, Shanna Stann.

AT FULL-CARE HOME: Joan DeHenzel, Dick Hartfield, and Walter Schoenfuhs Sr.

OTHER CONCERNS: Bob Abell, James Amos, Wendy Andrews, Tim Beal, Peggy Blevins, Mary Bohannon, Kirsten Burton, Trisha Carbaugh, Carl Carlson, Jerry Champion, Wendy Corbino, Chris Dobe, Michelle Dowsett, Lauren Emshwiller, Elizabeth Ewing, Ryan Gerhold, Anne Givan, Morris Golden, Sue Hackman, Andrew Heyer, Pearl Hibbard, Judy Ho, Robert Keating, Bob Kennedy, Barbara Kohncen, Serge Loiseau, Donna Malone, Marie Marshall, Maria McNamara, Tara McQuaid, Olivia Miller, Family of Leonard Moline, Family of Henry Murphy, Jason Newell, Robert Olds, JoEllen Pasewald, Catherine Patsias, Rebecca, David Reynolds, Gladys Sandman, Benjamin Schultz, Family of Richard Shumaker, Ed Seely, Frank Senger, Curt Stende, Jerome Taylor, Tom Tobin, Stella Uber, Linda Weinhardt, John Wenger, Sr., Bill Wesley, Family of Georgia Whitener, Donald Woolery, and Mary Wright.

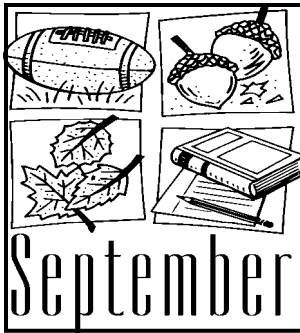




Pastor: Gary Rhinesmith
Admin. Assistant: Jean Reams
Parish Administrator: Larry Floor
Editor: Jean Reams

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2nd Star Production 2008-2009 Season:

In the Beginning: one-act comedies -
September 5 - September 27, 2008

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the
Forum - November 14 - December 13

No Sex Please, We're British
February 20 - March 14, 2009

Camelot
May 29 - June 27, 2009

2nd Star Productions is in its 13th season of providing quality theatre to the area. Performances are on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For times and pricing, please call 410-757-5700 or 301-858-7245 and leave a message in mailbox 4 if you get voicemail. More information can also be found on the table in the narthex or visit the website: www.2ndstarproductions.com. A percentage of 2nd Star Productions opening nights proceeds are donated to All Saints.

NOTICE!!!
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Email articles for the
October 2008
Grapevine newsletter to
the church office
church@allsaintsbowie.org
by September 19, 2008

You may also place articles in the newsletter mailbox in the church office.

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