

Pastor's Letter . . .

Keep It Simple . . . The Advent Conspiracy 2011

Let's keep it simple. Christmas is not a time for overload, burnout, short tempers and over-spending. The Advent and Christmas Season go quickly and what will be different this year?



I encourage you to pray and be part of the Advent Conspiracy at All Saints this Advent Season. Advent is that short and hopeful time of watching and waiting – the four weeks before Christmas. Each Sunday, the message will be on Bible texts and some simple, easy and free things to, well, keep the Advent and Christmas Season what it was supposed to be – a time of joy and deep peace in Christ!

Let's keep it simple. Here are four simple things we can be part of this Advent.

Worship fully. We worship what we desire. How might that be new this year.

Spend less. Money can't buy me love, an old song said, but do we believe it?

Give more. Giving is not only stuff, but our selves, time and attention.

Love all. What if our words and deeds could be transformed to love in new and radical ways . . . to folks who are quite different than you.

I hope to see you Sundays in Advent.

- Pastor Rich



Children's Christmas Program

"Rise Up and Follow"

December 11 – 10:45 a.m. New Song Worship Service

Jesus often said "Follow me." Come and see the humble story of Jesus' birth and how many followed Him from the beginning.

Children will practice program music starting in November. Parts will be handed out on November 13 and practice will be held Sundays, December 4 and 11, at 9:40 a.m.

There will be no Kids Kingdom on Thanksgiving weekend November 28.



To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus . . .

Let's Share the Warmth!



This Christmas share some warmth with the needy people who visit St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

All Saints is collecting men's, women's, and children's

- ♥ Hats
- ♥ Gloves (warm ones for the winter)
- ♥ Mittens
- ♥ Scarves

Bring your donations to All Saints' fellowship hall December 4-18.

College Student Care Packages

All Saints' High School Youth will meet Sunday, December 4, 1:30-4:30 p.m., in fellowship hall to help assemble care packages for our college students who are away from home and provide extra encouragement during this stressful time of first semester final exams.

An Invitation to Share Your Musical Gifts



It's not too late to sing with the Adult Choir for the Advent/Christmas season and concert. For more info, contact Worship and Music Director, Sherri Hansen, sherrihansen@tds.net, or come to rehearsals on Wednesdays at 7:00 .pm. The first part of each rehearsal is used to practice seasonal music.

Prayers of Joy and Concern . . .

Prayers of resurrection comfort for the family of Arnie Anderson, who passed away on Sunday, November 6 . . .

Blessings and continued support for The Road Home. TRH serves homeless in Dane County. Prayers of vision and guidance for director Rachel Krinsky . . .

Thanksgiving for a successful knee surgery for Jim Greenwald, at home and in rehab . . . Marvin Arvidson, father of Kirsten Scott, recovering from a stroke and in rehab . . .



62 Steps



62 Steps is an adult discovery and learning time. 62 Steps meets in the fellowship hall on Sunday morning, 9:45-10:30. All are welcome. Refreshments available, too.

Upcoming topics are:

Mark of Faith: Sunday, November 27. What is faith? How does it grow and what does it look like? How can I grow in faith? Come and get to know the Gospel of Mark in an overview that is part of the "Go Deep! Bible Study Series". We will study parts of Mark's Gospel that will come up in the new year on Sunday mornings for the Bible reading.

The True Christmas Story: Sundays, December 4 and 18. Travel to Israel on DVD with Dr. Ray Vander Laan to discover awesome truth about events surrounding the birth of Jesus. "The True Christmas Story" is filled with faith-building truths to speak to you in the Christmas Season.



The Season for Giving Thanks . . .



Thank you for **your support** for the Mothers of Preschoolers (**MOPS**) **Silent Auction** November 6 and 13. Funds are used to support this ministry, childcare, speakers, and a portion of it is sent to St. Mark's Food Pantry . . . MOPS is open to any mom with preschool kids and meets the second Monday of the month, 9:30-11:30 a.m., in All Saints' fellowship hall.

Thank you for **your support** for the Women's Breakfast Small Group's collection of \$562.00 in donations, plus the donation of many personal and household items for **The Road Home** of Dane County, which helps homeless families in the area.

Thank you for **your support** for Kids Kingdom's **Caring for God's Critters Bake Sale** as it was a huge success. Thank you! We raised \$340.00 for the Dane County Humane Society. The children used the money to sponsor animals waiting to be adopted. They, also, made braids for dogs to play with, designed cat play houses, and decorated ping pong balls for the kittens.

Thank you for your prayers and participation with the **2011 Lutheran World Relief Boxcar Loading** on October 8. All Saints had 17 youth and 7 adults helping. A special thanks to parent drivers: Matt Kimble, Jeff Knuth, Gary Kriesel, Tim Traeder and John Troia.

Thank you to the **Property Team** that is reviewing projects and making plans: Cade Christiansen, chair; Dan Barnish, council liaison; Theresa Owens, Dan Rohrer, Tom Saunders, Jerry Sieling, Steve Timm, Charlie Vojnovich, and Jon Warren.

Thank you to the **Finance Team** for their planning: Bob Beggs, Terry Miller, Dan Rohrer, and Michelle Slawny.

We want to thank and acknowledge the **Hospitality Team** that coordinated the Fall Kick-Off picnic and for arranging the pie social following the Thanksgiving Eve 7:00 p.m. worship service. The Hospitality Team is John Troia, Rita Olin, and Carol Rodriguez. One or two more people are needed to fill out the team. For more info, contact Kathryn Olszewski at katholsz@aol.com or 833-8560.

Thank you to Denny Olin who has coordinated a **Funeral Hospitality Team** that assists with funeral reception/fellowship times and, also, has been coordinating the volunteers from All Saints who help serve quarterly at **St. Mark's Madison Community Meals** site.

Thank you to those **helped with special office projects** this fall: Roger Damrow, Denny Olin, Rita Olin, Margie Rem, Darleen Symdon, and LaJean Wilson.

**The Kitchen Angels'
Cookbook :**
Available for Holiday Giving!



For holiday giving or your own recipe ideas, you can purchase the Kitchen Angels Small Group's cookbook, "*Heavenly Delights*", on Sunday, December 4, between services, at 9:30-10:45, in the fellowship hall. There are only about 45 left with great recipes to make for the holidays! To make other arrangements for purchase, contact Carol Eisele at 271-7931.

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## News and Notes

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Congratulations and blessings to Bob Gorsuch, All Saints' mission partner and past Synod Treasurer, for receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Bob was recognized this month at the 24th Annual National Philanthropy Day at the Overture Center for the Arts, Madison.

Over 700 Youth are signed-up for the Synod Confirmation Extravaganza at the Alliant Energy Center on November 16 . . . it includes music and various Christian vocational booths.

All Saints' 2012 Budget Hearing, is Sunday, November 20, 9:45 a.m., fellowship hall. This is an opportunity to ask questions and look at the proposed spending plan and 2012 ministry goals.

The 2012 Annual Budget Vote Meeting to adopt the budget proposed by the council will be Sunday, December 4, 12:00 noon, sanctuary.

The Nominating Committee has worked over the last two months on recruitment for two-year Congregational Council terms beginning in February, 2012. Julie Ahnen, Cheri Godar, and Rita Olin have accepted nominations. Jon and Bev Warren have accepted the nomination to represent All Saints at the Synod Assembly in May. The Congregation will vote and approve the nominations during the Annual Meeting in January, 2012.

Thank you for your prayers and offerings to All Saints. October giving to the General Fund was at 106% and the Building Fund at 58% of the spending plan for the month. The difference between the offerings and monthly mortgage payments is drawn from the Building Fund savings account. The totals do reflect the adjusted budget as of April, 2011. We appreciate your regular and faithful offerings on Sunday, EFTs, or simply mailing offerings.

Poinsettias Bloom Again: Poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary this Advent Season. If you would like to provide one, watch for the order forms that will be in lobby and return them to the office by December 11.



Winter Weather Quiz

Ok, It's Sunday morning, there's been a heavy snow or ice, what's a person to do?

- A. Assume worship will go on as scheduled unless you know differently . . . and show the kids how to use the shovel!
- B. Call the church office (276-PRAY) to listen to the answering machine for any schedule changes.
- C. Check the cancellation reports on the television or radio station's websites: www.nbc15.com website, or the WNWC (102.5 FM) website, www.life1025.com.
- D. All of the above.

Correct answer is D.

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

You can now follow All Saints Lutheran Church, Fitchburg, WI, on its Facebook page.

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**CHURCH STAFF**

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**Congregational Council President**.....Karen Julesberg  
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**Worship and Music Director**..... Dr. Sherri Hansen  
 (Phone: 234-8570; E-mail: [sherrihansen@tds.net](mailto:sherrihansen@tds.net))  
**Joyful Noise Director:** Nancy Pokorney.....827-6426  
**Accompanists**.....Claire Mallory, lead pianist;  
 Janet Johnson, Nancy Pokorney  
**Children's Ministry Coordinator**.....Kathryn Olszewski  
 (Phone: 833-8560; E-mail: [katholsz@aol.com](mailto:katholsz@aol.com))  
**Small Groups Coordinator**..... Jeanie Sieling  
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**Secretary, Georgia Wagaman** .....Phone: 276-7729  
 e-mail: [georgia@allsaints-madison.org](mailto: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

## Upcoming Sunday Message Themes . . .

Sunday Morning: 8:30 a.m. Classic Worship • 10:45 a.m. New Song Worship  
(childcare provided at both services)

**Nov. 20** *“Words to Live by . . . The Judgment Day.”* Matthew 25:31-46.

**Nov. 23** *“Words to Live By . . . Thank You.”* Luke 17:11-19.

**Nov. 27** *“The Advent Conspiracy . . . Worship Fully. What to Do While We Wait.”* Mark 13:24-37.

**Dec. 4** *“The Advent Conspiracy . . . Spend Less. Last Minute Instructions for a Christmas Season.”* Mark 1:1-8.

**Dec. 11** *“The Advent Conspiracy . . . Give More.”* Luke 1:26-28.

**Dec. 18** *“The Advent Conspiracy . . . Love All. Waiting for the Gift. What If?”* Luke 1:26-38.