

All Saints Lutheran Church • Fitchburg, WI

News From the Journey

July, 2009

Pastor's Letter . . .

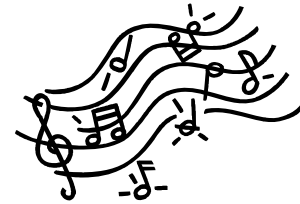
Move Ahead. Look Back.

I wrote a newsletter item on June 29. As I looked at the calendar, the date was familiar. One year ago, Sunday, June 29, was Groundbreaking Sunday at All Saints! Mission partners and guests gathered in old fellowship hall and walked to the mound of dirt on the north side of the building. There we prayed, shared our dedication verse, and turned over spades of earth.

Look at how much has happened since then! We have a wonderful tool to assist in our mission: to know, follow, and share Jesus. As an example, Vacation Bible School was teeming with kids and adults using ample new space. Small groups find space for meals and study in the new kitchen and conference room. The nursery is larger and accommodates more children for different groups using the facility.

When we look ahead, sometimes it is helpful to look back and see how far God has led us. One baseball coach wrote: "It's not how far you've come but where you started from in how far you've come." In the Bible, writers do look back and call us to remember what God has done. Worship, Scripture, and memory help us to look back so as to move forward in faith as the Holy Spirit leads individuals and congregations. Don't forget to look back before you go forward and recall the one who truly leads us.

- *Pastor Rick*



Welcome, Dr. Sherri Hansen

We are glad to announce Dr. Sherri Hansen will be the new part-time Worship and Music Director and Adult Choir Director beginning July 15.

A time of blessing will be at both services on July 19 and a fellowship time to visit with Sherri will be from 9:45-10:30 in new fellowship hall.

Sherri is a physician in Madison who has a passion for music and has served in a number of sister ELCA congregations in Madison. She, also, serves at the Lutheran Campus Center, Madison. Sherri has published a number of musical compositions with Augsburg Fortress, Pilgrim Press, and Crosswind Publishing.

Watch for more information on Sherri and All Saints' music ministry in next month's newsletter.

Welcome, Sherri!

To Know . . .

**The
Bible's
Big Story**
Our Story

Coming October 24!
See inside for details!

To Follow . . .

Barnabas Award

Carol Eisele is this year's recipient of the Barnabas Award. Read more about this award inside.

and Share Jesus . . .

120 Midwife Kits

The MOPS Small Group thanks all who donated items for the kits taken to the June Synod Assembly.

Mark your calendar . . .

Fall Kick-off – September 13

A day to celebrate community!

**Sunday School Resumes
Potluck Luncheon
Exciting Games
Special Music**

Like to help with the fun?

We need people to help with:

- Potluck Luncheon: set tables, put out food, make coffee and lemonade
- Games: plan a couple of games for children, set-up a kickball field
- Clean-up: wash dishes and clean tables

For more info, contact: Kathryn Olszewski, 833-8560, or katholsz@aol.com or Jeanie Sieling, 271-9408, or jeanie.sieling@fitchburg.wi.us,

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**Children's Ministry**  
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Thank you to every-one who volunteered and attended Vacation Bible School.

We were swamped with fun as we learned about how God is with us, is powerful, and keeps his promises. Fifty-nine children joined us and one-third of the children were guests.

The many volunteers made Crocodile Dock a success. Special thank goes to Gretchen Malin and Susan Sherman for helping me plan VBS.

Have a great summer!

Kathryn Olszewski,
Children's Ministry Coordinator

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**2009 Barnabas Award**  
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The Barnabas Award is given at All Saints to a mission partner who exhibits the spirit of the New Testament disciple Barnabas. Barnabas was a good friend of Paul. He exemplified a spirit of encouragement, support, and prayerful service. This year's recipient is Carol Eisele.

Carol was a charter mission partner in 1987. She has served in many roles: former altar guild member, PIE team participant, Service Team Coordinator, Capital Appeal Team participant, All Saints' Adult Choir member, Lydia Small Group and Women's Breakfast Small Group member – and more! Carol is married to Steve Eisele. They have two adult sons, Mike and Dan (Gianna), and grandchild, Ana.

Carol was honored as this year's award recipient at the 8:30 a.m. Classic Worship June 28.

A plaque with Carol's name and past recipients will soon be in the new fellowship hall.

Save the Date!

**The Bible's Big Story –
And Ours!**

Rev. Dr. Harry Wendt, author of "Crossways!" and "The Divine Drama" Bible studies will host a half-day workshop – "The Bible's Big Story – And Ours!" – this fall. The workshop is Saturday, October 24, 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at All Saints' fellowship hall.

**The Bible's Big Story
Our Story**

"The Bible's Big Story – And Ours!" is a Biblical overview using a colorful, image-packed timeline ideal for mission partners, staff, Sunday School teachers, and all who wish to be fluent in Scripture. The overview not only examines what happened in the Biblical narrative, but where we fit into its ongoing story today.

The half-day registration fee (including a special couple's rate) includes a workbook and light refreshments. To sign-up or for more info, call All Saints' office or Pastor Rich at 276-7729.

Prayer Joys and Concerns . . .

God's peace in Christ to the family of Betty Race at the sudden death of her son, Terry, in Whitewater, WI . . .

We give thanks for the gift of new life to Terry and Julia Miler at the birth of Rachel Lily, June 16. Rachel's baptism was July 5 . . . to Jim and Leigh Luedtke at the birth of Cameron Gordon Luedtke, June 6 . . .

Continued prayers of thanks and guidance for our companion Synod, the Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church of India. A youth from the NELC, Martin Hansdok, is in Wisconsin July 11-19 as part of the churchwide youth gathering . . .

News & Notes

Communion Visitors: All Saints has equipped a number of communion visitors who are glad to make hospital, nursing home, or home communion visits. What a gift and privilege to be able to share the sacrament of Christ's true presence with one another when one is not able to be at worship and communion for a time. An All Saints' mission partner donated four home communion sets for this purpose. For more info, please call Pastor Rich or Georgia at 276-PRAY.

Financial Stewardship Update . . . Thank you for your prayers and financial giving to All Saints! For more information, contact Congregational Council President, Jason Kunding, 223-0839.

General and Building Fund

June, 2009	2009 Actual	2009 Budget	
Year to Date	195,983.66	194,095.02	101%
Month	26,884.01	32,349.17	83%

Building Fund

June, 2009: 5,091.50 • Year to Date: 61,650.73

Budgeted monthly mortgage payments: 8,200.00

Mid-Year Giving Statements have been mailed. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia in the church office, M-Th, 9:00 a.m.-12 noon/1:00-4:00 p.m., 276-7729.

Worship & Music Ministry

Joyful Noise Welcomes New Players: Do you have an instrument that you like to play (or return to playing)? Do you keep looking at that wind, brass, or string instrument in the closet and recall how much you enjoyed (and missed) playing? Here's your opportunity. Joyful Noise, All Saints' intergenerational instrumental group is looking for additional players. For more info, contact Joyful Noise director Nancy Pokorney, 827-6426.

Music Ministry Picnic: Jeff and Robin Cherkwinka will host a potluck picnic gathering at their home on Sunday, August 23, 4:00-8:00 p.m., for all involved with All Saints' music ministry: Adult Choir, New Song Group, Joyful Noise, and All Saints Ringers Bell Choir.

All Saints' Plant Caretaker

We are pleased to announce that Sandy Mischke, a regular worshipper at the 10:45 New Song service, has agreed to take care of all of All Saints' indoor plants. Sandy will regularly water plants and tend to those plants in need of special care. Sandy has, also, been responsible for planting and tending to many of the annuals and perennials surrounding the outside of the building. Please resist the urge to water our indoor plants as they are in good hands with Sandy!

Nursery 101

Nursery 101: Here are a few reminders from Chris Carollo-Zeuner, childcare staff person about the nursery: The nursery is designed for children age 5 years and under. (Older siblings are welcome if there is space and they are willing to help out.) Please sign your child in and out on the clipboard on the counter and inform the child-care staff person of any special needs your child has. For safety reasons, your child should remain in the nursery until an adult arrives. Please arrive promptly after the worship service to pick-up your child and help model respect for the new space by assisting your child with cleaning-up the toys.

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## All Saints' Small Group Ministry

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Currently, there are 10 small groups at All Saints. The small groups are involved in a variety of service projects both within the church walls and in the community. You are welcome to visit any of our small groups to see how they work and to learn more. The groups and facilitators are as follows:

Barnabas Boys Men's Small Group: facilitator: Dick Hoefs, 442-8932

Crafts Small Group: co-facilitators: Robin Cherkwinka, 832-6388, and Joan Stoikes, 274-6621

Drama Small Group: facilitator: Gary Kriesel, 276-8832

Habitat for Humanity Small Group: facilitator: Jerry Sieling, 721-9408

Kitchen Angels Small Group: facilitator: Betty Race, 845-2154

Life Together Small Group: facilitator: Roger Damrow, 288-9245

Lydia Small Group: co-facilitators: Caroll Borgen, 835-5674, and Carol Eisele, 271-7931

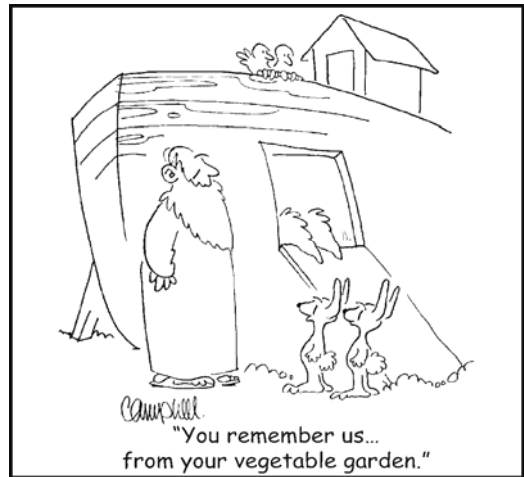
McKee Park Apts. Small Group: co-facilitators: Jon and Caroll Borgen, 835-5674

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers): co-facilitators: Ronda Beggs, 298-9406; Renae Sieling, 835-8695; and Loriann Wunder, 848-8727

Women's Breakfast Small Group: facilitator: Becky Baumbach, 274-7217

If you have any general questions regarding small groups or have an idea for a new small group, contact the Small Groups Coordinator, Jeanie Sieling, 271-9408.

Life Together Small Group: Summer meeting dates for the Life Together Small Group are Sundays, July 26, and August 23, at 5:00 p.m. The group is currently studying Luther's Large Catechism. New members are welcome! For more info, contact Roger Damrow, 288-9245.



The Barnabas Boys Small Group has been collecting items for shipment to troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. The group thanks all who have given items for the care packages.

The group recently received a thank you note from SFC William Whisman: *"I would like to thank you for the box of stuff you sent. It means a lot to know people care and support us. Take care and God bless."*

There is a collection table for the items in the fellowship hall. The group has updated its list of items that are being collected:

- Snacks (in small sizes and no fresh food): non-chocolate candy (it melts in high temperatures), mixed nuts, beef jerky, trail mix, powdered drink mixes, and cookies.
- Personal care items: soap, shampoo, conditioner, combs, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, mouthwash, razors and other shaving needs, deodorant, etc. Toiletries should be personal-size but not "hotel-size".
- Miscellaneous items: AA batteries, mini-flashlights (key ring or pocket-size), wash clothes, hand and face towels, large Ziploc bags (up to one-gallon in size), cooling packs for cooling in refrigerators and used to cool neck, forehead, and shoulders, adhesive-backed detachable hooks for hanging clothes, pictures, etc.), and international phone cards.

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**Newsletter articles** are due the first Monday of the month to Georgia in the church office. Items are subject to editing due to space availability.

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Synod Assembly Update . . .

The South-Central Synod of Wisconsin Synod Assembly was held June 6-7. Voting members from All Saints were Pastor Rich and Jon and Carol Borgen.

Following is an update of resolutions passed, Synod Council members elected, and other updates from the event.

Resolutions:

- Growing in the Use of the Means of Grace at Our Lord's Supper
- Grace Matters – It Really Does: A Memorial to 2009 Churchwide Assembly
- God Said It Is Good Sunday
- Memorial for Further Action Regarding ELCA Board of Pensions and Domestic Partners
- Recommend Proposed Social Statement on Human Sexuality to Churchwide Assembly
- Recommend Adoption of Recommendation on Ministry Policies to Churchwide Assembly

For complete text of the resolutions, visit the synod website and type into your browser:

www.scswelca.org/2009_AssemblyResolutions.pdf

Synod Assembly Election Results:

Elected to Synod Council:

Clergy:

Rev. Rob Carlson (New Life, Madison)
Rev. Steve Kottke (Grace, Dodgeville)

Female Lay:

Carolyn Butts (St. John's, Evansville)

Male Lay:

Calvin Williams (Bethel, Madison)
Eric Peterson (Bethel, Madison)

We are grateful for two mission partners who serve on our Synod Council. They are Bob Gorsuch, Treasurer, and Jim Greenwald.

Hospice and Midwife Kit Report:

The Synod staff says: *"Thank you to all the congregations that worked hard this year to collect, package and transport hospice and midwife kits to the Synod Assembly this year. This is another wonderful example of God's work. Our hands."*

A total of 1,446 midwife and 929 hospice kits were collected, including 120 midwife kits from All Saints. Thank you to the MOPS Small Group for coordinating the collection and assembling kits and to all who donated items at All Saints.

The Synod Assembly Offering totaled \$6,484.53 and will be divided between two Synod ministries: our companion Synod, the Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church in India and for development of new congregations in the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin.

The 2009 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), our denomination, convenes in Minneapolis, MN, on August 17-23, with 1,045 voting members from 65 synods and 10,448 congregations serving on behalf of the 4,709,203 baptized members of the ELCA. The theme is *"God's Work. Our Hands."* You can follow the assembly on line at www.elca.org.

CHURCH STAFF

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Worship and Music Director..... Dr. Sherri Hansen
(Phone: 234-8570; E-mail: sherrihansen@tds.com)
Kids Praise Director.....Janet Johnson
Accompanists.....Ingrid Kunding, lead pianist;
Erin Egan, Janet Johnson, Nancy Pokorney
.....H.S. Youth Sponsors
Kathryn Olszewski.....Children's Ministry Coordinator
(Phone: 833-8560; E-mail: katholsz@aol.com)
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Georgia Wagaman, Secretary.....Phone: 276-7729
e-mail: georgia@allsaints-madison.org
(Secretarial Hours: 9:00 a.m.-12 p.m./1:00-4:00 p.m., M-R)
Chris Carollo-Zeuner.....Childcare Staff Person
(Sundays, 8:30-11:45 a.m.)
Dennis Ahnen.....Custodian

Upcoming Message Topics
8:30 a.m. Classic Worship • 10:45 a.m. New Song Worship
&
Sunday Morning Alive Themes
9:40 a.m. – Fellowship Hall

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| Sunday, July 19 | <i>"I have a friend who is spiritual but doesn't believe in organized religion . . . "</i>
Psalm 23 |
| Sunday, July 26 | <i>"Hungry for Bread . . . and Meaning."</i> John 6:1-21 |
| Sunday, August 2 | Guest Pastor Al Wahl |
| Sunday, August 9 | Guest Pastor Brent Christianson, Lutheran Campus Center, UW-Madison |