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*"The beauty of being church together is that in those moments when any of us is struggling or doubting (as we all do, if we are really honest), we can speak words of hope and promise to one another."*

## A NOTE FROM PASTOR KRISTIN

A couple of weeks ago in worship, we heard Jesus ask his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" I invited those present to answer that question themselves – and even provided pieces of paper for them to write and submit their answers. This is a sampling of what you - the people of All Saints - had to say about who Jesus is ([click here for the full list](#)):

- Jesus is to me my savior, friend, and my king, and dancing with my grandpa who just went to heaven.
- Someone who takes care of us when we are hungry, thirsty, and sick. It's also an example we should follow – to take care of each other.
- GPS (Global Positioning System) of life – but more accurate.
- Jesus is the reliever of sin, the person who helps healing.
- My friend and guide on this journey we call life.
- My healing, loving, ever-present, all-knowing, and forgiving Savior.
- Jesus is a teacher and role model for the world to learn kindness, forgiveness, a sacrifice. He continues to motivate Christians to practice love.
- Jesus is Son of God, my Savior. He is my hope that a better world will exist and prayers will be answered.
- Jesus is a constant rock of support and love; always there for anyone who needs him.
- Our Savior and our light in an evermore challenging life on earth.
- Who is Jesus to me? Leader, example, kind, role model, teacher, story teller, fully God, fully human, miracle, selfless, my hope

All of these are beautiful ways to describe who Jesus is. Through your words, you preached to me that day! Each of us relate to Jesus in different ways at different times in our lives. And as grateful as I am for all of those meaningful descriptions, I am equally thankful for the person who bravely responded with more questions than answers, as they wrote, "Jesus is:

- Someone I hope to please.
- Someone I fear.
- Someone I wish could accept me as I am.
- Someone I'm confused by.
- Someone I hope will save me even though I'm imperfect."

The beauty of being church together is that in those moments when any of us is struggling or doubting (as we all do, if we are really honest), we can speak words of hope and promise to one another. As someone else declared, Jesus "understands and accepts [us] as [we are] and listens to [our] my thoughts and words. He is a loving, forgiving, constant presence."

When we share our faith with others, when we share the love and grace of Jesus with one another – not just in words, but also in action – we encourage and support those around us, especially those who may be questioning. What a gift it is to be church together. Thank you for sharing your faith with one another, and with me. This is what being church is about.

In hope,  
Pastor Kristin



## AWAKE AND ALERT... A NOTE FROM JOHN FRANCIS

On my way into work recently, I prayed I may be alert and open to what God had in store for me that day. To be present to nature's beauty, to the needs of those I meet, to be present to what God is calling me to be.

I like looking for hawks and sandhill cranes on my way from Waunakee to the west beltline - but that 'awareness' needs to carry me beyond those few minutes of the day. When reading my Richard Rohr devotion that morning, his focus was on - yes - 'being awake and alert'.

*In Mark 13:33-35, Jesus tells his disciples, "Be awake. Be alert.... You do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cock crow, or in the morning." Christ is always coming; God is always present. It's we who are not! Jesus tells us to always be ready, to be awake, to be fully conscious and expectant. It's the key to all spirituality, because we usually are not.*



We are preparing for another season of program activity here at All Saints. As we prepare our schedules, let's prepare ourselves as well to be conscious of what we may encounter - so we don't miss the opportunities to respond to God's call. Let's help each other to 'be awake and alert'. We may just experience something amazing and life-changing.

Our regular fall rehearsal schedule resumes Wednesdays, beginning September 6:

3:00 - New Song

5:00 - Handbells

7:00 - Choir

## SOCIAL JUSTICE QUARTERLY REPORT

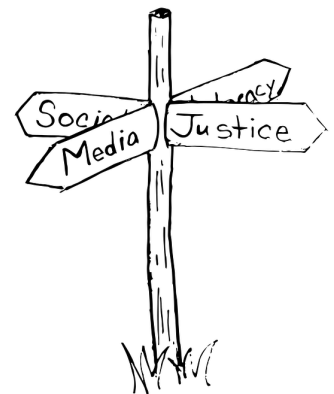
Our team has been developing ideas for All Saints to get involved in aiding local organizations and local residents, and we have decided that one of our focuses will be on the senior community in Fitchburg. Our main focus is outreach, so we will be asking these groups what they are missing that we could provide. We also agreed to find a way to help fill the needs of Leopold school. In order to be helpful, we need to be always mindful to be in a relationship with people rather than just "dropping things off".

We have planned an event at Chapel Valley Senior Apartments in Fitchburg on September 7. This will be a way for us to interact with the residents there. It's called "Inspiration and Ice Cream" and will be led by Pastor Kristin. We will be serving Babcock ice cream.

We are also looking for ways to reach out to members of All Saints that need assistance. This includes those that are not able to attend services and those that need prayer. We are also creating a program to provide in-home communion to those that are interested. This will involve recruiting interested members to be part of this team.

We feel very energized about our focus and look forward to getting the rest of the congregation more involved.

Submitted by Roxie Kriesel



# Updates . . .



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

## MORTGAGE REDUCTION & ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

We are inching closer to the start of our fall Mortgage Reduction and Annual Stewardship Appeal. The theme of our appeal will be ***Hope Everlasting***. As our congregation strives to find a path to financial stability, we remain steadfast in our hope for the future God has in store for us, and full of gratitude for the generosity of our members and friends.

Here are key dates to keep in mind:

### **September 24 - Appeal Kick-Off Sunday**

Join us at worship for a prayerful launch of our *Hope Everlasting* Appeal.

### **October 1 - Appeal Packet Handout**

Join us at worship to hear more about our *Hope Everlasting* Appeal and receive your Appeal packet.

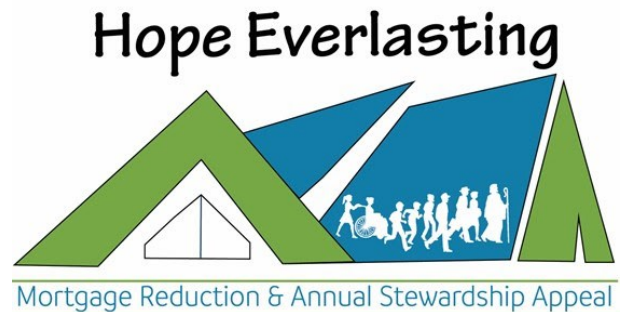
### **October 22 - Commitment Weekend**

After taking time to pray over your financial support, bring your appeal response form to worship to be received along with the rest of the All Saints community.

Please keep our All Saints faith community in your prayers as we prepare to kick off our *Hope Everlasting* Appeal.

### **LET US PRAY**

God of light,  
thank you for enlightening our path that has led us to this day,  
as we envision what our congregation may become.  
Thank you for the vision and the hope that we can be to the world.  
We ask that as we continue to plan for the future,  
we hear clearly your voice coming through.  
Enable us to continue to be a place that is welcoming...  
a place that is full of your grace.  
We ask you to abide with us during our upcoming appeal  
that we may accomplish our goals for financial stability  
so that we may continue serving each other, our neighborhood, and the world at large.  
In Christ's name.  
Amen



## INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS!

What an exciting time of year. While I dislike all the changes that come with kids moving back to school, I've always enjoyed the anticipation of a new school year... new classes, connecting with friends, cooler nights and a consistent schedule! New this year... our Sunday School program will have a consistent schedule and format! As our congregation changes, so does our programming. This year we will meet again on the first Sunday of the month beginning October 1. Each month we will meet in Fellowship Hall for intergenerational Sunday School. We hope that all members of our congregational will join us for these monthly gatherings. Our time together each month will focus on a specific topic and will include scripture, reflection, games, and outreach projects. We are really excited about this new format and already mapping out the year. If you would like to be included in this conversation and provide additional support on class days, please contact me, Heather Quartaro, (hkquartaro@gmail.com). Thank you for your continued support of our Sunday School program!

# Upcoming Events...



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

## JOIN US FOR OUTDOOR WORSHIP SEPTEMBER 17

Mark your calendars for an outdoor worship and picnic at McKee Farms Park shelter on Sunday, September 17. Worship will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a picnic to follow. All food will be provided - no need to bring anything but yourselves, your love for Jesus, and maybe a chair. Even better? Bring a friend!!!

We are looking for assistance transporting sound equipment for the service to the park shelter on Sunday, September 17. If you are able to assist, please contact John Francis.



## FALL CLEANUP—SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

The Property Team will host a Fall Clean-up Day on Saturday, September 23 (rain date 9/30). Breakfast treats and pizza lunch will be provided! Emphasis will be on weeding, trimming, indoor cleaning, and preparing the property for winter. Some cleaning supplies will be provided, but bringing work gloves, tools & supplies is a good idea. Here is a link to the [ASLC Fall 2023 Signup Genius](#). The tasks are arranged in 3-hour time slots, 9am-noon, but please come whether you can stay the entire time or only part of it. All ages and abilities are welcome! Please contact Jen Barakat at [jennifer.l.barakat@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.l.barakat@gmail.com) for more information. Thanks for helping us keep our property sparkling!



## PUB THEOLOGY RESUMES IN SEPTEMBER!

Pub Theology is back! You're invited to a fun evening of Pub Theology — a joint venture of All Saints, West Middleton, Advent, and St. Luke's Lutheran Churches! We will gather at the Thirsty Goat, 3040 Cahill Main (right in our backyard!), to enjoy beverages, food, and time with each other, discussing topics related to God, life, faith, and "what this all means anyway." We meet the last Tuesday of every month, with the next gathering being next Tuesday, September 26, 6-8 p.m. Sign up on the sheet outside Pastor Kristin's office.

## SILENT AUCTION - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 6-8 P.M.

Clear your calendars for Saturday, October 7, because you are not going to want to miss the All Saints Silent Auction! This fun-filled event will give you an opportunity to have some fun, share in refreshments, and to potentially go home with a variety of treasures - everything from a copy of Pastor Kristin's Christmas Cookie Cookbook (along with a batch of cookies of your choice) to a 5-day, 4-night trip for two to wine country in California! Click [here](#) to visit the current list of items available on our website. Invite your friends and neighbors! The poster on the next page can be shared as an invitation - and/or posted in your neighborhood. Thanks in advance for spreading the word!

We are still looking for additional items for the auction. Do you have a gift for creating? Services you could offer? Tickets to an event that you won't be able to use? The willingness to approach local businesses to ask for donations? Let those creative juices start flowing! Contact Leigh Luedtke ([jimandleigh@gmail.com](mailto:jimandleigh@gmail.com)) if you have something to donate or would be willing to help in other ways. The deadline for donations is Monday, October 2. Thanks!





COME JOIN US FOR  
**ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH'S**

**SILENT**

**AUCTION**

**OCTOBER 7TH  
6-8 P.M.**

**BINGO, FUN AND REFRESHMENTS!**

**STOP BY TO BID ON A UNIQUE SELECTION OF HANDMADE GIFTS,  
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, BADGER FOOTBALL TICKETS, AND EVEN A  
TRIP TO NAPA! CASH AND CARRY AUCTION- We accept cash,  
Venmo, and all major credit cards.**

**ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2951 CHAPEL VALLEY ROAD  
FITCHBURG**

**PLACE YOUR BID!**

**JOIN US FOR A FUN NIGHT TO RAISE  
FUNDS TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION TO  
KNOW, FOLLOW AND SHARE JESUS. A  
PORTION OF PROCEEDS RAISED WILL BE  
DONATED TO A LOCAL CHARITY.**

**[WWW.ALLSAINTS-MADISON.ORG](http://WWW.ALLSAINTS-MADISON.ORG)**



# News & Notes...



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

## AWAKEN DANE UPDATE

As we enter our second year of the Awaken Dane process, we are in the portion of this experience that has us actively doing experiments. No, we aren't mixing chemicals. And no safety glasses are needed (at least not yet!). These "experiments" are simply different ways to be present in our community and to engage with our neighbors. Would you be interested in being a part of this? We'd love to have you join our team! We meet once a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month with congregations from around Dane County who are also a part of Awaken Dane – and dinner is included! Contact Pastor Kristin for more information!



## SECOND QUARTER COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Church finances continue to dominate our meetings. Council moved forward with engaging The James Company (who reduced their fees for us) to assist with the capital campaign as we felt unqualified to proceed on our own. Council engaged a company to complete and prepare for filing tax forms needed to request a \$28,000 tax refund based on an Employee Retention Credit offered by the government. This was done but it could be 8 months or more before we see anything. Oak Bank agreed to allow us to start making interest only payments on our mortgage as of June until December. Our insurance policies were replaced utilizing another company, which will save us about \$2000 annually. Our office copier/printer was replaced with a comparable machine that will save us about \$30 monthly. Council and staff are making strides in finding ways to save the church money even if it is a small amount at a time.

The group we have been in contact to discuss the possible sale of some or all of our property suggested we move forward to learn about actual interest in our property. Council agreed this is probably a good move to save time in case we need to sell our property, but it must be clear in the agreement that we are not making a commitment to sell our property and we cannot sell without congregation approval. This group receives no compensation from us unless we sell the property. We are not making any decisions about our property at this time, we are just learning our options to be prepared.

We are looking forward to the congregation gathering and inviting our neighbors to the McKee Farms Park shelter on September 17 for an outdoor worship and picnic. We received a Thrivent Action Team Grant to help with expenses so the meal will be provided for our picnic and fellowship.

We were very fortunate that a mission partner has donated a trip to Napa Valley California for us to auction off to assist the church. It was decided to request other donations to make this a fun evening event. Leigh Luedtke has agreed to coordinate and organize the auction on October 7th.

Questions? Comments? A word of thanks and encouragement?

Contact your 2023 All Saints Council members:

Bob Lavigna, President, [lavignas1@yahoo.com](mailto:lavignas1@yahoo.com)

Tracy Schoohs, Vice Presi-

dent, [btschoohs@gmail.com](mailto:btschoohs@gmail.com)

Margie Rem, Secretary, [mdrem4877@gmail.com](mailto:mdrem4877@gmail.com)

Gary Kriesel [treeman77@ameritech.net](mailto:treeman77@ameritech.net)

Amie Mitchell [mitchellamie15@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellamie15@gmail.com)

Rita Olin [rmolin@chartermi.net](mailto:rmolin@chartermi.net)

Joan Stoikes [joan.stoikes@gmail.com](mailto:joan.stoikes@gmail.com)

Michelle Slawny, Appointed Treasurer, [slawny@tds.net](mailto:slawny@tds.net)

Pastor Kristin Woelk [pastor@allsaints-madison.org](mailto:pastor@allsaints-madison.org)

# Supporting & Serving...



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

## HELP SUPPORT THE GNPEP

There have been a number of deliveries to Arbor Covenant as a result of your generosity! Thank you for your continued support!

We continue to align our Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry donations to the focus item selected by Fitchburg's Memorial UCC Church. This is usually announced at the beginning of each month. As children return to school, in SEPTEMBER we are collecting children's toothbrushes. Please add these to your shopping list and drop them off in the GNPEP bin located in Fellowship Hall.



## MOWERS NEEDED!

All Saints is seeking volunteers to help maintain the church's landscaping needs. Mowing is needed on a bi-weekly basis (at a minimum) and requires 2-3 hours of time on a zero-turn mower; trimming takes an hour. Volunteers are needed for both. This time can be broken into smaller chunks throughout the week, or shared between volunteers. Gas, tools and training are provided by the church. To sign up, please call or text Jen Barakat at (608) 630-0511. If the fall doesn't work for you, please prayerfully consider joining the mowing team next spring. Thank you for considering this request!

## THANK YOU, CONGREGATION!

**Thank you** for your prayers and financial giving to and through All Saints.

The July 2023 Treasurer's Report:

<b>Contributions:</b>	<b>July 2023</b>	<b>July 2022</b>	<b>YTD 2023</b>	<b>YTD 2022</b>
Contributions-General Fund	\$31,014	\$14,828	\$156,460	\$117,053
Contributions-Building Fund	\$0	\$2,085	\$0	\$28,191
Other Income	\$920	\$946	\$16,028	\$15,392
Solar Fund Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$700	\$700
<b>Income vs. Expenses:</b>				
Total income	\$31,394	\$18,002	\$172,488	\$160,616
Total expense	\$24,136	\$24,385	\$199,605	\$196,888
Variance	\$7,258	-\$6,383	-\$27,117	-\$36,272

General fund offerings for July were \$31,014 (149%) versus a budget of \$20,833. Year to date general fund offerings are \$156,460 (107%) versus a budget of \$145,831. Although offerings were better for the year, they are still short of expenses.

Total Church income for all funds in 2023 was \$172,488.

**Expenditures:** July expenditures were under budget for the month at \$24,138 versus a budgeted amount of \$26,393. Year to date expenses are over budget at \$199,606 versus a budgeted amount of \$184,872. Items of note over budget year-to-date:

Snow removal: \$8,583

Gas & Electric: \$2,092 (\$2,000 for tax preparation for ERC tax credit of approx. \$28,883)

Capital Appeal: \$4,750

**Balance Sheet Comments:** As of July 31, 2023, the checking account balance was \$27,437 and the savings account balance was \$15,632. The mortgage payable balance is \$734,974.



# Looking Ahead . . .



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

## CONFIRMATION BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13

Confirmation provides an opportunity for young people to learn a bit more about the bible and our Lutheran tradition, while exploring their faith, asking questions and growing in their relationship with God and with one another. Our orientation meeting for this year's 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents is Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. Please let Pastor Kristin know if you plan to attend!

We will also celebrate with two of our young people, Celia Mitchell and Sienna Otterson, as they affirm their faith in the confirmation rite on Reformation Sunday, October 29.



## SUPPORT THE MADISON AREA JAIL MINISTRY

Once again, we will have an opportunity to reach out to the women and men in the Dane County Jail by writing personalized messages in Christmas cards. These cards are treasured by jail residents who may receive no cards or visitors during the holidays. The Jail Chaplain has shared many stories of how much these greetings mean. More details will be provided late fall.



## THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS EVE 2023

Thanksgiving Eve Pie Prayer & Pie will return this year on Wednesday, November 22 - Watch for more details!

If you are already counting down the days to Christmas, you may have noticed that Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year. We will celebrate the birth of Christ on Sunday, December 24 with one evening service at 5:00 p.m. There will be no morning service that day. We will begin our season of Advent on Sunday, November 26, culminating with a special music Sunday on December 17, which will lead us beautifully into the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Beginning Tuesday, September 5, the church office is open: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

You can usually find Pastor Kristin in the office Monday-Thursday, but, as always, it is best to make an appointment if you want to make sure you catch her. Fridays are now her day off (Sabbath day). If you would like Pastor Kristin to come visit you at your home, just let her know. She is happy to do so! And remember - you can reach her anytime in the case of an emergency via her cell phone (608-616-0631).

## THINGS TO KNOW...

- **Newsletter** articles are always appreciated! The newsletter is a great place to share upcoming dates with the congregation. The next newsletter will be published in November 2023. Items are subject to editing due to space availability. Please contact the church office if you are interested in submitting an article.
- If you would prefer to receive your newsletter electronically through email rather than through mail, please send your email address to: [office@allsaints-madison.org](mailto:office@allsaints-madison.org).
- Find us and follow or like us on **Facebook** and **Instagram**! This is a great way to stay up-to-date on upcoming events and notes from Pastor Kristin. And if you are posting about something happening here, be sure to tag All Saints and use the hashtag #knowfollowsharejesus.
- You can find worship on our website ([www.allsaints-madison.org](http://www.allsaints-madison.org)), Facebook page and YouTube channel! And don't miss Pastor Kristin's Thoughtful Thursdays!
- Want to know what's happening across our synod in South-Central Wisconsin? Sign up on the synod website (<https://scsw-elca.org/engage/>) to have the twice-monthly synod e-newsletter.
- **Congregation Council Meeting Approved Minutes** copies are available in the church office. If you wish to receive meeting notes via email, please contact the church office.



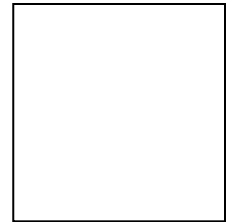
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"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

**All Saints Lutheran Church**  
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**Published Quarterly**  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Save These Dates!

- Sept. 6: Music rehearsals  
\*Continues each week on Wednesdays  
3:00 New Song  
5:00 Handbells  
7:00 Choir
- Sept. 13: Confirmation Orientation  
7:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall
- Sept. 17: Outdoor Worship  
McKee Farms Park  
9:30 a.m.  
Picnic lunch to follow
- Sept. 23: Fall cleanup day  
8:00 a.m. - noon
- Sept. 26: Pub Theology  
Thirsty Goat  
6:00-8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 7: Silent Auction  
6:00-8:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

## Church Staff & Leadership

Pastor.....Kristin Woelk  
Phone: 608-616-0631  
E-mail: [pastor@allsaints-madison.org](mailto:pastor@allsaints-madison.org)

Worship & Music Director.....John Francis  
Email: [music@allsaints-madison.org](mailto:music@allsaints-madison.org)

Church Secretary..... Heather Quartaro  
Hours: 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Tuesdays & Wednesdays  
E-mail: [office@allsaints-madison.org](mailto:office@allsaints-madison.org)

Congregational Council President.....Bob Lavigna

Accompanist.....Nancy Pokorney

Sunday School Coordinator.....Heather Quartaro  
Email: [hkquartaro@gmail.com](mailto:hkquartaro@gmail.com)

Custodian.....Carl DiMartino

For a calendar of All Saints' activities, go to:  
[www.allsaints-madison.org.calendar.html](http://www.allsaints-madison.org.calendar.html)