



# THE Sainly NEWS

Volume 38 Issue No. 12 / DECEMBER 2015

## Come Worship with Us Christmas Eve Thursday, December 24 - 7:00 pm and 10:30 pm

Join your All Saints family for a Christmas Eve service of carols and communion in the beautiful poinsettia adorned sanctuary. Invite your family and neighbors to praise God for the uplifting joy and good news of our Savior's birth. Both services will conclude with candle lighting and singing of "Silent Night."



## Advent Mid-Week Worship and Soup Supper

As we approach Advent, we anticipate the birth of our Savior. All Saints is offering three mid-week worship services on December 2, 9, and 16 at 7:00 pm. These services will be short 30 minute worship services using the *Holden Evening Prayer* liturgy and will include a healing service. This liturgy is a peaceful, contemplative alternative to the hectic nature of this holiday season.

Preceding each Wednesday's worship service, a free soup supper will be served from 6:00 to 6:45 pm. Please join us for this time of fellowship. Additional information will be in the Sunday bulletins and a sign up sheet for volunteers is located on Bulletin Board #2.

## Poinsettia Plants

If you would like to order a Poinsettia plant this year to help adorn the sanctuary, please do so by **December 6**. Plants are \$12.50 each. You can make a check out to All Saints Altar Guild and place it in the offering plate or leave it in the office along with the order form. Additional order forms are available in the church office.



**Sunday School for all ages will not meet Dec 20 & 27. Sunday School classes will resume on January 3, 2016.**

**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

Kay Johnson  
[allsaintswelca@aol.com](mailto:allsaintswelca@aol.com)  
 C: 815-262-8789

### VICE PRESIDENT

#### & OUTREACH/SOCIAL MINISTRY

Dennis Cassens  
[dennis.cassens@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.cassens@gmail.com)  
 H: 815-234-2110

### SECRETARY

Rebecca Heaslip  
[rebecca.heaslip@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.heaslip@gmail.com)  
 C: 815-509-0465

### EDUCATION

Julie Danielowski  
[julieand@gmail.com](mailto:julieand@gmail.com)  
 C: 815-978-7298

### FINANCE

Steve Jones  
[sub\\_insignia@yahoo.com](mailto:sub_insignia@yahoo.com)  
 C: 779-537-4006

### FELLOWSHIP

Pete Raum  
[pnraum@lmet1.com](mailto:pnraum@lmet1.com)  
 H: 815-738-2883

### PROPERTY

Bob Branson  
[RDB8537@aol.com](mailto:RDB8537@aol.com)  
 C: 815-289-3750

### STEWARDSHIP

Doug Knodle  
[dougnodle@comcast.net](mailto:dougnodle@comcast.net)  
 C: 815-751-0312

### WORSHIP

Mike Reibel  
[michael.reibel@comcast.net](mailto:michael.reibel@comcast.net)  
 C: 815-978-9832

### YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Rebecca Raum  
[bekybirdy@gmail.com](mailto:bekybirdy@gmail.com)  
 H: 815-738-2883

## Staff

### PASTOR

Pastor Janet Wold  
[pastor@allsaintsbyron.org](mailto:pastor@allsaintsbyron.org)  
 C: 815-988-1109  
 H: 815-406-8264

### YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY LEADER

Audrey Adams  
[adamsdavid5@aol.com](mailto:adamsdavid5@aol.com)  
 C: 815-509-2682

### TREASURER

Carolyn Niederer  
[rjn2cqn@comcast.net](mailto:rjn2cqn@comcast.net)  
 H: 815-234-3296

### FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Michel Williams  
[netfam@comcast.net](mailto:netfam@comcast.net)  
 815-262-2963

### OFFICE SECRETARIES

Cindy Beitel  
 Karen Larson  
[Office@AllSaintsByron.org](mailto:Office@AllSaintsByron.org)  
 815-234-5277  
 Fax 815-997-1300

**Deadline** for the January  
 Saintly News is **December 14**

Please send articles to

**Rebecca Heaslip**

[rebecca.heaslip@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.heaslip@gmail.com)

## A Note From Pastor Janet Wold

Dear Friends,

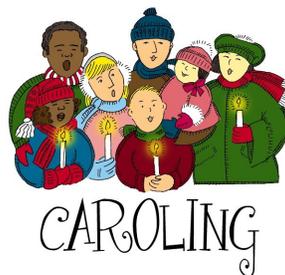
I can remember as a child eagerly looking at the front of the Rockford Register (this was when the afternoon paper was called the Register and the morning paper called the Star – remember those days?) to see how many more days there were until Christmas. There was a countdown of shopping days printed on the front of the paper – and with each passing day I would get more and more excited in anticipation of “the DAY!”

Now that I’m an adult, my excitement level isn’t quite what it was as a child as I anticipate the coming of Christmas. Though I still enjoy the day, I tend to think of December as just a really, really busy month, trying to fit in all the shopping, card writing, entertaining and decorating.

The church season known as Advent begins this Sunday, November 29. Advent, by definition, means “coming.” It is a season marked by waiting for the coming of Christ. Not ChristMAS, but Christ. We are waiting for the fulfillment of promises, waiting and watching for the Lord, for the reign of God to break in again and again. When I focus on the anticipation of Christ breaking into my life again, giving me hope, direction and purpose; when I focus my excitement on ways to spread the good news of God coming into our world to save us humans – well, that is really something TO get excited about! Come join us as we wait together on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings during this Advent season – together we can anticipate the coming of Christ into our lives again and again and again!

In Christ,

*Pastor Janet Wold*



## Christmas Carolers Alert!

Plan to join with All Saints and United Church of Byron for a fun evening of Christmas caroling at Neighbors Rehabilitation Center on Sunday, December 13. You can either meet the group at Neighbors at 4:00 pm or at United Church of Byron at 5:00 pm for more caroling, cookies and hot chocolate. Contact Pete Raum or Audrey Adams for more information.

## Save the Date!

Please plan to join us at 10:00 am on Saturday, January 9, 2016 to undecorate the church. Many hands make light work! Coffee and donuts will be served!



## Tuesday Night Bible Study

Join the group every Tuesday night at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. We meet in the main conference room so please enter by the south doors.

For Advent, we will have a short study on the first three Tuesdays of December. This Advent we are studying the birth of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. Join us as we explore the meaning of the star, the visit of the magi, Joseph's dreams, the flight to Egypt, and much, much more. Join us December 1st, 8th, and 15th at 7:00pm in preparation for Christmas as we dive into the story of the birth of the Savior.

**NOTE: The Bible study will not meet on Christmas week Dec. 22nd and New Year's week Dec. 29th.**

On January 5th, the Tuesday night Bible Study will continue as we complete our study of *The Holy Spirit "Understanding His work in our lives"*. Any questions please contact Steve Reid or Karol Livingston.

## Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study

This study meets on Wednesdays at 1:30 pm in the conference room. Pastor Janet leads this study of the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday, therefore each week is unique. All are welcome to attend whenever you can! **Note: This Bible study will not be meeting on December 23 or December 30.**

## 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 31st**. Please include a financial report and a brief overview of what your group has done in 2014. Reports need to be submitted to the office by **January 4th** 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 e-mail it to the church (Office@AllSaintsByron.org). Of course, a hand written report will be accepted as well.

Thank you!  
Congregation Council

## 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 offering envelope or written a check.

\*\*\*\*\*See page 7 for purposed changes to the Constitution\*\*\*\*\*

## Sunday Scriptures

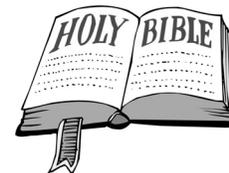
Sunday, Dec. 6  
Second Sunday of Advent  
Malachi 3:1-4  
Luke 1:68-79  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6

Sunday, Dec. 13  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Isaiah 12:2-6  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

Sunday, Dec. 20  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Micah 5:2-5a  
Psalm 80:1-7  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-55

Thursday, Dec. 24  
Christmas Eve  
Isaiah 9:2-7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-20

Sunday, Dec. 27  
First Sunday of Christmas  
1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26  
Psalm 148  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Luke 2:41-52



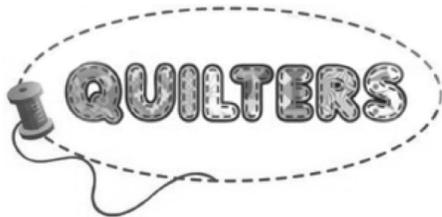
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your reference



**WELCA** - All women are invited to a Soup n Salad Pot Luck Meeting on Saturday January 9, 2016. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 12 noon to plan for the upcoming year. Please join us as we share Faith, Food and Fellowship. Snow date is January 16.

## The GATHERING

The greatest gift you can give or receive is the gift of friendship. The GATHERING shares their friendship over coffee, treats, and great conversation on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00 am. You don't have to be a crafter to attend, just come and enjoy the conversation and FRIENDSHIP that abounds during the GATHERING. Their next GATHERING is Tuesday, December 8 in the church Fellowship Hall!



## Quilters

The quilters plan to meet on December 3rd at the church from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. The work continues as we make quilts for people in need. Most of the quilts go to Lutheran World Relief. We also give quilts where there is a need in our community or country. The donations of fabric and sheets are gratefully accepted all year long. The time that we are together goes by quickly. In November, we were pleasantly surprised that two new ladies came to see what happens during our time together. Maybe you would like to do that too. Please join us whenever you can.

## Altar Guild

The annual Altar Guild meeting will be held on Saturday, January 2, 2016 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 2016. Current Altar Guild members are invited and encouraged to attend.



We are always looking for new Altar Guild members to assist in setting up the sanctuary for Sunday worship. If you are interested in joining but have questions about the work we do, please contact Kay Johnson, Michel Williams, Bridget Reibel or Jo Marie Branson for more information. Everyone is invited to join – men, women, youth – everyone! Many hands make light work!

## Book Club

Book Club will not meet in December, but will share Christmas stories at our January, 2016 meeting on, January 25. Bring a friend or two, choose a Christmas book, and come tell us all about it.

## Sunday Night Blues Series Continues

On Sunday, December 6th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm Macyn Taylor returns for another engagement at All Saints. This show is free of charge. Refreshments are also served free of charge; donations for the refreshments are accepted and go to People Helping People, the local Byron Food Pantry.



Concerts will resume again in March. Watch for information on upcoming performers in future issues of the Sainly News.

These programs are run with the assistance of Crossroads Blues Society. Crossroads is a non-profit organization that works to keep the blues alive with their Blues in the Schools programming and with community blues music performances.

## 2015-2016 Confirmation Class Schedule

### **Dec. 2 – Wednesday**

Job – I don't know why bad things happen to good people  
Job 1:13-22

### **Dec. 6 – Sunday**

Esther – I don't know why Esther's story matters when it doesn't mention God Esther 4:13-17

### **Dec. 13 – Sunday**

No Class – Christmas Program

### **Dec. 16 – Wednesday**

The Rise of Rome – What happened in the world between the Old Testament and the New Testament? Ezra 1:1-5

### **Dec. 20 - Sunday**

Make-Up Class – Unit 1 9:15 am

### **Dec. 27- Sunday**

No Class – Christmas Break

### **Jan. 3 – Sunday**

No Class – Happy New Year



## November Council Highlights

- ◇ Heard Youth Group events are well attended
- ◇ Learned over \$300 was raised at the chili supper
- ◇ Reviewed results of the Informational Forum straw poll
- ◇ Heard Handicap Door installation is complete
- ◇ A task force will be appointed to create a plan of action for Safeguarding God's children.
- ◇ Learned Michel Williams will assume Treasurer responsibilities and Bridget Reibel will assume Financial Secretary responsibilities.
- ◇ Need someone to check batteries on AED equipment monthly
- ◇ Heard trunk or treat had a good turnout of volunteers, but not many trick or treaters. Will try again next year.

**YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!**

## Looking for Council Members



Congregation Council elections are just around the corner at our annual meeting in January. We need at least four candidates to run. At least one open seat, as defined by our constitution, needs to be filled by a young adult between the ages of 18 and 30. If you have an interest please let Kay Johnson know. Contact any of the council members for more information.

The Congregation Council is a great way to sharpen and use your leadership skills. Take this opportunity to share your time and talents.



## Youth NEWS

### **December 2015**

The Youth Group meet Sundays, 6:00-8:00 pm at United Church of Byron (UCB) or All Saints Lutheran (ASL) unless noted.

### **Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>- Miracle on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street ...5:30-8:30pm**

ASL will be selling hotdogs and UCB will be selling Chili, so together we will sell Hot dogs and chili. The prices are: hotdogs for \$1 and chili for \$2 and for a chili hot dog \$2.50. ASL is to bring hotdogs and UCB is to bring chili. We will be on the corner across from the bank at 5:30 pm to set up our stand. You will need to dress warm for this event.

### **Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>-People Helping People/ Operation**

**Santa ...6-8pm...at UCB**  
We will all meet at UCB, have pizza then go to PHP and help in the warehouse and with Operation Santa.



## K-5



Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at UCB along with All Saints Lutheran. Kids come from after school until 5:30 pm. We will walk the kids from school to UCB.

### **SCHEDULE**

Dec. 9: Christmas party



**Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>** – from 4-5pm We will go Christmas caroling at Neighbor’s Nursing home to deliver ornaments, then going back to UCB for a sing-along from 5-6pm in the fellowship hall along with hot chocolate and cookies. Everyone can attend.

**Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Party– from 4-7pm at the Adams’ house for the Christmas party. Bring a treat to share and a white elephant gift to exchange. We will be watching a Christmas movie and playing games.

**Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>** – Merry Christmas! No Youth Group

**JANUARY**

**Jan.3<sup>rd</sup>** – Happy New Year! NO Youth Group

**Jan.10<sup>th</sup>** – Movie Night/ ASL

**Jan.18<sup>th</sup>** – Monday, Ski trip to Chestnut Mountain  
9am-9pm

**Jan.24<sup>th</sup>** – Game Night/ UCB

**Jan.31<sup>st</sup>** – Movie Night/ ASL

If you can help chaperone an event, please let Audrey know. ~thanks

**Thank you all for your support of the Youth Ministry here at All Saints Lutheran Church!**

Our Mission statement:

Seeking God, Serving Others & Having Fun!

*Audrey Adams*, All Saints Youth Leader

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

Students Taking Action Together In Christ

**LIBRARY NEWS**

Why not begin the Christmas season with these heartwarming stories of laughter, love, friendship, and romance.

Donated by JoMarie Branson, *Christmas Keepsakes* by Donna VanLiere includes, “The Christmas Shoes.” Eight year old Nathan, whose mother is dying and Attorney Robert, who has lost sight of what really matters in his life meet and learn from each other. “The Christmas Blessing” is a story of a medical student who witnesses faith, blessings and sacrifice from his patients.

Donated by Sue Davis, *’Tis the Season*, by Robyn Carr includes two holiday stories. Two special people are brought together by a surprise left “Under the Christmas Tree.” “Midnight Confessions” takes place at Jack’s Bar in Virgin River, the place for beginning a new year with that midnight kiss.

*Glad Tidings* by Debbie Macomber contains “There’s Something About Christmas.” Reporter Emma’s assignment is to report on 3 finalists of a fruitcake contest. In “Here Comes Trouble,” parents Maryanne and Nolan tell their kids how they met and fell in love. It all begins when they were reporters on rival papers...

*Christmas Wishes* by Debbie Macomber features “Christmas Letters.” Katherine adores her five year old twin nieces and is horrified when her sister plans to follow a child psychologist’s theory to dispense with Christmas. “In Rainy Day Kisses,” Susannah learns a screaming infant can make the corporate world look like child’s play. Neighbor Nate enters the picture and the rest is history.

*The 13<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas*, by Jason F. Wright, “filled with laughter, tenderness, and hope invites us to see how an old Christmas favorite can become a true Christmas miracle.”

*Together for Christmas* is an anthology of Christmas stories set in small towns by authors Debbie Macomber, Brenda Novak, Sheila Roberts, and Raeanne Thayne.

You will also find many more Christmas fiction and nonfiction books, CD’s and DVD’s for all ages on the cart near the front doors.

Have a very Merry Christmas!



Worship Attendance				
	8:00	10:30	Total	Sunday School
Oct. 25	50	139	189	29
November	58	57	115	56
8	43	68	111	42
15	61	51	112	34
Total	212	315	527	161
Average	53	79	132	40

## Christmas at Neighbors

Neighbors Nursing Home is once again looking for Christmas presents for their residents. Their party is December 17. Donated gifts must be dropped off no later than December 15. See Bulletin Board #2 for more information.



## 11<sup>th</sup> Annual County Wide Cantata



Singers & instrumentalists from all over the county will present “Bethlehem’s Child” at Trinity Lutheran Church (Brayton & Ogle) in Mount Morris. The concert begins at 3:00 pm on Sunday, December 6. Prelude music begins at 2:45. A freewill offering for the Loaves & Fishes and Lifeline Food Pantries will be taken. Pastor Wold will lead the opening prayer. If you would like to sing with the *Hallelujah Chorus*, music will be provided when you arrive at the church.

## Constitution Review and Revision

A revision to paragraph C13.04 of the All Saints Lutheran Church Constitution is being proposed, and will be voted on by the congregation at the Annual Meeting in January. The wording is as follows:

C13.04. A *Staff Support Committee* consisting of three voting congregation members may be appointed by the Congregation Council. Term of office will be ~~two~~ three years, ~~three~~ one member to be appointed each year. Committee members will hold no other elected or paid office in the congregation during their term. Duties will include, but are not limited to: (a) participate in hiring, (b) annual performance evaluation of paid staff, and (c) annual wage evaluation for all paid staff. In the absence of a staff support committee, their duties shall be fulfilled by the Executive Committee.



Thank you so very much to Audrey Adams and the High School Youth who helped clean up my yard and get it ready for winter. I really appreciate all you did for me and all you do for our church. Thank you again from the bottom of my heart!

-Marlene Roberts

## Finance Report

Finance Report for December 2015 Newsletter  
October 2015 Expense Report

General Giving	= \$ 13,947.25
General Expenses	= \$ 16,550.12
Mortgage Reduction	= \$ 1,782.00
Mortgage Balance	= \$249,980.62



### Shut Ins

Eileen Carlson  
Blanche Schroeder  
Lori Pederson  
Patricia Mohr

### Military

David Bishop  
Will Goreth  
Joe Wrassee

### Health & Healing

Kathy Burrows  
Cheri Eden

Heather Green  
Jeannine Hayes  
George Krebs

Al Olsen  
Jim Reif

Marlene Roberts  
Kim Sherman

Mary Dummer  
Peggy Swinney

Lori Mueller  
Don Hartman

Juanita Williams  
Patricia Skutt

Ruth Lukawski  
Jayne Fitzsimmons

Bob Ecklund  
Amanda Aulwes-Ihde

Duane Burnett  
April Roos

Dean Booth  
Keri Kleinschmit

Bill Brown  
Susie Wilcox

Dean Lundgren

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## Upcoming Events



**December 2, 9, 16**  
Advent Worship/Soup Suppers  
**December 4**  
Miracle on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
**December 5**  
Holiday Shopping Extravaganza  
**December 6**  
Blues Concert Series  
**December 13**  
Sunday School Christmas Program  
**December 13**  
Caroling with UCB  
**December 24**  
Christmas Eve Worship  
**January 2**  
Altar Guild Annual meeting  
**January 9**  
Undecorate the church

## Holiday Shopping Extravaganza



Mark your calendars now! After a one year hiatus, The Annual All Saints Holiday Shopping Extravaganza will be held December 5 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. As many as seventeen vendors will bring their 'cash and carry' wares to make your Christmas shopping a breeze! A light lunch will be available to purchase at the church.

## Cookies for Carnegie Bake Sale December 13, between worship services

Three of our youth, Brittany Harn, Caleigh Huber, and Ashley Camling, will be singing at Carnegie Hall in February as a part of the 2016 High School Honors Performance Series. The girls will join other performers from all over the United States and a number of foreign countries for this special performance. WELCA would like to invite you to bring in treats for a bake sale or just shop for some awesome goodies. All proceeds will be donated to these youth for expenses during their once in a lifetime experience in New York City.



Office Hours - Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, and Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.