



THE Sainly NEWS

Volume 42 Issue No. 1 / January 2019

Annual Congregation Meeting Sunday, January 27, 2019

Potluck: 11:45 am

Meeting: 12:30 pm

Some of the items on the agenda include:

- Review the annual report
- Approve the budget for 2019
- Vote on church council members
- Appoint voting members to the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly on June 14 & 15 at Augustana College in Rock Island

This will be a great opportunity for all members of the church to enjoy fellowship, eat good food, and exercise their rights as active and voting members of All Saints.



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 27th. Please include a financial report and a brief overview of what your group has done in 2018.

Reports need to be submitted to the office by Monday, January 7th 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.

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.



Synod Assembly Delegates Needed!

At the January Annual Meeting, we will be electing up to three adult members and one youth member of All Saints to attend the Synod Assembly in Rock Island, IL on June 14-15, 2019. Worshiping with other synod churches is great, and you get to see the larger church at work. If you are interested in being nominated and elected for this opportunity, please speak to Pastor Janet.

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.

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Dear Friends,

“On the Twelfth Day of Christmas” “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

What do these two Christmas Carols have in common? They are both referencing the day of Epiphany! Epiphany happens on January 6, which happens to fall on a Sunday this year. It is the 12th day of Christmas - that is, 12 days after Christmas. Epiphany is the day we remember the Three Wise Men coming to see Jesus, having followed a star to find him.

We use the word “epiphany” in our everyday language to indicate a sudden understanding – Webster defines it as 1) a usually sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something. (2) an intuitive grasp of reality through something (such as an event) usually simple and striking. (3) an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure. It is a “lightbulb moment”. This harkens back to the star showing the way to Jesus – we celebrate the in-breaking of God’s light.

“This Little Light of Mine” is another appropriate hymn for Epiphany. Through word and sacrament we too are invited to rise and shine, for our light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon us. Fed and nourished in worship, we are sent forth to bear witness, to let our little lights shine.

May this New Year find you renewing your relationship with God – come join us in worship as we celebrate the Light of Christ! God’s blessings to you all in 2019!

In Christ,

Pastor Janet Wold



Congratulations to Mike Reibel who has entered into the candidacy process to become a pastor. He will begin classes part time at Wartburg Seminary soon!

Help Us Undecorate Our Church

Please plan to join us at 10:00 am on Saturday, January 5, 2019 to undecorate the church. Many hands make light work! Coffee and donuts will be served!

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

Please send articles to

Rebecca Heaslip

rebecca.heaslip@gmail.com

Bible Studies (in the main conference room #310)

Tuesday Night Bible Study - Meets at 7:00 pm in the main conference room (#310), Led by Steve Reid

The Tuesday night Bible Study will not meet during the month of January. This Bible Study will resume in February. Watch for updates on time and topic in the *Saintly News*.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study - Meets at 1:30 pm in the main conference room (#310), Led by Pastor Janet Wold

Join us on Wednesday afternoons for a cup of coffee and great fellowship! This group of men and women will be studying a DVD presentation entitled "Good God Questions." We will listen to a panel of 4 teachers from Luther Seminary who will help us explore some of the most troublesome questions of believers. The topics for January will be:

January 9: Why does God allow suffering?

January 16: What are bad answers to suffering?

January 23: What are some personal answers to suffering?

January 30: Do Jews, Muslims and Christians worship the same God?

Looking ahead to February, we will look at "Why did Jesus have to die?" "If I am forgiven, why will I be judged?" and other thought provoking topics. Come join us for what promises to be a lively discussion!

Sunday Morning Bible Study - Meets in the Small Conference Room (#209) Led by Steve Jones

Adult Sunday School begins again January 6th with the 12 part series The Making of the New Testament Canon. A course by Professor Bart D. Ehrman, the material examines how the particular books were selected for the New Testament among all the writings that were out there.

December Council Highlights

- * We continue to search for a new treasurer. If interested in learning more, speak to Michel Williams for details.
- * We are exploring opportunities for our DreamLeaders Initiative in the Byron community.
- * Annual Congregation meeting will be held at 12:30 pm on Sunday, January 27 preceded by a potluck at 11:45 am.
- * ICON data transfer is nearly complete and will replace our current church membership management software, LOGOS, in January.
- * Pledge response so far has been very good.



Sunday Scriptures

January 6 Epiphany of our Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

January 13 Baptism of our Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20 Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

January 27 Third Sunday after Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21



Please Clip & Save for your reference

New in the Church Library



This month the books on the cart by the front door of the church are large print and will be moved to the large print shelf in February.

A Merry Heart by Wanda Brunstetter - Miriam, known as the "old maid" schoolteacher with a "heart of stone," after being rejected has a forbidden romantic friendship with an English newspaper reporter. Will she continue the relationship or will she follow the traditional path of a marriage of convenience for the sake of her child?

On our Own by Wanda Brunstetter - Barbara Zook was devastated when her husband was killed. She has 4 young sons and a harness store to manage. Harness maker Paul arrives and agrees to help her run the shop. Things are going well until Paul's jealousy takes over when widower Bishop John Frey decides to court Barbara.

Lydia's Charm by Wanda Brunstetter - After the accidental death of her husband and the loss of her job, Lydia moves to Charm, Ohio with her son to help her mother care for her ailing grandfather. Suddenly gifts begin appearing. Are they from Widower Menno, a store owner with 4 sons or Levi who cares for his handicapped family and is always willing to help others?

The Journey by Wanda Brunstetter - Titus needs a new life after his heart is broken by Phoebe. He decides to move to Christian County, Kentucky. He becomes intrigued with talented Suzanne who is trying to fit into the traditional lifestyle of the Amish life. Suddenly and unexpectedly Phoebe shows up ready to marry him.

The Haven by Suzanne Woods Fisher - Sadie returns after visiting her newlywed sister in Ohio. Nearly home, she sees a crowd gathering to watch a pair of peregrine falcons surprisingly nesting on her property. Greeting her family, she has another surprise and isn't sure how they will react. Her life and the lives of 2 men unravel when she is faced with a tough decision.

Somewhere to Belong by Judith Miller - Hardworking, faithful and responsible Johanna helps train new members into their village. Bertha, a pampered only child, rebels living in a communal village and having to work. She gets into all kinds of trouble. But she also causes Johanna to realize she wants to see the outside life before she settles down. As her parents forbid her to go, Johanna learns they have not been honest with her.

Epiphany Hymn Festival We Come to Worship

Join us for a celebration of the revealing of Christ, a light to the nations, and of the beautiful music of this season. Hymns of the Epiphany Season will be featured and accompanied by Praise Groups from each congregation with guest organist Karen S. Larson of Trinity Lutheran Church, Mt. Morris

Refreshments to follow.

Presented by Immanuel &
St. Paul Lutheran Churches

Sunday, January 6th, 2:00 PM
421 S. Peoria Ave. Dixon, IL



The GATHERING

The GATHERING will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am on Tuesday, January 8. Bring your craft to work on or just come and enjoy the fellowship and fun!



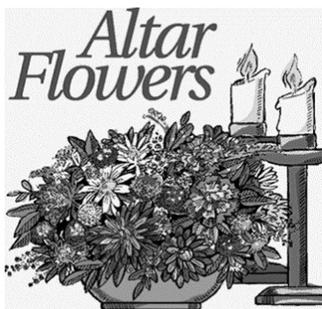
Altar Guild

The annual Altar Guild meeting will be held on Saturday, January 5, 2019 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 2019. 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!

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 members listed in the Sunday bulletins, or Kay Johnson.



Stewardship

Thank you to everyone who turned in their pledge sheets for 2019. We had a wonderful response in the initial weeks. It's not too late! The pledge box will remain in the Fellowship Hall for the next few weeks to accommodate all pledge responses.

All Saints Constitution Revision

This past summer, a Constitution Review Task Force was formed to review the All Saints Lutheran Church Constitution with the assistance of Denise Norman of the Northern Illinois Synod. Many recommended changes were incorporated and the revised document was sent to the NI Synod Council for their review in August. **To implement this revised document, it must be approved at our Annual Congregation meeting in January.** A link to a copy of this document, marked up with the additions and deletions is posted on the home page of the church website, www.AllSaintsByron.org, and is available for your review. There will also be a limited number of printed copies of this document available on the oak table in the Fellowship Hall. Please review this document and contact Pastor Janet, Mike Reibel or Kay Johnson if you have any questions.



Congregation Council Members Needed!

We will be electing three members to the All Saints Congregation council at our annual meeting on January 27th. These members will be elected for a three year term. A youth representative will be elected for a one year term. If you are interested in serving our church in this capacity, please pick up a nomination form on the oak table in the narthex, complete it, and turn it in to the church office or give it to Pastor Janet. Committee assignments are made at the February Council meeting when Committee Chairs are appointed. If you have any questions about the work the Council does, please contact any of the council members or feel free to attend our next meeting on Monday, January 14 at 7:00 pm.

Quilters

Quilters will meet on Thursday, January 3rd from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Already the shelves are beginning to fill up with beautiful quilts. We appreciate all the donations of sheets and fabric! Join us on the first Thursday of every month for service and fellowship.

Book Club

January's Book Club selection is *Something Beautiful Happened*, A Story of Survival and Courage in the Face of Evil, by Yvette Manassis Corporon is a personal memoir of the author and her quest to find the descendants of the family her grandmother and the people of the tiny Greek island of Erikousa hid from the Nazis during WWII. Just days after finding them, her nephew and his grandfather were murdered by a neo-Nazi out to kill Jews. Through lessons from Holocaust survivors, her wish to honor the islanders who risked everything, and her family's pain, Yvette learned that even in the midst of all the devastation and grief, beautiful things can still happen. We will meet on January 28 at 1:00 pm. All are welcome - you don't have to have read the book to join in the conversation.



If the decision is made to cancel worship services because of weather, the decision will be made by 7:00 am. You can learn of that decision by:

- Checking our Facebook page
- Checking our website www.AllSaintsByron.org
- Checking the weather – related closings on local TV stations

It is our intention to have services if at all possible. If you don't feel safe on the roads, please stay home.

Confirmation Schedule

January 2, 2019 (Wednesday)	NO CLASS	CHRISTMAS BREAK	HAPPY NEW YEAR
Unit 3 - New Testament			
January 6	Maps	<i>I don't know where all this Bible stuff happened.</i>	Acts 14:24-28
January 13	The New Testament	<i>If the whole Bible is so important, I don't understand why it is split into two parts.</i>	John 12:44-50
January 16 (Wednesday)	Jesus	<i>I don't understand how Jesus could be fully human and fully divine.</i>	Philippians 2:5-8
January 20	Matthew	<i>I don't know why Matthew refers to the Old Testament all the time.</i>	Matthew 1:18-25
January 27	Mark	<i>I don't get why Mark skips stuff and ends before the story does.</i>	Mark 1:14-20
February 3	Luke	<i>I'm not sure why Luke is so fixated on the Roman Empire and people on the fringes of society.</i>	Luke 2:41-52

Worship Attendance

	8:00	10:30	Total	Sunday School
November 25	43	34	77	No Class
December 2	57	49	106	No Count
9	49	51	100	26
16	54	76	130	Program
Total	203	210	413	26
Average	51	52	103	26

Finance Report

Budget Items	Item Description	Actual November	Budget November	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Total 2018
Revenue	General Fund	\$13,872	\$15,166	\$153,365	\$166,821	\$181,986
	Mortgage	\$1,407	\$2,083	\$18,811	\$22,917	\$25,000
	Other Giving	\$2,198	\$1,433	\$8,993	\$15,766	\$17,200
	Total Revenue	\$17,477	\$18,682	\$181,169	\$205,503	\$224,186
Expenses	1000 Mission Support	\$400	\$1,250	\$4,821	\$13,750	\$15,000
	1000 Other Outreach	\$1,279	\$467	\$3,685	\$5,133	\$5,600
	Total Outreach	\$1,679	\$1,717	\$8,506	\$18,883	\$20,600
	2000 Ministries of the Congregation (Non Salary)	\$700	\$1,121	\$8,310	\$12,327	\$13,449
	2000 Ministries of the Congregation (Salary and Benefits)	\$10,409	\$11,244	\$118,751	\$123,681	\$134,925
	Total Ministries	\$11,109	\$12,364	\$127,062	\$136,008	\$148,374
	3000 Total Building (Non Capital)	\$1,943	\$2,527	\$22,724	\$27,794	\$30,321
	Total Expense	\$14,731	\$16,608	\$158,292	\$182,685	\$199,295
	3000 Capital Mortgage Principal and Interest	\$2,074	\$2,074	\$22,816	\$22,817	\$24,891
	3000 Capital Other Building Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Total Building Capital	\$2,074	\$2,074	\$22,816	\$22,817	\$24,891
	Total Expenses (Capital Plus Expense)	\$16,806	\$18,682	\$181,108	\$205,502	\$224,186

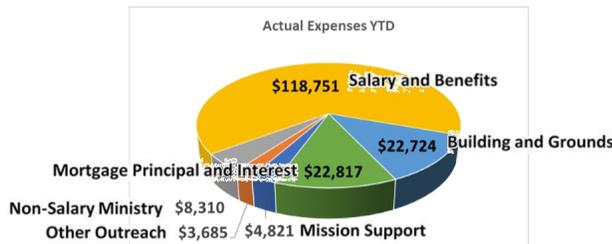
Synod Benevolence Giving

We designate 10% of our General Fund Budget every year as our donation to the greater church. A large part of that is our pledge to the Northern Illinois Synod. We have not been able to maintain that level of support as the year has passed. As of the end of November, here is a summary of our total giving versus spending and budget:

	Actual Giving YTD	Budget YTD	Spending YTD
General Fund	\$153,365	\$166,821	\$158,292

Spending YTD exceeded Giving as Congregation members have donated designated monies to non-capital expenses which allowed us to spend more towards budgeted items. As you see, there is a gap of regular giving to budget of over \$13,000. We can't spend what we don't have.

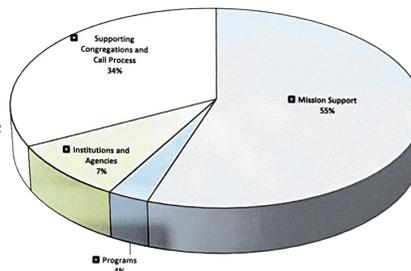
Here is a summary of our spending to date:



We are behind over \$8,900 in Giving to the Synod, the largest part of that Gap in what we have budgeted for but not spent.

	Actual Giving to Synod YTD	Budget YTD	Behind in Giving to Synod YTD
Mission Support	\$4,821	\$13,750	\$8,929

Where does the money we give to the Synod go? Over half goes through them to the greater church needs. About a third goes to supporting congregations and the call process. 7% goes to institutions and agencies and the last 4% goes to programs. Here is a pie chart for a typical year.



The money that we pass on goes to a lot of good. We are able to donate towards our goal through the beginning of February. We ask that you prayerfully consider a designated donation to help close this gap. If the spirit moves you to do so, we will apply those donations directly to our pledge and help narrow that gap. Thank you for your support!
Steve Jones, Finance and Stewardship Chair

In Our Prayers

- Health & Healing**
 Kathy Burrows
 Lynn Burrows
 Phyllis Coffman
 Carla Combs
 Sue Davis
 Jeanine Hayes
 Phil Houston
 Jim Morgart
 Daniel & Julie Niehaus
 Al Olsen
 Sandi Reid
 Skip Richardson
 Steve Schmidt
 Jim Wilcox
 Juanita Williams
 Laura Egler
 Marcia Kasmaric
 Reggie Wallin
 Paul Wood
 Char Davies
 Cindy Bussey
 Brad Grossen
 Pete DeVries
 Sharon Bayme
 Jeanne Greenfield
 Ed Putnal
 Clarence Buskohl
 Richard Myers
 Steve Hawkins
 Gordon Green
 Danette Potter
 Pat Brown
 Kelly O'Hare
 Diane Hawkins
 Bill Cassens
 Charlotte Lorio
 Jim Sanders
 Wes Thompson
 Warren Reckmeyer

- Shut Ins**
 Eileen Carlson
 Lori Pederson
 Patricia Mohr
 Mary Whitmer

- Military**
 David Bishop
 Dylan Bishop
 Jay Adams
 Landon Skaar
 Staff Sgt. Kyle Reif
 Matt Vizer
 John Rebolledo
 Sage Harper

- Sympathy**
 Dolores Burton
 Arnold Schramm



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January

January 5

Altar Guild Annual Meeting

January 5

Undecorate the Church

January 27

Annual Congregation Meeting
and Potluck



Sunday School Christmas Program



Office Hours - Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, and Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.