

All Saints Lutheran Church • Fitchburg, WI

News From the Journey

October, 2009

To Know . . .

Dig Deeper Into God's Word – Saturday, October 24

The Bible's Big Story Our Story

Rev. Dr. Harry Wendt, author of "Crossways!" and "The Divine Drama" Bible studies will present a half-day workshop – "The Bible's Big Story – And Ours!" – 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. The half-day registration fee (including a family rate) includes a workbook and light refreshments. To sign-up, call All Saints' office, 276-7729, by October 18.

To Follow . . .

Special Worship Services:

All Saints Sunday & Thanksgiving Eve

On All Saints Sunday, November 1, there will be a reading of the names of loved ones who have gone before us as we give thanks for their life and gifts from God. You may provide the name of a loved one to be read by filling out the forms available in the lobby or included in worship folders on October 18 and 25 or calling the church office, 276-PRAY, before noon Monday, October 26.



Thanksgiving Eve worship will be at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 25. The theme is "Thankful Together". There will be a special offering for Madison Area Lutheran Council, which sponsors the Dane County Jail Ministry and Lutheran World Relief boxcar loading.



And Share Jesus . . .

"And God Said It Is Good Sunday" Reformation Sunday, October 25

"And God Said It Is Good Sunday" was birthed at the 2009 Synod Assembly as a resolution to be united in witness to Christ through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), our denomination.

A special offering will be received Sunday, October 25, to support the 46 ministries of the ELCA, such as raising up future leaders through colleges (current students include Holly Godar, Luther, and Rebecca Cherkwinka, Carthage) and seminaries; starting mission congregations, global missions and relief efforts, among others. A special offering envelope is included in the newsletter for this emphasis and they will, also, be in the worship folders October 25.

To learn more about churchwide ministries, go to www.elca.org.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Pastor's Letter . . .

Freedom in Christ

*“ . . . and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.” – Jesus
John 8:32*

The two guests on the radio show I listened to began to raise their voices. Soon, I could not understand what they were saying! The host became a radio referee! Both guests had good points but somewhere the conversation imploded.

Many are talking past each other be it in the health care debate, school issues, or economic stimuli. There is the issue and then there is *how* we communicate. There are three things we can do when we communicate anything, anywhere, at anytime. Be clear, be kind, and be direct. The new Testament Book of Ephesians states “speak the truth in love”.

Jesus is the truth and he speaks in love. It is not always easy to hear the truth about us. We need reformation. We are forgiven sinners who are empowered by the spirit for service. We often, however, become hidden sinners, passive and self-serving.

Reformation Sunday, October 25, and All Saints Sunday, November 1, are cherishing worship times. We are always *re-forming* because the Holy Spirit is at work. We, also, need examples – past and present – on how to do this. All Saints Sunday brings us this with saints, past and present, who have been examples of God's grace.

Jesus is bold and direct. There is life in him. This is where life begins. He will not simply give you happiness but rather freedom in Christ.

- Pastor Rich

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**Council Updates . . .**  
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Again, thank you for your prayers and financial giving to All Saints.

Faithful weekly giving is vital to our many ministries. In the general fund, September offerings were at 83% of plan. Some of this has been offset by the staff vacancy for the first half of 2009 and lower utility bills in a mild summer. Next month there will be a building fund update.

Congregational Council is gathering a Missional Discovery (MJD) team as part of seven congregations discerning, praying, and planning next steps in our mission. The synod asked All Saints to be part of a “first wave” of congregations that can, also, work with other congregations in our synod in the future.

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

Thank you for prayers, consideration, and offering of 2010 covenant cards at worship Commitment Sunday, October 4. Outstanding covenant cards may be mailed into the office.

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**Communion Visitors**  
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All Saints has equipped a number of communion visitors 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. For more info, contact Pastor Rich or Georgia at 276-7729.



from *The Joyful Noiseletter*
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Children's Ministry

Bible Presentation Sunday: On October 18 at the 10:45 a.m. New Song worship service we will celebrate the gift of God's Word by presenting Bibles to our second grade children.

Sunday School children continue to travel with the Israelites. This month we will discuss worshiping and serving God as we cover the stories of the Israelites' worship of the golden calf, building of the tabernacle, and sending spies into the Promised Land. A few of the ways we will explore the stories is by building tabernacle models just "as the Lord commanded Moses", making trumpets, and enjoying "Land of Milk and Honey" shakes.

Middle School Youth Lend a Helping Hand: The middle school youth are committed to serving others. In September they baked cookies to share with the Chapel Valley community and on October 10 they loaded Lutheran World Relief boxcars. On October 25 they plan to rake leaves for people who need a little extra help. If you know of someone who would like assistance with raking, please call Kathryn Olszewski at 833-8560.

Communion Wine-Making

Communion Wine-Making Class: If you are interested in learning how to make wine for use during communion, veteran winemaker Bill May is planning a class at noon on Sunday, November 1. For more info, contact Bill at (608) 235-0783.

Small Groups Ministry

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS): If you are expecting a baby or have a child who is younger than first grade this group is for you! The MOPS Small Group meets the second Monday of the month (September-May) from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Childcare starts at 9:15 a.m. We have guest speakers, discussion, creative activities. For more info, contact Ronda Beggs, 298-9406 or rondabeggs@sbcglobal.net, or www.mops.org.

November MOPS Silent Auction: You can help support the MOPS Small Group and St. Mark's Food Pantry by donating a homemade item or service for a silent auction to be held Sunday morning, November 8, and at the monthly MOPS meeting November 9. Examples of donations: craft items, artwork, IOU for homemade Christmas cookies, or services. Donations may be left in a marked bin at All Saints. For more info, contact Renae Sieling, 835-8694, or rsieling@verizon.net.

MOPS, Hot Chocolate and Popcorn: The MOPS Small Group will be taking part in the Fitchburg Friends of the Library Great Halloween Hunt on Friday, October 23, 6:00-10:00 p.m., at McKee Farms Park, by having a booth selling hot chocolate and popcorn. The free family event offers preschool and elementary-aged kids the chance to meet storybook characters, crafts, storytellers, and live music. A movie and bonfire start at 8:00 p.m.

Life Together Small Group meets at noon after the Sunday New Song worship service. Upcoming meeting dates are October 18 and November 22. The group is studying Luther's Large Catechism. Everyone is welcome! For more info, contact Roger Damrow, 288-9245.

Barnabas Boys Small Group will be shipping boxes on November 2 to troops in the Middle East, who have a connection to mission partners. To help in this effort, you are invited to bring items for donation on October 18 and 25. The boxes are located in fellowship hall, where there is a list of items the troops need. The next donation drive will be in January. Thank you for your support.

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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## A Personal Story on the Power of Prayer

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All Saints is committed to prayer as one of its values. We believe prayer is practicing God's presence in all that we do; to model, teach, and learn to pray as Jesus and his disciples did in scripture, and to pray for those in need. We invite prayer requests to be noted on the hand of friendship pads passed during Sunday worship services, small group members pray for each other, and prayer requests are lifted up in Pastor Rich's weekly dEvotionals.

Mission partner Dick Hoefs shares his recent experience with the power of intercessory prayer:

"For about five years my doctor has been trying to find the cause of anemia in my blood system – unsuccessfully. I had every test the medical world knows and a few which only a few people in medicine know about . . . Various prescriptions were tried, also, with no success.

"My doctor's continuing concern has been that with a low red blood count, I am vulnerable to many bacteria taking over my body with unknown consequences. With each failure of a test or medication, he said I might have to recommend a transfusion. He did not want to do that.

"During the past winter, my red blood count got so low that he asked me to go into the hospital overnight for further tests . . . and a transfusion. I received three units of blood and my red blood count got to a marginally safe level . . . Obviously further treatment would be necessary.

"After that experience, I was frustrated at the lack of progress since I was going to have more tests, more medication, etc.

"I expressed that frustration to Jim Greenwald, a good friend and mission partner. Jim said, 'Would you like to have a healing service?' I have attended such a service but not been a participant. I said, "Let's go" and Jim arranged a service with Pastor Rich.

"The transfusion took place in February. The healing service of prayer and the laying on of hands was in March. It was led by Pastor Rich and Jim

Prayer Joys and Concerns . . .

Thanks be to God for the baptism of Tabitha Paige and Brandon Thomas Wylie. children of Doug and Cindy Smyth and Brian Wylie and sister and brother of Phillip and Natalie Smyth on September 27 . . .

We give thanks for the life and memory of mission partner, Mary Krieger, who passed away Sunday, September 28. Mary was our most "senior" mission partner at 100 years of age. She was part of the McKee Park Apartments Bible Study Small Group. Prayers of peace for son, Bill Krieger and family. Services are pending . . .

Resurrection comfort and peace to the family of Marie Steiner, mother of Darleen Symdon, who passed away September 13 at St. Mary's Care Center, Madison. Funeral services were held at New Glarus September 17. . .

We ask the Spirit's guiding light as we seek a youth and family staff person in the future. We give thanks for the many youth in our congregation and for our kids' Sunday learning . . .

Prayers of healing and strength for four-year-old mission partner, Katie Lawless, and family, as Katie receives chemo treatments. Her mom and Dad are Mike and Megan and sisters, Ann and Jane . . . LaJean Wilson and Kathleen Meyer, recently hospitalized . . .

Greenwald. About ten people attended, including some who needed their own healing.

"The next day I felt better. That was no big deal since I've had 'feeling better days' before. Within a few weeks I had another blood test and my count started to rise. I continued to receive medications and got a few new ones.

"Each time I had my blood tested, the count continued its rise. In mid-August, my doctor said, 'The anemia is gone. Come back in nine months for retesting.' That was after five years of not being able to diagnose the cause and find a cure.

"Praise the Lord. The power of prayer is amazing."

Words of Thanks . . .

Thank you to mission partners Bill and Sandy Mischke for 3 1/2 years of service taking groceries from All Saints' building to St. Mark's, Madison, food pantry. Due to health concerns, they will need to step down. We are looking for a person(s) to deliver groceries about once a week, especially the third and fourth weeks of the month. A larger trunk or van would be helpful. Please call the church office, 276-PRAY, if you are interested.

Mission partner Darleen Symdon expresses her appreciation, "Thank you everyone for your love, prayers, cards, and support", following the death of her mother, Marie Steiner, last month.

News & Notes

Notice more cars in the parking lot? Since fall, 2005, a Latino congregation, **Primera Iglesia Hispana Asambleas De Dios** has been leasing space at All Saints' building for worship and learning on Sunday and Tuesday evenings.

Kindermusik: Beginning this summer, Musical Pathways Foundation's Kindermusik program is using All Saints' space for its classes introducing the joy of music for children, newborn to age 7. Parents learn how to maximize brain development:

cognitive, physical, emotional, social, language and music with their children while bonding through playful activities together. For more info on Kindermusik, go to www.musicalpathways.net, or phone 850-4854. All Saints' mission partner Ronda Beggs can tell you about her family's experience with the program. You can contact Ronda at rondabeggs@sbcglobal.net or 298-9406.

In-Between Jobs? The Madison Area Job Transition program is sponsored by ELCA congregations in the Madison area and meets at 9:00 a.m. the first and third Saturdays of each month at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Raymond Road and Whitney Way. For more info, contact Bob Shimmel at madisonareajobtransition@gmail.com.



Welcome New Mission Partners!

Recently received as new mission partners:

Sharon Fisher
5802 Roanoke Dr.
Fitchburg, WI 53719

Patty Franson
424 Glacier Ridge Tr.
Verona, WI 53593

Jeanette Montalto
2931 Chapel Valley Rd., #314
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Ann Patti
5771 Chapel Valley Rd., #101
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Suzy Schleeper
Andrea, Michael & Lauren
5700 Richardson Circle
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Doug & Cynthia Smyth,
Philip & Natalie Smyth and
Tabitha & Brandon Wylie
628 Military Ridge Tr.
Verona, WI 53593

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: gsieling79@gmail.com)
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



62 Steps!



The fall theme is *“Community”* and walking together. 62 Steps is open to all adults for learning discovery on Sunday mornings at 9:45-10:30 a.m. in new fellowship hall.

Topics coming in October and November, 2009:

- Sunday, October 18: *“How We Got Our Bible and How to Read Your Bible for All Its Worth”* – Example Luke 15.
- Sunday, October 25: *“How to Read Your Bible for All Its Worth”* – Example Luke 15.
- Sunday, November 1: Fellowship time
- Sunday, November 8: Guest: Dane County Jail Chaplain, Pastor John Mix. This is a ministry we support right in town. A special offering will be received at Thanksgiving Eve worship this year for it.
- Sunday, November 15: Lutheran World Relief Update. Video: *“Ordinary to Extraordinary”*. Travel with LWR to Mali, West Africa, on a journey of extraordinary love as quilts, layettes, kits, and soap are distributed to school children, orphans, people living with HIV/AIDS, and others in need.