



The Grapevine

All Saints Lutheran Church ELCA

July 2007



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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July
4th of July Holiday
Office Closed



7/9-7/13 - 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Vacation Bible School

7/11 - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Mom's Morning Out at Baine's Home



At White Marsh Park
 7/3 - 8:30 pm & 9:30 pm
 7/10 & 7/17 - Playoffs
Games to be announced

Next Ministry Planning Night
is August 8 at 7:00 pm

Next Congregation Council Meeting
is August 15 at 7:00 pm

Pastor's Perspective

Decision or Desperation?

Take one glance at the list of things that are scheduled for you to do – whether written on a calendar, scribbled on the back of an envelope that is under a magnet on the refrigerator or neatly visible on the screen of your PDA – and you know that there is more to do than time to do it. So *what* do you do?

Listen to a friend, neighbor, family member or co-worker and you hear that they are challenged by unexpected illness, or by the sense that the world they understand is disappearing, or by an uncertainty about what, or who, to believe. So what do *you* believe?

When I read any newspaper or newsmagazine, watch or listen to any news report, I am stunned and overwhelmed by the enormity of how humans can be so destructive of each other, of what we have constructed and of the physical world that God is creating for our living and stewardship. So what is our *purpose*?

You and I make decisions every day about how we will use the hours that we are awake. You and I decide every hour how the Faith that God has blessed us with will guide, inform and shape our relationships with other people. You and I prioritize how our energy is used in purposeful living. Yes, we make decisions.

Praise, Praying, Thanksgiving, Hearing God's Word and being fed at God's Table – worship – are an integral part of living for a disciple of Jesus Christ. Often worship becomes another of those things "to do", an item to prioritize. David Lose, a professor at Luther Seminary says, "I go to church out of a sense of *desperation*. There is something about the Gospel of Jesus Christ that is hard to believe for more than 7 days in a row. No matter how alive you are on Sunday afternoon, come Thursday morning (in some cases, come Sunday evening) you wonder, 'Could this be true? God cares about me?'"¹

That is the nature and the experience of Faith. We are always dependent on hearing that promise that is too good to be true. God is *desperate* for you to know that it is true ... that God cares about you. Are you desperate to hear that truth? Are you desperate to taste that divine care? Are you desperate to know the touch of Jesus? Are you desperate to feel the power of The Spirit? Is worship decision or desperation for you?

Through worship God pierces through the numbness, the cynicism, the exhaustion that results from living; and touches you in a way that brings you to faith and to new life again. Jesus welcomes you to worship. It is more than your decision.

Pastor Gary

1. David Lose, "In the Company of Preachers", CD Edition, 2007.



2007 CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Kim Watson 301-352-8781

Vice President: Liz Muller 301-352-5536

Secretary: Chris Austell 410-867-3362

Treasurer: Donita Johnson 301-249-7142

Financial Secretary: Jane Bossler 410-721-5424

Gather Ministry Liaison:

Mike Schumacher 301-805-4959

Ministry of Evangelism

OPEN

Ministry of Youth

Cheryl Trimble 301-627-4094

Ministry of Fellowship

Alan & Bonnie Harry 410-247-1273

Worship Ministry Liaison:

RoAnne Hartfield 301-925-7386

Ministry of Worship

Jan Withers 410-672-5910

Learn Ministry Liaison:

Nathan Rich 301-574-3548

Ministry of Christian Education

Ann Greenawalt 301-912-3026

Service Ministry Liaison:

Ruth Tait 410-451-2791

Ministry of Service

Jennifer Woods 410-451-3355

Support Ministry Liaison:

Raymond Wood 301-499-4670

Ministry of Budget & Finance

Ruth Ann Killion 301-856-0676

Ministry of Property Management

Wayne Bossler 410-721-5424

Ministry of Stewardship

Rob Watson 301-352-8781

Congregational Committees Liaison:

Dan Bendt 301-574-1457

Mutual Ministry Committee

Leon Weaver 301-464-1176

Memorials Committee

Maria Arnold 301-262-5484

Mission Endowment Committee

Mary Schoenfuhs 202-641-7609

Scholarship Committee

Phillip Woodruff 301-868-3355

Capital Improvement Committee

Gary Beecher 301-627-6560

Please keep the council members in your prayers and join them in the mission and ministries of All Saints. You may call them to serve on their teams, or come to the planning night for **all** ministries. There will be no July Ministry Planning Night due to Vacation Bible School. Teams are encouraged to meet at another time as their planning requires. The next Ministry Planning night is August 8 at 7:00 pm. The next Congregation Council Meeting is August 15 at 7:00 pm.

A Message From the Church Council President...

And Jesus said to the apostles, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest awhile."

Mark 6:31

Summer—a time for rest. We reach the beach, hike in the mountains, lounge poolside, tend our gardens, and drive the fairways; we grill with our neighbors, play with our friends, and visit our families. And yet, do we really find time to be all by ourselves and to truly rest?

For part of a weekend, I was able to do just that by participating in the women's retreat last month, *Reflection and Renewal: Women and the Cup of Life*. It was a moving and uplifting experience for me, and I encourage you to read more about this awesome retreat elsewhere in *The Grapevine*.

One of the most powerful portions of the retreat is when each of the participants spent 30 minutes in silent, quiet, and individual prayer and reflection. I don't think I have ever intentionally spent a half hour being still and focused, in conversation with God and allowing God to reveal himself to me. Wow!

As the church leadership needs to rest and reflect, we will not have our regular council meeting this month. (Vacation Bible School is a priority, after all.) However, imagine if we each spent the equivalent time of a council meeting in prayer this month. What might God reveal to us?

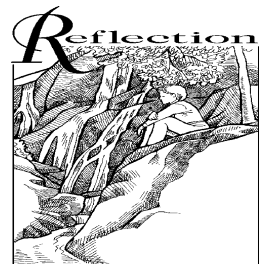
I invite each of you to intentionally set aside time for stillness and conversation with God, so that we might each better understand how the Holy Spirit is working in our lives and in our congregation. We will be hosting **Congregational Conversations: ASLC in 2020** in August and September to listen to you as we begin the formal process of forming the vision of All Saints and discerning what God wants us to become in our community.

Although we are not formally meeting this month, much work will be done in preparation for the visioning process and planning for the start of our fall programming and ministries. I thank God for the many gifts of our outstanding leaders who prayerfully do so very much: the council members, officers of the church, the ministry team leaders, and staff. And because we are so blessed, we must continue to live our mission—gather, worship, learn, and serve and to anticipate God's vision for us through prayer, conversation, and patience.

May your summer be one filled with rest, as well as reflection and renewal, and may we strive to do what Jesus instructed his disciples to do—get away and rest—with God!

In Peace,

Kim Watson



June Congregation Council Meeting Summary

The June 20 Council meeting opened with Jane Bossler's and Pastor's report on the synod assembly. They highlighted Bishop Hanson's discussion of "what are we about, what is our mission," noting that his response—"giving thanks, telling the story, making a difference"—correlates with our mission statement's call to worship, learn and serve. In conjunction with our need to tell the story, Hanson spoke of the challenge of bringing the Gospel to a Biblically illiterate society. The need for organized, ongoing Bible study will be addressed in a three-year initiative resolution to be presented at the church-wide assembly. Among the ways to make a difference, Bishop Hanson spoke of building bridges between Christians and Jews and continuing our assistance to survivors of Katrina and Rita. Jane and Pastor Gary also summarized the process that culminated in Pastor Richard Graham being called to the office of Bishop, Metropolitan Washington DC Synod.

The business agenda opened with our ongoing exploration of visioning and planning. A special meeting for additional discussion will be held Wednesday evening, June 27, at 7:00 p.m. Pastor distributed a handout entitled "Mission Transformation Process" which he requested from Transforming Ministry Associates. We discussed whether we want to consider employing this company as consultants. It was decided not to employ them.

Ministry Team/committee updates: The Gather team is starting to plan for their fall "harvest," to be held the Sunday after Labor Day. The Worship and Music team reported that there have been generous donations received for the exterior cross. The team expects the cross to be delivered in July. The Learn Team requested that we explore extending the time between the two Sunday services to reduce the noise in fellowship hall during instruction. The team will discuss the idea with all those that would be impacted by such a schedule change. Council passed unanimously a motion presented by Nathan Rich to approve the building of a removable wall in the southeast classroom. The construction would take place after the completion of VBS, and if the cost is not prohibitive, it would be designed as a reuseable wall. The Serve team is exploring a Sunday evening Praise band concert to fund the next Biloxi trip. Phil Woodruff made a presentation on behalf of the Scholarship Committee, culminating in his request that Council provide the committee a full disclosure of donor names with amounts contributed to facilitate proper acknowledgment of gifts. The Council accepted the Executive Committee's recommendation that there is a congregational commitment to confidentiality regarding individual financial contributions to ASLC. Kim reported that the audit committee has been convened.

Old Business: the Council received an updated proposal for improvements to the sound system. The Council will ask the worship team to further investigate our long-term needs, and to submit a proposal in the 2008 budget. The Council will identify a task force to assist with the development of a long-term technology plan.

New Business: Ann Greenawalt suggested that we

honor Wanda McNeil as she leaves her call at Southeast Ministries to take a call in Lake Preston, South Dakota. The Council voted unanimously to make a donation to Lutheran Theological Seminary - Gettysburg from which she received her Master of Divinity degree. The congregation will be invited to contribute to that gift also.

The meeting concluded with the approval of the officers' and pastor's reports, followed by prayer.



May 2007 Financial Report

Financial Report for May 2007

May income for budget spending - \$27,801.12
Monthly income needed for budget - \$32,370.00
Year-to-date income for budget spending - \$142,261.48
Year-to-date income needed for budget - \$161,850.00
Total May income - \$33,505.12
Total year-to-date income - \$177,053.28

Budget expenses for May 2007 - \$25,729.58
Budget expenses Year-to-Date - \$136,367.60



Update on the Cross for the Outside of the Building

The exterior cross has been constructed and it will be shipped in the next few weeks. It is about 8 feet tall with a 4 foot cross beam. It will be black and back-lighted. This cross will be installed on the wall above the portecochere over the entrance to the church building after it has been delivered.

You can participate in adding this Christian symbol to the outside of the All Saints Church building by making a financial contribution toward the purchase price. More than half of the amount has already been offered. Now it is your chance to be involved. Simply write your check to "All Saints Lutheran Church" and add "Exterior Cross" on the note line.

This addition will add our Christian identity to the building, and it will be one way that people will know that we believe Jesus is The Savior who died on a CROSS. Let's tell everyone.

MISSION ENDOWMENT SAYS THANK YOU

All Saints Mission Endowment Committee says Thank you to all who contributed in donating and receiving our All Saints Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Church Banks!!!!

We want to say thank you to for all of your prayers and contributions to help make **YOUR** Endowment Fund grow and be able to serve All Saints and All Saints Missions.

Many thanks to the following for their contributions to the All Saints Mission Endowment Church Bank:

Lloyd and Kelly Anseth
Pat and Denise Bettinger
Mary Greenwalt
Dave and Donita Johnson
Don and Michelle Palmateer
Mary Schoenfuhs
Priscilla Sparks
Jim and Jan Withers
Michael Woodruff

Dave Conrad and Ruth Ann Killion
Dave and Doris Dasenbrock
Pearl Hibbard and John Laughlin
Jim and John Meyer
Pastor and Connie Rhinesmith
Kris and Gini Smith
Cheryl Trimble
Raymond Wood
Phil Woodruff

Because of your prayers and support, the ASLC Mission Endowment is growing and more grants can be given each year.

There are Church Banks still available. Please call or email Mary Schoenfuhs (202) 641-7609 or marybalto@aol.com if you are interested in receiving a church bank.

Blessings and Peace to you in our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Mission Endowment Committee



Once again July is PB & J month at All Saints. The Serve Team will be collecting peanut butter and jelly for the food pantry. Summer is that time of the year when the pantry needs your donations the most. The kids are out of school and not getting breakfast and lunch provided to them. Also the Bowie Pantry has a decline in donations during the summer months. We had a lot of success with this "theme" last year, so let's do it again!

SERVE TEAM

The Serve Team is looking for volunteers to help us with our many activities. If you enjoy helping others and serving the community, contact Jennifer Woods or Ruth Tait.



Global Mission Event

GLOBAL MISSION EVENT

Are you interested in attending the Global Mission Event to be held at Ohio State University in Columbus on July 19-22, 2007? Information is available on the website: www.elca.org/gme. The cost is \$240 for room, meals and all of the sessions and activities. See Ruth Tait if you are interested in carpooling with her to this event.



CAMP SAFE HAVEN is a summer camp for children with HIV/AIDS. This year they will meet at Mar-Lu-Ridge in August. The program depends on the generous support of donors, especially in-kind items such as supplies. The director has asked us to participate in collecting items for the children, and the SERVE TEAM has agreed to help. We will be collecting new rubber flip-flops, sizes child medium through adult. We have committed to providing 50 pairs for the campers. The collection will begin on July 8 and continue until August 5. Look for the donation box in the narthex. Thank you for your support.



**ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN
CHURCH
2007 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
ANNOUNCED**

The All Saints Lutheran Church Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2007 Scholarships. They are Ryan Curtin, Rhonda Stockinger, Troy Stockinger and Ashley White. Recipients will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship toward their College Education at a presentation ceremony this summer at the church.

Ryan Curtin, of Crownsville, MD, is an electrical engineering student at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia. He anticipates graduating in the Spring 2008. Ryan states that a scholarship would greatly help and “that he recognizes it not only as a gift from All Saints, but as a gift from God.”

Rhonda Stockinger, of Bowie, MD, is an elementary education major at the University of Maryland, College Park. She anticipates graduating in the Spring 2008. Rhonda states, “growing up at All Saints has given me the opportunity to apply my personal attributes through the youth group, worship services and community service.”

Troy Stockinger, of Bowie, MD, an accounting major at Towson University, anticipates graduating in Spring 2009. Troy states that he has learned “through the church (All Saints) about an important relationship with the Lord.”

Ashley White, of Nanjemoy, MD, majoring in Law and American Civil at Towson University, anticipates graduating in May 2009. Ashley states that “through this church, All Saints, I have opened up my heart to so many new people and created many new friendships that I still carry on today.”

The Scholarship Committee, Kelley Adams, Louise Waynant and Phil Woodruff, gives special thanks to all who have contributed to the All Saints Lutheran Church Scholarship Fund to make these scholarships possible. Each and every gift is a genuine blessing and is received with thanksgiving and praise. Our gratitude and joy is shared with the students and with the congregation.

“Dear Father, we thank you for the joy of having these children to love and to care for, and bring up in faith in you. Grant us grace to give them the full measure of our devotion and to set before them always a good example of the Christian life. Bless us in our growth together, that our lives may be enriched by the simple joys that come of living and serving one another through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord and Savior. Amen”

Phil Woodruff, Chair Scholarship Committee

What is a Via de Cristo Weekend?

Does your faith life need a boost? Do you need some spiritual energy? Are you looking for something to help you try to live a better Christian life? If you answered “Yes” to any of these questions, then a Via de Cristo weekend may be just what you are looking for.

A Via de Cristo weekend is a structured three day weekend designed to strengthen and renew your faith, refresh your relationship with God and bring a new awareness of living in God’s grace. The weekend is intended for people from every walk of life; for people who live strong and active lives in Christ; and for those who seek to be renewed and strengthened in their relationship with Christ and the people around them.

Each Via de Cristo weekend is three days in length, beginning on Thursday evening and ending on Sunday afternoon. As a group, we live, study, worship and praise together daily. Lay people and the clergy present topics on the Christian life, based on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. The titles of these talks indicate their content: Ideal, Piety, Study, Sacraments, Action, Obstacles to Grace, Leaders, Environment, Life in Grace, Christian Community, and Total Security. The speaker shares how these topics relate to their Christian life and share personal insights on their relationship with God. Discussions follow each talk, focusing on the main points of the talk and relating it to our own personal day-to-day life. The weekend gives those attending a living understanding of basic Christian truths. There is lots of music and singing, food and fellowship, a time for laughter and for prayer. It is a boost to your faith life and a great gift to give to yourself.

The next set of Via de Cristo weekends are scheduled as follows:

Men’s Weekend: September 27 – 30

Women’s Weekend: October 4 – 7

If you have any questions concerning the weekend, contact Pastor Rhinesmith, or talk with Ken Bozick (301-856-6887) or Cheryl Trimble (301-627-4094) who have attended one of these weekends.

When was the last time you spent 72 hours concentrating on your Heavenly Father and walking with your Brother Jesus? Come, drink from our Savior’s everlasting and refreshing spring!





Growing in Faith Adult Education Summer Offerings

The Learn Team has an exciting line-up of classes for the ASLC Adult Faith Formation Summer Session. **Childcare is available** during the Adult Education hour, so parents of young children will be able to attend classes.

July 8 and again **Aug. 26** – Introduction to **Evangelical Lutheran Worship** - Led by the Worship Team, this class will help the congregation learn about the liturgies and hymns included in the new ELW hymnal.

Stewards of the Bay: A Toolkit for Congregations in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed is a National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA publication which suggests ways to contribute to the protection of the Bay. **Genevieve Trafelet** will lead two sessions drawn from *Sacred Waters*, part of this guide which is intended as a five-week adult Christian education course on understanding and appreciating God's wondrous gift of water. Each week there are bible readings and group discussions with how this relates to our lives. The goal is to understand our spiritual responsibility to care for God's creation and the water that gives us life. A "homework" activity is given each week to help participants become more aware and connected with the water around them.

July 22 - God's Gift of Water: We will discuss the importance of water in the creation stories and our responsibility to care for God's creation today.

July 29 - Water as Sustenance: Explore how water is an important and limited gift from God for us and creation.

The first three Sundays in August, **Nathan Rich** will be leading an **Overview of Sexuality and the Church**. This is timed to coincide with the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, when this topic is expected to make headlines.

Aug. 5 - Biblical Authority and Interpretation: Lutheran Perspectives

Aug. 12 - Christian Tradition, Sexuality, and Marriage

Aug. 19 - Responses to Homosexuality in the ELCA

In addition to the Adult Faith Formation classes, the **Adult Bible Study** continues to meet each **Sunday at 9:45 am**, with leadership provided on a rotating basis by class members. New members are always welcome to attend!

July 1 - Micah Announces God's Requirements (Mic 3:1-4, 6:6-8)

July 8 - Zephaniah Announces God's Justice (Zeph 3:1-5, 8-9)

July 15 - Habakkuk Announces God's Ultimatum Triumph (Hab 2:6-14)

July 22 - Jeremiah Demands Accountability (2 Kings 23:36-37, Jer 7:11-15)

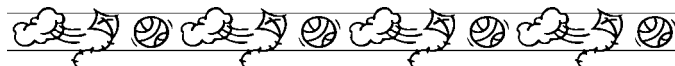
July 29 - Jeremiah Invites Jews in Babylon to Trust God (Jer 29:1-14)

Aug. 5 - Lamentations Urges Hope in God (Lam 3:22-33, 55-58)

Aug. 11 - Ezekiel Preaches About Individual Responsibility (Ezek 18:4, 20-23, 30-32)

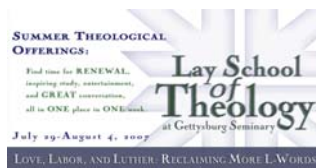
Aug. 17 - Zechariah Calls for a Return to God (Zech 1:1-6, 7:8-14)

Aug. 26 - Malachi Describes God's Just Judgment (Mal 2:17, 3:1-5, 4:1)

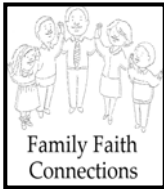


Mom's Morning Out Field Trip

Mom's Morning Out will have our third field trip on Wednesday, July 11 at 10:00 am. Linda Baine has graciously invited the group to meet at her home, 4811 Reston Lane in Bowie. We will make homemade ice cream as a special treat! Bring a sack lunch for you and your children and a favorite ice cream topping to share. Please RSVP to Ann Greenawalt at themuffinann@yahoo.com or (301) 912-3026.



The **43rd Annual Lay School of Theology** will be held **July 29 - August 4** at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. This year's theme is "Love, Labor and Luther: Reclaiming More L-Words." Presenters include Kelly Fryer, Mark Oldenburg, and Fred Meuser. Attendance at the Lay School will assist participants in fulfilling their vocation in the world. The program provides opportunity for worship, fellowship, free time and enjoyment of the Seminary campus and surrounding areas of Gettysburg. Participants can register to attend one day, three days, or all week, either as a commuter or resident on campus. The Learn Team is willing to provide financial assistance to those who are interested in attending. For more information, contact Nathan Rich or Ann Greenawalt.



Family Faith Connections

How do you teach your children to pray? Prayers before meals and at bedtime are a good start. They can be memorized prayers or spontaneous petitions by one or more family members. Perhaps your youngest ones find it hard to sit still with eyes closed, hands folded and heads bowed. Let them pray in whatever posture is most comfortable: eyes open, hands raised, or maybe even an impromptu liturgical song and dance. Try teaching them the Five-Finger Prayer technique to organize a prayer:

Thumb – pray for those closest to me.

Pointing finger – pray for those who guide us: teachers, doctors, clergy, counselors, social workers, mentors.

Middle finger (tallest one) – pray for those who stand tall: government, civic, and business leaders, police and firefighters.

Ring finger (your weakest finger) – pray for those who are weak: the poor, sick, infirm, infants, homeless, and the powerless.

Pinkie (the smallest, the least) – pray for me and my needs.

A book I recently read and recommend is *Stuffed Animals on the Ceiling Fan: and Other Off-the-Wall Parenting Techniques That Really Work* by Silvana Clark. This light-hearted book written by a Christian parent gives both traditional parenting advice and examples of what parents have done that has worked in real life. It is a quick read that will leave you alternately laughing and scratching your head!

While you vacation and take time off from your regular schedule, remember to include worship and daily prayer and Bible reading as part of your summer routine. *Davey and Goliath's Devotions for Families on the Go* is an excellent resource for family time both at home and on the road. Pick up a copy from the table in the Narthex. (It is small enough to fit in a carry-on or beach bag!)

Blessings to you and your families this summer!

Ann Greenawalt
Learn Team Leader

Classroom Expansion News



Gary Beecher continues to make preparations for the installation of our temporary classroom facility. We will need the help of volunteers to do finishing work after it arrives, as well as with construction of a partition in the south-east classroom. Watch for more information next month!



Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Last month, we introduced you to some of the features of our new worship resource, ELW. This month we want to provide you with information about the hymns.

First of all, ELW is a treasury filled with wonderful and diverse music with wide appeal. It contains 700 hymns, many which are familiar, coming from LBW, WOV and Renewing Worship. There are 200 new songs for us to learn.

People have already begun to notice that some hymns have been printed with only the “melody” line, not the harmony. There are a couple of reasons for that. First, we believe it was done in order to save space in the pew edition to include more hymns. Secondly, it is important to be aware that there are some hymns were actually written to be sung in unison.

So, what hymns are out?

“Onward Christian Soldiers”

“I lay My Sins on Jesus”

“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

“When Christmas Morn is Dawning”

“My Country Tis of Thee”

“God of Our Fathers”

And what's in?

“America, the Beautiful”

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

“Just A Closer Walk with Me”

“Morning Has Broken”

“This Little Light of Mine”

“Jesus Loves Me”

Hymns were added to reflect our diversity:

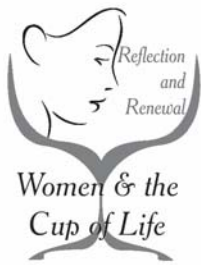
African American Gospel: “Listen, God is Calling”, “Precious Lord”, “Marching to Zion”

Spanish: “Cuando el pobre”

Some hymns include a stanza written in the original language, with the English translation printed along side. You'll find some Korean, Spanish, Swahili, even Norwegian.

One of the most loved Christmas carols of all, “Away in a Manager”, is presented in two arrangements with the “Cradle Song” as an option.

So, what does this mean for us? ELW is a comprehensive worship resource, containing a wide range of music and styles. While a favorite hymn may not be available in ELW, we still have access to ALL the hymns from LBW and WOV. All Saints Church is not abandoning those resources. So, while some things may change, other things remain the same. We're still telling the Old, Old Story of Jesus and His Love!



“A whole-faith experience.” “Peace, stillness, an opportunity to learn, gather, enrich life.” “Fellowship with beautiful, marvelous women in a Christian education setting.” “Outstanding opportunity for growth.” These were some of the participant assessments of the women’s retreat held at Hallwood June 15 -17. Twenty-two women gathered for the weekend; Pastor Gary joined us Saturday and led us in worship with Holy Communion Saturday evening. The goals of the retreat which shaped the weekend’s programming were encapsulated in the leaders’ mission statement:

It is our prayer that this weekend away from the regimen, the busyness, the obligations, the clamor of our daily living will provide opportunities for stillness, contemplation, fellowship, and recreation, in order that we might begin to heal our brokenness, shatter those impediments, shed those habits that keep us from solitude, from finding space for God, from discovering our divine calling. Our trust is that as we reflect in stillness and in prayer upon our cup of life, we will fully embrace the whole of it as God’s gracious gift to us. Through our fellowship and worship together, amid laughter and tears, with joy and thanksgiving, we will know the oneness we share with all women and all creation. As we experience the blessings of silence and reflection, we will recommit ourselves to developing a daily discipline of stillness and prayer, thereby growing in unity with Christ and in discipleship with one another.

In conjunction with our emphasis on finding more time for stillness and prayer, the group gathered for worship each morning and evening. The hills of Sugarloaf truly were alive with the sound of glorious music during these gatherings. Oh how a group of Lutheran women and their guests can sing!! Not only did Marilyn Morgan lead our worship music; she composed a celebratory theme song which one could hear being hummed up and down Hallwood’s corridors and footpaths all weekend. Friday evening Mary Seale introduced us to the value of personal journaling, not only during the weekend but for our ongoing spiritual development. In our service of the word, Grace Tiva focused our attention on our brokenness and our need for a new covenant with God through her thought-provoking reflections upon Jeremiah. Saturday’s sessions explored ways we can move from busyness and brokenness to stillness and prayer and assessed those impediments that keep us from doing so. During our afternoon sessions we experienced the power of intercessory and contemplative prayer as we gathered in small groups as well as reflected in solitude during a time of silence. We also realized the value of creating our own liturgical art, even if some of us have no artistic talents, as we strung beads to make prayer wreaths with Bonnie Harry and shaped clay into hand labyrinths with Vickie DeVilbiss and Peg Chapman. Saturday evening Pastor Gary led us in lifting up and celebrating the cup of our lives as he reflected upon Henri Nouwen’s *Can You Drink the Cup*, the text which served as the foundation for our retreat theme. We shared communion with the beautiful individual chalices that Peg molded and fired for us. (It is our hope that each of us will continue to use these cups whenever we share the Eucharist, so look for them at All Saints.) Sunday morning, with Kim Watson’s leadership, our experiences culminated in our personal and collective commitment to expanding our daily disciplines of stillness, reflection and prayer, in order that the value of the retreat might not end with our departure from Hallwood. As another means to that end, the group will gather again on August 3rd for prayer and conversation about how to sustain our spiritual growth and our fellowship. We invite all those women who wished to participate in the retreat but were unable to do so to join us. Look for more details in the July newsletter and weekly bulletins.



In closing the retreat leadership team would like to thank all of the participants for making the weekend a spirit-led blessing beyond our imagining, Ruth Ann Killion for modeling our teaching sessions on prayer, Peg Chapman and Roz Kleffman for the generous, creative gifts of their hands and their hearts, and Pastor Gary for his commitment to developing All Saints as a prayer community and his willingness to serve as our visiting pastor, mystery guest, and token male.

The reverberating message to our congregation from those who gathered at Hallwood is that we all need more opportunities for retreat. So who would like to plan the next one?

Blessings from the women’s retreat leadership team: Vickie DeVilbiss, Bonnie Harry, RoAnne Hartfield, Marilyn Morgan, Liz Muller, Phyllis Phipps, Mary Seale, Grace Tiva, and Kim Watson

PS. (Note that all of the tales of outrageous fun and laughter have been excised from this report.)





Annie Mouse
loves to gather
news and pictures
about the saints

- Summer is definitely here, I can tell by talk of vacations and the visitors on Sunday. Also because I miss seeing some of you when you are on vacation. Please remember to send me postcards and pictures from your favorite vacation location.
- I can't wait for the start of Vacation Bible School. I love to hear the children sing those fun songs and I love the crumbs from their snacks.
- I am so proud of Marianne Johnson who was named Player of the Year in Softball by the Washington Post. Marianne had a record of 20-1 and an 0.31 ERA as a pitcher for Bowie High School. She also had a .494 batting average and had 4 home runs. Even more amazing is Marianne just recently learned to pitch. I look forward to following her future accomplishments!
- Rev. Alan Ericksen retired as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church on June 24. Rev. Ericksen has been the pastor at Grace for 43 years. My cousin told me that several saints turned out to wish Rev. Ericksen and his wife Muriel well as they begin their retirement.
- I know that several saints are planning on attending Rev. Wanda McNeil's Celebration of Service on July 8 at Lutheran Church of the Reformation, 212 East Capitol Street, Washington, DC. Pastor McNeill will be preaching at a combined worship service at 10:00 am, followed by a potluck luncheon at 11:00 am. Please come to reminisce and wish her well as she begins a new ministry to the congregations at Lake Preston and North Preston Lutheran Churches in South Dakota. A fun program is planned. Suggested food items to bring include salads and chocolate desserts.
- Our own Pastor Gary Rhinesmith has been named dean of the Maryland conference. I know he will be helpful to the other pastors and I hope he brings me leftovers from his lunch meetings.
- The ladies had quite a retreat up at Hallowood. My second cousin told me they really touched her spiritually and they all seemed to have a lot of fun too!

Congratulations
on Your
New Baby Girl!



Anna Catherine Clark was born on June 22 to Mike and Heather Clark and big sister Evelyn. Anna weighed 8 lbs and measured 19 inches at birth. Everyone is doing well!



Marguerite Mattison e-mail:
margueritemattison@verizon.net



The Happiest of July Birthdays

- 7/1 Heather Clark
- 7/1 David McGuire
- 7/1 Kelly Simmons
- 7/4 Bob Jones
- 7/5 Melvin Harmel
- 7/7 John Morgan
- 7/9 Benjamin Heyer
- 7/12 Mason Schiappa
- 7/15 Chibueze Ariguizo
- 7/16 Kasey Schumacher
- 7/18 Larry Ploor
- 7/18 Elizabeth Muller
- 7/19 Rob Watson
- 7/23 Tessa Helgeson
- 7/24 Cathy Jones
- 7/25 Dylan James Young
- 7/28 Garrett Harmel
- 7/31 Edwin Morgan
- 7/31 Maria Arnold



REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

MILITARY DUTY: Ross Bogard, Mark Brinkman, Chad Field, Jim Gehring, Jon Heyer, Graham Morris, Brian O'Connell, Matt O'Connell, Bob Rackley, Wil Rollefson, Robby Trent.

AT FULL-CARE HOME: Joan DeHenzel, Dick Hartfield, Velma Hollar, and Evelyn Simonds

OTHER CONCERNS: Wendy Andrews, Carl Carlson, Jerry Champion, Elsie Deat, Carol DeHenzel, Chris Dobe, Michelle Dowsett, Marilyn Griepentrog, Gil Gruzynski, Robert Keating, Daniel Killion, Serge Loiseau, Donna Malone, Maria McNamara, Karen Mezzic, Robert Olds, Catherine Patsias, Mark Quasius, Karen Rees, Rev. Walter Schoenfuhs, Ed Seely, Family of Beth Weimer, Bill Wesley, George Young.

All Saints Arts Program

We have just concluded our 2nd season and we want to take this opportunity to thank the congregation for your unfailing support of our program over the past two years. It's been overwhelming.

2005-2006 Season

Total attendance: 610 (Avg: 102)

Total Offerings: \$2,642.25

<u>Date</u>	<u>Performance</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	<u>Charity</u>
17 Sep 05	Music of Eric Ewazen	120	477.00	N/A
16 Oct 05	Piano Four Hands	109	643.00	Hurricane Relief
19 Nov 05	Feminine Soul	68	279.25	Bowie Pantry
18 Feb 06	Positive Vibrations	167	750.00	Café
9 Apr 06	Organ Recital – Dr. deVries	75	493.00	LIRS
21 May 06	Navy Chamber Players	71	N/A	N/A

2006-2007 Season

Total attendance: 658 (Avg: 94)

Total Offerings: \$2,935.00

<u>Date</u>	<u>Performance</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Charity</u>
1 Sep 06	Recital, Alejandro Hernandez	79	390.00	Lutheran Social Services
21 Oct 06	HanSoRi	59	287.00	Mississippi trip
19 Nov 06	Annapolis Chamber Players	57	314.00	Bowie Pantry
18 Feb 07	Positive Vibrations	176	685.00	Café
31 Mar 07	Combined Choir Concert	170	833.00	Christus Victor
6 May 07	Navy Chamber Players	47	N/A	N/A
1 Jun 07	Trumpet Recital, Chris Sala	70	426.00	Bowie Pantry

Charitable Outreach: Grand Total \$4,518

2005-2006 Season: \$1,600

Oct 05, Hurricane Relief	\$320.00
Nov 05, Bowie Pantry	\$280.00 Includes Thrivent match of \$140
Feb 06, CAFÉ	\$750.00 Includes Thrivent match of \$375
Apr 06, LIRS	\$250.00

2006-2007 Season: \$2,918

Sep 06, LSS	\$420.00 Includes Thrivent match of \$210
Oct 06, Mississippi Trip	\$200.00
Nov 06, Bowie Pantry	\$565.00 Includes Thrivent match of \$415
Feb 07, CAFÉ	\$700.00 Includes Thrivent match of \$350
Mar 07, Christus Victor	\$833.00
Jun 07, Bowie Pantry	\$200.00

Thanks and appreciation go to the members of the oversight committee: Grace Cho, Roz Kleffman, Kurt Muller, Deanna Sala, and Nancy-Pat Weaver. Also thanks to Chris Heyer, Jean Reams, and Pastor Rhinesmith.

It is our goal to provide high quality programs. We welcome your comments or suggestions.

Jan Withers, Arts Program Team Leader



Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM) is the men's ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America building a dynamic ministry that addresses the needs of men of all ages. Statistics reveal that families and congregations are more likely to thrive when men are actively engaged in their faith.

LMM publishes a quarterly newsletter under the auspices of the ELCA. The Spring 2007 edition highlights the following unhappy statistics:

5.5 million women in the USA worship without their spouses

Children are far more likely to continue to practice their faith when both mothers and fathers are actively engaged in their faith

Men 18-34 are the most un-churched group in America

The gap between men and women worshipping in mainline churches has been growing wider for the past 50 years

Coming Event: Future Men's Ministry Summit August 3-5, 2007 David Murrow, author of **Why Men Hate Going to Church** and Dr. Roland Martinson, a feature speaker at many men's events will be presenting at this Summit held at the Hyaatt Regency Hotel prior to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Chicago. Additional speakers will be Paul Hill and David Anderson, co-authors with Martinson of **Coming of Age: Exploring the Spirituality and Identity of Younger Men**. Jimmy Buffet will be there to perform a spacial concert. For more information go to www.elca.org/lmm

SUGGESTED READINGS

Coming of Age: Exploring the Spirituality and Identity of Younger Men by David W. Anderson; Paul G. Hill; Dr. Roland D. Martinson. What is the state of faith today among younger men in the church? How is the church responding to the spiritual needs of a new generation? Armed with these questions and many more, authors Roland Martinson, Paul Hill, and David Anderson conducted interviews with young men (ages 18-40) of differing life and faith experiences, and differing ethnic backgrounds in six regions of the U.S. This new book, Coming of Age, is based on the results of this study. Available Augsburg Fortress: \$15.99, # 0806652241

Master Builders Bible for Men, 2nd Edition This NIV Bible features the Men's Ministry Leaders Supplement and 20,000 study questions written into the text that assist participants to get to know each other as they get to know God. It also features six courses for men each with six beginner and six advanced sessions.

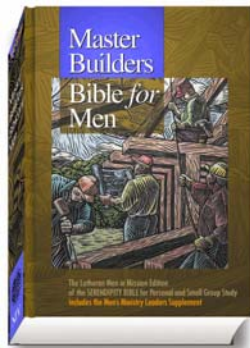
Building Bridges: Men Dealing Constructively with Anger This eight-session guide will assist the participant to identify emotions and discover new tools to deal positively with conflict. Available on-line at Augsburg Fortress: \$6.00 # 6000098952 Leader Guide : \$6.00, # 6000098960

How to Build a Life Changing Men's Ministry: Bring the Fire Home to Your Church

The past few years have brought a God-sent explosion of opportunities for men to grow spiritually. Large meetings, weekend retreats, urban and overseas mission projects lead men to want more: What can men in a local church or fellowship do—week in and week out—to grow into what God wants them to be? Augsburg Fortress: \$12.95 # 1556618115

God's Man: A daily devotional guide for men written by nearly 50 men's ministry leaders including Lutheran Men in Mission Director, Doug Haugen. Topics include A Man and His: relationships, family, church, community, time and emotions. Augsburg Fortress: \$13.99 # 0825420008

John Laughlin





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

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2nd Star Production 2007-2008 Season

"The Miracle Worker" by William Gibson
August 31 - September 22, 2007

"The Pirates of Penzance" by Gilbert & Sullivan
November 9 - December 8, 2007

"Leading Ladies" by Ken Ludwig
February 29 - March 22, 2008

"My Fair Lady" by Lerner and Loewe
May 30 - June 28, 2008

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!!!
NEWLETTER DEADLINE

Email articles for the
August 2007
Grapevine newsletter to
the church office
church@allsaintsbowie.org
By July 22, 2007

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.