

All Saints Lutheran Church • Fitchburg, WI

News From the Journey

September, 2009

*A Day to Celebrate Community
Kick-Off Sunday,
September 13*



Gather for Worship!

8:30 a.m. – Classic Worship
10:45 a.m. – New Song Worship
(Childcare provided for both services.)

Sunday School Starts – 9:40-10:30 a.m.

Come walk through the Red Sea (really!)
Begin to explore the journey of the Israelites
Join our hands-on program
Open for ages 3 to grade 8

Potluck Lunch - Noon

Bring a dish to pass and join in the fun!
A-H – Entrees
I-Q – Desserts
R-Z – Salads, beans & chips

Entertainment

Kickball for all ages! • Games • Music

To Know . . .

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

Coming October 24!
Guest Presenter:
Rev. Dr. Harry Wendt
(See inside for details!)

Follow . . .

Calling All Singers!

Rehearsals are beginning for
All Saints' Adult Choir (7:15-
8:30 p.m. Wednesday) and
New Song Worship Team
(7:15-8:30 p.m. Thursday).
New voices are welcome!
(See inside for details!)

and Share Jesus . . .



**Help Load
Lutheran World Relief
Boxcars**

Saturday, October 10
(See inside for details!)

Pastor's Letter . . .

Make It Simple

“The earth is the LORD’s and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.”

Psalm 24:1

Stewardship is simple. All that we have is a graceful trust. We are called to pray, consider, and respond with the mind and manner of Jesus to serve. Stewardship is simple but not easy or thoughtless.

October 4 is Commitment Sunday, a time when All Saints’ mission partners respond with a covenant card on how we would like to share our income in the ministry of All Saints. It is simple but not easy, especially in these times. Commitment Sunday is October 4 at both services. Simple notes, covenant cards, and a prayer will be mailed to you. We will, also, have a special guest vocalist that Sunday, Carol Johnson Marshall, my sister. We will fill-out covenant cards and place them on the altar at the conclusion of worship. **Make it simple.**

The theme for the year is *community*. Is there a better theme in the light of change and anxiety in our land? In community, we travel together, are better together, and serve together. The theme will begin on fall kick-off Sunday, September 13. Some of the Bible texts will follow the Exodus and, also, stages in our faith journey following Christ.

Community is not a club or a click. It is a called people in mission to know, follow, and share Jesus. Be part of the community that travels together. **Make it simple.**

- Pastor Rick

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### **Musicians, Singers, and Techies: Ways to Share Your Gifts!**

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There are numerous opportunities to participate in music ensembles at All Saints. All are recruiting new members and we are in the process of rebuilding the handbell choir for the Advent season. For more info, contact Sherri Hansen, 234-8570 or sherrihansen@tds.com.

Adult Choir meets weekly for rehearsals on Wednesdays, 7:15-8:30 p.m. and sings at the 8:30 a.m. Classic worship service.

New Song Worship Team leads worship at the 10:45 a.m. contemporary service. Rehearsals are Thursdays 7:15-8:30 p.m. All singers and musicians are welcome.

Joyful Noise musical ensemble that includes strings, winds, and brass plays at 8:30 a.m.

Classic Worship service throughout the year and is led by Nancy Pokorney, 827-6426.

Handbells: Plans are to rebuild the handbell choir that will begin rehearsing this fall to participate in Advent at the 8:30 a.m. Classic Worship service. Please let Sherri Hansen know if you are interested.

Sound Tech Team: Plans are to create a sound team for the 10:45 New Song service. This is a great opportunity for “gear heads” including high school students to become involved in this crucial role at New Song. For more info, contact Sherri Hansen.

Kids Praise (kindergarten-2nd graders) practices in the sanctuary on Sunday during the first 15 minutes of Sunday School, 9:40-9:55 a.m. and sing at the 10:45 New Song service monthly. Janet Johnson leads Kids Praise. Preschool music is part of the Sunday classes with special activities throughout the year.



**Lifelong Learning Opportunities
At All Saints . . .**

Children’s Ministry

Sunday School starts Sunday, September 13, at 9:40 a.m.! Our fall kick-off celebration begins in the sanctuary for children age 3 years-grade 5. Teachers will be there to greet children and parents. Children may be picked-up at 10:30 in their classrooms. (Middle School youth will meet in their classroom at 9:40.)

This fall we follow the Israelites as they cross the Red Sea, are provided for in the desert, and gain victory in the Promised Land. We’re bringing out the puppets, actively participating in storytelling, joining in games, and much, much more.

Contact Kathryn Olszewski with questions at 833-8560 or katholsz@aol.com. Registration forms are in the green lobby or www.allsaints-madison.org. Place in the giving box or mail to All Saints.

Bible Presentation: Second grade children will receive Bibles from the congregation on October 18 at the 10:45 New Song worship service. It is a great day to celebrate the gift of God’s word and what it means to us!

**Middle and High School
Student/Parent Planning Time**

Thank you for your prayers in youth and family ministry at All Saints! A key piece in Congregational Council work this year is discerning the needs and direction for middle and high school staffing.

An informational update and short planning time to shepherd events for October-February will, also, be reviewed for parents and middle school and high school youth on **Wednesday, September 9, 6:45-7:45 p.m.**, new fellowship hall. Please make an effort to be at the meeting. Please RSVP by phone, 276-7729, or e-mail:

pastorrich@allsaints-madison.org

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., in the fellowship hall.

“*The Bible’s Big Story – And Ours!*” is a Biblical overview using a colorful, image-packed timeline. The overview not only examines what happened in the Biblical narrative, but where we fit into its on-going story today.

Come along with a group of fellow travelers on a journey through God’s timeless Story. Learn that we are not onlookers – but participants – in this unfolding history!

Someone once said, “Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you will live forever.” The journey through the Bible’s Big Story will help you live meaningfully within the joy of God’s eternal embrace of grace.

The half-day registration fee (including a family rate) includes a workbook and light refreshments. Sign-up in the lobby or call All Saints’ office, 276-7729.

Confirmation Resumes

Confirmation Meeting with students (grades 7 and 8) and parents, Wednesday, September 23, 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. (Note change in date.)

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) boxcar loading and confirmation service project, will be Saturday,



October 10. The group will meet at the church building at 8:30 a.m. to work a shift loading box-cars at the UP freight yards in Madison, returning at noon. Goods such as quilts and health and school kits are being collected from congregations in southern Wisconsin, including the health kit items collected at All Saints’ Vacation Bible School in June. Other mission partners are welcome to help with this service project.



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## News & Notes

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Hand Sanitizer: As we start gathering for fall programs and activities, cold and flu bugs also come along too. Hand sanitizer is available for communion assistants and worshippers to use. Purell hand sanitizer bottles are in the sacristy, on the bookshelf on the back alcove, by the lectern, and in the lobby. If you are assisting with communion, please remember to use prior to coming up to the altar. Thanks!

Displays Made Easy: The Design Team wants to pass on the word that there are now a few easy ways to set-up displays in the fellowship hall or lobby.

First, they have made brown table skirts for the 2' x 4' tables that are used for displays. These table skirts will hide the scratches on the tables and allows you to store items underneath the table. You can see a couple of them being used in the fellowship hall at this time. They can be found in the kitchen, in a cupboard by the tablecloths.

Second, new table sign holders have been purchased. They hold an 8 1/2" x 11" piece of paper. These allow you to quickly create a sign on your computer that clearly explains your display. The sign holders are stored in the office.

Displays should generally be kept up for a few weeks and then taken down so the next group can set-up their information. Please let the office know when your display is going-up and when it will be taken down.

As always the team is open to answering questions and taking suggestions. The Design Team is: Roxie Kriesel, rkriesel@amfam.com; Kathryn Olszewski katholsz@aol.com; Karen Saunders, karen.art@charter.net; and Sara Storkson, sarastorkson@yahoo.com.

Financial Stewardship Update . . . Thank you for your prayers and financial giving to All Saints! I wanted to communicate some "softness" in the July and August general fund. Financial contributions in July were at about 82% of budget. August has been a bit above 70%. We are aware of summer trends but, also, want to communicate this to our mission partners. – Pastor Rich

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## Council Updates . . .

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Congregational Council meets the third Monday of the month. Two initiatives are being prayed, considered, and planned for this fall and winter.

The first is a need for staff in middle and high school. Council has done interviews with parents and students as well as study on synod resources and leadership models. A student/parent meeting is planned for Wednesday, September 9, 6:45-7:45 p.m., in the fellowship hall.

Second, All Saints has been asked to be one of several congregations in our synod to be in the Missional Discovery Journey (MDJ). It is an intentional way to pray and discern God's will for our mission and ministry. The MDJ team will meet several times a year with a coach and other congregations to pray, discern, and communicate possible directions in mission.

Third, council begins the budget process in September, which is most challenging in these times. Thank you for your prayers and your financial commitment to our mission.

Finally, there will be two council vacancies at the end of this year. Nominating team will begin work later this fall.

Current council members are Jason Kunder, President; Karen Julesberg, Vice President; Ellen Healey, Recording Secretary; Sara Storkson, Sue Martinson-Zyhowski, Pastor Rich, and Dan Rohrer, Treasurer.

Walking Together in Community

Small Groups Ministry

Life Together Small Group will resume their meeting schedule on Sunday, September 13, 5:00 p.m. The group is studying Luther's Large Catechism. New members are welcome! For more info, contact Roger Damrow, 288-9245.

MOPS' Fall Kick-Off: All Saints' Mothers of Preschoolers Small Group (MOPS) is gearing up for an exciting year! The kick-off meeting will be Monday, September 14, 9:15 a.m., and



will feature guest speaker Jo Gilmour, a "Love and Logic" facilitator, who will present an overview of

the program and offer simple strategies to use with preschoolers. For more info, contact Ronda Beggs, 320-9406, or rondabeggs@sbcglobal.net.

Wanted: Childcare provider for nursery during MOPS' meetings, second Monday morning of the month. For more info, contact Jeanie Sieling, 271-9408.

November MOPS Silent Auction: You can help support the Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) Small Group and St. Mark's Food Pantry by donating a homemade item or service for MOPS' silent auction to be held at All Saints on November 8 and at the monthly MOPS meeting on November 9. Examples of donations: craft items (such as knit or crochet wash cloths), artwork, IOU for homemade Christmas cookies, services such as computer support, and tennis lessons. Donations may be left at the church or for more info contact Renae Sieling at 835-8694 or rsieling@verizon.net.

New Mission Partner Class

A New Mission Partner (Member) Class will be Saturday, September 19, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon, new fellowship hall, that will focus on the mission and ministry of All Saints, core beliefs, and ways to grow spiritually for you and your family. Sign-up in the lobby or call 276-PRAY if you are interested. New mission partners will be received on Sunday, September 27.

Prayer Joys and Concerns . . .

Continued guidance and encouragement for people in-between jobs and those who are underemployed . . .

God's wisdom and insight as council seeks to plan and staff middle and high school ministry in the months ahead . . . for mission partners to pray and consider being part of a Missional Discovery Journey (MDJ) with seven other congregations (see council notes) . . .

God's blessings to LaJean Wilson on her 80th birthday September 4 . . .

Thanks be to God for the baptismal beginning on August 23 for Julian James Crennell, infant son of Peter and Dagmar Crennell and brother of Helena . . .

Those home, recovering, or recently hospitalized: Roger Budinger (home), Kay Klein (rehab), AZ, and Mary Krieger, St. Mary's Care Center . . .

We give thanks to God for the faithful service of our part-time (24 hrs./wk.) secretary, Georgia Wagaman. Georgia has served in the office for ten years this summer!

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Richard A. Johnson.....Phone: 276-7729
Home Phone: 278-0950
e-mail: pastorrich@allsaints-madison.org
Worship and Music Director..... Dr. Sherri Hansen
(Phone: 234-8570; E-mail: sherrihansen@tds.com)
Kids Praise Director: Janet Johnson.....276-7729
Joyful Noise Director: Nancy Pokorney.....827-6426
Accompanists.....Ingrid Kunding, lead pianist;
Erin Egan, Janet Johnson, Nancy Pokorney
.....H.S. Youth Sponsors
Children's Ministry Coordinator.....Kathryn Olszewski
(Phone: 833-8560; E-mail: katholsz@aol.com)
Small Groups Coordinator..... Jeanie Sieling
(Phone: 271-9408; e-mail: Jeanie.Sieling@Fitchburg.WI.US)
Secretary, Georgia WagamanPhone: 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)
Childcare Staff Person.....Chris Carollo-Zeuner
(Sundays, 8:30-11:45 a.m.)
Custodian.....Dennis Ahnen



Sunday Morning Alive! Has a New Name:



62 Steps!

The fall theme is *"Community"* and walking together. Sunday Morning Alive is open to all adults for learning discovery on Sunday mornings at 9:45-10:30 a.m. in new fellowship hall. It is a mere **62 Steps** from the sanctuary to new fellowship hall – hence the name, **62 Steps!**

The first step beginning Sunday, September 20, is from author and personal money management expert, Dave Ramsey and Financial Peace University. The video discussion is *"The Great Misunderstanding – Unleashing the Power of Generous Giving"*. In this three-part series, we will explore what a "good steward" really is – what Scripture says about money – the true meaning of ownership – the importance of generous giving, and how giving changes very part of your life. Hope to see you at **62 Steps!**

Topics coming in October, 2009:



Sunday, October 11: *"How We Got Our Bible"*

Sunday, October 18: *"How We Got Our Bible and How to Read Your Bible for All Its Worth – Example Luke 15."*

Sunday, October 25: Special guest presenter, Rev. Dr. Harry Wendt, author of Divine Drama and President of Crossways International, an ELCA learning partner. Dr. Wendt will be focusing on the Exodus as part of our discussion.