



FALL 2020

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“We will not go back to normal.

Normal never was.

Our pre-corona existence was

not normal

other than

we normalized

greed, inequity,

exhaustion,

depletion,

extraction,

disconnection,

confusion, rage,

hoarding, hate

and lack.

We should not

long to return,

my friends.

We are being given

the opportunity

to stitch a new gar-

ment. One that fits

all of humanity and

nature.”

~Sonya Renee Taylor

A NOTE FROM PASTOR KRISTIN

When we made the difficult decision to move to online only worship in mid-March, I don't think any of us had a clue about how long this all might last and what the past six months would hold. Those early conversations were all about celebrating Easter in grand fashion when we were finally able to be back together in the sanctuary, thinking that would likely happen some time this spring, while we were still in the Easter season. But spring faded into summer, and now fall is upon us, and it is clear that a quick and simple “return to normal” is not going to happen.

And while we may grieve the things we have missed—everything from weekly in person worship to graduation celebrations and even the celebration of life at a funeral—I am amazed at the big and small things God is doing in the midst of all of this. As a colleague and friend, Pastor Shannyn Magee Fuerst, wrote today: “It is easy to focus on what we cannot do or what we miss. Absolutely that grief is real and felt by us all. We also have a choice to lean into what we CAN do, what possibilities are available, and where we are being called by the Holy Spirit.”

I am incredibly grateful for the flexibility everyone has shown and for the ways we have been and continue to be figuring out to still be the church, even when it looks different than it did just six months ago. Just think...six months ago, many of us had not even heard of Zoom. Now some of you are pros—gathering for Sunday morning coffee hour chats, various meetings, and for deep discussions about racism. Six months ago, our YouTube channel was home to videos of previous years' Lenten dramas (did you know those where there? What a gift!), but now it is also filled with six months of worship and Feel Good Friday devotions—not just for those who have entered the physical doors of All Saints, but for anyone who may stumble across them online. Six months ago, having communion at home, using dishes that connect us to the whole cloud of witnesses who have nurtured us in the faith wasn't even on our radar, but many of you have shared how powerful that has been for you. Six months ago, we were talking about having an outdoor worship service once this fall—now we are gathering in God's amazing creation each week!

What will the next six months bring? We don't know. But if we continue to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit and listen for the ways that God is calling us into new and exciting ways to be the church, the possibilities are endless. Thanks be to God “who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine” (Ephesians 3:20).

God's peace & joy,

Pastor Kristin



A NOTE FROM OUR WORSHIP & MUSIC DIRECTOR

Seven Months In And ... It has Been Different.

"Getting to know you" was a 5-week start-up experience before we all found ourselves huddled inside our homes due to Covid-19. I never expected we would be disconnected for so long. Coming into All Saints with ideas and plans for how to engage in ministry with everyone through music was very exciting. I believe many of us were looking forward to working together. This social distancing has presented all of us with unexpected challenges. All my years of work in church music ministry had not prepared me for the Coronavirus.

God calls each of us to ministry wherever we show up. When we are called, we do not get to request our special conditions. We just accept God's call to serve. So, it is my responsibility to dig deep and pull out my creative skills in order to respond to the current situation. After some extended time of struggling with ideas, we did begin to pull together and record piano preludes, hymns and praise songs for our online worship. That was uplifting for me – to be working again even with some of our people. There are more ideas to be developed and more ways to create music for our worship services. International music organizations have recommended we refrain from singing in groups or playing wind instruments in worship until such time a large percentage of people have a vaccine. Making music in these ways amplifies the spread of airborne droplets which can carry the virus. The rate of production and distance the droplets travel is relative to the volume used.

Piano, string instruments and handbells remain our most feasible options for the present, so we will push ahead and figure out ways to make the most of what we have in these areas.

By this point in the year, I would already be working on a Christmas Cantata and Advent Music Program. This year I am still trying to imagine what our restrictions will be. What shape will it take? How can we involve the most people. I sense, from previous years at All Saints, many people look forward to participating in the Arts through music and drama. We will create a wonderful Advent and Christmas season this year as well. It will be different, but with our passion and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our music ministry here at All Saints will pick up and break through the quiet once again.

John Francis

GARDEN COMMITTEE UPDATE...

The weather this year has been almost perfect for our All Saints gardeners. All 72 plots were spoken for by the time Jerry Sieling had things plowed up for us in May. Despite not being able to host large work days, our gardeners got the job done in small groups or over time.

We will be shutting things down on Saturday mornings October 10 and 24. We'll pull the last of the vegetation, stow tomato cages and generally clean up. If you can help, just show up w/your mask & lend a hand! If you want a specific task/time, contact Sue Martinson at sueemartinson@gmail.com or 271-3254.

Did you know this garden is used by many neighbors in the immediate area, but also as far away as Badger Road, King James Way, and Chalet Gardens Ct? Our gardeners have names like Raul, Huma, Reza, Enrique, and Ying. Sure, we also have a Pam, Sue, and Bruce, but my point is that the garden is a wonderful place to work alongside neighbors who may not look like us or speak English as their first language. Growing wonderful things to eat is a universal art, science, and joy!

2020 Synod Assembly...



INITIAL REACTIONS...

Our 2020 South-Central Synod of Wisconsin Assembly was held online on Saturday, August 29. Thanks to technology, we were able to carry out the work of the synod – including electing a new bishop – from the comfort of our homes. Here are initial reactions from our voting members – Karin Hanson, Steve Timm, and Pastor Kristin, followed by a full report from Karin:

"I felt the Synod Assembly was good this year! The bishop election process was handled very meticulously and precise and I liked the mission moments that described the new and continuing ministries going on in the synod. I enjoyed the experience and I look forward to the leadership of our new Bishop and will keep them in my prayers!" – Steve

"I agree, Steve! Actually, I think technology enabled a concentrated, less distracting focus on Assembly business. I experienced the same excitement being with the people of God as I had in other years when I had represented a congregation. The Mission Moment videos were well done & just as beneficial in information as physical breakout sessions. Although the Bishop election process & changes in plans resulting from the pandemic delayed our gathering, the extended time allowed voting members to truly get to know the nominees in several ways. As in countless times in our lives, the world may have shifted around us, but the presence of the Face of Christ in others has not, even in the 'virtual room.'" – Karin

"Thanks to you both for these words. I, too, thought it was a great, stream-lined assembly. I know we missed some of the conversations that normally surround resolutions and such, but I appreciated the process, and especially the shape the election took. It was a day that left me inspired and full of hope." – Pastor Kristin

SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT - BY KARIN HANSON

I've been to a handful of Synod gatherings in the past, and although this one was unique in that I participated from my living room, it was like all the others I have attended. When the church comes together, I have always felt the Spirit move. There is an excitement in worship, focus on the varied work of the corporate body, and on this day, the important election of a new bishop.

The entire day, from 8:30am to 3:00pm was as smooth digitally and interesting - perhaps even more professionally organized - as a political convention, with several differences. Elected representatives weren't merely spectators. The technology allowed us to ask questions about the matters at hand, see each speaker or questioner, vote actively, and witness result tabulation in seconds, so I was in the "virtual room" with others. Fascinating for this techy novice!!

Interim Bishop Peter Rogness encouraged us to brace ourselves for the healing winds of change, which not only are being created by God, but US. We, as God's instruments are called to "ventures of which we cannot see the ending." We, as the ELCA, have work to do to reflect justice in these racially chaotic times. We need to become an all-inclusive, welcoming witness in society.

The balloting for bishop was led by Sue Rothmeyer, ELCA Churchwide Secretary and was interspersed with "Mission Moment" videos on how our church exercises it's 3 expressions: local, synod, & Churchwide.

It's a marvel to be reminded of all that we do through campus ministry, ecumenical commitment, training of lay leaders, welcoming refugees, serving the homeless, aiding the hungry, helping in disasters, establishing clinics, providing prescriptions for the poor, making sure our pastors are well, and AS ALWAYS, spreading the Gospel through expanding missions....Whew, that's a lot! But, just as an example of how we can make a difference, the congregations of our 12 conferences in the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin together gave \$404,000 towards eliminating hunger and poverty.

We need to remember that we are only a part of 3.5 million members. All Saints is just 1 of 9,000 ELCA locations and our new bishop, Rev. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe will be a fine leader for our area of Wisconsin.

I was proud to be able to represent our congregation. Thank you so much for this privilege!

Upcoming Events...



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

OUTDOOR WORSHIP CONTINUES!

Our first outdoor worship on Sunday, August 23 was filled with joy! Not only were we able to gather in person for the first time since March, but we also celebrated the baptism of Elena Ann Neath.

We will continue to gather for outdoor worship as long as the weather allows! Bring a chair, a mask, and maybe a hat and sunglasses, and join us for in person worship at 9:00 a.m. as you are comfortable. It takes about eight volunteers to help things run smoothly on Sunday mornings, so if you are interested in being a part of that team, please contact Pastor Kristin (608-616-0631 / pastor@allsaints-madison.org).

For those who are not yet ready or able to come in person, worship is live-streamed to Facebook at 9:00 a.m. and is posted to YouTube by 10:30 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Worship on Sunday, September 20 will be ONLINE ONLY, as Pastor Kristin will be on vacation.

Thanks to all who continue to plan and volunteer to make our worship services possible!



SUNDAY SCHOOL TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER!

Our Sunday School team has been busy planning for the 2020-2021 school year! After much discussion, we have decided to delay the start of Sunday School until October. We know that the beginning of this school year is especially stressful and wanted to give families time to adjust to the unusual start before jumping back into Sunday School.

Though we are unable to meet in person, our team has brainstormed some great ways to keep our kids (and their parents!) engaged and continuing their walk with Christ. We will kick things off on **Sunday, October 4, at 10:00 a.m. with a Zoom meeting with Pastor Kristin.** Monthly Zoom meetings with Pastor Kristin will continue throughout the year on the first Sunday of the month. We also will make available the Sparkhouse pamphlets that coincide with the liturgical calendar, as well as a family devotion that can be shared with the entire family and done at your leisure.



We will be ordering Spark lectionary pamphlets for families who express an interest in receiving them. Pamphlets for ages 4K-6th grade will be ordered **Wednesday, September 23.** Please contact Heather Quartaro with the names and grades of your children if you are interested in being added to the list.

Pamphlets will be mailed to families once they arrive.

The Sunday School Team is always looking for people to join! The team meets quarterly to share ideas, evaluate lesson plans and calendar. Please contact the church office for more information.



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

Council Meeting Highlights...

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—MARCH-AUGUST 2020

With the onset of Covid-19 and the closing of the church building in March, the church council has been meeting monthly via Zoom. Also, during this period, there has not been a newsletter published which would have provided the highlights from the council meetings. This writing hopes to get the members of All Saints up-to-date with recent decisions made by the council.

Worship During a Pandemic

Worship started out online in mid-March and has progressed from a simple live-stream to pre-recording, allowing more people to be involved in the service. On August 23, we held our first outdoor in person worship, with approximately 60 people in attendance, including guests who were present for the baptism of Elena Ann Neath. Access to all the services can be viewed via the All Saints page on Facebook or YouTube.

Meeting Our Expenses

Recognizing that the pandemic was having a pretty immediate effect on our finances, the first thing the council did was vote to close the church building as a safety concern, encouraging people to stay home. An added bonus would be savings on utilities. Next the council voted to apply for the Payroll Protection Plan loan, which would be forgivable if several criteria are met. That includes paying all staff at least 75% of their salaries and using the money primarily for staff and mortgage payments. We were approved for that loan, and have continued to pay our staff at least 75% of their salaries, even after the PPP dollars were expended. Thanks to the PPP loan, decreased expenses, and your generosity, we are currently in a better place financially than we had budgeted to be at this point in the year.

Goodbye to Our Friends at Santa Maria Misa

The Santa Maria congregation which has shared our building for a few years has found a new home with Luther Memorial downtown. Luther Memorial's current outside ministry had left and they approached Santa Maria. This should be a good fit for Santa Maria as Luther Memorial has a "traditional" sanctuary which is what the members of Santa Maria are used to, plus it is in a more convenient location for most of the members. Due in part to the pandemic, they have not yet completely moved out of the building, so you may still see them on occasion as they have been distributing masks and food in the All Saints parking lot from time to time.. Be sure to greet them and thank them for sharing ministry with us over the past four years.

The Property Team Has Been Busy

Jen Barakat recently took the lead for the property team. Right away she worked with committee members to compile a list of tasks to be done at the church, many of which have already been accomplished. For a more complete report of all they have done, please see the Property Team article on the next page. Many thanks to all who have been working on the All Saints property above and beyond expectations this summer, especially: Matt Pierson, Darla Lockman, Jerry Sieling and Roxie Kriesel.

Ron Miller, Council Secretary
September 10, 2020 rev 1.



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

In Thanksgiving . . .

GREETINGS FROM YOUR PROPERTY TEAM!

We have been "busy little bees" this spring and summer on our property. From weeding the tulip garden, to painting our beautiful building, and weed whacking under the sign, All Saints' property is looking amazing.

First we weeded along the south wall when the spring popping purple flowers appeared. Spring also brought the beautiful tulips under the Chapel Valley Road sign which were weeded and a lawn mowing edge dug in. Our mowers, Matt and Jerry, kept busy with mowing our large lawn. When the weeds in the parking lot stone beds appeared, we took care of them along with the weeds growing in the parking lot cracks. Jerry did a great job of painting the yellow lines in our parking lot. Did I mention that the long hedges along the south wall were trimmed and that we now have a fern garden, thanks to Darla and Matt!



Deanna was brave enough to pull the thistles growing under the lighted cross. Deanna and her boys also found time to wash the outside windows!



The main entrance was completely refurbished thanks to Jerry's terrific handyman skills. The landscaping from the main entrance to the southeast corner were thinned out, along with trimming the overgrown shrubs at the corner. Darla added some of her personal flowers to this area so that we now will have flowers blooming in spring, summer and fall. The rock bed, below the roof rain drainage, was outlined with granite rocks and Mississippi River Rock to allow for drainage and beauty.

We hope you enjoy our hard work on the property to keep it looking stunning. If you have any free time, and enjoy the fresh air of the outdoors, please consider helping with maintaining our property. We can always use an extra pair of hands and your good company!

THANK YOU, CONGREGATION!

Thank you for your prayers and financial giving to and through All Saints, especially through these uncertain times. The July 2020 Treasurer's Report:

	July 2020	July 2019	YTD 2020	YTD 2019
Contributions-General Fund	\$15,397.00	\$14,704.82	\$130,56.99	\$110,477.68
Contributions-Building Fund	\$2,095.00	\$2,166.00	\$26,810.00	\$18,987.00
Other Income	\$8,041.99	\$4,343.37	\$26,508.19	\$37,113.34
PPP	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,800.00	\$0.00
Total income	\$25,533.99	\$19,051.19	\$200,679.18	\$147,591.02
Total expense	\$23,236.41	\$18,431.21	\$191,641.17	\$167,147.37
Variance	\$2,297.58	\$619.98	\$9,038.01	(\$19,556.35)
Without PPP	\$2,297.58		(\$7,761.99)	

Comments:

Thanks to your generosity, decreased expenses in many areas, and the Payroll Protection Program, our income exceeds our expenses at this point—almost a \$30,000 swing from 2019. Please note that the increase in expenses from 2019 to 2020 is primarily from having a full staff again.

All Saints' News & Notes. . .



OUTDOOR WORSHIP WEATHER GUIDELINES

'Tis the season for unpredictable weather! To check on weather related cancellations, call the All Saints' office at (608) 276-7729 and listen to the recorded message or check the All Saints website at www.allsaints-madison.org for a notice of any schedule changes. Cancellations will also be posted to Facebook!



NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

COVID-19 has forced changes upon us at All Saints! We have started using MailChimp and have been emailing weekly announcements to keep our members up to date on weekly happenings. Due to this increased communication, the decision has been made to send a quarterly newsletter to highlight upcoming events, longer articles and future updates in December, March, June and September. These newsletters will be sent electronically and mailed to households that do not have email access.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Prayers of healing for those in need... spiritually, emotionally and physically. We pray for the Zeuner family, Karen, Paul, Amalia, Joe, Pat, and Bob. Give them the hope, comfort, strength, and courage they need each day.

God's resurrection peace to the family of Bill May at the death of Daron on Thursday, September 3. A celebration of life will be held in the spring or summer of 2021.

We give thanks for the gift of new life to Andrew and Christina Neath (and sister Aubrey) at the birth of Elena Ann, born August 7. Elena's baptism was held at our first outdoor worship on August 23.

Prayers of thankfulness for your continued financial support and sharing of your time and talents.

THINGS TO KNOW...

- **Newsletter** articles are due to Heather in the church office at office@allsaints-madison.org on the 15th of the month in November, February, May and August for newsletters published in December, March, June and September. Items are subject to editing due to space availability.
- 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.
- 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.
- **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.
- For a **calendar of church events**, please visit: www.allsaints-madison.org.
- Want to know what's happening in our synod in South-Central Wisconsin? Contact Communications & Event Manager, Deacon Vicki Hanrahan at vickih@scsw-elca.org to have the weekly 'What Matters' newsletter delivered via email.



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

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Published Quarterly
Issue No. 405

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Save These Dates!

Sept. 20: **Online Worship Only**—
available on Facebook and
YouTube at 9:00 a.m.
(Pastor Kristin on Vacation)

Sept. 27: In-person, outdoor worship
9:00 a.m.
**Continues each Sunday
while the weather cooperates!
Also available live on Facebook
and on YouTube by 10:30 a.m.*

Oct. 4: Sunday School Kick-Off

Oct. 10: Fall Garden Clean-up
9:00 a.m.-noon

Oct. 24: Fall Garden Clean-up
9:00 a.m.-noon

Church Staff & Leadership

Pastor Kristin Woelk.....Phone: 608-616-0631
E-mail: pastor@allsaints-madison.org

Worship & Music Director.....John Francis
Email: music@allsaints-madison.org

Church Secretary..... Heather Quartaro
(Secretarial Hours: 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays
Or by appointment

Phone: 608-335-4911; E-mail: office@allsaints-madison.org

Congregational Council President.....Deanna Simonson
Phone: 608-276-3798

Accompanists.....Marino Taylor
Nancy Pokorney, Donald St. Pierre

PreK-6th Grade Sunday School.....Heather Quartaro
hkquartaro@gmail.com

Childcare Staff Person.....Chris Carollo-Zeuner

Custodian.....Steve Timm
Email: bimgolieck@yahoo.com

For a calendar of All Saints' activities, go to:
www.allsaints-madison.org