



THE Sainly NEWS

Volume 37 Issue No. 1 / January 2014

Annual Congregation Meeting

Sunday, January 26, 2014

5:30 pm POTLUCK

6:30 pm Annual Meeting



Some of the items on the agenda include:

Review the annual report

Approve the budget for 2014

Vote on church council members

Ratify changes to the constitution as recommended by the Northern Illinois Synod

This will be a great opportunity for all members of the church to enjoy Christian fellowship, eat good food, and exercise their rights as active and voting members of All Saints. More information will be included in the Sunday bulletins and a potluck sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. We hope to see everyone there!

Annual Meeting Voting Requirements

All Saints' constitution lists two minimal requirements in order to be considered an active voting member at congregation meetings: Receive Holy Communion and make at least one financial contribution of record in the current or previous year. "Of record" simply means that the financial secretary has recorded your donation because you have used an envelope or written a check.

Call Committee

The Church council appointed six members to the call committee. Twelve members of the congregation expressed an interest in serving on the committee, but the Constitution allows for only six voting members. After some deliberation, a vote was taken among the council members and the following members were appointed to serve on the Call Committee: Kay Johnson, Steve Jones, Rachel Niederer, Troy Rahn, Mike Reibel, and Marlene Roberts. In addition, Cortni Rahn was appointed to serve as the youth representative on the committee and will have voice, but not vote. Please keep these newly selected Call Committee members in prayers as they prepare to begin the process for calling a new pastor. The first meeting will be January 7th.

Sunday Worship 8:00 and 10:30 am
Whole Family Education Hour
Sundays 9:15 am (Sept - May)

Responding to the Gospel
to carry out God's mission



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



COUNCIL MEMBERS
PRESIDENT & SOCIAL MINISTRY

Jim Wilcox -
sgjim271@yahoo.com
 H: 815-234-2365

VICE PRESIDENT & EDUCATION

Sonja Stoker-
sonyak99@gmail.com
 C: 907-841-2177

SECRETARY

Allison Roberts -
barracudette@me.com
 H: 815-234-4359
 C: 815-988-2606

WORSHIP

Troy Rahn -
tardc1013@gmail.com
 C: 815-441-2335

FINANCE

Steve Reid -
swreid1@comcast.net
 H: 815-234-4942
 C: 815-988-3046

OUTREACH

Kay Johnson -
allsaintswelca@aol.com
 C: 815-262-8789

PROPERTY CO-CHAIR

Mark Hart -
hyperjet@t6wireless.com
 H: 815-713-1489

Bob Branson

RDB8537@aol.com
 H: 815-234-5875

STEWARDSHIP

Bekki Heaslip -
rebecca.heaslip@gmail.com
 C: 815-509-0465

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Rachel Brown-
rbrown68@gmail.com
 C: 815-621-8290

PASTOR

Pastor Marilyn Hanson
pastor@allsaintsbyron.org
 C: 815-762-0963

PARISH COORDINATOR

call church office
 815-234-5277

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY LEADER

Audrey Adams
adamsdavid5@aol.com
 C: 815-509-2682

TREASURER

Carolyn Niederer
rjn2cjin@comcast.net
 H: 815-234-3296

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Michel Williams
netfam@comcast.net
 815-262-2963

OFFICE SECRETARIES

Karen Larson
 Cindy Beitel
Office@AllSaintsByron.org
 815-234-5277
 Fax 815-997-1300

Deadline for Sainly News articles is January 17, 2014. Send articles to Carolyn Niederer at rjn2cjin@comcast.net

Dear friends in Christ,
 Happy New Year ... and a blessed Epiphany season to each of you!

While serving a congregation in western Iowa some years ago, I remember fondly a celebration of Epiphany unlike any I had known before. My student intern that year, Althea Sondahl, told me it had long been a tradition in her family to build a bonfire outdoors and burn their Christmas tree on Epiphany. She asked if we could do that at St. Paul's. After getting the permission of the local fire department, we invited the congregation to join us outdoors in the church parking lot with their Christmas trees for an Epiphany celebration.

I recall that it was a bitterly cold night that January 6 so many years ago. Only a few of us showed up with our trees in hand. We gathered in a circle and one by one we tossed those old needle droppers onto the fire. In no time at all, the trees were up in flames. We said goodbye to Christmas and welcomed this new season of the church year. It gave us a very visible way to celebrate the coming of Jesus as the light of the world. We then went to Althea's home and there enjoyed a lovely candlelight meal with her family. It was an Epiphany I will never forget.

In the deep of winter, Epiphany comes as a welcome sight. Epiphany means "showing forth" and it recalls the story of the magi from foreign lands who follow the star as they go to worship the Christ child. They are travelers from the East and come bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Gold was given to honor Jesus as King; frankincense to worship Jesus as divine; and myrrh, a gift symbolic of readying Jesus for his death. In this season of the church year, we celebrate the in-breaking of God's light on the world. The scripture readings throughout the season will help us understand that God's love in Christ has been given for all people everywhere, not for just a select few.

As we gather for worship throughout the Epiphany season, let us recall the gifts the wise men of old brought to the Christ child. Let us consider how we, too, can bear witness to Christ through the sharing of our gifts of time, talent & treasure. As Christians, let us answer God's call to "let our lights shine!"
 Walking with you in the light of Christ,

Pastor Marilyn



The Sunday School program has been promoting gifts that make a difference. We have been teaching that Christmas is about giving gifts to others and not just receiving. The Sunday School chose the Lutheran World Relief program, Good Gifts, to support with their offerings in December. This program helps families in third world countries so they will have the gifts of food, income and survival. In January, the Sunday School children will choose the animal that their offerings will provide to a family in need. As of December 16th, there has been \$283 received towards this goal.

2014 Stewardship Campaign

Thank you very much to everyone who has turned in their Time & Talent sheets and Commitment Cards thus far. Your timely response helps the church council with the budgeting process for 2014 and also assists the various schedulers with their new lists. Thanks to all of you for your continued support of All Saints and the greater church. If you have not had an opportunity to turn in your forms, there is still time. They can be mailed to the church or dropped in the gold box on the table in the narthex. Thank you again for your support!

Annual Report Time

**Attention all Organizations,
Committees, Secretaries, Treasurers:**

Now is the time to review the past year and write your report for the Annual Congregation meeting to be held January 26th. Please include a financial report and a brief overview of what your group has done in 2013. Reports need to be submitted to the office by January 5th so the booklet can be compiled and made available prior to the Annual Congregation meeting.

Copies of last year's report are available if needed. If possible please submit your report in a Word file and email it to the church Office@AllSaintsbyron.org. Of course, a hand written report will be accepted as well.

Thank you!

Congregation Council

Spreading a Little Hope and Generosity

I wanted to thank our congregation for the support and generosity shown over the Thanksgiving Holiday. The shopping cart was always full of groceries to help the less fortunate families in our community enjoy a nice Thanksgiving dinner that may not have been possible without the donations from our congregation.

We tried something new in helping the food pantry. Ruth Ann Goelitz, the People Helping People coordinator, asked if we could help make sure the families benefiting from PHP would be able to feast on a turkey dinner. Monetary donations were accepted which assisted in the purchasing of turkeys for those families in need. All Saints was able to provide PHP with a donation of \$239.00 which helped in the purchase of the turkeys, assisting almost 150 of our neighbors. I am very proud of our congregation on how we come together and lend a helping hand to those in need.

God Bless,
Jim Wilcox, Social Ministry Chairman

Scripture Texts

January 5
Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:[1-9] 10-18



January 12
Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

January 19
Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 26
Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

Tuesday Night Bible Study

All are welcome to
attend as often as
you are able.

(Please use the South entrance.)



We will use the Gospel lessons for
Sunday as our study material.
(www.ELCA.org)

January 7
Discipleship: Following God's Son
Text: Matthew 3:13

January 14
Discipleship: Following the Lamb
of God
Text: John 1:29-42

January 21
Discipleship: Following the Light
of the World
Text: Matthew 4:12-23

January 28
Discipleship: Following the Master
Teacher
Text Matthew 5:1-12

November 2013 Financial Report

General / Facilities Giving	\$ 17,703.55
General / Facilities Expenses	\$ 16,745.94
Mortgage Reduction / Capital Campaign Giving	\$2,746.00
Mortgage Balance	\$ 265,027.98



WELCA

WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) will meet on Saturday, January 11 at 9:00 am for a breakfast potluck in the Fellowship Hall at church. Please bring a breakfast dish to pass and your ideas for WELCA activities in the new year!

All women of All Saints are members of WELCA and are invited and encouraged to attend this fun meeting.



Electronic Newsletter Delivery

If you would like to receive your copy of the Saintly News via e-mail, just e-mail the church office at office@AllSaintsByron.org with the e-mail address you would like us to use. You can also pluck your newsletter from cyberspace by clicking on the "Resources" tab at www.AllSaintsByron.org. We will continue to bulk mail through the post office all the newsletters on the mailing list unless we hear differently from individual members.

Worship Server Schedules are out

Server schedules for January through April have been published. Many of them were sent to you by email. If we had an email address for you, it went out electronically. We mailed a handful out thru the post office. If you have not received a schedule, extra copies are available on bulletin board #2. Please check them over carefully to make sure you are scheduled at the service of your choice and you are not double booked.



ALTAR GUILD FLOWER CHART

Please take a moment to consider donating altar flowers that beautify the church throughout the year. The flower reservation binder is on the wall by the Altar Guild bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Bouquets are ordered from Merlin's, at a cost of \$18.00 each, and are delivered every other week. There are envelopes in the rack to use for your flower payment. This will help the Altar Guild Treasurer keep track of donations.

If you have questions about this system, please contact any of the Altar Guild people listed in the Sunday Bulletins, or Kay Johnson.

ALTAR GUILD

The Annual Altar Guild meeting will be held on Saturday, January 4, 2014 at 9:00 am. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the ministry of Altar Guild, elect officers for the coming year, and create a schedule for Altar Guild service for 2014. All Altar Guild members, current are encouraged to attend. Anyone considering joining The Altar Guild is also invited to attend.

We are in need of new Altar guild members. Everyone is invited to join – men, women, youth – everyone! Many hands make light work!

Kay Johnson, President



New Offering Boxes

The new 2014 offering boxes for weekly givers are in the Narthex. Be sure to pick yours up if you have not yet done so. If you do not find your box, please let the office know. The offering boxes for the monthly givers will be available January 12.

Confirmation Lessons

- Wed, Jan. 1 NO CLASS
- Sun, Jan. 5 The Life of Jesus – Baptism & Wilderness
- Wed, Jan. 8 Old Testament – The Promise Continues
- Sun, Jan. 12 The life of Jesus – The Teachings of Jesus
- Wed, Jan. 15 Leader and Guide Huddle
- Sun, Jan. 19 The Life of Jesus – the Miracles of Jesus
- Wed, Jan. 22 Old Testament – Moses and the Wanderings
- Sun, Jan 26 The life of Jesus – the Hard Sayings of Jesus
- Wed, Jan 29 Family Date Night

Tis the Season to Un-decorate

We have enjoyed the festive look of the church with the Christmas decorations, but we move on in the church year and need to take down the trees and greens. Many hands are required to make this light work, so join in on **Saturday January 11th starting at 10:00 am.**

There will be jobs for all ages. If you have questions, talk with Jim Wilcox, Council President.



Medical equipment

If you have a wheel chair that is no longer in use, the Barnabas group could add that to their collection of medical equipment available for loan to members who need assistance. We have several walkers that are available if someone has a need at this time. Please contact Rachel Niederer at 815-218-7020 if you have questions or can donate an item.

Worship Attendance				
December	8:00	10:30	Total	Sunday School
1	73	60	133	Have not received
8	70	65	135	Sunday School attendance counts
17	92	44	136	
22	0	0	0	Church cancelled
Total	235	169	404	
Average	78	56	134	
Thanks. Eve	7:00 58			
Christmas Eve	7:00 101	10:30 57		

There were no counts for the advent services



YouthNews

January 2014

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May God bless you with kindness and generosity. May God fill you with the faith and love that come from Jesus Christ. 1Timothy 1:14

Out of concern for liability for not only the church, but the volunteers & youth as well, it now is required that there be 2 responsible adults at each youth event. If you are interested in helping with these worthwhile activities for our youth, please consider volunteering. Contact Audrey Adams for more information.

December 6th... Miracle on 2nd Street was a cold night; we all took turns selling hot dogs and keeping warm. We didn't sell many hotdogs, but we had a lot of fun!

December 8th... Youth Christmas Party
We had a blast. We filled the room with youth. We had pizza, shared stories and played some games.

December 21st... Christmas Caroling/Pizza We all shared our holiday spirit as we went Christmas caroling. We met at church at 3:00 pm and went caroling in the area. We all returned to church and had pizza. It was fun to see the smiles and enjoyment of the people we went to visit.

We have started selling Little Caesar's Pizza Kits. See a youth to place an order for some pizza kits. Enjoy them for the Super Bowl game.

January 12th... Youth Nite/Parent Nite 5-7pm at church. We will have a parent meeting and the youth will go hang out in the youth room and play games.

January 16th ...Youth Quake/Zone meeting for all those who will be going to Quake/Zone. We will meet at church at 6:30 pm for a parent/youth meeting to go over all plans for the youth quake trip in February. Please plan to attend.

January 20th... LYO & LOMC Present the Annual Northern Illinois Synod JR. & SR. High Ski Trip. We will go to Chestnut Mountain in Galena for some skiing and lots of fun. See youth board for sign up sheet and more information.

January 26th... YOUTH NITE... We will meet at church at 5:00 to help set up the potluck for the annual Congregation meeting. We will then enjoy fellowship with our All Saints family at the potluck, and attend the Congregation Meeting at 6:30 pm.

Youth Quake/Zone... 6th-12th grade
Friday, Jan. 31 - Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014 @ Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells.

"Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all." 1 Chronicles 29:11



February 2nd... Souper Bowl of Caring. Let's begin the Souper Bowl of Caring with a simple prayer: "Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat." We will again hold 2 large soup pots at the doors of the sanctuary for you to vote for your favorite team. Please help us raise money for People Helping People. Thank you for your donations. I will need help in organizing this event because I will not be here. Please let me know if you can help.

Audrey Adams

All Saints Youth & Family Leader

Our Mission statement:

Seeking God, Serving Others & Having Fun!

Students Taking Action Together In Christ

S.T.A.T.I.C.

Book Club

Join the book club on Monday, January 27th at 1:00 pm in the fellowship hall. We will discuss the book, *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker. This is a gripping story of friendship and second chances. Penobscot Indian, Molly Ayer, is close to "aging out" of the foster care system. A community service position helping an elderly woman clean out her home is the only thing keeping Molly out of Juvie and worse. As Molly helps Vivian sort through her possessions and memories, Molly learns that she and Vivian aren't as different as they seem to be. A young Irish immigrant, orphaned in New York City, Vivian was put on a train to the Midwest with hundreds of other children whose destinies would be determined by luck and chance. Molly discovers that she has the power to help Vivian find answers to mysteries that have haunted her for her entire life – answers that will ultimately free them both.



The Gathering

"The GATHERING" met for breakfast on December 10 and enjoyed visiting with each other. The next meeting will be held on January 14 at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. If you have leftover Christmas cookies, bring them and we will enjoy them with our coffee.



Quilters

The quilters plan to meet on January 2nd and January 16th from 9:00 to 11:00 am at the church. Seven quilts were given to needy families in Washington, IL after the tornado destroyed so many homes. We are happy to share our quilts in our own country and around the world. Our ladies at All Saints join women all over the country making comforters for people who need to know that they are loved and we care about them. The two hours we spend together go by quickly as we visit while we work. Please join us whenever you can on the first and third Thursday of the months in this New Year.

Families in Faith

“I want us to help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me, and my faith will help you” Romans 12:4-5.

Come join us to build multigenerational relationships to support each other in our FAITH through FELLOWSHIP and FUN!

Our next task force meeting will be held on Jan 8, 2014 @ 6:00 pm. We will be talking about plans for the new year! We would love to see you there! Our next event will be Jan. 25, 2014 at 6:00 pm. So mark your calendars and watch for more information in the Sunday worship bulletins!

If you have questions please contact Marddi Rahn at navy_rn@hotmail.com or 815-631-4491 or Rachel Brown at rmbrown68@gmail.com or 815-621-8290.

Library

Need a New Year's resolution? How about, “I resolve to visit the church library and check out books, CD's, and DVD's to enjoy.” New books this month are:



- o DVD **VeggieTales Sweetpea Beauty**, a girl after God's own heart.
- o ***What's Heaven***, by Maria Shriver answers questions her children, nieces and nephews asked when her grandmother, Rose Kennedy, died. She wrote it for her children and any others who “are facing a difficult time and looking for answers.”
- o ***The Gospel According to Peanuts*** by Robert L. Short, an ordained minister. Short examines the insights found in the comic strip and expands commentary on these timely parables.
- o ***The Vow*** by Kim and Krickitt Carpenter is a true story of this couple's journey from meeting on the phone and marriage, to the accident that left Krickitt with a brain injury and loss of memory of her husband, the accident, and their marriage vows, and ultimately to renewing their vows.

The series, ***Above the Line, (Take One, Take Two, Take Three and Take Four)*** by Karen Kingsbury follows two best friends for three years as they, as missionaries, leave Indonesia to produce a film in Hollywood that would save the world. They didn't foresee all the ups and downs they would experience nor did they realize they would lose themselves doing it.

Thank you for the religious music CD's and storage cabinet donated by Skip and Sylvia Richardson. It is a wonderful addition to the library.

**Health
&
Healing**



**Cindy Adams
Shirley Asher
Lore Bogdanovich
Eileen Carlson
Susan Davis
Carol Gugliemetti
Chad Nelson
Al Olsen
Kit Reif
Bill Runnion
Al Schabacker
Blanche Schroeder
Mike Schlagel
Kim Sherman
Mary Dummer
Jim Orr
Francine Reibel
Laura Logas
April Roos
Mark Kirking
Rhonda Storey
Bill & Rose Cassens
Pia & Ernie Leombruni
Marilyn Rinaldo
Rick Pope
Kelly Johnson
Steve Bontjes
Nancy Stout**

In the Military

**Tyler Peterson
Stacy Seaworth
Mike Mursewick
Ryan Westphal**

A PUBLICATION OF
ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
624 Luther Dr.
Byron, IL 61010-9684
January Issue - Mailed 12/31/2013

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Byron, IL 61010
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The youth group is raising funds for the 2015 Youth Gathering in Detroit and other activities by selling Little Caesar's Pizzas. Contact a youth to place an order for pizza kits in January.

Church is Canceled?!

For the first time ever, we were forced by inclement weather and hazardous driving conditions, to cancel church worship services on Sunday, December 22. The health and safety of our church family is our paramount concern, so if weather conditions are such that we feel we should cancel worship services again, there are a couple of things you can do to keep informed of cancellations:

- 1) LIKE us on Facebook! We immediately posted the closure notice on Facebook, so those who already 'like' us knew immediately, There is a link to our Facebook page on www.AllSaintsByron.org in the sidebar.
- 2) Check the home page of www.AllSaintsByron.org. We also immediately posted the closure notice there.
- 3) Check the closure lists on the local television stations. While in most cases it could take a couple of hours for our closure to be posted, this may not be the most effective way to find out if church worship services are canceled.

Office Hours - Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.