

# SAINTS ALIVE

Merry Christmas

FROM ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please join us for the annual

## Christmas Pageant

DECEMBER 10TH AT 10AM  
DURING WORSHIP

With All  
Saints and  
Zion!

# Christmas EVE SERVICES

24  
DECEMBER  
2023

9:00 A.M. FAMILY  
WORSHIP

9 P.M.  
CANDLELIGHT  
SERVICE

### Upcoming Events

**Ham and Turkey Dinner**  
Thursday, December 7th  
@12:00pm. \$10 @ the door

**Bible Study**  
Conference Room Thursdays @  
10:00am

**Juice Sunday And Pickup  
Flowers and Greens**  
Sunday, December 4th

**Quilting Crew**  
Mondays 8:30-12:00 (coffee at  
10)

**Evening Quilters**  
1st/3rd Tuesday 6:30-8:00

**Holiday Fair Christmas Party**  
Tuesday, December 12th  
6:00 pm

**Meditation Exploration**  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays  
7pm

**Tutoring Hour**  
Wednesdays at 5:30pm



## *Sheep Dog's Log*

WITH PASTOR JULES

At All Saints we started Advent earlier than usual, in fact, we have seven holy weeks of Advent using the resource titled "OUT of Time" by Barn Geese Worship. (<https://barngeseeworship.com/>)

The sermons and the actual worship services have been an incredible experience to hear how God is beside us, ahead of us, behind us, and within us. This is why I am sharing the quote from Jan Richardson: Beloved is where we begin. If it is true that we are the beloved children of God, saved through the sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus, and sealed by the Holy Spirit - then Beloved is who we are, both individually and as a congregation.

It is an exciting time to be the Church! On Dec. 3rd we will be having a congregational vote to call an Associate Pastor. His name is Wes Kimball. You all should have received a letter about the vote and a bio on Wes. The call committee did a fine job vetting the candidates that Bishop Lull gave to All Saints.

The Office of Word and Sacrament is not one to tip into lightly. We are called to make public our vows of service and of following the Lutheran traditions. I was pretty wobbly 27 years ago on Sunday, December 15, 1996 when the laying on of hands pressed upon my head. The stole I received from my parents was placed upon my shoulders as a mantle of serving Christ within the ELCA.

On Dec. 10 at 1:00pm, Vicar Michael will have the same mantle of ordination placed around his frame. Vicar Erica may be soon to follow! Prayers are encouraged for her call process.

**"Beloved is where we begin."**  
"...to follow God does not often mean traveling with certainty about where God will lead us. Rather, following God propels us to be present to the place where we are, for this is the very place where God shows up."

— Jan L. Richardson, *Through the Advent Door: Entering a Contemplative Christmas*

If you have never been to an ordination, please attend. The language and music, the assembly of saints and Office of the Bishop can be a fantastic reminder of what it means to be a pastor. In fact, I see the work I do on behalf of Jesus Christ as "A duty and a delight."

As I enter in to my 28th year of ordained ministry, I feel compelled to say: THANK YOU. Thank you, All Saints for being so ready to serve with Joy. I appreciate that you follow the motto: Show Up. Do Good. Be Kind. It is the DNA of this parish and I'm ever so grateful to continue to serve Christ here - and now, to have a new associate after many, many months of being solo.

That being said, I know that I do not do this work alone. You, the people of God, continue to pray for me and our staff. You continue to welcome and engage new people, growing the congregation so that even more work can be done on Christ's behalf.

I want to share a huge Thank You to Pastor Rebecca for her passion for visitation ministry and assistance with the occasional funeral. You are a good gift! Special thanks to Rayna, Leah, Karen, Sandy, Deb, Vicar Erica, Joan and Steve, our nursery attendants, funeral crews, readers, leaders, and all who continue to support this place of Grace. A special shout out goes to our Business Manager Craig Anderson for his many years of service. Craig, you made my life easier; thank you!

## Dates to Celebrate

Our Deepest Apologies:

To the Family of Dwayne Tannahill,

We strive to keep an updated calendar on Google. Now, since Pastor Jules has access (not the best idea, Pastor Tanner), she placed Jingle Jazz on the calendar back in January. It was PJ's mistake to not remove it in time for the Nov. newsletter. Dwayne was the engine behind that fun and festive event. We can imagine him playing his reed instruments in the Church Triumphant. Our deepest apologies for this error.

### HOLIDAY FAIR THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who assisted in making our Holiday Fair another great success. We have teams that worked together to make our Quilts, Crafts, Lefse, Rosettes and brought back the Lunchroom. It takes many hours to put on Holiday Fair. We appreciate all the volunteers that helped us set up, work the day of sale and pack up on Sunday.

A special thank you to all those who donated items. We had an outstanding amount of donations this year. We have so many gifted people in our congregation that brought in crafts and baked good. Zion members contributed crafts, baked goods and sold their famous soup!

Such a good time was had by all, we look forward to next year!

Holiday Fair Craft Night  
We are having our Christmas Party!  
December 12, 2023 at 6:00 pm  
Bring an appetizer or treat to share  
Questions? call Val 651-768-7935

### Dec. 3

9:00am: Stewardship for All Seasons pledge reveal

9:55am: Congregational Vote for the Associate Pastor position

10:00am: Vicar Erica and Teddy's Baby Shower

### Dec. 10

10:00am: ONE JOINT SERVICE WITH ZION: Christmas Pageant

11:00am: Inurnment for Pam Dahlager (private)

1:00pm: Vicar Michael's ORDINATION service with dessert and nosh and nibbles to follow!!

### Dec. 17

9:00: Final Advent Worship Service: Out of Time

### Dec. 24

9:00 am: Family Christmas Eve Worship

9:00pm: Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship  
*(Service times were suggested by the council with input from the program staff, this is the first time Christmas Eve has landed on a Sunday in a long time.)*

### Dec. 31

9:00am: Welcome to the New Year Worship

*(bring your party noise makers)*



### **From Sandy Willmarth**

*"Thank you for all who purchased Metro Dining cards this year. The profits go towards our youth. We sold over 100 sets of cards and the profit is around \$1500. This includes a Thrivent grant of \$250!"*

## Meditation Exploration

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the Month



Join us for an hour of Meditation Exploration on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

- Do you consider yourself a lifelong practitioner and are looking for a place of community?
- Have you dabbled in meditation and are looking for a new way to experience it?
- Are you wondering "what the heck is meditation?"

If you answered YES! to any of these questions, then you are welcome to join us as we explore meditation as a way to reduce stress, improve health, find peace, and befriend yourself and one another.

We will read and share from one of Jon Kabat-Zinn's books on mindfulness, followed by some time to put meditation into practice

Our FREE community events will be held on 11/22 (and following) at 7pm at All Saints Lutheran Church in Cottage Grove.



For questions or more information contact Liza Viktora at 651-295-4888 or [simplejourneysmassage@gmail.com](mailto:simplejourneysmassage@gmail.com)





## Vicar's Verses

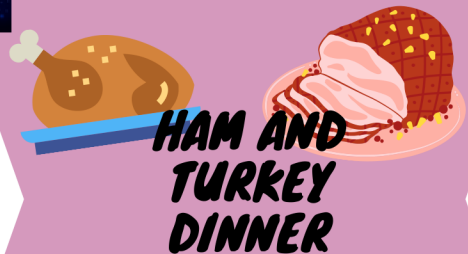
WITH VICAR ERICA

We started Advent earlier this year than usual. Typically, the season of Advent is celebrated on the 4 Sundays leading up to Christmas Day. This year, as Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, some churches are cutting their Advent down to only 3 weeks. Advent, however, is a season of preparation. Preparation for Christmas, yes, but also preparation for Christ to come again. With our Advent theme of "Out of Time", we are exploring how our scriptures show us different ways of understanding time. Advent reminds us of the reality that time is limited, and we run out of time to do all the things that we want and need to do. In that, though, we are also reminded that God is outside of time. As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-With-Us, we remember that an infinite God entered into humanity, in human time, to be with us.

As we continue to journey through Advent, we have many upcoming events, which you'll read about throughout the Newsletter. May we approach this busy season with the knowledge that, even in our busiest times, God is present. May we continue to search for God, even in the chaos of preparation.

# LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE DECEMBER 20 6:30 P.M.

THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE IS A REFLECTIVE  
SERVICE,  
HOLDING SACRED SPACE FOR ANYONE FOR WHOM  
THE CHRISTMAS SEASON ALSO BRINGS FEELINGS OF  
GRIEF OR LOSS



## HAM AND TURKEY DINNER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 2023  
ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
12:00 PM



# SEEDS Faith

First off, let's give a big thank you to Todd Waller for constructing the stage for our Christmas Program!

Please mark your calendars:

- Christmas Program Rehearsal Saturday December 9th 10:30-12:00
- Christmas Program December 10th 10:00 am~this will be a joint event with Zion Lutheran~

*Hear the story of Christmas that you may recall  
 A story of "peace on earth, goodwill toward all"  
 From the pages of a great big book you'll hear the Gospel in rhyme  
 From characters such as Mary, even a few Magi if we have time.  
 As the Sunday School teacher turns each page  
 A new chapter will unfold before her class sitting on the stage  
 Where they will discover the message of Christmas  
 So be sure to mark your calendar for this pageant or else you may miss us.*

- There will be NO Sunday School or Seeds December 17, 24th or January 31st.
- Please join us for a New Year's Eve Service with all the bells and whistles on Sunday January 31st.
- We will resume programming on January 7th.
- We continue to offer free tutoring sessions on Wednesday evenings. We have had a few kiddos show up for reading and math help. A huge thank you to all of you for the support of our youngest community members. I want to also thank the volunteers who show up on Wednesdays to assist with this new adventure.



## Noteworthy Music

BY KAREN PIPER, MUSIC DIRECTOR



Here is the December 2023 music schedule:

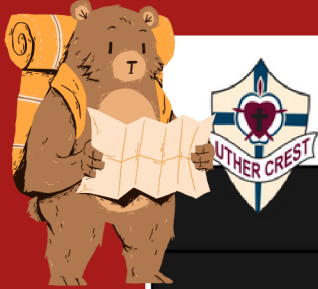
- December 3rd: Sanctuary Choir sings Rise Up and See the King! 8:15 am run-through
- December 6th: Rehearsals resume as scheduled
- December 10th: Christmas Pageant at 10:00 am
- December 17th: Bell Choir plays O Come, O Come Emmanuel 8:15 am run-through
- December 24th: Sanctuary Choir sings Three Carols from Poland at 9:00 pm service 8:30 pm run-through.
- December 24th: Bell Choir performs Christmas Carols 8:45 pm run-through
- December 27th: NO REHEARSALS

Merry Christmas!  
Karen

# CAMP is coming back!

We are so excited to be partnering with Luther Crest again this year! Luther Crest will coming here to All Saints Lutheran Church June 16th-20th to provide Vacation Bible school to our children. We are interested in knowing what times work for your family this week? Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00 OR Sunday-Wednesday 4:00-7:00?

In addition, Luther Crest has many other offerings for faith-based camps! Check out some of the other wonderful options below.



## SUMMER 2024

	Elementary	Middle School	High School	Intergenerational
June 16-21			Keeper Training	
June 23-28	Onsite DC Leapers	Witnesses Xtreme	Blazers	Women's Week
July 7-12	Leapers	Witnesses Xtreme	Blazers	Magi
July 12-14			ELCA Youth Gathering	Family & All People Camp
July 14-19	Explorers Seekers Leapers	Witnesses	Blazers	Magi
July 21-26	Onsite DC	Night Owl		Magi
July 26-28				Family & All People Camp
July 28-Aug 2	Leapers	Witnesses Wet & Wild	Blazers	Magi Family & All People Camp
Aug 2-4				Family & All People Camp
Aug 4-9	Onsite DC Explorers Seekers Leapers	Witnesses Wet & Wild	Proclaimers	Magi Family & All People Camp



# Tele-Care Needs You! . . . Do You Need Tele-Care?



## What is Tele-Care?

An extraordinary example of All Saints members who serve with joy quietly plays out every morning with a simple phone call. We have a group of caring volunteers who are part of the Tele-Care program where daily calls are made to live-alone, homebound, or ailing seniors who live in their own homes. The purpose of these calls is to make sure all is well with these potentially vulnerable individuals. This daily check-in provides peace of mind and a measure of reassurance to participants and their loved ones.

Calls are usually made between 7:30 am and 8:30 am every morning including weekends and holidays. The program is sponsored by the All Saints Holistic Pastoral Care Team and there is **no fee** to participate.

## How long have we had Tele-Care?

The program has been part of our history for over 25 years. It was originally established by Conway Olson who modeled it after a similar program he observed in another congregation. What a lovely legacy he left for us!

## Tele-Care needs you!

Due to a variety of circumstances, participation in our Tele-Care program has dwindled. We're looking for **new enrollees**. If you or someone you know could benefit from this program, we'd be happy to provide further information and an enrollment form.

## How does the process work?

1. You will be asked to provide us with the names of emergency contacts such as a relative, nearby neighbor or friend. If Tele-Care is unable to reach you, your emergency contacts will be called and asked to go to your home to personally check on you. Your emergency contacts must have access to a house key or garage door code. Tele-Care volunteers do not make visits to participant's homes.
2. If your emergency contacts can't be reached, the non-emergency police number will be called and an officer will do a welfare check.

## How do I enroll?

Call the church office or Lesley Beaudoin at 651-346-1088. Lesley will provide additional information, answer questions, walk you through the process and get you enrolled.

**Please act by January 1st.**

If we don't hear about others who may want to utilize this program, Tele-Care will end on Dec. 31st. It will be bittersweet, but we know it has served our community lovingly for many years and has been a life-line for some of our most vulnerable members. We are ever so grateful for all the volunteers, past and present, who dedicated their mornings to checking on their fellow members. It is a selfless gift of love and service! Deep thanks to all of you!

## **From the Immigration Task Force**

The members of the Immigration Task Force want to extend our deepest thanks to our congregation for the support we received for our "Operation Backpack" project. This project supported Conversation With Friends. During the month of October, 10 backpacks, many personal care items, gift cards, Thrivent Dollars Cards and \$1435.00 in cash were donated. The gift cards, cash, and Thrivent Dollars Cards will be used to purchase more backpacks, personal care items and clothing.

We will be able to assist Conversations With Friends in providing "Dignity Backpacks" to detainees being deported from Immigration Court at Fort Snelling. These detainees come from many countries, and most often are detained for minor infractions such as traffic tickets, which bring them to the attention of ICE. Many of them are hard-working taxpayers who have been in this country for years. Some have been here since childhood, and may not even remember living in their "country of origin."

Again, a big THANK YOU for the support for Conversation With Friends, allowing them to do their important work.

The Task Force also supports other organizations such as Jonathan House and Casa Guadalupano. If you are interested in learning more about us, feel free to attend our next meeting: Wednesday, January 3rd at 10 am at church.

A VERY MERRY VINTAGE CHRISTMAS WILL HAVE A TABLE AT THE 2024 HOLIDAY FAIR. WE ARE COLLECTING ORNAMENTS AND CHRISTMAS DÉCOR FROM THE 1940'S, 1950'S, AND THE 1960'S. AS YOU DECORATE FOR CHRISTMAS AND FIND THAT YOU HAVE VINTAGE ORNAMENTS YOU NO LONGER DISPLAY, PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING THEM TO THE 2024 LITTLE VINTAGE CORNER. FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO DONATE, PLEASE CALL OR TEXT IVA AT 218-616-0669. ALL PROCEEDS GO THE THE HOLIDAY FAIR.

