



WINTER 2020

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*We are called
to ponder myst'ry
and await
the coming Christ,
to embody
God's compassion
for each fragile
human life.
God is with us
in our longing
to bring healing
to the earth,
while we watch
with joy and wonder
for the promised
Savior's birth.*

Unexpected and Mysterious, v.3
ELW #258
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Jeannette M. Lindholm

FOUR WORDS FROM PASTOR KRISTIN

The following was written by Bishop Mark Holmerud for the people he serves in the Sierra Pacific Synod of the ELCA. These sets of four words were a good reminder for me, and I hope they are for you as well!

Four words: It's not time yet.

It's not time yet:

- to return to indoor worship
- to stop wearing masks
- to forget physical distancing
- to ignore science
- to gather in large groups
- to deny the exponential growth of cases of COVID-19 being diagnosed every day in this country and around the world

Four more words: I know you're tired.

I know you're tired:

- of not being able to be with family and friends
- of not being able to worship together in the sanctuary and sing
- of not being able to travel
- of not being able to leave your home
- of not being able to hold your grandchildren/children/loved ones
- of hearing admonitions like this from health professionals and bishops

Four last words: God is in control (Psalm 23).

God is in control:

- even (and especially) in this time of pandemic (Psalm 91)
- despite what some see as evidence to the contrary (Psalm 46)
- through the work of health care workers, clinicians, and epidemiologists (Sirach 38)
- in the presence of courageous essential workers (Ecclesiastes 3:1-15)
- as we help God's reign come near in seeking the well-being of the most vulnerable among us (Matthew 25:31-46)
- because nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus (Rom. 8:31-39)

I will add a fourth set of four words to those that Bishop Holmerud offered: *God is with us* (Matthew 1:23). As we step into the season of Advent and prepare to once again welcome Jesus into this world, into our lives and into our hearts, may we always remember that God chose to be Immanuel – God with us. Not a God who is far off, but One who is right here with us in each moment of every day, through the challenges of this pandemic, in our joys and our sorrows, and as we celebrate the birth of Christ in different ways this year. While very little of this year seems “normal,” there is one thing that will never change: God is with us, and as Christ comes to us each day, he brings us the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love. May we all hold those gifts a little closer this year, while simultaneously sharing them with the world.

In God's hope, peace, joy, and love,
Pastor Kristin



A NOTE FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

As we enter Advent, I am reminded of my childhood excitement and anticipation of Christmas. I have never been great at waiting. As children, after a lot of begging, my siblings and I could usually entice my parents into letting us open at least one gift early. Due to this crazy year, I am tired of all the waiting and no amount of begging is going to shorten this wait. I have been waiting: to see my family, to hug my friends, to watch my kids play sports, for the election to be resolved, and to return to singing and worshipping in person. I am waiting for life to return to normal and for it to be safe to breathe near others. Tired of waiting!

This morning I was reading my bible, looking for some insight about waiting and patience. The bible has a lot to say about waiting and there are many active "waiters" in the bible. Here's a few examples: Moses, Job, Abraham and Sarah, Jesus, Mary, and more. All these people were actively waiting for God to reveal himself and his plans. I wonder how these "waiters" were able to maintain hope and not fall into despair. Perhaps it was their trust and belief in God.

As I read, I thought about what these people did while they were waiting. It turns out that they were not sitting back, passively waiting. Every one of these biblical "waiters" was preparing for what was to come, praying, and continuing their daily work. Currently, my life is a bit quieter while I wait for a vaccine to be available and for this pandemic to be under control. I have more time to reflect, to talk, to read, to listen, and to pray. I am spending more time at home with more physical distance between myself and others, but I am also not passively waiting. I am doing my daily work.

While our building may look quiet, we also have been working at All Saints. During this pandemic, we continue to be a church as we actively wait for our safe return to in person worship. We have reached out to others with letters and phone calls. We are helping our neighbors with monthly birthday celebrations. We are contributing to the food pantry. We are tending our gardens and grounds. We are paying our bills. We have painted our parking lot and the front of our building. We are worshipping virtually and outdoors. We are teaching Sunday school lessons. We are having zoom meetings. We have had book club meetings. We are making and listening to beautiful music. We are starting a social justice committee. We are sending care packages to young adults. We are planning a solar project for our building. We have had a baptism, a confirmation, and sadly, some funerals. We are praying. All of this, while we are waiting for life to return to normal and to safely return to worship in our building. We are not just passively waiting. While we are waiting for this pandemic to end, perhaps what we really are doing is being a church.

During all this waiting, I have become much more aware of what it means to be a church. Our church is much more than just a building and I am grateful to be part of it. Our church is all of us, sharing our gifts to fulfill the mission of All Saints. We seek to know, follow, and share Jesus. I am hopeful that our new year will bring a new normal and a return to worshipping in our building. Until then, I will be actively waiting, with all of you, as we will continue to be All Saints.

~ *Deanna Simonson*

A NOTE FROM JOHN FRANCIS, WORSHIP & MUSIC

As we know, our Advent and Christmas music plans were adjusted this year due to COVID-19. All the work people did to prepare for recordings will be held for next year. Thank you for all your efforts. Looking ahead, we have Ash Wednesday on February 17 and Easter is April 4. I invite anyone who is willing to share their talents to submit recordings for these services. Please contact me if you are interested. I will need information for each piece: title, arranger and publisher. There is much talent in our congregation, and some has yet to be heard. Please consider sharing yours. I'm happy to help walk you through the recording process if you have a cell phone and need assistance. More plans will be shared in weeks to come.

~ *John Francis*

Advent and Christmas



ADVENT KITS AVAILABLE!

Advent is a wonderful time to be intentional about making room in our lives for the coming of Jesus. To help us all do that, we have a set of Advent devotions available for anyone who would like them. They include a weekly devotion, along with an Advent calendar that encourages us all to think in new ways about light and darkness. This devotion also includes supplies for creating an Advent Shadow Box to tell the story of Jesus' birth. We will have full kits, including all of the craft supplies needed, available for pick up on Wednesdays, 11 am -6 pm. If you would simply like the document emailed to you, contact Heather (office@allsaints-madison.org). Thanks!

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

"A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices..."

Perhaps these words from "O Holy Night" hit us all a little differently this year. Hope and joy are needed in abundance for this weary world. And while our Advent and Christmas worship will be different this year, the fact that Christ came among us—bringing hope and peace and joy and love—remains the same!

We will gather for worship on the Sundays in Advent just as we have been over the past several months—on Facebook and YouTube—at 9:00 a.m. As a part of our worship during Advent, we are looking for four households that will welcome us into your homes (virtually, of course) to light the Advent candles that you use there. Two weeks have already been claimed, we just need two more! Please contact Pastor Kristin if you are interested in being a part of this special moment in our Advent worship—or if you would like to read for worship (pastor@allsaints-madison.org / 608-616-0631). We are also still looking for musicians who would like to record Advent or Christmas music at home that can add to our worship experiences during this season. Please contact John Francis if you would like to offer your gifts in this way (music@allsaints-madison.org / 704-264-5594).

On Sunday, December 13, worship will be focused around our first All Congregation Virtual Christmas Program—"Do Not Be Afraid!" Members of all ages have signed up to help present the Christmas story in this fun, creative way. You won't want to miss it!

Christmas Eve worship will also be online, available by 12:00 noon on December 24. That way you can worship with your families at the time that works best in your Christmas celebrations. However, if you would like to know that you are gathering with others from the All Saints community, Pastor Kristin will be hosting a Facebook "Watch Party" at 5:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, and will be present in the chats on both Facebook and YouTube at that time. We will be sharing in Holy Communion as a part of worship on Christmas Eve, so you are invited to have bread and wine or juice prepared in order to participate in the meal.

On the first Sunday of Christmas, December 27, we will be treated to a Service of Lessons and Carols, put together by a group of ELCA rostered leaders aged in their twenties and thirties, with the lessons presented in a variety of formats, including readings, drama, and children's messages, along with music that will include the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians' Virtual Christmas Carol, selections from the Nation Lutheran Choir and more! This service will be available on YouTube and Facebook at 9:00 a.m. on December 27.

ST. MARK'S & THE PERSONAL ESSENTIALS PANTRIES

As we head into this season of giving, you are invited to add some extra non-perishable food items and/or personal essentials into your shopping carts and either drop them off at the church on Wednesdays between 11 a.m.—6 p.m. or take them directly to St. Mark's Food Pantry or the Good Neighbor Personal Essentials Pantry on your own. Contact the office if you need a list of suggested items for either of these organizations. Thanks for your generosity, especially during this time when so many are need.



Ministry Updates...

SOLAR IS COMING TO ALL SAINTS!

The people of All Saints want to be good stewards of the earth and of our financial resources. The Stewardship committee has been busy working on a solar project at All Saints. On October 25, Jeff Cherwinka gave an informative presentation about how this project. He answered many great questions during this Sunday morning zoom session.



All Saints has received a grant from Solar for Good that will fund 56 solar panels for our roof. We are working with Legacy Solar Cooperative to fund the rest of the project. CHOX Engineering Solutions has agreed to be our sponsor for the DC portion of our system. This project will offer thousands of dollars in energy cost savings to All Saints each year for the next 20 years or more. Additionally, we will be able to help care for the earth by using clean energy. We expect that the system will be installed this spring, after the snow has melted.

All Saints is establishing a solar fund to assist in paying for any additional system costs and maintenance. If you would like to contribute, please send these funds to the church office, with a note designating its use for the solar project. If you would like additional information about this project, please contact Jeff Cherwinka.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & NOTES

Though we are unable to meet in person, Sunday School continues! So we do not overwhelm the kids during this Zoom-only season, we made the decision to hold an all ages Sunday School Zoom class once a month. The topic of monthly classes is chosen based on a relevant seasonal event. Pastor Kristin led our first class on October 5th with a focus on Reformation. Doug Stampfli led the class through a session about thankfulness on November 1st. Our next class will be held on Sunday, December 6th when we will share our Advent traditions and learn more about this preparatory season. Zoom class links are sent via email the night before the class. Please contact Heather Quartaro (hkquartaro@gmail.com) to be added to the list.



We are still looking for individuals to lead the class this spring (February through May) with Pastor Kristin's assistance. Pastor Kristin can work with you to select a topic and provide some guidance as you plan and lead this 30 minute class! Leading involves preparing a topic to discuss and guiding the kids through a discussion. Pastor Kristin will be in attendance at the meeting and can assist with leading prayers or a simple song or just providing additional support to move the discussion forward. Please let me know if this is something you would be interested in doing so we can continue with our monthly classes!

Though we are not adhering to our traditional Sunday School format, you can still access our normal curriculum online. Materials follow the liturgical calendar and are complemented by the Sunday sermon and Children's lesson. If you do not currently have access to the online materials, but would like to be added, please contact Heather Quartaro (hkquartaro@gmail.com).

Lastly, our Christmas Program will be virtual this year! The congregation (children AND adults!) are getting in on the fun of telling the powerful story of the birth of Christ. Households are recording their parts and submitting them. All video clips will be edited together into one complete program. The program will be the center of our worship on Sunday, December 13.





"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

News & Notes...

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS - SEPT.-NOV. 2020

Payroll Protection Program Update

All Saints received a \$16,800 loan via the Federal Government program designed to help alleviate small businesses' payroll problems which resulted from state and local governments restricting their activities as a result of COVID. The loan is forgivable, but to qualify we have to show that the money was used as specified, including not reducing staff and paying them at least 75% of their normal pay. The council made sure that we complied to the conditions for forgiveness, even being on the conservative side. We have received the application to forgive the loan. Our bookkeeper, Margie Rem, will complete that application.

Annual Meeting

Our annual congregational meeting, per our constitution, will be the 3rd Sunday in January, which falls on the 17th. At that meeting, the congregation will be asked to vote on a number of items including our 2021 budget and the election of church leadership. The meeting will take place via Zoom. While much of the business can be done by voice vote, church council elections must be by paper ballot, so ballots will be mailed to those who attend the meeting to be returned afterward. To allow for this online meeting, at the November council meeting, the council voted on an emergency bylaw, the heart of which says, "This congregation may hold meetings by remote communication, including electronically and by telephone conference, as long as there is an opportunity for simultaneous aural communication. Notice of all meetings may be provided electronically."

Ron Miller, Council Secretary

November 24, 2020

Approved Monthly Congregation Council Meeting Minutes are available in the church office. If you wish to receive meeting notes via email, please contact the church office.

CONGRATULATIONS, KAREN JULESBERG!

We are proud to announce that All Saints member Karen Julesberg was awarded the 2020 Distinguished Service Award from Luther College in October. This award is presented to alumni or individuals with strong connections to Luther College who have exhibited admirable service to society in areas such as education, government, the arts, business, church, labor, industry, agriculture, research, medicine and community affairs. Congratulations, Karen! Below is a press release from Luther College:

From teaching at all levels of education to becoming a management and marketing consultant, Karen Julesberg has had an impressive career – but what's maybe more impressive is her life-long dedication to volunteering.

Julesberg began volunteering for the Cancer Information Service in 1975 prior to working for the organization. She was a founding member of the Friends of Fitchburg Library; she has served All Saints Lutheran Church and Midvale Community Lutheran Church in Madison, Wisconsin, where she currently lives; and she was on the board of the Epilepsy Society of South Central Wisconsin.

More recently, Julesberg has become involved in the Madison Urban Ministry. She serves as a volunteer coordinator for the Madison Area Jail Ministry Program and she utilizes her talent for teaching by volunteering in multiple capacities at the Dane County Jail in Madison. Julesberg also volunteers on multiple committees for Madison Organizing in Strength, Equality, and Solidarity (MOSES), a grassroots interfaith organization working for criminal justice reform and racial justice through 22 MOSES member congregations in the Madison area.

At Luther, she established the Karen Julesberg Scholarship in 2012, supporting students with demonstrated need for financial assistance who qualify for the TRIO Achievement Program. Her scholarship is supporting four students this year, and has benefited 18 students since its inception. She is also a dedicated member of the President's Council and the Heritage Club and has served as a class agent for the class of 1960 since 2010.





"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

In Thanksgiving . . .

THANK YOU, PROPERTY TEAM!

Many thanks to our "green thumb" All Saints volunteers for taking care of the grounds through another great season of growing & mowing. Did you know that all of our landscaping is handled through volunteers? Yes, it's true! Volunteers handle everything from the weekly lawn mowing to tacking those pesky weeds in the flower beds, rock beds and pavement cracks, to pruning shrubs & trees, to planting & transplanting flowers. We owe our volunteers a great deal of gratitude! Thank you!



Do you like to play in the dirt and find satisfaction in maintaining beautiful landscaping? If so, we need YOU! The mowing season is done for this year, but things will start back up again next spring. We hope you will consider sharing your time & talent for keeping the All Saints grounds looking its very best. It's a gift you can share with your church as well as your community! For questions about volunteering, please call or email Jen Barakat any time at : jennifer.l.barakat@gmail.com or (608) 630-0511.

THANK YOU, CONGREGATION!

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

	October 2020	October 2019	YTD 2020	YTD 2019
Contributions- General Fund	\$15,657.00	\$18,834.83	\$180,813.99	\$163,523.17
Contributions- Building Fund	\$1,615.00	\$1,096.00	\$32,420.00	\$24,120.00
Other Income	\$671.31	\$2,097.60	\$29,356.19	\$47,117.20
PPP	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,800.00	\$0.00
Total income	\$17,943.31	\$20,914.43	\$259,390.18	\$210,640.37
Total expense	\$24,934.73	\$24,095.54	\$264,773.58	\$244,277.44
Variance	(\$6,991.42)	(\$3,181.11)	(\$5,383.40)	(\$33,637.07)
Without PPP	(\$6,691.42)	\$0.00	(\$22,183.40)	\$0.00
Mortgage Paid	\$5,361.55	\$5,361.55	\$53,615.50	\$53,615.50

The mortgage balance as of October 31, 2020 is \$817,024.53

As you can see, our expenses are greater than our income at this point, even with the Paycheck Protection Program forgivable loan. While many of our expenses are down in 2020 due to the pandemic, It is important to remember when comparing 2020 to 2019 that we have once again had a full staff for most of 2020. We are grateful for your continued support throughout this year, and hope you will be able to help us finish the year on a strong note. Thank you!

Things to Know . . .



"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

LOOKING FOR A NEW CHURCH TREASURER

Our church treasurer, Joan Stoikes, will finish her three-year term as treasurer at the end of this year. We are looking for a mission partner interested in serving the church in this role. At All Saints, the responsibilities of Treasurer are less than at other churches because some tasks are performed by volunteer counters, our church secretary and our bookkeeper. The time commitments of the treasurer start at an average of approximately 4-6 hours each month plus some additional time at the end of the year to develop our annual budget. Tasks include:

- Oversee the maintenance of detailed and accurate records of all church financial dealings;
- Meet with the bookkeeper (Margie Rem) monthly to run the monthly financial reports;
- Attend the Church Council meeting the third Thursday of each month;
- Prepare, present and interpret monthly reports for the council;
- Work with church leadership to develop the annual church budget; and
- Complete an end-of-year questionnaire for the ELCA Synod office.

Please contact members of the nominating committee for more information: Gary Kriesel (treeman77@ameritech.net), Michelle Slawny (slawny@tds.net), and Jon Warren (jonbevwarren@gmail.com).

OFFERING DEPOSITS

Thank you for your continued financial support during these uncertain times. We joyfully accept offering donations via mail or electronic deposit. Mail is checked daily. Deposits are made on the 15th and 30th of each month. Electronic deposits are able to be set up via our website (www.allsaints-madison.org), through your own bank, or by contacting the church office. As a reminder, all 2020 donations must be in the church office or postmarked no later than December 31st to be credited to the 2020 calendar year.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Prayers of healing for those in need... spiritually, emotionally and physically. We pray for Bob, Jack, Kathleen, Richard and Steve. Give them the hope, comfort, strength, and courage they need each day.

We pray resurrection comfort for Chris Carollo-Zeuner and Joey Zeuner at the death of Al Zeuner on September 17. A private service was held on September 25.

God's resurrection peace to the Symdon family at the passing of Darleen Symdon on November 6. A private funeral was held on Thursday, November 19.

Thanks to Roxie Kriesel for decorating the sanctuary for Christ the King Day and the Advent season.

THINGS TO KNOW...

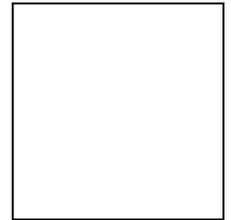
- **Newsletter** articles are due to Heather in the church office at office@allsaints-madison.org on the 15th of the month in November, February, May and August for newsletters published in December, March, June and September. Items are subject to editing due to space availability.
 - If you would prefer 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.
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"To Know, Follow, and Share Jesus"

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Save These Dates!

- Nov. 29: **Online Worship**
Available on Facebook & YouTube at 9:00 a.m.
*Continues each Sunday
- Dec. 6: Virtual Sunday School!
Zoom meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m.
- Dec. 13: Virtual Christmas Program
at 9:00 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube
- Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Worship
at 12:00 p.m. on Facebook and YouTube
- Dec. 27: Lessons & Carols
Available on Facebook & YouTube at 9:00 a.m.

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